Flesherton Advance.

"TRUTH BEFORE FAVOR" — "PRINCIPLES NOT MEN."

VOL. XVI, NO. 829 | FLESHERTON, ONT., THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 1897 | W. H. THURSTON, EDITOR & PROPRIETOR

WATCHES

Clocks, Jewellery, Silverware

We are headquarters, Santa purchased his supplies from us, but we are like a good well that never runs dry—plenty left to choose from.

Watch & Clock

Repairing in all its branches.

W. A. ARMSTRONG

Jeweller Flesherton

Our Business Directory

Business Cards.

MCULLOUGH & YOUNG,

Bankers, Markdale. do a general banking business. Money loaned at a reasonable rate. Call on us.

A S. VANDUSEN, J. P.
Clerk 5th Div Court, Co Grey
Issuer of Marriage Licenses, Commissioner in H. C. of Justice, Auctioneer, etc.
FLESHERTON P. O.

DEBTS COLLECTED.

The undersigned is prepared to undertake the collection of all kinds of debts. Notes bought, accounts collected, etc
R. N. HENDERSON - FLESHERTON

T. CHISLETT
Flesherton Station

Postmaster, Commissioner in H. C. J., Conveyancer; deeds, mortgages, leases and wills drawn. Money to lend at 5½ per cent. and upwards. Debts collected. Charges moderate.

R. J. SPROULE,

Postmaster, Flesherton, Commissioner in B. R., Licensed Auctioneer, Conveyancer, Appraiser and Money Lender, 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

Societies.

A.O.U.W.—meets every first and third Monday in each month, in their lodge room Strain's Block, Flesherton, at 8 p. m. W. Walker, M.W.; W.J. Bellamy, financier W. Irwin Recorder. Visiting Brethern invited.

ROYAL TEMPLARS OF TEMPERANCE.—Regular Council meets every first and third Tuesday evening in each month, in Sproule's block at 8 p. m. Select degree (insurance) meets monthly, the Wednesday preceding the 22nd of each month.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.—This society meets in Dr. Christoe' Hall first Wednesday in each month at 8 p.m. Visiting brethren invited. Insurance in connection.

UF. B. A., meet in their hall, Christoe's Block every first and third Friday in each month. J. J. Brown, W. M., T. Clayton, secretary.

PRINCE ARTHUR LODGE, No 333, A F & A M, meet in the Masonic Hall, Strain's Block, Flesherton, every Friday on or before the full moon. Geo. Mitchell, W M, W J Bellamy, secretary

DUFFERIN LODGE, No 186, I O O F, meets in Clayton's Hall every Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock. Visiting brethren cordially invited
A S VANDUSEN, N G
WM MOORE, Sec

Dentistry.

J P. MARSHALL,

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

L. G. CAMPBELL,

L D S, D D S, Dental Surgeon, Markdale.
Office over McCullough & Young's bank. Hours—8.30 a.m. to 6 p. m.
Visits Flesherton the second and fourth Thursday of each month. Office at Munshaw's hotel.

T. HENDERSON

D D S, M D S, Dentist of Toronto (gold medalist) will visit Flesherton professionally the first Wednesday of each month and Dundalk the day following (Thursday.)

Legal.

FROST & BATSON

Barristers, Solicitors, Conveyancers, etc. Office—Next to pos office. Sproule's block Flesherton, every Thursday until further notice.
C. A. BATSON J. W. FROST LL. B.
N. B.—Owen Sound office, Frost's block Poulett St. East.

LUCAS & WRIGHT,

Barristers, Solicitors, Conveyancers, etc., Owen Sound, Ont. - - Markdale, Ont.
W. H. WRIGHT. I. B. LUCAS.
N. B.—Flesherton office, Mitchell's Bank every Wednesday.

TUCKER & PATTERSON.
Barristers, solicitors, etc.
Molson's Bank, Owen Sound.
Harry G. Tucker Geo. W. Patterson

MACKAY & HATTON

Barristers, Solicitors. etc.

Offices—30 Poulette St., Owen Sound; and Main St. Dundalk, every Saturday.
N.B.—Always in attendance at Flesherton and Dundalk Division Courts.
A. G. MACKAY, M. A.. W. J. HATTON
County Crown Attorney.

Medical.

DR HUTTON

M D C M, M P P & S Ont, Priceville
Office next door to Brown's store; residence one door west of Methodist church, Kinross st. Office days, Tuesdays and Saturday

DR CARTER

M C P & S Ont., Physician, Surgeon, etc Flesherton office—Strains block. Residence—Munshaw's Hotel

JOHN A SCOTT M B

Member College Physic. & Surgeons, Ontario Graduate in Medicine of Toronto University Fellowship Diploma, Post Graduate Medical School and Hospital, Chicago. Diseases of eye ear, nose and throat specially treated. Residence, Maxwell, visits Feversham Thursdays 1-2

J P OTTEWELL

Veterinary Surgeon. Graduate of Ontario Veterinary College. Residence—Second door south on west side Mary street. This street runs south from Presbyterian church,

Story of the Ballards

The excitement in the Melancthon fire-bugs arrest remains unabated. The Toronto papers are devoting a large amount of space to the matter, and the News of Friday last gives the following facts regarding the case.

Great prominence has been given to David Ballard in connection with the conspiracy, but he is said to have an equal in Alonzo Smith, who surpassed him in audacity and cunning but was hardly his equal as a graceful dissemblist. Smith it was who supplied the experience which gave force to the early efforts of the pyromaniac conspiracy. He is said to be a son of one of the members of the old league of arson conspirators known as the Markham gang which used to operate in the neighborhood of Markham and Stouffville. He is also said to have been connected with the gang and in co-operation with the astute Dave Ballard managed to established a reign of terror in Melancthon.

Smith has lived in Collingwood Mountain of late years, but paid frequent visits to the neighborhood. His visits were always celebrated with a fire. He left a trail of flames behind him, and the hills were lit up to celebrate his going. The methods which the three gangs pursued were of Machiavellian cunning. It would be decided that the barn of one member of the circle should be burned on a certain night. The plant of twisted iron and other relics of previous fires would be placed in it. Then some member of the gang was deputed to start the blaze. The man whose premises were to be scourged with the flames would be kept in willing ignorance of the specific incendiary so that if his claim were disputed he could safely swear that he did not know who set his barn on fire. Of course it is probable that Inspector Greer will discover sufficient flaws in this magic method to convict his prisoners, but not more than one-tenth of the fires known to be of incendiary origin will be brought home to any crime.

In all the crown expected to prosecute 9 to 10 prisoners and to retain as many more incendiaries as Queen's evidence. Half the country side is rushing forward with testimony, but only necessary witnesses will be permitted this means of escape. The others will have to face the music. It was at first alleged that the fire in which young Fenton lost his life was the work of Alonzo Smith, who paid Corbetton one of his lurid visits last week, but the evidence seems to point to the guilt of James Ballard, from whose house to Fenton's barn tracks were discovered on the night of the fire. It is possible that a mother Armstrong, an old woman living the other side of Dundalk on the gravel road, may be brought into the case. She brought suit for slander against a farmer and lost it. He attempted to secure his costs, but before he could do so her barn was burned, it is alleged with the knowledge of the Ballards Now, however, she has threatened to tell the Crown what she knows.

The defence is already active. It is said that they will not offer any evidence at the preliminary inquiry but will consent to have the prisoners committed for trial. I. B. Lucas, of Markdale, the active young solicitor for David Ballard is already at work securing his witnesses. The tyranny exercised by these men over the neighborhood seems marvelous to the outsider. They are not afraid of courts of law. Time and again they have not hesitated to issue writs for slander against people who hinted at their wrongdoings. The advice of lawyers to the unfortunate defendants was always to settle because even if the suit were unsuccessful the plaintiffs were not good for the costs.

At election time the Ballards used to sell their influence to candidates for a consideration. The consideration was that the candidate, who was a man of importance in the community, should sign certificates of character or vouchers as to the value of contents of certain premises for use in insurance claims. Ex-reeve Sam McDowell who ascribes his defeat at the recent elections to the influence of the Ballards, states that in December last after the fire on David's place, the proposition was made to him as in former years, and that he repeated his former advice to the pair to go to Hades. He says that Dave Ballard threatened that he would burn him out and the whole township council also if they did not accede to his request. McDowell was not cowed, but, nevertheless, he and his wife sat up night after night waiting for the expected blaze.

In the Sodom and Gomorrah district proper the people have a saying that there is only one man who has not been touched by fire and can always look the insurance companies in the face. He is named Rundle. From ex-Mayor Jelly, and ex-Reeve H. H. Walker, of Shelburne; from Jas. Brown, Township Clerk of Melancthon hamlet, and from ex-Reeve Sam. McDowell of Dundalk, many strange facts about the prisoners and their doings are to be learned. Old Watson Ballard, father of two of the prisoners, was a coal-black negro and was a slave in the early days on the Mississippi. He escaped and came to Melancthon Township in 1852. It was then a wild, desolate, unclaimed country and he received a free grant of 200 acres, which his son David holds to-day. His lime kiln, once a beacon to the whole countryside, stands to-day on the hill where he built it. Ballard was a handy man-of-all-work, a logger, a ditcher, a farm laborer, and a lime burner. But he must have had charms of his own, for he got into the good graces of the widow Daly, an Irish woman, who lived across the road, and married her daughter. The girl's brother could not stand the disgrace of his sister's marriage to a negro and disappeared shortly after. She bore him two children—James, a big, bonny fellow, and David, who was smaller and more astute. Then she left for parts unknown and the boys were brought up by their Irish grandmother the widow Daly.

Old Watson Ballard was quite a character in his way and his chief ambition was to become an Orangeman. The Orangemen objected but he was persistent and finally a bogus initiation ceremony was gotten up for his benefit. The Orange Lodge met in the Methodist church at that time and among the incidents of the ceremony was the branding of the old man with red hot irons. Old Ballard willingly acceded to being branded to prove his Protestant sentiments, but in after years when he was dead David got even with the torturer, it is said, by burning him out, David was the old man's favorite and like the wily Jacob outdid James the ponderous elder brother, by inducing his father to leave him the bulk of his estate, some 300 acres, including the Daly place. All the Ballards have been remarkably successful in gaining the affections of white women. David's wife, who now flaunts her silks and satins before envious neighbors, was a Scotch domestic. She has borne him six children, three of them colored and three of them white with red hair. David Ballard is still a popular man. People assure one that he is a gentlemanly, decent fellow with only one fault and that fault is incendiarism. He was admitted to the Orange Lodge that meets in the Methodist church, but he has been expelled. Last spring at revival meetings he professed conversion. James Ballard originally possessed about 50 acres of land.

A sensational story is in circulation about James Ballard. A number of years ago the two Ballards were engaged in digging Government drains, and boarded with one Wiggons. Wiggons was rather a shiftless character, did not like work, and was fond of drink. The wife of the latter evidently made a comparison between a lazy white man and a hard-working mulatto, and became enamored with James. The Ballards at this time were contractors, and had earned considerable money, which they had in the house. Wiggons became aware of the fact, and wishing to get satisfaction out of Ballard, who had alienated his wife's affections, disappeared with two $50 bills. Ballard missed the money about as quickly as it was taken, followed Wiggons to Dundalk, and captured him in the old Anglo-American hotel. After searching all his pockets, and failing to find the money, he noticed that one side of Wiggon's face appeared swollen. Ballard caught him by the throat, and in gasping for breath Wiggons opened his mouth too wide, and Jim's eagle eye caught sight of the two $50 bills, which he secured. Since that time Ballard and Mrs. Wiggons have lived together as man and wife. At the date above recorded Mrs. Wiggons had one child, thirteen years of age. In 1892 this girl became a mother, and Ballard was accused of her downfall. The child mysteriously disappeared, and when the spring thaw set in some of the residents of Corbetton were horrified to see some dogs devouring the carcass of the infant.

The crown will not be ready to proceed with the preliminary investigation until Monday, Jan. 25, on which date the inquest on young Fenton's death will also be held.

Eugenia.

From a Special Correspondent

The Eugenia Methodist Sunday School held their annual tea-meeting last Friday evening. The weather was beautiful and the church was well filled. After a very nice tea the pastor called the meeting to order and asked them to choose a chairman. Mr. Meldrum was the unanimous choice for the position. We may mention that although Mr. Meldrum is a Presbyterian he has taught the Bible class in this school for the past three years. The program was a long one. Many of the junior pupils had recitations and several of them did uncommonly well. Master Elwood Genoe gave us "No sects in heaven" in his best style, and Miss Mina Meldrum gave "The new church organ," which was much appreciated. Mr. T. Suggit and Master George Plantt each gave a reading. The singing of the young girls, under the teaching and leading of Miss Nellie Meldrum and Miss Turner was the best juvenile singing we ever heard in or around Eugenia. Nellie plays the organ for the Sunday School and is to be commended for the very efficient singing of the young folks on this occasion. The choir, with Mrs. S. W. Sloan as leader, and Miss Laura Wilson as organist, rendered their parts very well, all the peace they sang were very good, especially that piece entitled, "Ho reapers in the whitened harvest." It was just beautiful in all its parts. The pastor, Mr. Balfour, gave us a short address full of praise for the workers in the Sunday school and the great pleasure he had in seeing the school so prosperous. The closing piece was, "God be with you till we meet again," after which Mr. Balfour pronounced the benediction and all went home highly pleased with the entertainment, and thankful that the school was in such a prosperous state. The committee of management, viz.: Mrs. Joseph Pedlar, Jonathan and Leonard Latimer, H. Fenwick, John K. Jamieson, T. Suggitt and R. Plant, had everything nicely arranged.

Priceville

From our own Correspondent.

Notwithstanding the unfavorable weather a large number of the Sons of Temperance of Div. No 348 marched in a body to the Methodist church last Sunday, where the Rev. Mr. Humphreys delivered an eloquent sermon on Temperance. The address was so full of practical truths that I will take the liberty of supplying you with a short synopsis for next week's issue.

Mr. Charles McMillan has been appointed truant officer for this section during 1897. We believe the trustees have secured the right man for the position. Boys and girls between 8 and 14 found loafing around the streets during school hours will have to give account of themselves after this if the T. O. gets his eye on them.

Mr. Dan. McLean has added to his real estate by purchasing that neat little property immediately south of his house. The lot is one of the finest building sites in this village.

A jolly sleigh load of Pricevillites attended an entertainment at Ebenezer church, Egremont, last Friday evening. Judging from the excellent vocal music rendered on the way thither it was evidently a choir that occupied the seats of the vehicle.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith, of Normanby, visited friends in this vicinity last week.

Messrs. James and W. G. Watson and Master Bert spent a few days with friends in Walter's Falls lately.

Mrs. M. McAulay, of Hamilton, is the guest of Miss Bertha James at present.

Mr. Hugh McArthur, of the S. L., intends moving into our burg in the near future.

It was reported that a black fox had been shot on the N. Line but we cannot vouch for the truth of the matter.

The fair last Monday was poorly attended owing to the bad roads, etc

General News

A young man named Sayers was killed in the woods near Thornbury while felling trees.

Mr. Thos. Hughes, a farmer near Teeswater, fell through a trap in his barn and was killed.

Sixteen children were burned to death and three fatally injured in a fire that destroyed an orphans' home near Dallas, Taxas.

In the Barkley school, near Connaught, Ella Lynch, a ten-year-old daughter of Wm Lynch, while warming herself at the stove, had her apron drawn into the fire by the strong draught. She was fearfully burned, and died of her injuries in a few minutes.

FLESHERTON SKATING RINK

Open Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evening.
Open to ticketholders and learners on Friday from 2 to 4 p. m.
W. J. HOWARD, Prop.

Logs Wanted

Real Rock elm logs are as follows: 15 inch in small end and cut 11 feet, 13 feet, 14 feet, 15 feet and 16 feet. Price, $5 per 1000 feet. Maple logs 21 inches and upwards. Small end cut 12 feet plump. Price of maple, $6 per 1000 ft. Cash paid for logs. Logs must be perfect.
EDWARD SARGENT.
Flesherton Station.

Clubbing List

Advance and daily World	$2.80
" " News	1.80
" Montreal Herald	1.80
" " Witness	1.80
" Youths' Companion	2.35
" Weekly Globe	1.55
" Sun	1.40