

The Woodville Advocate

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One of the above will be at Hamilton's Hotel, Beaverton, on the SECOND MONDAY of each month. He will also visit Woodville on the Second TUESDAY of each month, stopping at McPherson's Hotel.
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ALL NEW WORK WARRANTED.
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HARNESS MAKER, SADDLER &c
HARNESS COLLARS, HALTERS, WHIPS
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VALISES AND ALL KIND OF
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TERMS CASH.

Parties having fat cattle to dispose of will please call or leave word at my shop.
Farmers wanting meat will please leave their order the night before at the shop.
The highest cash price paid for HIDES.

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Buns, Rolls and Pastry a Specialty
SODA, ABERNETHY AND FRUIT BISCUITS,
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FRUIT CAKES, MIXED TEA CAKES.

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Special Features of the Association:
1. Great Inducement to provide for families in case of death at small cost.
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IRA ARGUE,
Agent for County of Victoria.
Woodville, P. O.

A TERRIBLE TRAGEDY

Engineer Close, late of Lorneville, found murdered in the Niagara River.

HIS IDENTITY DENIED.

(From the Toronto World.)

The Buffalo Express of July 15th contained an account of the finding of the body of a man at Niagara Falls on June 15, with a rope round his neck and a 32-calibre ball embedded in his brain. For a time the body was supposed to be that of one O. F. Rowell, but through the agency of John Byrne & Co., proprietors of the Buffalo detective agency, and detective Thomas Curtin. Rowell was found to be alive, and was posted as a fraud who had endeavored to palm himself off as dead for reasons best known to himself. The body was then identified as that of John Close of No. 459 North Division street, Buffalo, and the Express says that of late he had been employed on one of the Canada railroads, with his headquarters at Toronto. On the 28th of last February Mrs. Close received a letter from her husband, dated at Hamilton, Ont. It was written in affectionate words, and said that he was coming home to see "wife, child and father." She never heard from him again. Time passed, and her anxiety and grief became great. Such means as she had at command could secure no tidings of him. At length she heard of the finding of the body of an unknown man at the Falls, and yesterday learned that Detective Curtin could furnish a description of the corpse. The poor woman called at the detective agency, and her worst fears unhappily became confirmed. The body was that of her husband. John Close was well known among railroad men in Toronto. For six or seven years he ran an engine on a passenger train between this city and Woodville Junction, on the Toronto & Nipissing railway, and was considered one of the best engineers that ever came into this city. He left the Nipissing last October or November amid the universal regrets of the officials of the road, who were loath to part with him. It was understood among his fellow-employees that he intended to go to Buffalo and join his father, who is engaged in the sale of steel frogs. Close lived with his wife and child at Woodville Junction. He brought in the 11.15 a.m. train every morning and went back at 4 p.m. Close was a strictly sober and industrious man, and belonged to the brotherhood of locomotive engineers, to the order of Freemasons, and to the Oddfellows. No one here seems to know of his whereabouts from the time he left Toronto up to the 28th of last February, the date on which his wife last heard from him from Hamilton. There is no doubt in the minds of the Buffalo detectives that the man was murdered, but it is not known as yet whether he had any large amount of money in his possession or not. He was known, however, to have had a trunk full of clothes with him and a certificate of the brotherhood of locomotive engineers. Several persons whom a World reporter conversed with yesterday, and who know Close intimately while he was on the Nipissing, hinted that he and his wife did not live over happily together, and on one occasion he mentioned to a friend that he intended to go to Buffalo and procure a divorce. This was during a fit of despondency, of which he seemed to be a victim. He is said to have suffered almost continually from headache, and during the post mortem examination when the physicians removed the top of the skull, they found on the inner surface an abnormal bony growth, which must have pressed somewhat against the brain. Whether John Close committed suicide, or whether he was murdered, as yet remains a mystery, and further developments will be awaited with interest. The above will be read by many of our readers with deep sorrow. Mr. Close made many friends during his residence here and was much respected. That so dark a tragedy should have closed his life will send a thrill of intense horror over the entire community, and we hope the identity of the murdered man may prove incorrect. Since the above the only further developments in the case is that the body may possibly not be that of Mr. Close. It is suspected from the fact of his being missing and rumours as to differences having existed between him and his wife. That these differences existed Mrs. Close emphatically denies. She says they parted on most excellent terms, and before his departure they had broken up housekeeping in Canada and were living with her mother. He had no insurance on his life. On the contrary, he was in arrears in the various orders to which he belonged. She finds great fault with

her father-in-law's insinuations and assertions, and publishes the following letter, the last she received from him, as a proof of the good terms on which they parted:—

HAMILTON, Friday, Feb. 18, 1881.

MY DEAR WIFE,—You will doubtless think it strange that you have not heard from me ere this, but I have been busy and travelling a great deal. I have also been sick. I wrote you a short letter from Chicago. I have seen a great deal of the country since I saw you. Have been away to Southern Illinois as far as Effingham. I have had two situations, one at my trade and the other as engineer on the Illinois Central Railway, out of Chicago. I did not like the way they have of running trains, and as promotion was slow by the looks of the old hands on the road, who have been running freight over twelve or thirteen years. I thought it looked pretty slim for me. I am on my way down from the west, and am going to stop here a few days looking around here doing some (railroad) frog business, and also at the same time seeing if I can get some running to do here. I tell you I like Canada better than the States after all. They have better tobacco and it is a better country to live in after all. My father and I caught cold at the boarding-house where we stopped in Chicago, and I came very near having a fever. I have been taking everything and feel some better. I left father in Chicago putting in his frog in the Chicago & North-Western Railroad. They have the finest shops I ever saw. Their shops alone are as big as all the shops of the different railways at East Buffalo put together. Chicago has grown wonderfully since I last was there in 1869. While I was there a safe was robbed of \$1,000 about a stone's throw from where I was boarding. It is an awful wicked place. They run their theatres, free and easies, ball-rooms, etc., all days of the week, and Sunday is their best day. Some of them have matinees on Sunday as well as the performances in the evening. I see by the papers that the Central Depot caved in and also learned last night as I was coming down that the Palace Hotel had burned down. Well, as I am going to be here for a week I will close this so as to hear from you here. Give my love to all the folks. Kiss my little Matey, and tell her papa will see her soon, God willing, and write soon to your loving husband. With much love,
J. E. CLOSE.

Station House, Stewart St. Hamilton, Ont.
It may be added that Mrs. Close, Sr., does not approve of her husband's siding against his daughter-in-law. On the contrary, she says:—"I received a letter from John at the same time his wife received one. We know he loved his wife and child, and John will come home when he gets ready." Mrs. Close answered the letter above quoted, but received no reply. The Chief of Police in Hamilton was communicated with, but could give no information. All she knows for certain about him in Hamilton is that his trunk had a card tacked on it which bore the inscription, "Mrs. J. E. Close, Buffalo, N. Y."

Close's father, who has just returned from the South-West, was informed by a man that he met in Mexico that the latter parted from John Close at Palestine, Texas, on June 1. Domestic trouble, he declared, had obliged him to give up his position on the Toronto and Nipissing Railroad, and to go away. Mr. Close, Sr., still insists that there is a scandal in the case, that John cleared out, and is still alive, and quotes the above statement in confirmation of his theory. He has started for Chicago, whence he will try to trace his missing son.

PRESENTATION TO MRS. J. L. MURRAY.

(From the Kincardine Standard.)

One of the chief resorts of the town on Dominion Day was the Town Hall, in which an exhibition and refreshments were provided by the ladies of Knox Church. The exhibition was that of a remarkable quilt, the particulars of which we have given before. It was six months in preparation, and on it are wrought in silk, chain-stitch, two thousand one hundred and sixty names besides one hundred and twenty headings. On each side is a large centre-piece of magnificent embroidery, one of which was worked by Miss Henry, of Hamilton, and the other by Mrs. D. Robertson, of this town. In connection with this exhibition the ladies provided refreshments, which were served during the day and evening. An interesting part of the programme was the disposal of the quilt. Mr. P. McInnes was called to the platform and performed his part as usual in a highly creditable manner. He made a proposal to the gentlemen of Knox Church who were present, to make up a prize of one hundred dollars, to be presented to the ladies for the diligence exercised, and good taste displayed in connection with this article, offering to be himself one of a hundred, or of fifty, or of twenty, or even ten, to make up that amount. Such contributions were not to interfere in any sense with the sale to be effected. He then asked for bids. The first was twenty dollars, and from that figure the bidding went up to one hundred dollars, which last bid was that of

Elder, Robert Richardson, and the purchase was declared to be his. After the singing of an anthem by the choir, Elder Richardson and Mr. Armstrong and his friend from Paris, came forward to the front and presented the quilt to Mrs. J. L. Murray. The presentation was accompanied with the following address, which was read by Mr. Armstrong:—

"MRS. MURRAY, DEAR MADAM,—Having purchased this interesting and elegant quilt around which cluster so many pleasant associations, and which reflects so much credit on the genius taste, and tact of the ladies of Knox Church, I take much pleasure in asking you to accept of it as a token of my very high esteem for you as a personage of great moral worth. Your genial and exquisite manners endear you to all who are favored with your acquaintance. The ladies of Knox Church Kincardine, have always been noted for their benevolence, energy, and Christian activity; but it is since you came amongst us that these virtues have been fully developed. Unassuming to extreme modesty, you are felt, Madam, to be the very soul of that group of ladies whose pure and lofty ambition is to be useful in the Church and in the world. When one of Nature's true ladies is renewed in heart by Divine grace, and polished in mind, by the refining influence of culture and education, she exerts a salutary influence, silent as the dew, but mighty beyond measurement in moulding the minds and hearts of others. Such influence may you long continue to exert in our midst.

(Signed),
ROBERT RICHARDSON.

Mr. Murray, in behalf of his wife, made a suitable reply, in which he referred to the many acts of generosity on the part of Mr. Richardson since coming to Kincardine, and his constant willingness to do his share in every good work claiming his attention. He thanked him cordially for his handsome gift and for the warmly worded address which accompanied it. The quilt, he trusted, would become an heir-loom in the family, and would for many years be a monument of the preserving industry and artistic handiwork of the ladies of Knox Church, and of the affection and liberality of the donor of the gift.

Throughout the evening excellent music was furnished by Prof. Marshall and his choir. In closing, the Chairman stated that there were three reverend gentlemen present who were bubbling over with loyalty on this the fourteenth anniversary of the natal day of our Dominion, and that they were prepared to deliver stirring patriotic addresses; but that the booming of cannon, the display of fireworks, and the cheers of the crowd assembled around the Market Square rendered it impossible. In behalf of Knox Church he thanked all who had been present during the day and evening, especially those of other denominations who kindly gave them countenance in even larger numbers than on previous occasion. He thanked all, at a distance or near at hand, who contributed their names and dimes to the completion of this interesting article, and also all who devoted time and means towards the successful carrying out of the programme of the day.

Subjoined is a statement of the sums realized by this enterprise:—

Received in connection with names worked on quilt,.....	\$255 50
Admission fees and refreshments on the 1st of July,.....	100 00
From sale of quilt,.....	100 00
Subscriptions to the Ladies Aid Society for the object for which the quilt enterprise was originated,.....	118 00
Total,.....	\$574 00

From this is to be deducted the outlay for material and the expenses in connection with the public entertainment.

The crowd dispersed after singing "God Save the Queen."

Holloway's Pills.—Health or Wealth.

No sane person would hesitate an instant in the choice between these two conditions. Now is the season to secure the former either by restoring or confirming. These Pills excel all impurities from the system which fogs, foul vapours, and variable temperatures engender during winter; this medicine also acts most wholesomely upon the skin by discharging the load of its accumulated bile, and by exciting the kidneys to more energetic action; it increases the appetite for food and strengthens the digestive process. The stomach and liver, with which most disorders originate, are fully under the control of these regenerative Pills, which act very kindly, yet most efficiently on the tenderest bowels.

The golden age—the present—when Esterbrook's popular Steel Pens are within the reach of all. The stationers can supply them. Wholesale by the leading Toronto stationers.