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Our Ottawa Letter.
Like an oasis of eloquence in the
desert of verbiage was Tuesday's sit-
ting in the House of Commons, for
the debate upon Mr. Bourassa's amend-
ment to the motion to go into Supply
drew forth speeches of sterling merit
fully up to the standard of parlia-
mentary oratory, and unmarred by
that undignified and reprehensible
strain of personality and partisan bit-
terness which has been altogether too
much in evidence this session. Mr.
Bourassa's criticism of the Govern-
ment's policy in connection with South
African affairs, that it was an uncon-
stitutional and dangerous innovation,
and his plea for an absolute recogni-
tion of the rights of Parliament, were
all very well in the abstract, but as
the Premier pointed out his amend-
ment was inopportune and without
raison d'etre. It may be readily con-
ceded that Mr. Bourassa made out the
best possible case that could be pre-
sented in support of his contentions. But
the fact that his moderate and well
delivered speech, though attentively
listened to, signally failed to carry
conviction or even to secure sym-
pathetic recognition, is most conclu-
sive evidence of the correctness of the
Premier's criticism.

A MODEL OF NOBLE ELOQUENCE.
Of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's reply there
are no two opinions existing. With
an unanimity as rare as it is signifi-
cant the members of the House and
the press of the country applauded and
endorsed his utterances. The Mail-
Empire declared "his utterances met
with marked approval from Conserva-
tives as well as Liberals and his per-
formance drew forth a tumult of ap-
plause in which even Sir Charles
Tupper vigorously joined," while even
the poor old Montreal Star was com-
pelled to admit editorially that "upon
the whole Sir Wilfrid acquitted him-
self very ably." Nor was this excel-
lent effect confined to the Canadian
public; the fame of that speech quickly
crossed the Atlantic, and the London
Times next morning declared that
"the speech would rank high in any
assembly in the world as a model of
noble eloquence, but it is not the
language of the Canadian Premier's
address which will make it live in the
annals of the empire. The spirit
which glows through it and the
thoughts which underlie it are pre-
gnant with great issues for England
and mankind. Sir Wilfrid Laurier,
the French Roman Catholic Premier
of a self-governing federation in which
British Protestants are in the majority,
has expressed more faithfully and
more truthfully than any other states-
man who has yet spoken, the temper
of the new imperial patriotism fostered
into self-consciousness by the war.
We look forward to a day not far
distant in the life of nations when a
Boer Premier of the South African
Dominion shall kindle with a like de-
votion to the British flag."

A WORD IN SEASON FOR SIR CHARLES.
The above quotation is eminently
satisfactory to the Canadian people,
and it must be gratifying to the right
hon. gentleman himself and his sup-
porters. Here is another editorial
comment from a leading British jour-
nal which will be pretty generally ad-
mitted to be equally accurate and just,
though possibly not as flattering to
the subject thereof. The St. James'
Budget (London, Eng.), says:—"It is
a pity that the Canadian Opposition
have not sufficient prudence to re-
strain Sir Charles Tupper from his
petty attacks upon the present Laurier
ministry. The ministry may have
faults, but no one can deny that it has
pursued an Imperial policy with great
fearlessness and vigor; and these per-
petual volleys of absolutely barren
criticism directed at a body of men
who are doing their best to express
the will of the country, are only pro-
voking several French-Canadian mem-
bers to say things they do not mean,
and under other circumstances would
not have said. Is it not about time
Sir Charles were replaced as leader of
the Opposition?"

Markham Council.
Council met in Victoria Hall, Union-
ville, on Tuesday, March 13th at 11
o'clock a. m. Members all present.
Reeve A. Quantz in the chair.
Minutes of last meeting read and
confirmed.
Communications received:
From Mrs. M. A. Curtis, re grant to
Mrs. Prebbles.
Petition was received from C. J.
James, re electric railway.
From Standard Bank, re cashing
checks at Richmond Hill branch.
From County Treasurer, re refund
of taxes.
From J. C. Lundy, re commissioner
for north townline.
From Standard Bank, re loan.
From J. B. McLean, clerk of Vaugh-
an, re account.
Messrs. Wm. and John Snowball
were heard, re their being assessed in
the wrong school section.
The following accounts were receiv-
ed and ordered to be paid:—

Hart & Riddell, stationery.....\$ 2 48
Markham Sun, printing..... 14 85
G. Baker, gravel..... 5 46
E. Clubine, gravel..... 1 99
L. Reesor, gravel..... 30
C. H. Chant, W. Prebbles' funeral 15 00
Markham's share, Yonge Street
Account..... 71 38
Mr. Summerfeldt, seconded by Mr.
Dimma, moved that the Auditor's Re-
port, as finally audited by this council
be and the same is hereby accepted.
Carried.
Mr. Summerfeldt, seconded by Mr.
Eckardt, moved that the sum of \$5.00
be granted to Mrs. Prebbles as extra,
over and above her weekly allowance.
Carried.
Mr. Sisley, seconded by Mr. Eckardt,
moved that this council grant the sum
of \$125 to be expended on the townline
between Whitchurch and Markham
and that commissioner Summerfeldt
expend the same in conjunction with
the commissioner from Whitchurch.
Carried.
By-Law introduced by Mr. Summer-
feldt to borrow certain sums for cur-
rent expenditure. By-law read three
times and passed.
Mr. Summerfeldt, seconded by Mr.
Eckardt, moved that the reeve is here-
by authorized to purchase one car of
sewer pipe for the use of this municip-
ality, amount payable on his order
when the goods are delivered and ap-
proved.—Carried.
Mr. Dimma, seconded by Mr. Sum-
merfeldt, moved that the resolution of
this council, passed May 1898, granting
one dollar per week to Mrs. Spring be
hereby rescinded, and that the treas-
urer be authorized to pay Mrs. Spring
one dollar per week from this date on de-
mand.—Carried.
Mr. Eckardt, seconded by Mr. Sum-
merfeldt, moved that this council ad-
journs to meet again on Tuesday,
April 17.—Carried.

Vaughan Council
Vaughan Council met at the Town
Hall, Vellore, on Tuesday, March 13,
at 10 a. m.
The Reeve in the chair, Members
all present.
Minutes of last meeting read and
confirmed.
A petition from W. H. Clubine and
25 others was presented praying the
council to oppose certain legislation
which was about to take place in re-
gard to the Metropolitan Railway Co.
being allowed the use of Yonge Street
for freight traffic.
The Auditors' Report of the Treas-
urer's Accounts for 1899 were laid on
the table.
Kirby—Boyle—that the Auditors'
Report of the Treasurer's Accounts
for the year 1899 be received and ad-
opted by this council, and the clerk be
instructed to have 150 copies printed
for distribution.—Carried.
Kirby—Malloy—that the treasurer
pay Geo. Cooper, for one sheep killed,
\$6.66.—Carried.
Watson—Boyle—that the treasurer
pay the following road accounts:
Jno. Rumble, for hauling gravel.....\$ 6 00
G. J. Lawrie, " " " " " " " " 17 70
Samuel Hilliard, " " " " " " " " 4 50
Wm. O. McDonald, " " " " " " " " 11 10
A. Robson, " " " " " " " " 9 80
John Kerr, " " " " " " " " 13 75
Robert Brownlee, " " " " " " " " 7 50
L. Smith, " " " " " " " " 30 55
G. J. Lawrie, 565 yards gravel..... 78
Charles Shaw, work in pit..... 7 50
A. Thornbach, nails in pit..... 9 38
Jos. Hunter, work in pit..... 9 38
Geo. Seed, work in pit..... 9 00
Wm. Bishop, work on road..... 12 50
Wm. Gunn, boss in pit..... 14 07
Jas. Huson, 201 yards gravel..... 6 00
J. J. Cameron, sharpening picks..... 15 00
Wesley Boddy, hauling gravel..... 14 50
Wm. Boddy, " " " " " " " " 15 50
D. C. Longhouse, " " " " " " " " 11 50
Robt. Livingstone, " " " " " " " " 12 50
Wm. Dunn, " " " " " " " " 12 00
Wm. Farr, " " " " " " " " 8 00
George Locke, " " " " " " " " 20 46
Bert Reaman, " " " " " " " " 15 50
T. Brown, work in pit..... 4 50
Wm. Blake, work in pit..... 7 13
M. Reaman, boss in pit..... 11 00
Jas. Huson, 313 yards gravel..... 21 91
Yonge Street Account, half paid
Markham

Wm. Chatterley, 11 days' work. 11 00
Walter Chatterley, 7 days' work. 7 00
J. Simpkins, 1 day's work. 1 00
Jos. Blanchard, breaking stone. 10 00
G. McKenzie, stone delivered. 14 00
David James, " " " " " " " " 6 00
R. Forbes, blacksmith bill. 2 95
—Carried.
Watson—Kirby—that the treasurer
pay the following accounts:
Andrew McNeill, 1 cord of wood
for Town Hall. \$ 5 00
Jas. O'Connor, labor and mater-
ial for Town Hall shed. 5 75
—Carried.
Watson—Boyle—that the treasurer
pay James Bell, of the Kleinburg Agri-
cultural Society, the sum of \$10.—
Carried.
Kirby—Watson—that whereas cer-
tain matters affecting this municip-
ality in respect to the Metropolitan
Street Railway were introduced at
the present session of the Ontario

Legislature; be it resolved that the
Reeve, Messrs. John N. Boyle and W.
H. Clubine be appointed a deputation
to meet the Legislative Committee
when such matters are introduced,
and oppose such legislation as they
may deem detrimental to the best in-
terests of the municipality.—Carried.
Council adjourned to meet on April
10th, at 10 a. m.
J. B. McLEAN, Clerk.

Maple
The Epworth League purposes hold-
ing a social in the vestry next Monday
evening.
Hope Sabbath School contributed
\$2.30 to the Indian Famine Fund on
Sunday last.
A sleigh load of young people from
Maple and one from Hope met at Mr.
W. T. Watson's last Thursday even-
ing, and spent a very pleasant time.
The oyster supper at Edgely last
Friday evening was very successful.
Among those who took part in the
programme were Mrs. (Dr.) Sisley,
Miss E. Keffer, Mr. L. Keffer and Miss
Emma Byam, all of Maple.
Mr. W. Robinson attended the wed-
ding of Mr. J. Reaman and Miss May
Savage on Monday afternoon.

At the meeting of the Literary So-
ciety last Wednesday evening an in-
teresting programme was given. Be-
sides the members who contributed,
Miss Fieldhouse and Mr. W. Street of
Toronto, each sang a solo in a very
pleasing manner. The debate, "Re-
solved that Strikes are a Benefit to
Workingmen," was postponed until
this week. The affirmative will be up-
held by Messrs. C. H. Byam, W. Rob-
inson and W. L. Keffer, while Messrs.
J. R. Campbell, R. S. Thomson and E.
H. Elliott will speak on the negative.
On Wednesday evening of next week
a debate will be held between the
members of the Vellore and Maple
Societies. Subject, "Resolved that
more can be learned by Reading than
by Travelling." An interesting time
is expected.

The concert in the hall on Tuesday
evening was not very well attended,
but an excellent programme was
given.
A horse belonging to Mr. G. J. Cook
hanged itself in the stall last Saturday
night.
Mrs. V. V. Moore of Hope, teacher
of vocal and instrumental music, in-
tends giving a (pupils') concert on
Tuesday evening, April 17th, in the
school house. An organ and a piano
will be the musical instruments used
on that evening. Mrs. Geo. Cook, or-
ganist of Hope Methodist Church, will
assist. For particulars see pro-
grammes at a later date. Selections
will be given from both the classic and
modern composers.

Village Council.
The council met in the Clerk's office
on Tuesday, March 20th, 1900, at 8.30
p. m.
Member's present: the reeve, coun-
cillors Hill, Innes and Trench.
The minutes of February 19, were
read and confirmed.
The following accounts were read
and ordered to be paid:
Charles Cooper, shovelling snow \$ 1 50
William Gibbs " " " " " " " " 1 50
Robert Kinnee " " " " " " " " 1 50
Joseph Blanchard " " " " " " " " 1 50
John Blanchard " " " " " " " " 1 50
Harry Gauble, 30 loads gravel 15 00
Ontario Pressed Brick Co. " " " " " " " " 11 00
Levi Gaby, teaming brick " " " " " " " " 6 50
T. F. McMahon, printing &c. " " " " " " " " 19 60
Moved by Mr. Trench seconded by
Mr. Hill that the treasurer is hereby in-
structed to pay the above accounts.
Carried.
Mr. Innes introduced By-Law No.
175 to authorize the Treasurer of the
Village to deposit village funds in the
Standard Bank of Canada at Rich-
mond Hill, the by-law was read a first
second and third time and passed.
Mr. McMahon, as secretary of the
Citizens' Committee, being present, re-
ported the result of the entertainment
held on the 9th instant in aid of the
Patriotic Fund, the net proceeds
amounting to \$86.25.
Moved by Mr. Hill seconded by Mr.
Trench that the clerk is hereby in-
structed to prepare a by-law to autho-
rize the council to contribute out of
the village funds the sum of twenty-
five dollars to the proceeds of the recent
entertainment.—Carried.
The council adjourned to meet on
Monday, the 26th inst. at 8 p. m.
M. TEEFY, Clerk.

W. HEWISON,
HOUSE PAINTER,
Glazier, Grainer and Paper-
Hanger.
Calls from a distance promptly
attended to.
RESIDENCE, RICHMOND HILL.