



**THE ADVANCE.**

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W. H. THURSTON,  
 Editor and Proprietor.

**A STUMBLING BLOCK.**

An Equal Rights Association has been formed in Flesherton. The secretary appointed has not forwarded us a list of the officers, but we understand that a notorious character living near the station is on the board of management. The promoters could not have taken a better method of strangling their youngster in its infancy than by placing this same person on the board. The secretary, it is said, refuses to act, (who can blame him?) and it is not at all unlikely that the formation of the association in Flesherton will prove its death, and that its first breath will be its last. Either an emetic must be given the youngster or it will die of the poison which is at present in its system. If the person referred to has the welfare of this branch of the Equal Rights Association at heart (providing, too, that he has a heart) he will do well to resign at once and not allow his presence to militate against its success. He has courted publicity by joining a public reform movement and we are prepared to grant his desires. Any man who would rest under the allegations which have been made against this one during the last few months, and not attempt to have the matter cleared up, deserves to be ostracized by every decent man until he clears his skirts from the imputations. Such matters cannot be relied upon to die out in this age of reason and newspapers. Every man belonging to this branch which has been lately formed here should see to it that their companions are above reproach, otherwise their power for good will be nullified, and for this reason—for their own good—we fell it our duty to point out a big stumbling block which lies in their path.

**MOSQUITO AND MINISTER.**

It is the small worries of life, not the greater troubles, which tend to sour a man's disposition and to make him touchy, morose, and cranky. For instance we candidly believe that, had mosquitos a soul, they would have more to answer for in this line than all the other insectivorous world combined. We have no statistics at hand, but venture to affirm that more "cuss" words and rank wickedness has been caused by this little cussed-ome than by all the other pests of christian-dom put together. Even ministers of the Gospel are not always calm, and decorous when the mosquito is buzzing around. A minister of our acquaintance was on one occasion in the act of saying grace. We sat on the opposite side of the table. A mosquito with an extraordinarily long penetrator came whistling along and lit squarely on Rev. Mr. Blank's nose. Grace stopped in the middle on this occasion, ending with a prolonged a-chew! The minister raised his knife and shouted, "Get out of that or I'll cut your tail off!" Decorum was thrown to the winds, and that minister was a murderer at heart for about forty seconds. Regardless of what those around the table would think he actually arose and chased the offending blood sucker into a corner, and

made pemican out of him—hide, tallow, horns and all—and then, but not till then, did his sang froid return and he became sufficiently calm to apologize to the company. This little story goes to prove that small tribulations are sometimes greater than we can bear with equanimity, while we can stand up and fight successfully the greater tribulations with one hand tied behind our backs.

Mr. Almon's bill legalizing marriage to a deceased wife's sister's child has become law. Won't some member now introduce a bill making it lawful to marry a deceased wife's sister's husband's great-great-grandmother and end the agony?

The London Advertiser says: "A new weather profit predicts three or four cyclones and several earthquakes this month. Our own Wiggins must look to his laurels." Now, Clark, what kind of a blamed fool is it down your way who deals in weather and makes a "profit" out of it? Of course it is a "new" profit, for no one ever heard of weather profits before. We had a suspicion that weather was a drug on the market this past winter, but it appears from the foregoing that somebody down around London has been using it to advance his pecuniary interests. But stop. Perhaps the individual referred to runs a windmill. We leave it to some other unregenerate member of the Fourth Estate to insinuate that it may be the Advertiser itself which possesses this profitable pumping power.

Mr. Charley Rykert, the pugnacious member for Lincoln, is in somewhat of a dilemma. Evidence has been brought forward of dealings in timber limits which Mr. Rykert is alleged to have secured through corrupt means. The Globe one day last week dared the Government to submit the question to a commission, saying that Sir John did not dare investigate Mr. Rykert's doings because the latter could make it hot for the Government should it pinch his corns. On Monday Mr. Rykert's case was submitted to the Committee on Privileges and Elections, thus choking the Globe's insinuations down its own throat. Its laryngeal passage is, however, quite large enough to admit of an easy passage.

As will be noticed elsewhere, Dr. Hunt has decided to sacrifice himself on the altar of politics in the Reform interests at the coming election for the Legislature in Centre Grey. We say sacrifice advisedly, for the majority of his own supporters consider it a forlorn hope that he will be elected, and it was only to prevent Mr. Rorke's election by acclamation that the convention decided to accept of Dr. Hunt as their champion. Dr. Hunt is not well known throughout the riding, neither is he intimately acquainted with the personnel of the electors, but the same statement will not bear repetition after the next election, and we fear that in the case of the good Dr., at least, his coming acquaintance will not prove a happy one to himself.

Rev. Mr. Straith and Mr. Brown, of Holstein, called upon us bright and early last Friday morning and tried to convince us that Equal Rights was the peg upon which the welfare of this country hung. We were glad to meet the gentlemen, but they did not succeed in raising an over-abundance of enthusiasm in our breast upon this question. On the very face of it there is something very peculiar about a stronger nationality or sect in this Dominion demanding equal rights with the weaker. We believe in equal rights, most certainly, but are not assured in our own mind that the gravity of the situation demands an organization of the character which these gentlemen represent, to overcome the machinations and trespasses of a weaker church or nationality. To our mind, it savors of absurdity.

**"Too Good to Keep."**

To the Editor of The Advance.

Sir,—I notice in the last issue of your paper, under the heading of "Markdale's Latest News," an item doctored "too good to keep," in which it is alleged that on the previous Sabbath evening, after Divine service, a certain "far-trimmed merchant" took up an "interceptive attitude on the steps of a certain church where, by the help of two lady companions, the lady of his choice avoided him; that he then, in company with another gent, followed them all directly to the home of his fair one, that the bevy then took flight, etc., etc.

It is not difficult to determine the identity of the "merchant" referred to; in fact the description is intentionally explicit.

I have known this gentleman favorably for some years, and feeling an interest in his reputation and welfare, have taken the trouble to inquire into the facts in connection with this scurrilous item. It proves to be all right with this one exception—it lacks the somewhat important element of truth. It is not true that he took up an "interceptive or any other attitude on the steps"; it is not true that he was "avoided"; it is not true that he directly followed the "bevy," or anybody else; it is not true that he attempted to force his presence upon any person, and it is equally false that the "three graces" or any person else treated him with scant courtesy. It is true that he called at the residence of an intimate acquaintance on the evening in question, and it is further true that, as he entered, a certain would-be literary lackey was making his exit.

This would-be literate *GENUS LOCUS* musical critic, etc., is also a merchant, (without the furs) a vendor of brass and pewter goods and gew gaws.

But why his interference and distortion of facts? Let me explain: A couple of years ago, the merchant alluded to had a small business transaction with this lackey, in the course of which the "merchant" alleges, and the facts show that the lackey acted most contemptibly mean. The "merchant" then forcibly expressed his opinion of the lackey and has since not only refused to countenance him, but has transferred his patronage to, and exercised his influence (not inconsiderable) in favor of a business rival, who has arrived upon the scene. Finding that it was impossible to secure the return of the good will of the "merchant" and severely feeling the pinch of business opposition which, it is believed, was through him (the merchant) partially created, he takes this means of venting his spleen, and of seeking to place his former patron in an unenviable light.

Of all mean classes who infest communities the anonymous and unprovoked assailer of his character is the most contemptible. It would not be surprising to find boys, or young men, rivals in matters of courtship, making or even printing unfounded statements discreditably to each other, but when men advanced in years, heads of families, men who have by some hook or crook attained prominence in church, sabbath school and other moral works resort to such practices it is time to call a halt.

The "merchant" sought to be defamed is well known in and about Markdale, and his youth and early manhood were spent among us. He never was kicked out of employment here, in King street, Toronto, or elsewhere, but on the contrary, upon leaving the village carried with him the highest recommendations from his former employer who is a leading citizen. Though young in years he is the proprietor of an honorable and profitable business and deserves much credit for the success he has already attained. He does not proclaim that he is better than other men are, does not for a pretence make long prayers, does not pretend to oratorically educate his fellow mortals in matters ecclesiastical, or in any other way too frequently wield the implement referred to in Judges, 15 c. and 15 v., but he claims to have some respect for the Golden Rule and the ninth commandment, and tries to act upon their teaching.

So far as forcing his presence upon any young ladies is concerned, the lackey is reminded that such is not at all necessary. Young men, sober, intelligent, educated, energetic, enterprising and successful usually find no difficulty in procuring a helpmate, and to relieve his apparent anxiety as to at least a portion of the "bevy," it is perhaps advisable to remind the aforesaid sanctimonious lackey that the "merchant" has no desire to become intimately associated with him by any process of relationship.

Yours truly, FAIR PLAY.

**A Historic Canal.**

Within the last quarter of a century railroads have largely superseded canals as a means of transportation. Yet certain canals like the Erie in the State of New York and the Rideau in Canada, still do a considerable business, and will always remain historically important.

The Rideau Canal, for example, has figured largely in Canadian politics. But for the Rideau Canal, Ottawa would not be the Capital of Canada

and the Dominion Government, even, as at present constituted, might never have been organized.

It owes its existence to the far-sighted military genius of the Duke of Wellington, who devised it as a military measure subsequent to the War of 1812 with the United States, when England and Canada met with signal reverses along the frontier of Canada West, from the lack of facilities for transporting munitions from Montreal westward.

The St. Lawrence was not then navigable above the latter city on account of the Lachine and other rapids; but vessels could pass up the Ottawa River as far as the present site of the city of Ottawa.

The Rideau Canal connects the Ottawa River at this point with Lake Ontario at Kingston. It was the first great public work carried to completion in Canada West; it is one hundred and twenty-six miles in length, and includes forty-seven stone locks, twenty-four dams, and as many regulating weirs and waste weirs. Thirty-three of the locks ascend from the Ottawa River to the level of the country to the southward, and fourteen from Lake Ontario at Kingston. The canal is eighty feet wide at the surface, sixty at the bottom when in earth and fifty-four when in masonry. Of the one hundred and twenty-six miles, however, one hundred and ten were more easily prepared along the course of two rivers, the Rideau at the Ottawa end, and the Catarqui above Kingston. The engineer who directed the construction was the locally celebrated Colonel Bly. The cost was nearly three millions of dollars.

At this time, 1826, the present site of the Canadian capital was a dense swamp; and the noble ridge or bluff, where the handsome Parliament Buildings now stand, was covered with a thick growth of hemlock and pine.

When confederation was under discussion, and the question of locating the Dominion Capital agitated Canada, provincial feeling waxed vehement. Montreal, Quebec and Toronto each claimed the honor, and a decision by the people becoming impossible, the matter was referred to the Queen for adjudication. Her Majesty, through her counsellors, took cognizance of the military situation of Canada and selected Ottawa as the capital—contrary to the wishes of the Canadian people,—largely on account of its position with reference to the Rideau Canal.—[*Youth's Companion*].

Regina, N. W. T., had a big fire early on Saturday morning that destroyed a whole block.

**Tonsorial**

Mr. Robert Mackey desires to inform the public of Flesherton and vicinity that he has opened on a barber shop in Moore's block where he has made a specialty of all kinds of hair dressing and hair cutting done in the highest style of the art.

**RAZORS HONED AND GRIND.**

**Robert Mackey,**  
 Sept 20 MOORE'S BLOCK, FLESHERTON

**Tenders Wanted**

Tenders will be received by the undersigned for the erection of a brick school house in Section No. 4, township of Artemesia, up to the 22nd of March, 1899. For further particulars apply to Geo. Ludlow, lots 191 and 192, 1st range east, Artemesia, where plans and specifications may be seen. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

GEORGE LUDLOW,  
 THOS. TAYLOR TRUSTEES.  
 JAMES NELSON  
 Proton Station, March 1, 1899.

**FARMERS! LOOK!**

**T. BLAKELY,**  
 Flesherton,

Sells the best farming implements manufactured, including  
 Brantford Light Steel Binder and Mower,  
 Mason Double-Geared Drill and Spring  
 Tooth Seeder,  
 The Waterloo Plows and Threshers,  
 Neely and Durand's Hayfork.

The good qualities of these implements are sufficiently known now to speak for themselves, without any extra words from me. Anybody requiring implements in this line would do well to examine mine if not already acquainted with them. Call on me and I will be happy to exhibit the good qualities of these machines.

**T. A. BLAKELY,**  
 Flesherton.

**Medical.**

**DR. CARTER,**  
 M.C.P. & S., Ont.  
**PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, &c.**  
 FLESHERTON.

Office, Strain's block. Residence, J. G. Russell's

**J. G. Hutton, M.D.C.M.**

Member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Ontario.  
 Enquire at office, one door east of Grier's store or Atkinson's Hotel.  
 Priceville, Nov. 19, 1888.

**DRS. SPROULE & EGO**  
 MARKDALE ONT.

Office:—Manley's Drug Store.  
 T.S. SPROULE, M.D., etc. ANGUS EGO, M.D., etc.  
 late of Tottenham, Ont.  
 Dr. Ego will be found at Markdale House at night

**J. P. OTTEWELL,**  
 VETERINARY SURGEON.

Graduate of Ontario Vet. College,  
 RESIDENCE ON COLLINGWOOD STREET,  
 Sixth Door East of Presbyterian Church,  
 FLESHERTON.

**Dentistry.**

**J. P. MARSHALL,**

L. D. S., DENTIST.  
 Visits Markdale the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month.  
 Flesherton each trip on the day following.

**Legal.**

**J. W. FROST,**  
 Barrister, Solicitor, Conveyancer,  
 Etc.

FLESHERTON OFFICE, NEXT POST OFFICE,  
 SPROULE'S BUILDING, ON THURSDAYS.  
 OWEN SOUND OFFICE, FROST'S BUILDING.

**P. McCULLOUGH,**  
 Barrister, Solicitor, &c.

Office, over McFarland's Store  
 Markdale. Money to Loan.

**Business Cards.**

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The Undersigned has a Large  
 Amount of Money to Loan at 6% p/a.  
 ON TOWN OR FARM PROPERTY.  
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**W. J. BELLAMY,**  
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Real Estate and Insurance Agent. Deeds, Mortgages, Leases and Wills drawn up and Valuations made on shortest notice. Auction Sales attended to in any part of the County. Money to loan at lowest rates of interest. Collections attended to with promptness and despatch. Charges low. Agent for the Dominion Steamship Company. Cheap tickets from Flesherton to Liverpool, Glasgow, London or any of the British Ports. Parties intending to visit England, Scotland or Ireland, will please ask rates before purchasing their tickets elsewhere.



Pat'd Dec. 1, 1885. 142, Pearl St., Boston.

Of Interest to every man who uses a Wagon or Carriage.

**THIS ANTI-RATTLE IS THE BEST,**  
 Because its effective, simple, easily adjusted, durable, inexpensive. There are no projecting ends to tear the sponge, or wash cloth. It fits any size coupling.

—FOR SALE AT—  
**Heard's Carriage Shop**

FARM FOR SALE CHEAP, AND ON EASY terms. Lot 7, con. 3, township of Euphrasia, containing 300 acres. This is a splendid valuable timber farm. Well timbered with mixed hardwood, hemlock and cedar. Splendid soil, 1 1/2 miles from the beautiful village of Kimberley in Queen's Valley where there are mills, stores, post office and church, and 11 miles from Flesherton on the C. P. R. where there is a splendid market for all kinds of produce, stock, lumber and timber. Apply to R. J. Sproule, auctioneer and real estate agent, Flesherton.