



The Advocate.

"Pro Bono Publico."

WOODVILLE, MAY 27, 1880.

INDEBTEDNESS.

The following extract from *The Highlander*, Inverness, Scotland, is written by Mr. Murdoch, the gentleman who travelled through this neighbourhood last winter. The remarks show him to be a very shrewd observer and he has depicted the condition of this county with a correctness hardly to be expected from a person not resident in it:—

"From the county town I may mention a thing which deserves to be placed on record, and that is the large extent to which the farms, in this county at any rate, are mortgaged. There is a register of every farm kept here, and at a glance you can see every claim upon it. In some townships there are three-fourths of the farms largely mortgaged, in others four-fifths; and large numbers of these are hopelessly bound over. These are facts which ought to be known to intending emigrants from the Old Country; and ought to be well pondered by the people of Canada themselves. In regard to the former, they should understand how this indebtedness arises. There are negative causes which the great advocates of emigration have not noticed sufficiently, viz., the very low prices which farmers get for their produce, and the low rate of produce per acre which is obtained from the land. Men's faith in the inexhaustible fertility of the soil has led them to crop and crop away without sufficient manure. The result is that the produce is not nearly what it was for the first twenty years of this settlement. There can be no doubt that the continual raising of wheat is telling heavily on the soil; and although many men have lately taken to cattle raising, it will be a while before the manure thus obtainable will restore the old fertility. Another I am sure of—most of the farmers have too much land. And I am not alone in this opinion. I have been talking with an Aberdeenshire man near Woodville who has only fifty acres, and he says he is better with that than he would be with a hundred. His neighbors say the same. I was speaking yesterday with an Englishman who has a hundred acres, all clear but ten acres. He would be very glad to sell a portion and pay off the mortgage, which is at present like a mill-stone about his neck. He was just going, at his wits end, to see how he would save off the closing of a mortgage for seven hundred dollars, the interest of which he has not been able to pay up. The interest is seven per cent., and if he gets more money to pay the present lender, he will have to pay eight per cent. He has never been able to work the land well enough from want of horses, and he cannot replace the animals which he lost, because he has not money. And so the screw is upon him and he may have to sell out after all his toil in clearing. Adversity sinks some in debt thus, but the leading cause is a desire to get into a higher style of living than that of the parents who cleared the land. The second generation of young men wish to have more and finer houses, better buggies and finer harness; and numbers force their parents to mortgage the land to start them in business; and the prices obtained for the produce of the land are so small, that it will astonish old world farmers how little money is handled on a hundred acre farm. So the drag gets ever the farmers, and the great majority never get out of their difficulties. It is thus that many of the farms now in the market are for sale; and that the ambitions and difficulties of the present cupiers are creating desirable openings for strangers. These new comers just take the lesson. All that a Canadian farmer is safe in looking for is a plain, rough living for himself and an industrious family. They can have plenty to eat and drink, a comfortable farm house, and a good serviceable team for work and driving. They can be comfortably clothed—chiefly from the wool of their own sheep; but they must eschew extravagance and the money lender as they would the plague. The evil here indicated is the rock which Ontario is likely to split; and

all public teachers—ministers and editors—should take it up, and deal with it as true moral agents having the highest interests of their country at heart. I was yesterday in the house of an old couple who had a good farm which they cleared. They reared their family and sent them out in a good way to do for themselves. One of the sons, in haste to be rich, borrowed money on the father's farm, was not able to pay up. The farm is gone and the poor old folks would now be destitute but for the good feeling which moves the neighbors towards them."

Editorial Notes.

If the phylloxera is not got rid of very speedily France may see its vineyards utterly ruined. It appears from the last official report that at the end of last year, in forty-three departments affected by the scourge, 474,760 hectares of vines were quite destroyed, and 317,760 more partially injured. The east, west, south, and centre are ravaged, and the north is menaced. The disease has reached Cote d'Or, and will be soon in Champagne and Lorraine. If no remedy is discovered, it is calculated that in sixteen years France will have no vines left.

THE water power of the Genesee Falls is to be utilized for mechanical purposes in Rochester. The plan is the same as proposed at Niagara, whence the power, was to be conveyed to Buffalo by pipes, in the form of condensed air, but it was found that owing to the distance the cost would reach \$2,000,000 and so Rochester was chosen for a less expensive test. The water is made to fall at intervals into perpendicular pipes, in the bottom of which its weight condenses a quantity of air. The expectation is that steam power will be entirely on rails, and that electricity will be so cheaply generated as to displace gas.

THE excellent hygienic condition of London, the largest city on the globe, is one of the wonders of the modern world. Four and a half millions of people squatted down on a piece of land comprising an area of about fourteen miles each way require good sanitary arrangements to preserve the public health, yet of all large cities London is one of the healthiest. This pleasing fact is to be entirely attributed to the vigilance and care with which it is cleansed and the elaborate arrangements with which the city sewage and refuse are carried away. Every day there are twenty million feet of solid matter carried off, some of it by carting and the rest by the two main sewers which run parallel with the Thames for ten miles below the city. In the dusting and scavenging of the metropolis there are over ten thousand men engaged at an average of about twenty-three shillings per week, or a little less than six dollars Canadian.

THE London Times of May 17th, discusses the subject of the Alabama claims surplus, concludes its remarks as follows:—"It is not befitting the dignity of a great nation to put quietly into its own pocket, money of which it was constituted trustee for its division among private individuals. A course at once magnanimous and satisfactory to the original as well as to the present owners of the money would be for Congress and the President to expend their windfall of two million pounds sterling in some enterprise which might result in the gratification of both nations alike. There is for instance Niagara to be redeemed from its sordid associations. There are hundreds of grandiose projects which no bourse might be willing to father, but by which two great Anglo-Saxon nations might be benefited and made glad. Let the United States Government only let it be understood that it holds ten million dollars in trust for some costly international luxury and it will not be long before projects in abundance will be competing for it."

A DESPATCH from Wellington, New Zealand, states that the Regent-General, the Marquis of Normanby, who is the Governor appointed by the Crown, has decided upon ordering from England a number of torpedo boats for the torpedo corps which is to be organized for the protection of the colony. This is understood to be simply a precautionary measure, as no danger from attack by sea threatens the colony. But within the past ten or twelve years New Zealand has prospered and become much more desirable than formerly as a possession for any power, and it was concluded by the Governor, with the consent of the General Assembly of the colony, that further harbour defence

was needed in case of the breaking out of war between England and other maritime powers. The argument was that New Zealand is situated too far from Great Britain to expect aid from her at short notice, and that the colony is at an additional disadvantage in case of an attack, by being divided into three islands, from fifteen to eighteen miles apart. It has Auckland and other excellent ports, the most of which are not protected in any way against the approach of armed vessels.

JAMES CAIRD, an eminent agricultural authority, says:—"Nothing like the present depression in agricultural interests has been seen since the repeal of the Corn Laws. In nine years there has been seven defective wheat harvests. In the parts of England where the bulk of the wheat crop is grown, there has been lost in these years a fourth more than a whole year's crop a loss to wheat growers of more than thirty millions sterling, with no compensation in higher prices. The introduction of foreign meat and cereals is of immense benefit to the consuming classes. American statesmen believe they are rapidly gaining control of this trade and can maintain it even at lower prices. It must be met by the production here of articles which will not bear long storage or carriage, such as milk, fresh butter, early vegetables, hay, straw, potatoes and sugar beet. All interest in land, whether of owner, occupier, or laborer, must be disentrained. The control of dead land must be removed and the sale and transfer of land simplified. Encumbered estates will then be broken up into small properties. The drain of agricultural labor and capital to the United States and Canada will alter the existing condition of agricultural property in England. Our agriculture must adapt itself to the change, freely accepting the good it brings and skillfully using the advantages which greater proximity to the best market must always command."

THE annual meeting of the Directors and friends of the Toronto News Boys' Lodgings and Industrial Home, took place last week, Mayor Beatty presiding. The Vice-President read the annual report which embraced the following reference to the Juvenile Criminal Law:—

"In the New England States the treatment of juvenile offenders is embraced within the system of public instruction; a magistrate and Court entirely distinct from those which deal with adult criminals administer the law, with the help of truant officers; and a wise philanthropy thus deals with the offences and the crimes of children solely with an eye to their reformation. Here, on the contrary, may be seen any day in the Police Court of Toronto children whose heads barely reach above the dock, awaiting their turn with drunkards, prostitutes, and burglars. On conviction of some petty offence the Police Magistrate has no option but fine and imprisonment, and so, young boys in default of payment of a fine entirely beyond their means are committed to gaol, from whence they return, after associating with its other inmates, with the reformatory work of months, or even years, undone. To a boy who must sell two dozen copies of the evening papers before he can earn the ten cents to pay his lodging in the Home, a fine of \$4 or \$5 is as much beyond his means as one of \$500. In the case of one lad of fifteen, committed to gaol during the past year in default of a fine amounting with expenses to \$4.80 for throwing a stone at a policeman who was arresting his companion, it was ascertained on his quitting gaol that during his brief detention there, he had been seduced into arrangements with an older lad whereby, when his longer term of imprisonment ended, they were to unite in future proceedings, it can scarcely be doubted, of a criminal character. It cannot be too frequently pressed upon the public notice, that unless summary punishment be substituted for imprisonment in all cases of juvenile crime under 15 or 16 years of age, and a rigid disciplinary system of oversight, classification, and reformatory training be introduced in the case of older juvenile criminals committed to gaol, the result must continue to be that our goals will only prove to be costly schools for the training of criminals. The importance of this can scarcely be over estimated, when it is considered that the last report of the Inspector of Prisons shows the number of prisoners in Ontario under 16 years of age to be: males, 416; females, 53, or a total of 469 children of an age when it cannot be doubted that a wise system of moral training could not fail, in the great majority of cases, to effect permanent reformation; and so, by nipping crime in the bud, to effect an enormous pecuniary saving to the city and to the Province."

Our Neighbours.

PETERBORO' Mechanics' Institute has 3,354 books in its library.

THERE is a splendid opening for a harness-maker and a tinsmith in Zephyr.

ON Wednesday evening, 12th inst., Miss Bustin, of Uxbridge, was presented with an address and a handsome silver chain and locket, by the bachelors of that town, prior to her departure for Kingston.

ON Friday morning, as Robert Henry, of Cartwright, was going to Port Perry with a load of wheat, his wife, who accompanied him, fell from the load when about a mile and a half south of Prince Albert, and was instantly killed.

THE men employed at a tannery in Uxbridge for a couple of Saturdays, without consulting their employers or asking any leave whatever in the matter, regular their coats an hour before the regular quitting time and were off. They were discharged.

SOME roughs in Zephyr occupied themselves one night last week with bending down some of the newly planted shade trees across the sidewalk, and tying them about a foot from the walk, so they would just be high enough to trip a person in the dark.

ON Saturday, May 15th, Mr. Wm. Gist, of Lot 3rd, 4th Con., Hamilton, showed the Port Hope Guide two stalks of Barley, headed out, that measured thirty-six inches in length. These two were cut from one seed, and raised this spring. There were twenty stalks from the same single seed, and all in full head. Can this be beat?

A FEW evenings ago some boys loaded up the old cannon lying in the rear of Mr. Byers implement shed, Omemee, and fired a stone about two inches in diameter through the side of the Hook-and-Ladder building. Such dangerous pranks cannot be tolerated, and it is to be hoped the guilty parties will be dealt with as they deserve.

A FIRE occurred on Victoria-avenue, Lindsay, about 12.30 o'clock, last Friday night, totally destroying a house of ill-fame owned by one Nicholls, at present residing in Colborne, and occupied by two families of ill repute. There was no insurance; loss small. The fire is attributed to incendiarism. One of the families was burnt out in a similar manner a short time ago.

THE *Gleaner* says:—One of our prominent citizens was brought before the magistrates on Saturday last charged with fraud. The case was adjourned to Monday when a large amount of legal talent from Port Perry and Uxbridge was employed, both for the prosecution and defence, and a bench of five magistrates deliberated on the case. After hearing all the evidence, and the argument of the legal gentlemen, decision was reserved.

THE members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Oshawa, have decided to commence the erection of a new church edifice at once. Having secured the lot formerly bought by the town, for the purpose of erecting a town hall upon it, tenders will be advertised for in a few days and the work of construction pushed forward as rapidly as possible. The plans for the building have been prepared and adopted, and a large part of the money required has been subscribed so that there need be but little delay in the matter. The building is to be 80 feet by 60, of the Gothic order of Architecture, and will be an ornament to the Town.

JACK HALE the prisoner who made his escape rather scantily attired, noticed in last issue, and a companion, Heman Godfrey, also "wanted," were both captured at the house of Lewis Godfrey early on Tuesday morning last by constables Hooper and Johnston. They were brought before the magistrates the same day charged with stealing wheat from Mr. Adam Shier last winter, and were committed for trial. There is another of the parties implicated in the same theft still at large. The gang is getting rather demoralized, as five of them are in durance vile, four at Whitby and one in the Central Prison. About twenty farmers in the neighbourhood have suffered from their depredations.—*Gleaner*.

WE clip the following from the *Mail*:—About noon on Monday last a young woman visited Yonge street wharf, in company with a couple of young men. On reaching the end of the dock she took a revolver from her pocket, handing it to one of her companions, requested him to discharge it, to see how it worked. After several shots had been fired, she put the weapon in her pocket. But a constable had observed her actions, and took her into custody on a charge of carrying a revolver. On being taken to police headquarters she gave her name as Nellie Piper, and supplemented the information by saying that she had been in the service of a Mrs. Armstrong, living near Stouffville, and had left for the purpose of visiting the city. When brought before

the Police Magistrate she said she had no home, and he sent her to the Haven. She informed the Magistrate that she carried the pistol for her protection.—On Tuesday she escaped from the Haven and has not yet been heard of. The *Globe* of Monday has the following:—Mrs. Reesor, of Newmarket, called at the Central Station on Saturday morning to see about a revolver and a watch which had been stolen from her by a servant named Jessie Piper. It will be remembered that this girl was arrested on Yonge street wharf a few days ago, having been observed shooting off a revolver. She was brought before the Court, remanded, and sent to the Haven, but escaped in the night, and has not since been seen by the police. Mrs. Reesor says that the girl Piper was a servant with her for several months, and was in every way satisfactory until she vanished with the revolver and watch.

CANNINGTON is assessed at \$195,844; population 918

It is proposed to erect a statue of the late Hon. Geo. Brown in the Queen's Park, Toronto.

MRS. GEO. BROWN, widow of the late Senator Brown, will visit Scotland this summer, accompanied by her family.

MR. JOSEPH NORTHWOOD, of Chatham has been called to the Senate in the place of the Hon. Geo. Brown; deceased.

ONE day last week ten Grand Trunk engines went north on the Midland to bring lumber down that for some time has been awaiting transport at the stations north of Orillia.

WHAT THEY SAY OF IT? A FEW FACTS FOR THE PEOPLE.—There are but few preparations of medicines which have withstood the impartial judgment of the people for any great length of time. One of these is Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil. Read the following, and be convinced:—Thomas Robinson, Farnham Centre, P. Q. writes, "I have been afflicted with rheumatism for the last ten years, and have tried many remedies without any relief, until I tried Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil, and since then have had no attack of it. I would recommend it to all."

—J. H. Earl, Hotel Keeper, West Shefford, P. Q. writes—"I have been troubled with liver complaint for several years, and have tried different medicines with little or no benefit, until I tried Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil, which gave me immediate relief, and I would say that I have used it since with the best effect. No one should be without it. I have tried it on my horses in cases of cuts, wounds, etc., and think it equally as good for horse as for man."

—A. Maybee, Merchant, Warwick, writes, "I have sold some hundreds of bottles of Electric Oil, and it is pronounced by the public, 'one of the best medicines they have ever used;' it has done wonders in healing and relieving pain, sore throats, etc., and is worthy of the greatest confidence."

—Joseph Rusan, Township Percy, writes, "I was persuaded to try Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil for a lame knee which troubled me for three or four years, and I never found anything like it for curing lameness. It is a public benefit."

Beware of Imitations.—Ask for Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil. See that the signature of S. N. Thomas is on the wrapper, and the names of Northrop & Lyman are blown in the bottle, and Take no other. Sold by all medicine dealers. Price 25 cents. NORTHROP & LYMAN, Toronto, Ont., Proprietors for the Dominion.

NOTE.—Electric—Selected and Electrized.

THE CRADLE.

At Con. 14 Brock, on 22nd inst., the wife of Mr. Alex. McLean, of a son.



COUNTY OF VICTORIA.

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Victoria will be held in the Council Chamber at the

Court House, in the Town of Lindsay, on

TUESDAY, THE 8th OF JUNE, 1880, AT 12 O'CLOCK, NOON,

for the transaction of general business.

By order, T. MATCHETT, County Clerk.

COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE, Lindsay, May 25th, 1880.

NOTICE.

ALL parties are hereby cautioned against negotiating a promissory note made by me in favor of Donald McNab, or Bearer, dated May 7th, 1880, for the sum of thirty-five dollars, and witnessed by Neil McDonald, I having received no value for the same.

GEORGE CARTER, Lot 15, Con. 1, Eldon.

Township of Eldon!

COURT OF REVISION.

THE Municipal Council of the Township of Eldon, will hold a Court of Revision to revise the Assessment Roll of said Municipality for the year 1880, and also to hear appeals in reference to drainage by-law, at MAGUIRE'S HOTEL, HARTLEY,

MONDAY, THE 31st DAY OF MAY 1880. All persons interested will please govern themselves accordingly.

Clerk's office, Woodville, May 10th, 1880.

A. MORISON, Clerk.