

# THE OLD HARDWARE STORE.

OOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO

**TO MY CUSTOMERS AND THE PUBLIC  
GENERALLY.**

I desire to draw your attention to the fact that I have and will have the largest, best and cheapest stock of Hardware, Paints, Oils, Tinware and Stoves ever offered in the county of Victoria. I have succeeded in purchasing direct from the manufacturers this year's supply, and

**WILL SELL IN MANY LINES  
AS CHEAP AS I USED TO BUY**

for myself. I shall personally be behind the counter morning, noon and night, and

**IF 'OLD JOE' LETS YOU OUT  
WITHOUT PURCHASING**

it will be because you want the earth for nothing. If you don't want to buy give me a friendly call anyhow. Thanking everyone for their patronage this last seventeen years,

Yours Respectfully,

**JOS. HEARD.**

## NORTH STAR ROLLER MILLS.

The undersigned beg to announce to their numerous customers and the public generally that their new Roller Flour Mill is now completed, and grinding night and day. The machinery throughout is of the most modern pattern, and the quality of the output second to none in Ontario. Special attention given to gristing and chopping. We pay Lindsay prices for wheat and coarse grains, of which we want an unlimited quantity. Hides and skins, Furs, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, etc., bought and sold. Agents for the Canada Carriage Company. Parties buying Flour or Feed in quantities would do well to write us for quotations before purchasing.

McDougall, Brandon & Austin.

## BIG BARGAINS

--- IN ---

**MILLINERY and DRESS GOODS**

--- AT ---

**WM. CAMPBELL'S**

--- FOR ---

**THE NEXT SIX WEEKS.**

Fenelon Falls, 10th November, 1896.

## TO THE FARMERS

Of the surrounding  
vicinity. If your

### MACHINES . . .

should need repairing, or if you should want any repairs, or new mould boards or steel land sides on your ploughs, COME EARLY, and don't put off till wanted. If you think of purchasing a good Pea Harvester, Hay Fork, or any other implement, give ROBSON a call, and you will get them at prices to meet the times.

**THOS. ROBSON,  
FENELON FALLS.**

**The Fenelon Falls Gazette.**

Friday, March 26th, 1897.

### The Education Question.

Last Saturday's *Globe* contained no fewer than five communications, under different headings, on the subject of education, which Mr. Ernest Heaton, of Goderich, the writer of one of them, says "is now a favorite topic of discussion;" and the writer of another, who signs himself "Headmaster" says that "attacks on our school system are coming thick and fast these days, and these attacks are directed mainly against our secondary schools." In our issue of the 12th inst. we expressed a doubt whether one out of five hundred boys who receive a high school education is satisfied to make a living by farming except under the most favorable circumstances; but "Headmaster" tells that more than thirty out of the last fifty boys who attended a certain high school are to-day back on farms, and apparently intend to remain there, although some of them were at the school for as much as three or four years. The Principal accepted his position, which he still holds, on the condition that the passing of pupils was not to be his chief aim, and it is a pity that all other Principals do not work under the same condition. Furthermore, of the boys who have passed through the school (which is, perhaps, "Headmaster's" own) in the last five years, not more than four have to his knowledge gone to the United States. To keep the youth of Canada at home is of the very utmost importance, and Mr. Heaton, as well as other writers, insist that the effect of higher education is practically to force thousands of them to emigrate.

We have neither time nor space to give even a synopsis of the five communications in the *Globe*, and we allude to them simply as proof that there is great and growing dissatisfaction with the school system of the country. Apart from the question of the advisability of trying to make "silk purses out of sows' ears," there is the great injustice of forcing the poor to pay for the higher education of the rich; and even if a great part of the money paid for schooling were not thrown away, as it is, the Government has no right—as Professor Goldwin Smith said at a Grange meeting in Toronto—to take the people's money to pay for what he very properly called "fancy education." It is true that ignorant persons are a menace to the community, but a boy or girl of average intelligence who has attended a common school for five or six years is only relatively, not positively, ignorant, and has enough education to successfully follow any one of the numerous occupations by which the masses make their living. We hope, with Mr. Heaton, "to see this educational question thoroughly thrashed out, and in the reformation of our system the architects we employ must not be pedagogues, but statesmen." Even the common schools, the only ones for the support of which common people's money should be spent, need reforms; and the sentiments of thousands of oppressed parents are set forth by a Cobourg lady who signs herself "A Mother of Six," and, in last Saturday's *Mail and Empire* relates her grievances as follows:

"I am glad that at last some one has ventured to remark publicly on the system of home work, adopted by the Public schools. Mrs. Scollie speaks advisedly indeed, when she calls it dia-

bolical, and it is high time the mothers in the province should strike against the frightful quantity of home work, which the so-called teachers impose upon the mothers and children. Every evening my children pore over pages and pages of work which should be learned each day at school for the next. They are crammed with such useless things as learning by heart all the little rivers and towns in Canada and the United States. All the work falls upon the poor and often tired mother, and the teacher, as he or she is called, hears the children repeat the lessons taught by the mother. Surely this is a very wrong system; reverse the order, I say, and if the mother must assist in the Public school education of her children, let the school teachers thoroughly teach and make them understand their lessons, and let the comparatively easy part of hearing the lessons fall upon the mother. The plan adopted in the United States is the proper one, namely, to set apart a certain portion of each day for learning the lessons for the next. Five and a half hours each day is enough school for any child, and especially so if they take up any accomplishments or languages. Under the present system of hours of home work, no wonder our children's spines grow crooked and their sight fails. There can also be no cosy, happy evenings where one of a large family reads aloud and all are busy with work or books. As it is, by nine o'clock their poor faces are pale, and they are weary and worn out, and gladly rush to bed, only, in many cases, to toss feverishly, and murmur portions of their lessons all night. I feel sure many mothers will endorse my sentiments, and I trust you will find it possible to make room for this letter."

### Local Geniuses.

In last week's *Warder* appears a poem entitled "The Blessed Quartette," written by Mr. Charles McCaughey of Uphill. It possesses considerable merit and is very far above the average of original poetry found in country papers; but Sam Hughes—who goes to as great extremes in praising his friends as in abusing his opponents—absurdly states that "for conception and execution it has rarely been equalled in Canada." The article in which the poet of Uphill is told (probably to his surprise) that he is a genuine genius, is headed "Clever Victorians in the *Warder*," and, after giving Mr. McCaughey his dose of taffy, Sam proceeds to administer a big ladleful to a dozen or more residents of the riding who have, from time to time, enriched his paper with prose, poetry or paragraphs about pork. Without doubt, there are within the bounds of North Victoria a good many persons who are gifted to some extent with literary, artistic or musical ability; but we think it a mistake on the part of Bro. Hughes to endeavor to make them as crazy with conceit as he is himself. It will be observed that Sam confines his eulogies to clever Victorians who have contributed to the contents of the *Warder*, which is only doing part of his duty; because, being M. P. for the north riding, he is, we consider, under an obligation to confer celebrity upon all the "brilliant geniuses" in his own constituency, without regard to their politics. Now, poetry is judged by its effect upon a susceptible reader. If it make him want to weep or fight, or if it cause his flesh to crawl and his hair to stand on end, it is good poetry; and we maintain that, judged by this standard, the author of "Grandma McClung" is entitled to a prominent position amongst the poets of North Victoria. To be sure, he only became one of Sam's constituents under compulsion; but that makes no difference; right is right, and we hope he will receive honorable mention in next week's *Warder*.

### Horses Drowned.

Last Saturday two sons of Mr. Robert McFarland, of Somerville, went to Lindsay, by way of the ice, for a load of oat-dust, and left for home about 4.30 p. m. When they had nearly reached land on this side of Sturgeon lake darkness fell so suddenly and grew so intense that the track became invisible. Seeing what he thought was a sleigh approaching, the driver headed his team in that direction, but had not gone far when the ice gave way, and they and the front end of the sleigh went into the water. The two McFarlands and a companion named Lamb tried in vain to get the horses on to the ice, but finally had to abandon them to their fate and walked to the Falls, a distance of about two miles, for help to save the load. Of the 23 bags of "dust" 18 were floating on the rack, but the others had rolled off the front, become saturated with water and sunk. The harness was taken off the dead horses, and the sleigh was fished up on Tuesday from a depth of about twenty feet. The accident happened about a quarter of a

mile from the landing place and the same distance from the shore, and the horses travelled fully forty rods parallel with and only a few feet from open water before they broke through.

### Village Council Proceedings.

Fenelon Falls, March 22nd, 1897. Council met at the call of the reeve, all the members present. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Moved by Mr. Robson, seconded by Mr. McKeown, That the Fenelon Falls Public Library be granted the sum of \$25.—Carried. Messrs. Martin and Deyman voted Nay.

Moved by Mr. McKeown, seconded by Mr. Deyman, That the auditors' report for 1896 as presented be adopted, and that the clerk be instructed to have the village and cemetery accounts printed, and that the auditors be paid the sum of \$10 each from the village funds and \$2 each from the cemetery funds.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Deyman, seconded by Mr. Martin, That the following accounts be paid and the reeve give his orders for the same: Joseph Heard, fire bell per tender, \$40—9 pounds of rope, 90 cents; S. Nevison, salary from January 10th to March 8th, \$56—four meals for tramps, 40 cents.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Deyman, seconded by Mr. Martin, That the payment as per vouchers by J. A. Ellis of the sum of \$9 50 to several parties assisting at fires be confirmed; this, with \$15 50 cash handed to the treasurer, making a total of \$25, being the amount of Messrs. Howry & Sons' donation of last July.—Carried.

Council then adjourned.

### Kinmount.

(Correspondence of the Gazette.)

Sugar and syrup making has begun. Messrs. A. Morrison and H. Graham are busy getting ready to make syrup in Mr. Morrison's sugar bush. May they have good success, especially on the day they "sugar off." They are using iron spiles and tin sap buckets, and, as they thoroughly understand the business, they expect to have first class syrup and plenty of it if there is a good run of sap. They are having one hundred sap buckets made by Mr. John Kingsboro, which will all be made use of as well as their present stock.

The people of this village were glad to hear of the success of Mr. John Austin in the case of the protest of his election, and hope the matter will rest as it now stands.

The addresses given on Friday, the 19th inst., by the Rev. J. P. McEwen and the Rev. A. P. McDiarmid of Toronto on Baptist missions, were enjoyed very much by those who attended the meeting.

Quite an excitement was caused on Tuesday, March 23rd, when the report was spread through the village of a robbery in the office and store of Messrs. Craig & Austin. About \$75 worth of goods were stolen, tea, under-clothing, tobacco and provisions seeming to be what the robber needed most. Some toilet soap was examined and thrown aside, as if "his deeds being evil, he loved darkness" (of complexion). The goods were taken after eleven o'clock on Monday night, as Mr. Austin was in the office till that hour. The constable is searching for the missing goods, but as he has not returned at the time of writing we do not know whether his search will be successful or not.

### Powles' Corner.

(Correspondence of the Gazette.)

Many homes in this locality have been visited by lagrippe, and some had to lay aside everything and go to bed for a few days. We are glad to know that they are getting smart again.

Mrs. John Knox returned on the 15th from Markham, where she had been for about ten days having a cancer extracted from her nose. Mrs. Knox is now very old, and was very feeble when she arrived at home, but is now getting along very well.

Mr. R. H. Stroud, of the township of Tiny, spent about ten days visiting relatives and friends in this community.

Mrs. W. J. Ray of Cambay spent a week with her sister, Mrs. John B. Powles.

Nearly all the spring birds have arrived, which is an indication that spring is coming.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.—On Monday evening, the 15th inst., the election of officers of Trent Valley Lodge No. 71, C. O. O. F. was held. There was a large attendance, and several of the officers were contested for in such an enthusiastic way as to lead to the belief that the members heartily appreciate the principles of odd-fellowship. Below is a list of the officers for the ensuing term: P. N. G., H. E. Austin; N. G., Peter T. Perdue, re-elected; V. G.,