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My line of Tobaccos and Cigars is complete. I have a very popular **SMOKING AT 50¢ PER LB.** and can give you the finest goods at right figures. A **GOOD CIGAR** is a luxury. Try mine. Specialties in Pipes and Cigar-Holders. Call and see me.

JOS. CARROLL,

One door West of Benson House.

The Watchman,

THURSDAY, JAN 27th, 1898.

Conventions and the Farmers.

THE WESTERN Dairy Association was in convention last week at London, and some splendid addresses were delivered. One of the speakers created a sensation by his vigorous criticism of the farmers for their lack of interest in the convention and its work. He declared that they did not compare with the cheesemakers in their endeavor to get hold of new and improved ideas. The chief weakness of such remarks is that they are addressed, in the main, to people who are not there to hear them, and hence are often not particularly well received by an audience. It is likely that to impress his point the speaker over stated the case against the farmer, but we cannot help thinking that there is, in most sections, too much ground for a speech of this sort. It is not an uncommon thing to hear the officers of farmers' institutes and other advocates of improved methods in farming lament the same state of things mentioned by the association speaker. Now in so far as the men from Guelph college are concerned, it is a cause of great regret that their presence does not always arouse a splendid enthusiasm among the farmers. It must not be supposed that these men are mere faddists, or are out for a pastime, or are not sensitive to the attitude of the class to whom they appeal. These gentlemen are entrusted by government with the advancement of the most important department of Canadian industry; their labors and the buildings and appliances required to carry on their work, involve considerable outlay of government money so that it is not surprising if they manifest a wholesome anxiety to see the interests which they are striving to promote giving reasonable attention and improving their methods to a degree that will not escape the notice of the legislature. Moreover these men are worthy of attention for their own sakes. They are the masters of the science of agriculture; the farmers are its students and inasmuch as it has become apparent that past methods are to-day less productive of profits than of mortgages it is scarcely presumption to invite farmers' attention to lessons in their own art. It is not easy to remember when a remonstrance such as that uttered at London was required among students of any other science. Important topics, and the veriest fads are greeted by their supporters with enthusiasm. Are medical men indifferent when leaders of the profession speak? The chief drawback at a dog show is over-crowding. Do students of literature think it a trifling matter to hear the foremost men of letters? The great gatherings to state or propagate a creed set an example in point of enthusiasm, as well as administer a positive rebuke to the indifference that allows a farmer to pay little or no heed to any serious discussion of the problems related to his calling. A man would offer an affront to the calling if he pronounced it unprogressive, and it certainly advances the most rapid and profitable advance under accurate adaptation to the varying conditions both of its own character and of the markets of the world. To instruct the farmer on these points is the aim of these thoroughly competent lecturers, and their ability and purpose commend them to every thoughtful man.

Editorial Notes.

THERE IS AN epidemic of stormy scenes in European legislatures. During the week, riots that required the calling in of military have taken place in the chambers of Belgium, Austria and France. The Toronto piggy discussion is beginning to appear quite dignified affair.

ITALY IS rather a small country to hold two kings, but for some years two individuals with regal claims have been jostling each other in the place of power. Victor Emmanuel is proving to be of rather bulky proportions for the comfort of his holiness Leo XIII, and the latter gentleman has suggested that it would be more to his liking if the former would arrange to shuffle off the burdens of kingship and subside into the less onerous position of a president. His holiness has evidently concluded that a monarchy with two monarchs is not a great success from his standpoint, and hence suggests a republic. Victor seems to have some views of his own on the subject, however, and a leading Italian paper has got itself into trouble for mentioning that "it is time for a change."

A NEW SCHEME is on foot. A couple of demure looking individuals have been going to and fro during the past week carrying a mysterious roll and halting the pre-occupied pedestrian into all sorts of out-of-the-way places with an air of confidence and apology that aroused a good deal of curiosity. It was secretly hinted that they were members of the green-goods fraternity, but after being granted an interview with these gentlemen we hasten to correct that impression. Some of our more original-minded citizens have conceived the idea of bridging the river at the foot of Ridout-st. and hope, by a sufficient array of signatures, to awe the brand-new and pliable government, that will assemble in Toronto next year, into adopting their view to the extent of the price of the bridge. It was for this purpose that Messrs. J. L. Shannon and James Flurey went to and fro last week. If the necessary grant is forthcoming we approve of the undertaking, and by the way it would simplify THE WATCHMAN'S plan for a town park, by connecting that twelve acre plot on the other side of the river with the town, and then by its proximity to railway, river and town, it would be an ideal park site.

The Lindsay Creamery.

ACCORDING to present indications the emphasis laid on butter-making in winter, at the recent convention of the Eastern Association, will not be without its lasting results. As was suggested in last week's WATCHMAN the construction of a central creamery in Lindsay has been taken hold of and an energetic committee is now at work ascertaining the amount of cream available, that the capacity of the proposed building may be decided. A meeting of those interested will be soon called, and a provisional board formed. This board will issue a prospectus giving full particulars, and inviting subscriptions to a stock book, with a view to having the creamery in operation by next

November. Among the many schemes that are advocated nowadays it is refreshing to meet with one that commends itself to every sensible man. There can be no doubt that this dairy industry is the hope of Ontario at the present time. We must make produce that can be exported and in the case of butter there is only possible to any great extent when the quality of the article is good and uniformly good. When it is made in every house it is bound to be of such various quality and color that our English customer hardly knows where he is at when he mentions Canadian butter. There is no good reason for this to continue, and it is a fact that as long as it does continue farmers are losing from 5 to 7 cents on every pound of butter they make. The fault is not with Canadian fodder, climate or cows, or even the buttermakers, but with our present system of producing. The best of butter can be made in this country, as is shown by the report of sales in England last week, where the Canadian article sold at 22 1/2 cents; more than a cent a pound higher than Australian butter. We ought to have our whole output in that class, and we can have it there by the creamery system, in which, by employing the best makers and appliances, every pound of our butter shall be of the first quality and have the splendid reputation in the old country that our cheese has secured. The thing is so evidently sensible that it is bound to come. With a proper system of cold storage Canadian butter, well made, can control, and to a very large degree supply the English market, and that means an income that no article of Canadian produce now commands. We are the nearest of competing colonies, and although Denmark makes first-class butter we would have a preference with the motherland. We cannot too soon or thoroughly grasp the situation. It is of the nature of a crisis. The United States is making a determined effort to capture the English trade and cold storage is bringing far away nations into competition. We must not lose the opportunity to another country. Moreover, what of our cold storage? At a great expense we have secured a splendid Atlantic service. It will never pay unless we have something to send over, and one thing is certain we shall not have much butter to send under our present system. Creameries will allow us to utilize our expensive cold storage accommodation in carrying the most profitable goods that our country can produce. We say to the farmers, take hold of this scheme. It is for your benefit. Investigate, discuss, ask questions about it, and lend all your influence to establish this industry in your town. We trust it will be undertaken with the care, unity and business ability that will insure success.

sympathy for the condemned; others by a dislike to capital punishment at all; many, by the sex of the criminal, while a few believe the woman innocent. While we feel as keenly as any what a dreadful thing the death penalty is, it does not appear that any of the above would justify a commutation of sentence, and for the complete vindication and immediate release of the prisoner and as we think, substantial damages from the crown for what she has undergone. Certainly no innocent person should suffer as Mrs. Sternman has, in this country, and receive no compensation when her innocence has been established. The other reasons have their full force, but we assume that the person is guilty. A sympathy, it is a powerful motive, but would be more rational if transferred from the criminal to her victim. Most people are sincere in their objection to capital punishment in any case and have every right to use all proper means to have it abolished, but as long as it is the law of our land no dislike to it can justify an attempt to balk its execution in particular cases and thus make the state guilty of discrimination between criminals of the same class. Remembering that it is the law, the sex of the condemned is no ground for mercy, since Mrs. Sternman is of no different sex from other women who have been hanged for murder.

VICTORIA COUNTY COUNCIL.

January Session.

The county council met on Tuesday for the transaction of business. All the members were present. The vote for warden was between Messrs. Shaver, Ellis and Lithgow, and after a number of ballots, Mr. Lithgow was elected. This gentleman briefly thanked the council for their favor, and upon signing the declaration called the council to order.

Upon motion of Dr. Wood, seconded by Mr. Bailey, Messrs. Shaver, Switzer, Graham, Austin and the mover and seconder were appointed a special committee to draft standing committees for 1898.

After an adjournment of fifteen minutes, in which this committee completed its work, the council went into committee on their report, Mr. Austin in the chair, and upon rising reported the report without amendment, and it was thereupon received and adopted.

Fifteen minutes recess was occupied by the standing committees in electing their chairmen. The warden resumed the chair. Messrs. James Graham and Eastace Hopkins were appointed auditors of accounts for the administration of justice.

The advisory committee is comprised of Messrs. Bryans, Ellis, Fox, Cameron, Austin and Shaver. Mr. James Graham informed the council that arrangements had been made to hold a conference of the council and municipal Reeves and councillors on Thursday at the court house for discussion of the good roads movement.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Lieut. General Sir Frederick Dobson Middleton, keeper of the crown jewels, died at London, England, on the 26th inst. General Sir Fred Middleton will be remembered as having been at the head of the Canadian forces during the Northwest rebellion of 1865, and also as having had trouble over some furs seized during that campaign. In his retirement from Canada he returned to England and retired to private life.

One of the largest chicory producing firms in the world have decided to open a branch business in Ontario, they having found, after expert examination of the soil, that certain parts of Ontario are specially adapted to the growth of chicory. The output of the firm referred to is over 160,000,000 lbs. of prepared chicory annually. The crop of chicory in suitable soil would average not less than 10 tons of the raw root per acre, and will prove very profitable to the farmer.

It appears that the Minister of Justice has also decided on the release of ex-convict William Bustard as well as that of Dr. Walter Hamilton in June next. The first announcement stated that only Dr. Hamilton had been granted clemency, but the order in council extends mercy to both men when they shall have completed fifteen months of their sentence. Both are now in Kingston penitentiary. Dr. Hamilton's father resides at Beaver-ton.

For a week or more agents of the Dominion government and Canadian railroads have been working in the country surrounding Wichita, Kansas, in the endeavor to induce immigration into the districts of Saskatchewan, Alberta and Assiniboia, in the Canadian Northwest. A number of meetings have been held, and at one in Wichita a club of farmers numbering 150 was organized with a view of planting a colony in that country. The majority of the members are farmers financially able to make the journey and have enough to start in new country.

There is a deadlock in the Orillia school board, and it is possible the minister of education will have to interfere. At the first meeting of the board only four members were present, when the election of a chairman began. After the ballots had been collected Messrs. Cook and Williamson came in and were given ballots and voted, the vote resulting in a tie, Cook 3, Tudhope 3. Mr. Cook having the largest assessment, cast the deciding vote for himself, and secretary Grant declared him elected. Then the defeated party protested that Cook and Williamson came in too late to be entitled to a vote. No business can be done until it is decided who shall

OLD MISSOURI YARNS

TWO GOOD ONES PICKED UP BY THE TRAVELER IN JOHNSON COUNTY.

How the Rev. Dad Heiter Was Chased by Lightning and Beat the Fluid to the Ground—Romantic Story of the White Bridge Over Black Water.

Black Water, Sealy Park, Big and Bear creeks are the water courses of this county, writes a correspondent of the New York Sun from Johnson county, Mo. There was a time when ghosts, gorgons, horrors and hair raising feefawfums had their haunts along these streams. Even today one comes unawares upon graveyards in unfrequented places, but the names and epithets are worn away.

There is not much doubt that this section was the starting place of many of the stories which drifted and drifted until their identity was lost. The first white comers to this country were from Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and the Carolinas. The first towns of the county are gone. You meet occasionally a man or woman whose grandparents knew of Columbus and Rose Hill and Beards and Brookstown. But these towns closed up years before the war.

The settlers were deeply religious from their viewpoint. High Blue was the camp meeting spot where the people met annually and worshipped until their fervor was exhausted and the absolute necessities of their various homes called them back.

It was at one of these camp meetings that the Rev. Mr. Heiter told his lightning experience, and the story passed down from one generation to another. One day the writer was riding over what is still known in Johnson county as the Old Shawnee trace—an old road.

"They had hard work to build that church, though," said the Missourian, whose existence had been confined to one county. "For a long time people who lived about here turned up their noses when preachers hitched and alighted. It was all on account of old Dad Heiter. That yarn of his at High Blue made skeptics and lots of infidels in them days, so I've heard preachers had to do other things than preach. Some plowed, and some was builders, and occasionally, when they wasn't fit for anything else, they kept school when they could find enough young ones to make a school. Dad Heiter was a chimney builder, built chimneys for houses. Chimneys in them days was built outside of the house, and was of stone and something of wood, in which case it had to be plastered inside with mud, so the chimney wouldn't catch fire. They had to use scaffolds in building the chimneys, and the scaffold was put up on long poles higher than the chimney.

"Dad was preaching at one of the High Blue meetings when a thunderstorm came up, and most of the congregation wanted to leave and crowd into their wagons or cabins. But Dad Heiter hadn't finished, and he called to the people to show their faith by staying. He said if they would ask the Almighty to hold back the rain until the sermon was over he would do it. Then he told of his experience with the lightning. He was building a chimney and was at the scaffold when a storm came up. He told how the lightning flashed and how the winds bent trees. He had the chimney all but finished, and he asked the Lord to carry the storm until he got through. But the Lord was not inclined, and just then Dad saw a streak of lightning making for him, and he knew he had displeased the Lord in asking too much. So he flung down his trowel and ketchin one of the scaffold poles with his hands he locked his feet on the pole and slid down without putting on any brakes, and the minute he struck the ground the lightning which he had seen coming followed, and came down the pole right after him. Dad hit it down."

"Did the congregation stay?" "I've heard pap say that his pap, who was there right up in front, leading the singing, said that the congregation would 'a' staid 'cause Dad was a power as a preacher as well as a chimney builder. But Dad hadn't more'n got 10 words out when a streak of lightning hit a barrel of cider that sat just back of the stand where Dad had been tearing round and split the barrel to splinters and boiled up the cider into steam. Then the congregation left, and the people said it was a sign and that Dad was a wolf in sheep's clothing, and the meeting at High Blue broke up, and some of the convent backslid, and there was talk of horse stealing that winter than ever was known in Johnson county."

"What is the connection between Mr. Heiter's lightning story and the church which you pointed out?" "Nothing, only Dad Heiter lived in this neck of the woods, and I know how long it takes to lame a white bridge over Black Water. There is a white bridge over Black Water, a sluggish stream, the banks of which are high and overgrown with willow, which gives the waters all the more doleful appearance.

"This site," said one of the Johnson countyites, pointing to the bridge, "was the only ford on Black Water up to the time of the breaking out of the war. There was a man who lived ten miles back who had a daughter, and she ran away with a young fellow who was not liked by her father. They had several niles the start before the old man found out what was up, and he galloped in pursuit. He came in sight of the sloping right here just as Lechinvar spurred his horse into the water, which was high and swift. The youngsters never got across, and, although the waters run down and search was made for many a day, the bodies were never found.

Great Sale

AT

R. B. ALLAN & CO'S

You producers and wage-earners; you buyers and consumers; read this advertisement. Take time to investigate it and your common sense judgment will tell you that our price-cutting breaks all records. Regardless of circumstances, departments must and will reduce prior to stock-taking. This will be a grand distribution of all classes of Dry Goods at clearing prices. Men's and Boys' Overcoats, Suits and Underwear of every kind. Hats, Caps and Furs, Ladies' Mantles and Cloaks. Millinery Goods, Staple Dry Goods, Dress Goods and Trimmings. The prices are away down, and it will be money saved for you. Our stock is new and all to go as advertised.

MEN'S, BOYS' AND YOUTH'S OVERCOATS

- 26 Men's Overcoats, prices ranging from \$5 to \$6.50, now \$2.50 and \$3.
- 19 Men's Overcoats, extra well lined and trimmed; selling the season through for \$7.50; to make them go we cut them to \$4.50.
- 23 Men's Extra Quality Overcoats, some Freize and some Street Coats, regular price \$8.50 to \$9; to make a quick sale and close them out we reduce the price to \$5.75.
- 34 Men's Extra Quality Overcoats, all sizes and beautifully lined and trimmed, sold everywhere at \$11, \$12 and \$14; come early and get your pick for \$7.50.
- 12 Youth's Overcoats, sizes 32 to 35, some Freize, some Tweed, some Worsted, with velvet collar, well lined and trimmed, made to sell at \$5, \$6 and \$6.50, we give you the pick of the lot for \$3.50.
- 10 Boys' Extra Quality Overcoats, well lined and trimmed, former price \$4.75 and \$5, our price now to clear is \$3.50.
- 11 Youth's Overcoats, sizes 32 to 35, regular price \$6, mostly Freize; to clear the lot we make the price \$4.
- 8 Youth's Overcoats, extra quality, Freize, well lined with Tweed; our price the season through has been \$9, to clear them out we cut them away down and you get your pick for \$6.
- 9 Youth's Overcoats, regular price for these has been \$6.75, \$7 and \$8, we make the price now \$5.
- 6 Boys' Overcoats, well made and trimmed and bought to sell for \$2.75, our price to clear them out is \$1.75.
- 20 Youth's Overcoats, sizes 31 to 32, well made and trimmed, and sold the season through for \$5, we give you the pick and choice of the lot for \$4.
- 6 Boy's Overcoats, regular price \$3 and \$3.50, we sell them now for \$2 and \$2.50.

...MEN'S SUITS...

- 14 Men's Good Tweed Suits, price \$6.75 to \$7, to clear we make them \$4.50.
- 18 Men's Suits, ranging in price from \$5 to \$6, your pick for \$3.75.
- 19 Men's Suits, ranging in price from \$7.50 to \$8, your pick for \$5.
- 12 Men's Suits, regular at \$10.50, \$11 and \$12, take any of the lot for \$8.
- 15 Men's Suits, regular at \$8.50 and \$9, our price for this sale is \$5.75.
- 7 Men's Suits, extra well made, always sold at \$10, now \$7 to clear. Also many old lines to clear at less than wholesale prices.
- 20 Pairs Men's good quality Pants, regularly sold at \$1 per pair, now 70¢.
- 24 Pairs Men's Pants, all sizes, we sell them at \$1.25, most other stores charge \$1.50 for same goods, our price is \$1 during sale.
- An extra good line of Men's Black Worsted Pants, regularly sold for \$3 now \$2.

Every line of Clothing must go—and the low prices will move them.

Buy Your Fur Goods at Slaughter Prices FROM THE Bargain Store

- 7 Men's Prairie Wolf Coats, regular price \$15, now \$11.
- 8 Men's Wombat Fur Coats, regular price \$18.50, now \$14.
- 5 Men's Coon Coats, well worth \$35, now \$25 and \$27.
- Ladies' Long Astrachan Coats, beautiful fur and lined throughout with satin, our price has been \$38, to clear we make them \$30.
- 10 Men's Persian Lamb Caps, regular price \$4, now \$2.50.
- Ladies' extra quality Coon Jackets, regular price \$40, to clear we make them \$30.
- Only Electric Seal Jacket, elegantly lined and trimmed, regular price and good value at \$50, it is yours for \$40.
- Ladies' Sable Neck Ruffs, price \$9.50, to go at \$6.
- Ladies' Black Opossum Capes, beautiful quality of fur and elegantly lined throughout with silk, our price is \$25, to clear we make them \$18.
- Ladies' Grey Lamb Capes, regular price \$35 and \$38, our prices now \$24 and \$25.
- Ladies' Sable Collarettes, present price \$15, to go at \$10.
- 3 Alaska Seal Collars, regular price \$10, to go at \$5.
- 15 Men's Fur Caps, regular price \$5, to go at \$2.
- 10 Men's Persian Lamb Caps, regular price \$4, now \$2.50.
- 12 Men's extra quality Persian Lamb Caps, price \$8, to clear we make them \$5.
- 10 German Otter Caps, price \$3.50, now \$2.50.
- 8 Girls' Grey Lamb Caps, price \$3, now \$2.
- 4 only, Ladies' Alaska Seal Muffs, price was \$16, now \$5 to clear.

Besides the above we have quite a large stock of broken lots of Furs in Muffs and Caps—all to go at Clearing-Out Prices.

SPECIAL DRIVES IN STAPLE GOODS

- We sell Flannelettes at 3¢, sold in other stores at 4¢ and 5¢.
- 200 yards Fancy English Flannelettes, regular price 12¢, to clear 5¢ yd.
- 200 yards extra heavy Twill Flannelettes, good patterns, 8¢ goods, we clear the lot at this sale for 5¢ yd.
- Good quality Unbleached Table Linen, regular price 25¢, now 15¢.
- A few pieces Print, sold everywhere at 8¢, now 5¢.
- 10 pieces American Print, fast colors, for 5¢ yd.
- We start a line of Linen Towelling at 2¢ yd.
- 10 doz. Bleached Cotton Towels at 2¢, or 30¢ doz.
- Extra large Cotton Towels, regular 8¢, for 5¢.
- Large, Fine Pure Linen Towels, sold everywhere at 25¢ pair, our price is 20¢.
- 2 doz. All-Linen Table covers, with border, 21 yds. long, always sold for \$1.25, our price during sale is 75¢.
- Good Factory Cottons at 3¢ yd, and beautiful Cottons for 5¢.
- 300 yds White Swiss Check Muslins, regular price 7¢, we clear out the lot at 3¢ yd.
- 75 pairs Ladies' Corsets of various makes, corsets that sell from \$0 to 70¢ pair, we clear the lot at the extremely low price of 25¢ a pair. Come early and get the pick.
- 10 doz. pairs extra quality Corsets, all sizes, well worth 75¢ pair, our price 50¢.
- 7 doz. extra heavy Boys' All-Wool Ribbed Hose, always sold at 25¢ pair, we clear the lot at 2 pairs for 25¢.

Bargains in Ladies' Cotton and Cashmere at all Prices.

R. B. ALLAN & CO.

RAY & CO'S OLD STAND, LINDSAY.