THE ADVANCE.

Is published

Every Thursday,

FROM THE OFFICE,

Sydenham Street, - - Flesherton, Ont.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:

$1 per annum when paid strictly in advance
$1.50 per annum when not so paid.

A. R. FAWCETT,
Editor and Proprietor.

FLESHERTON:
THURSDAY, MAY , 1888.

"WIRE-PULLING."

Most people can recall the time when they first saw "Punch and Judy" and other comical figures operated on the street or public square; and will remember how heartily they laughed at the performance. Many juveniles have wondered how the wooden figures acted in such a life-like manner, until told about the man concealed beneath or behind the drapery, who pulled certain wires or strings connected with the images. This was a very innocent pastime compared with the kind of wire-pulling to which we wish to direct attention.

Ambition is a grand quality in man, so long as it is confined within certain bounds. It tends to raise him above mediocrity socially, intellectually, morally; but unbridled ambition inevitably leads to disappointment and failure in the end—no matter how easy the way may appear in the first stages. The first seeks to attain to certain altitudes by sure and honorable methods; the latter tries to get there by the shortest route and in the quickest possible manner, however questionable the means employed.

In this connection our thoughts are led to dwell upon the "religious" wire-puller, whose wild ambition to mount the ladder of position, at whatever cost, furnishes food for sad reflection in these degenerate days. An instance came under our notice the other day. A minister of the Gospel, whose restless and uncurbed ambition and intense egotism have won for him a rather unenviable reputation, was the central figure. This gentleman—if we may dignify him by that title—became fired with a burning desire to shine as one of the "lights" in a certain conference stationing committee. To this end he made a personal canvas of every minister, except one, in his district—unblushingly and boldly asking them to vote for him at the approaching District Meeting—in some cases offering bribes! How to capture the votes of the laymen was a question he did not hesitate to tackle with his customary audacity. He sent a postcard to each of the ministers—with the one exception noted—and cooly asked these brethren to influence their respective laymen in his behalf! You see he did not know the names of the gentlemen likely to be elected as lay representatives, or he would undoubtedly have approached them as he did his brethren of the cloth. He secured his election by a very narrow majority—but at what a cost! The French King, Francis I could exclaim with the true dignity of noble manhood—"All is lost but honor!" but this wire-pulling preacher, with a string of high-sounding handles to his name, could only say—"All is *gained* but honor!" Let us add, that the brethren of the cloth, who responded to the invitation of the scheming wire-puller so heartily—induced to do so in some cases, no doubt, by promises of preferment—are just as much in the mud as the other is in the mire.

It is to be hoped that some effort will be made to stamp out this disgraceful wire-pulling and bribery; and that, in future, men will be elected to important positions more on their own merits and less on their superlative egotism and cheek.

The Blessings of Monarchy.

From the York Herald.

Sir,—By reason of magnificent widespread British monarchial rule for hundreds of years supported by costly powerfult armies and navies. Great Britain among first class nations has not only proudly and honorably held her own but acquired the most valuable colors in the world, wherein are settled thousands and millions of her happy people in peace, affluence and entire solid security from the encroachments of and outside enemy: had it been governed as a cheap Bradlaugh Republic all these brilliant advautages one after another would probably have been wrenched off—or slipped through our fingers for ever—such is the past and present aggressiveness and ambition of France, Russia, &c., for grabbing new territory. It may be said by opponents—look at the United States model Republic! how well it stands! They are—however—differently constituted States, whilst Britain is a few miles only from France and other great grabbing eagles. England as a Republic would become an easy prey, while the United States remoin invulnerable. In fact neither Russia nor France would hardly attempt the latter, trouble or permanently hold the U. S. A. Under these circumitances and, considering the millions of British subjects scattered through India, Australia, Canada, &c., assisted by our old John Bull Conseraateve flag, it would appear that the time is not yet ripe for throwing overboard Monarchy when Her Majesty quits this earthly scene, and our trying on a red Republican, less costly form. Of course there is some little show of sound reason in these inciptent public expressions of complaint at the ever increasing cost of keeping up prolific Royal families, in splendor: evidently somenhing must be enactep to reduce this big item, but how to do this decently, wisely and safely is a puzzle at present. Probably it will be deemed expedient for parliament to fix new limits so as to bring Monarchy more moderate and better acceptable to British people—leaving that notion of sudden change for Republicanism to rest quietly *sine die*, for there is every likelihood under tue latter rule, absurd economy would be one of its main planks—army and navy cut down or abolished, and our valuable colonies be forced to provide themselves at enormous outlay with both inorder to prevent Russla or France laying siege to Australia, and Canada. In discussing these questions many persons altogether forgot the manifold blessings we and our relations all over the world enjoy under good Queen Victoria.

J. CATHCART HUTCHISON,
151 Church, Toronto.

FLESHERTON STATION.

Interesting Items Collected for The Advance.

CREAMERY.

Mr. R. H. Cook's creamery here is now in full operation. THE ADVANCE man visited it on Saturday and found Mr. Cook and his assistant, Mr. Phillips, busy at work manufactoring butter in a neat and well constructed building erected for the purpose. The churn, which is constructed on the most approved scientific principle, was being operated by horse power. THE ADVANCE man tested the first butter made in the creamery and unhesitatingly pronounces it a very superior article, and one that will command the top market price anywhere. Mr. Cook is deserving of great praise, as well as an extensive patronage, for his enterprise. Another season will find his creamery business vastly increased.

NEW POST OFFICE.

The Station Post Office has changed location and management. About two months ago it was removed to Mr. Wm. Hog's store and placed under the management of that gentleman by the Inspector.

C. P. R. STATION AND GROUNDS.

A handsome new station house will be erected here this summer by the C. P. R. Co. to replace the one desnroyed by fire last winter. A portion of the hill on the west of the track will be cut down and dumped into the hollow on the east side. The new station building will be located across the track from where the old one formerly stood—adjoining the steam flour mill property. This will obviate the necessity for crossing the track in driving to the station from Flesherton and points east, which will be a decient improvement. It is also on dit, that another side track or two will be laid in order to facilitate the movements of freight trains. The present accommodation in the matter of side-tracking is quite inadequate, as was clearly demonstrated by an instance which came under the personal notice of the writer last Saturday evening, when a lengthly freight train had to be separated and inconveniently located in various places in order to allow free passage for the south-bound passenger train. And even than the matter was monaged with much difficulty the passenger train being delayed some ten or fifteen minutes, while the distribution of freiget cars was taking place.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

Mr. Johnston Little is booming business in the blacksmithing.....The hotel is being brick-clad under the efficient management of Mr. Fred Ryder. The carpenter work in connection with same building is being hustled in good shape under Mr. John Whitten's surveillance.

Priceville Pointers.

The Agricultural Editor again Heard From.

Once more on deck! And now for regular visits to Priceville—the nice little town located on the Western hills overlooking the Saugeen river, five miles from Flesherton and ten or eleven miles distant from Sleepy Hollow, otherwise yclept Durham.

A fine hale hearty old gentleman is Mr. John D. Simpson, who has been in the furniture business in Priceville for thirty years. Long life and prosperity to you, John!

It is expected that work on the new Presbyterian church will shortly be commenced. The necessary excavations have been made for the foundation walls, and large quantities of brick and stone are on the grounds ready to put in place by the masons. Judging fron present indications, the building will be a capacious and handsome one.

Mr. Robert Oliver has probably the most extensive farm in South Grey. He has a farm of 760 acres in Artemesia, which is splendidly stocked. He has no less than 30 milch cows and all other kinds of stock in proportion. His success as an all-round farmer has very few parallels in the county.

An agitation is on foot here for establishing a two-mail-a-day system between this point and the C. P. R. depot, which would be a great convenience to business men and the public generally. Priceville really should have much better accommodation in this respect.

Mr. Jones, the new Tailor here, is becoming more popular every day and is working up a fine business.

Mr. Robert Watson has a very neat and well stocked harness shop. His business is rapidly increasing, and as friend Robert is immensely popular, we expect to see him prosper more and more as the years roll around.

Another improvement addition to Priceville's business enterprises is the new bakery under the careful and excellent management of Mr. Alf. Watson. The shop is a very neat one.

Business booming at Brander's as usual. Just consult our "Tit-Bits" column and see what Mr. Brander says there.

Alex. Brown, an old and respected resident of the village, has been quite ill lately, but is now becoming convalescent.

The Commercial Hotel has greatly improved its dining room accommodation since our last visit, and is otherwise a first-class hostlery.

The

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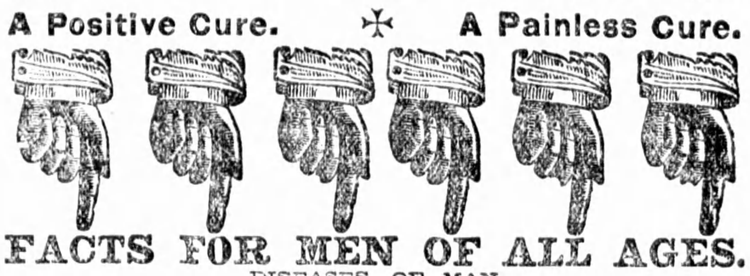

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