# THE ADVANCE.

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A. R. FAWCETT,
*Editor and Proprietor.*

FLESHERTON:
THURSDAY, FEB. 23, 1888.


## *EDITORIAL NOTES.*

The subject of "Independent Journalism" introduces one to a wide realm for discussion. There are so many standpoints from which it can be viewed, too, and so many interpretations or definitions connected with the word when applied to newspapers, that one must be a prophet or the son of a prophet in order to thread its mazes without becoming seriously, if not hopelessly, entangled. If we look at the question from the Dundalk *Herald's* standpoint, then the number of party papers becomes beautifully small, while that of the independent press assumes vast proportions. The "radical partyism of the local press, which clamors for a party and expects all its readers to follow its dictates" does not really exist in either of the hemispheres. What editor—however extreme his views—expects *all* his readers to follow his dictates?

According to the *Herald*—(perhaps not just in so many words)—all papers may be classed as independent which occasionally disagree as to the utility or necessity of certain minor questions in the policy of the party with whom they claim allegiance. In that case, there are very few papers which are not independent, and this explains the position taken by our esteemed *confrere* more clearly than the arguments advanced in a former issue. But an important question yet remains undecided, viz., are the opinions of the *Herald*, touching this point, in harmony with those held by the "independent press" generally? If they are, then there is very little room for discussion in so far as THE ADVANCE is concerned at any rate; for it sometimes disagrees with the Government. If they are not, however, the question arises, wherein lies the difference?

The *Herald* thinks a man should not make up his mind definitely "as to the party he will vote for until the elections are sprung." Indeed. You argue, then, that he should not read the newspapers and post himself in the current literature of the day? Otherwise he would be apt to learn enough to enable him to decide which party to support long before the "elections are sprung." If a party has a policy, it doesn't usually hide it under a bushel or a candlestick "until elections are sprung." There are questions which the wisest heads could scarcely fathom if they postponed the serious study of the same until the hurly burly of an election campaign swept over the country arousing the prejudices and passions of people to fever heat. The worst time to look for *honest* information or to choose which party you will support, is after "the elections are sprung."

The editor of the Flesherton ADVANCE has given up chewing tobacco and has fallen back on gum. *Bruce Herald.* Perhaps our esteemed contemporary will add to the above canard by stating that the ADVANCE man discovered America when Julius Caesar was emperor of Persia!

Toronto may be a great city and all the rest of it, but if any more of our local contemporaries publish that play-on-the-names-of-Toronto-newspapers item in their local or editorial columns as *original* matter, we shall feel like introducing them to our Spring Poet annihilator, or Bill Nye's elevator.

We pity that poor unfortunate Municipal Act. If it were mortal, we verily believe we could shed tears over it. Every session of the Ontario Legislature witnesses a large number of gallant efforts to add to the cantankerous burden under which it already groans in deepest anguish—and still they come! Already this session we have counted eleven attempts to "Amend the Municipal Act." The Lord only knows how many more egotistical asses will try their hands at butchering it before the close of the session, in their mad efforts to cover themselves with glory.

A letter found its way into the columns of THE ADVANCE last week, above the cognomen, "Lover of Justice." It contained a personal attack, which was, and is, contrary to the rules which have governed our correspondence department for some time. In the hurry of going to press, the letter was overlooked. In order, however, to prevent mistakes of this kind in future, we might just say, that letters reflecting upon any person will only be published in this journal over the *real* name of the writer, unless they come from the pens of our regularly authorized correspondents. These latter are well known and reliable gentlemen—some of whom have for years been regular and prized contributors. We like a manly man—one who will stand up face to face with his opponent and exchange blows like a true Briton; yes, and one who does not conceal himself and administer stabs in the dark. Come out into the light, Mr. "Lover-of-Justice," and "walk into" Mr. Long the manly way Mr. Buckingham is doing. And if you do say hard things, and, perhaps unintentionally, distort facts, you will at least get credit for manliness. You should learn a useful lesson from Messrs. Long and Buckingham in this respect.

### Maxwell School Matters.

*To the Editor of The Advance.*

Dear Sir,—As I had about made up my mind when sending my last letter on School Matters in this place to remain silent, it may seem out of place to again take up the controversy. But after the statements made by James Buckingham in his effusions of last week. I merely wish to say that any charges or statements that I have made against him I am quite prepared to substantiate by good reliable evidence, nevertheless the twisting and turning he has made to evade the matter I am aware that to outsiders the controversy may be of little interest. But here where the facts are well known there can be no doubt as to the verdict.

But behold just over in another lot I hear the braying of an animal of another species and in the end says he is a "lover of justice." I do not attempt a reply, it is simply a nobody in ambush trying to aid himself and I shall allow him to do so to his heart's content as such garble as he has started out with does not in any way effect me, and by the time he gets through others will be as much ashamed of him as he is of his name.

W. LONG,
Maxwell.


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| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Flour | $4 00 to | 4 20 |
| Fall Wheat | $0 78 to | 0 80 |
| Spring Wheat | 0 78 | 0 80 |
| Barley | 0 65 | 0 72 |
| Oats | 0 38 | 0 38 |
| Peas | 0 58 | 0 58 |
| Butter | 0 17 | 0 17 |
| Eggs, fresh | 0 17 | 0 17 |
| Potatoes bush | 0 40 | 0 40 |
| Pork | 6 50 | 6 60 |
| Hay, per ton | 7 00 | 8 00 |
| Hides | 4 50 | 5 50 |
| Wool | 18 | 21 |
| Sheepskins | 0 50 | 1 06 |
| Geese | 0 06 | 0 06 |
| Turkeys | 0 10 | 0 10 |
| Chickens per pair | 0 25 | 0 30 |
| Ducks per pair | 0 50 | 0 60 |


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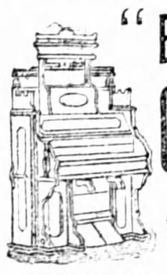
JOS. McCONNELL.

Flesherton, Feb. 1st, 1888.



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