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House and Lot for Sale.
A good house and lot, opposite the Methodist Church, Flesherton, is now offered for sale. The house is large and roomy, fine lot, good stable and yard, splendid well on the premises, fruit trees, etc. This is a rare bargain. Apply to S. VANDUSEN, Flesherton.

MY EARLY SCHOOL DAYS.

Sixty Years Ago or Thereabout. Brockville, Vicinity, Canada.

"Telling Tales out of School"-Some Pleasing, Some Funny, Some Sad, Some Strange, Some Good and Some Bad, Loves Rule and the Gad, When I was a Lad, "Only a Boy."

BY WM. PURDY.

Specially Written for The Advance.

I am growing old. Only one of my seven school teachers yet living, I think. No fear now of getting "whipped" for "telling tales out of school." Anyway I have nothing very bad to tell, because my teachers were not "bad." There were no "bad scholars," and I was not a "bad boy."

Probably in my seventh year I began going to school, but adverse circumstances prevented my getting only a few month's schooling at a time, the frequent change of teachers in those days. I only obtained about a year and a half schooling, all told. No opportunity for studying grammar or geography. "Webster's spelling book," "New Testament," and "English Reader," (Murray's) were our "daily (mental) bread." Where now, can better be obtained? My first school teacher's name was

"AUNT" LAURA ELLIOTT.

who ruled by love, more than the rod. She was an elderly, good natured woman, and probably on this account was familiarly called "aunt." I cannot recall of her ever whipping a scholar. She had names of her own making, or "titles," for the school children, few of which I now remember, but as human beings generally remember best what concerns themselves, I recollect of her calling me the

"GOVERNOR OF UPPER CANADA,"

partly by way of encouragement, also because I happened to live "up the road" from the school house, and I think no other boy from farther up the country attended her school.

"Down the road" below the school house, there lived another boy about my size and age—a relative of mine, whom she called the

"GOVERNOR OF LOWER CANADA."

His name was Samuel McLean, son of the late John McLean, Esq., who owned and occupied the first and only brick house then between Brockville and Gananoque to my knowledge. Poor fellow, an accident while yet a young man cut short his prospect of a long life, so far at least as good health and long lived ancestry gave promise.

"Aunt" Laura taught one term in that neighborhood. On account of the following, I may here remark that the school was held in a farm house, once belonging to the late Mr. Randall, the family having moved out. My second teachers name was

POLLY W———

I think she was a "Miss," but, married or single, in those days female teachers were called "Mistress." I do not believe she recognized me as "Governor of Upper Canada," because she never called me by that title. However, the omission did not trouble me any. Young as I was, I preferred knowledge to fame.

"The clouds may drop down titles and estates, wealth may seek us, but wisdom must be sought."

Of course, like other boys, I played at "noon spell." What boy wouldn't? This teacher—"Mistress," was afraid of "spooks," and in consequence of a report having gone out that the

HOUSE WAS HAUNTED

felt "ill at ease" while in it. There were two rooms and an "up stairs," dimly lighted, where a few things were stored belonging to the family, including an old hat worn by the late Mr. Randall. Querey: Is there anything more suggestive of the nearness of the person, presence, or spirit of man, than his hat? or a "man's hat?"

Well, if during school hours any little noise was heard overhead our mistress, fearing it was

A SPOOK,

would send some of her scholars to try and find out. Of course this was a fearful undertaking. I well remember the time when I and the "Governor of Lower Canada" were "petitioned" to investigate.

How slowly we crawled up stairs, step by step, on our hands and knees. Being little boys then, we only ventured to "poke" our heads up far enough to look around. We saw no spook, but plainest of all was the dead man's hat hanging in a remote part of the room and

When thus reminded of his death
"The very bravest held his breath,"
We scarcely dared to move.

After watching, waiting, listening long as our courage held out, and too "backward to go forward," we slowly backed down, "crab fashion," not daring to turn around lest the spook, spying our unguarded position, might suddenly pounce upon and annihilate us. During our reconnoitering

There were faces sad with woe
In the school room down below,
"There was silence deep as death,"
Long scholars, teachers all.

If an unusual sound seemed to be outside, she would tell us to go out and look for the spook. I recollect one time seeing a little woodpecker fly off the roof which had been the innocent cause of a

"Strange mysterious rapping,"
Rapping with its little bill,
"Only that and nothing more."

Failing to discover anything supernatural did not allay her fears. Her custom was, whether "bird or beast, or thing of evil," made an

UNUSUAL SOUND

overhead in one room, to move the school into the "other room." Books, benches, chairs, writing tables, etc., (we had no desks) and there teach us until the spook "changed base of operation," and then for greater safety remove back again, and so on.

Well, we must "praise the bridge that carries us safe over." By her good (?) "generalship" we were all carried safely over that never-to-be-forgotten term of tuition, receiving no personal injury from spooks, ghosts or goblins, but, whether much mental benefit resulted, I will leave the reader to "guess."

Not by way of egotism do I now remark that, terrible as those spook-searching expeditions were, I never felt inclined to turn back. I wished to see for myself. Not many pleasant memories linger round that second schooling of my early days, especially when I call to mind the

CRUEL WHIPPING

she gave my little brother just because he happened to laugh too loud to suit her rules when playing at "noon spell." I dont think he laughed any louder than the other boys. Perhaps she thought it right to whip somebody. There were some teachers then who seemed to take a "vicious delight" in whipping. Are there any such now? My brother could scarcely cease crying and sobbing in time for his afternoon lesson.

He is now an elderly man, I am a few years older, yet to this day, could weep for him if it would do any good. We attended her school one term.

(To Be Continued.)

General News.

Thomas Rooney and Daniel Bohan, of Mitchell, went boating Friday, and were capsized. Rooney was saved, but Bohan drowned.

The jail at Jacksonville, Oregon, took fire Friday night and three prisoners were suffocated.

Trouble is said to be brewing at Oklahoma City, owing to a new crowd of settlers opposing the city administration.

The Burke matter at Winnipeg has been enlarged for two weeks, as there is a prospect that a habeas corpus will be applied for.

Thomas Jhnson, colored, who is in Sandwich jail awaiting trial for killing his little stepson, has eaten nothing since last Tuesday, and proposes to starve himself to death.

Neil Gilchrist, a farmer of Hartley, while going home from the Orange demstration at Lindsay on Friday night, was thrown violently against a fence by his team running away, and had several ribs broken and an arm fractured in two places.

The Masonic Grand Lodge of Ontairio met in Owen Sound yesteriay.

Two post office clerks at Kingston have been suspended for opening letters.

A Momee, Mich., despatch says that James Couch, of Chesley, suicided with Paris green there on Saturday night.

Kilram and Murphy reached Chicago Sunday morning in a bedraggled condition, leaving Pony Moore in the woods. They went to the residence of Parson Davies, who fixed them up, loaned them $100 and sent them east. They are said to be making for Toronto.

Shiloh's cough and Consumption Cure is sold by us on a guarantee. It cures Consumption. For sale at the Medical Hall

Will you suffer with Dyspepsia and Liver Complaint? Shiloh's Vitalizer is guaranteed to cure you.- For sale at the Medical Hall.

The Canadian Northwest.

Until within a very few years, the accepted opinion, as to the character of the Canadian Northwest, was that, except as a hunting ground for fur-bearing animals, it was of little value. Even now well-informed people have, as a general rule, a most inadequate conception of its resourses and immense natural advantages.

The Canadian Senate has recently collected a great mass of information in regard to this territory, and as a result have revealed to the world the existence of a vast region, possessing a highly fertile soil and a genial summer climate in a latitude surprisingly near the polar circle.

It has been shown that wheat can be successfully grown at Fort Simpson, on the Mackenzie River, in latitude 61° 51', or eight hundred and sixty-two miles north of the northern boundry of the United States; that barley is a safe crop at Fort Norman, on the same river, in latitude 65°; and that potatoes can be grown with fair success within the Arctic zone. It is a revelation to be informed that the Peace River country, which lies between 56° and 59° north latitude, is "almost semi-torrid; it is the region of the cactus."

The Peace River is a feeder to the great river and lake system, of which the Mackenzie is the outlet. The Mackenzie has its source in the Great Slave Lake, a vast inland sea, rivalling Superior in magnitude, and empties into the Arctic Ocean, after a course of one thousand one hundred miles. With the great lakes which it drains, and the tributary rivers received by them in turn, it forms one of the most extensive waterways in the world.

From the source of the Peace River in the mountains of British Columbia to the ocean the distance is upwards of two thousand five hundred miles, and for the greater part of the way the navigation is excellent, in some places for the largest steamers. The Athabasca is another river of this system. It is a thousand miles long, and empties its waters into the lake of the same name, which, in its turn, finds an outlet in the Great Slave Lake by means of the Slave River.

The rivers named flow for nearly two thousand miles through a region highly adapted to agricultural pursuits. The Canadian Senate Committee reports that they, with the Saskatchewan River, drain an area of eight hundred and sixty thousand square miles, of which there is a possible area of three hundred and sixteen thousand square miles—over two hundred million square acres—suitable for wheat.

If this is even approximately correct, its bearing upon the food supply of the hundreds of millions of people who will inhabit North America within half a century, at present rates of increase, can hardly be overestimated. The whole area sown to wheat in the United States in 1888 was, according to the reports of the Department of Agriculture, thirty-six million acres.

On first consideration it will seem incredible that conditions favorable to agriculture can exist at such high latitudes, but when the explanation has been given, the case appears plain enough.

As it is well known, elevation above the sea level has a potent effect in determing temperture. The Canadian Northwest is much lower than the Western States. For a distance of fifty miles east of the Rocky Mountains, the average elevation above the sea level of the Union Pacific Railway is five thousand feet.

As we go northward there is a gradual descent, until when the Mackenzie River Valley is reached, the attitude is only three hundred feet. It is asserted that this difference of latitude is equal to thirty degrees of latitude.

If a close examination of any good map of America is made, it will be seen that no great river enters the Pacific Ocean along the coast of California and Oregon, and, as most people know, the mountains form a lofty barrier to the warm winds, which sweep eastward over the Pacific. But just at the northern boundary of Oregon, the Columbia River deboneches, and still further north, a short distance above the international boundary, the Fraser River empties its floods into Queen Charlotte's Sound.

The numerous tributaries of these great rivers penetrate far into the mountains, so far, indeed, that they interlock with the upper branches of the Saskatchewan, which flows into Lake Winnipeg, and of the Athabasca and Peace Rivers, already spoken of.

Through the passes thus formed, the Pacific winds, the Chinooks, as they are called, find their way out on the Canadian plains, and carry a genial summer climate far beyond the Arctic circle.

In addition to the Pacific winds, there is a constant current of air, warmed on the plains west of the Mississippi, flowing northward. Canada has all the disavantage resulting from the cold current from the Polar region, as passing down over Labrador it drives the isothermal lines far below the latitude they occupy in Europe. It is only a just compensation, therefore, that the warm currents, which ascend to supply the vacancy at the North, should render the climate of the Canadian Northwest, for a large part of the year, very delightful.

An important influence in determining the agricultural capability of this north land is the length of the summer days. In the center of the Peace River country, the longest summer day is seventeen hours twenty-eight minutes long, that is, from sunrise to sunset. The prolonged sunlight promotes rapid and vigorous growth.

It is a recognized fact that all plants are produced in their greatest perfection at the northern limit of the zone which they characterize. Wheat, oats and barley are essentially the products of the north temperate zone. Hence we would expect to find them in their greatest perfection in high latitudes where the conditions necessary for their growth can be found. It is therefore not a matter of surprise that the best wheat shown at the Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia was grown in the Peace River valley.

Deaf Mute Race.

To the Editor of The Advance.

DEAR SIR,—You have doubtless noticed in various newspapers articles stating that a deaf-mute variety of the human race is likely to be the result in the near future of the marriage of deaf mutes. From the information I have been able to gather up to this time, I have only learned of one deaf child in Ontario, a little boy now about four years of age, whose parents are deaf and dumb. Of the hundreds of children who are now attending, or have attended, this Institution, there is not one congenitally deaf child who has deaf-mute parents. I would like to obtain full and accurate information in regard to this matter, and if you or any of your readers know of any deaf-mute married persons, with or without children, if they will kindly send me their addresses, I shall feel much obliged.

There are deaf children of school age in the Province that I have not heard of and I am making an effort to get them into this Institution, where they may receive an education that will fit them for the duties of life. The condition of an uneducated deaf-mute is more deplorable than that of any other human being. Will you be good enough to bring these children to school? You can do more than any other person I might address. The parents of some are not aware that an institution exists where their deaf children can be taught to read and write. There are others who have heard of the Institution but are probably not acquainted with its real character, or from other causes fail to send their children to it, these might be induced by a little effort to send them. Deaf children between the ages of seven and twenty are admitted, educated and boarded at the expense of the Province. It is only required that the child shall be of sound mind and that the parents, or the municipality if the parents are unable, pay the railroad fare and provide necessary clothing. Application papers may be had by writing to me at Belleville and any information required will be cheerfully supplied.

Yours faithfully,
R. MATHISON,
Superintendant.

Inistioge.

From our own Correspondent.

The S.S. picnic held here on Wednesday afternoon was a very enjoyable affair. The visitors present were a fair representative of this vicinity, and all seemed to enjoy themselves well. The amount of the collections was $7.87. At 6 o'clock all were invited to the church to hear the program that was discoursed.

Mr. Henry Armstrong has purchased the farm of Mr. E. Williams for the sum of $100.00. Mr. W. has bought a farm in Holland.

Mrs. John L. Moor, has been sick for some time and is not recovering quickly.

Mr. Samuel Roseborough is sick with intermittent fever.

Miss C. Atchison and Miss E. Armstrong have returned from Owen Sound.

Mr. Thomas Ludlow's little boy had the misfortune to fall and fracture one of his wrists recently.