ESTABLISHED

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# The Advance

PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT THE OFFICE, SYDENHAM STREET, FLESHERTON, ONT., BY W. H. THURSTON.

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Hit him back, Mr. Laurier, hit him back. The scriptural injunction don't go here when Uncle Sam starts on the war path. "Chuck" him one where the hair is shortest.

It appears now that we are to have a papal envoy sent out from Rome to investigate our methods of doing business in this country, or, specializing, to see if Mr Laurier has done right in the settlement he has made with Manitoba. Mr. Drolet has returned from Rome and vouchsafes this information. Rome is expected to decide the matter. Might we ask somebody (anyone may answer), who runs this country, anyway? Is it the Queen the Commons, Senate, Legislatures, or does it get its cue from Italy? We are somewhat confused and have not time at present to figure it out for ourselves.

Toronto papers have been waxing quite eloquent during the past week over the Crows Nest railway. This proposed line will tap the new gold country in British Columbia and the C. P. R. is anxious to get possession of it. There are only two passes through the Rockies, it seems, and the C. P. R. already has possession of one of them and is anxiously bidding for the other. The overwhelming balance of public opinion is in favor of government control of this new line. Only one paper champions the cause of the C. P. R., and that one is the Toronto Globe, which has been charged with being financially interested in granting it to the C, P. R. For the sake of suffering humanity, we would say, keep the Globe and the C. P. R. out of it. The latter has enough, in all conscience, and the grind would be too bitter to bear if it had more. Politicians do not feel the suckers that this octopus has upon Canada; it is for the farmer and trader to feel their life blood slowly trickling away in defiance of all government regulations and safeguards? supposed to be in existence. Newspaper men have felt it, too, but half of them are afraid to say much about the matter. These remarks are particularly applicable to the Northwest, but also apply in a lesser measure to Eastern Canada.

The department store must go, or else it must flourish and grow until we have Edward Bellamy's ideas worked out in their entirety, In Chicago and other American cities the business men say it must go, and are putting up a strong fight against it In Toronto the business public have scarcely yet opened their eyes to the fact that these stores are creating a revolution in business methods, which is likely to result deplorably to them, but just now they are having the scales knocked off. For ourselves, we would like to see Bellamy's ideas in successful operation, but it is impossible; the condition of society will not admit of anything so radical. Nor will it admit of the department store if it can be suppressed, and a great big effort will be made to destroy it. Our country merchants buy farm produce in small or large quantities, giving goods or cash in exchange therefor. How long would these merchants live if you sold your small truck to them and bought nothing from them in return? Such a policy would have the effect of destroying our villages and paralyzing all business outside the large cities, There are very many arguments to be advanced against the departmental store, but space will not admit of us entering fully into them, Our advice is, however, to let the departmental stores severely alone, if you do not wish to distroy home markets and annihilate the home consumer of products

Why do ministers and others single out the tobacco smoker for their continued scorn? They should start a crusade against the wearing of broadcloth, as cheaper material would allow of more being expended upon the heathen; or against the use of tea and coffee, when water is quite as wholesome; or against the extra decoration of churches at large expense when worship in a closet is quite as acceptable to the Supreme Architect; or expenditure on useless jewelry, or on extravagant trappings at funerals; or against any of the thousand and one luxuries that our ministers and people indulge in every day? But no, the individual who has the temerity to enjoy his pipe of tobacco must take it all, along with the unrepentant sinner, with whom by some ministers he is placed on a par. Now, we do not pretend to say that enjoyment of any of the above luxuries is wrong, but we do claim that tobacco should not be singled out as the one thing altogether unlovely and specially deserving of having the sharp shafts of clerical anathema hurled at it to the exclusion of other indulgences. Tea drinking, we are told, is one great cause of increased insanity and blindness, coffee drinkers are dyspeptic, and now a doctor comes along and tells us that even potatoes, a staple article of diet, are the cause of chronic dyspepsia, and that Raleigh, or Hawkins, or Drake, or whoever it was that introduced it to Englishman committed a gastronomic crime. Let us have a pulpit crusade started against eating potatoes, or guava jelly, or marmalade, tea drinking or anything in the world, only let the smoker alone in the glory of his smoke curls for a few weeks at least.

The Advance has received a three-column communication from Mr. T. G Craig of Detroit, who is an enthusiastic champion of free trade between Canada and the United States. Free trade is an impossibility and argument is futile. Mr. Craig is an Englishman. Possibly he has not heard that Canada tried free trade with the States from 1852 to '64, and notwithstanding the fact that the United States was a gainer in trade of about ninety-millions she abrogated the treaty owing to the report of an emissary that if that were done Canada would within three months be knocking at their doors for admission to the Union. She has not worn the skin off her knuckles knocking as yet, and is not likely to. Various acts of the United States government, too, make closer trade relations with them more and more impossible The Corliss Bill is the last straw added to the pile, but previous to this is the unpaid Behring Sea claims, the knowledge that Uncle Sam holds a large balance belonging to Great Britain which remains after the Alabama claims were satisfied, and which she shows no desire to refund, and many other acts which make international dealing unsatisfactory and less and less desirable. It is time this country stopped talking of closer trade relations with this rogue and cast around for honest nations with whom they might trade on honest terms—her own sister colonies, for instance. It is national confederation that we want, if it can only be acquired—not international degradation.

## Feversham.

*From our own Correspondent*

Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton of Flesherton, also Mr and Miss Guy of Maxwell, were the guests of Mr. John Hudson, on Sunday last.

Messrs. Henry and James Bovair of Temperanceville, have spent a couple of enjoyable week with friends around here.

Miss Morrison of Meaford is visiting friends in this vicinity.

Mr. T. Hudson and Miss M. Hawton, also Mr. T Hawton and Miss Hudson, spent last week with friends in Holland Centre and Owen Sound.

The Methodist people of Bethel church purpose holding a tea-meeting on the 17th of March, when a grand time is expected. The Foresters also purpose holding a concert soon, but have not as yet decided when. See local elsewhere.

Mr. Samuel Ottewell, V. S., is very ill at present. We hope to hear of his recovery soon.

Mr. John Paul, who has been ill for a long time. is recovering nicely.

The young people of this village have been sincerely interested in the revival services held at Providence.

"T" has been exchanging horses considerable lately. Be careful "T" or you will be in the soup.

## Lady Bank

*From our own Correspondent.*

Well Mr. Editor, we are having plenty of snow around our little burg. We have had lots of fine weather this winter, but it did not last long enough for one of our young men, as Will has had his sleigh loaded for a week and is unable to get it out.

Whewell Bros. are busy engaged cutting wood in Mr. Ferguson's bush at present.

Mr. William Dand had a very narrow escape by a limb falling on him.

We are glad to hear that Mr. Hugh T. Wright is slowly recovering from an injury received from a limb falling on him.

Dr. Ottewell, V. S., is quite low at present with a severe attack of la grippe.

Miss Tena Smith of Flesherton is visiting her aunt, Mrs. Geo. Myers.

Miss Minnie Clark is visiting at Feversham.

Miss Millie Linley returned recently from a visit with her aunt in Collingwood.

## Flesherton Station

*From our own correspondent.*

Quite a number have been laid up with severe colds.

Mr. W. McMullen gave a party to the young folks on Friday evening, which was thoroughly enjoyed.

A number of the young people took possession of Mr. R. Whittaker's house on Monday evening and had a good time.

Some of the young folks had a jollification on Monday night, it being Mr. White's last night here. We wish Mr. and Mrs. White every prosperity wherever they may go.

Mr. J. Connor and family took possession of the Globe hotel on Tuesday morning. We extend a welcome to Mr. Connor and family.

Mr. H McKenzie lost a valuable young horse last week. The animal fell, striking its head with such force as to cause instant death.

Mr. and Miss Wilson of Creemore are visiting the former's daughter, Mrs. W. McMullen.

Mrs J. Wilson of Sydenham is spending a few days with Mrs. Wilcock.

Mr. H. Wilkerson, who has been spending a few months in Avening, returned last week. We welcome Mr. W. back.

## Died

ROBERTSON—At Blyth, Northumberland, England, on Wednesday, Jan. 6th, 1897, the result of a fall on shipboard, Captain Thomas Robertson, aged sixty-five years.
Deceased was a brother of the late Mrs. Geo. McKenzie, and uncle of Messrs. Brodrick and T. R. McKenzie of Artemesia.

Mr. Watson of Sunnidale shot a black fox.

The wife of John Davidson, blacksmith, Teviotdale, gave birth to triplets.

Mt. Forest Methodist church is having wonderfully successful revival services.

The Mt. Forest Rep. has its woodyard full to overflowing. Ditto here, Bro. Chip.

Wm Greshaw of Maryborough was suddenly stricken with blindness as the result of overlifting.

The Conservatives of North Grey have placed G. M. Boyd in the field as candidate for the next Ontario election, Mr. Boyd is president of the North Grey Association.


# M. Richardson & Co

# BARGAINS

# For MARCH

## A LAST SHOT at WINTER GOODS

In order to clear out balance of our winter stock and make room for Spring Goods now arriving, we are offering very special inducements to March purchasers.

## Flannel Specials

Grey Flannels.... 7c to 10c a yard
Navy Flannel Shirtings 15c a yard
72-inch Flannel Sheetings, grey and white 60c a yard
32-inch Heavy Flannelettes... 5c, 6c and 7c a yard

## Staple Specials

32-inch Grey Cottons.... 3½c a yard
34-inch Grey Cottons 4c a yard
17-inch Huck Towellings 5c a yard
18-inch Linen Towellings 6c a yard
45-inch Table Oilcloths.... 18c a yard

## Dress Goods Specials

38-inch Double Fold Dress Goods.... 10c a yard
42-inch Double Fold Dress Goods.... 12½c a yard
42-inch Navy, Myrtle and Maroon Dress Goods.... 15c a yard
Cashmere, Serge and Tweed Dress Goods .... At 60c on the $
Laces and Ribbons—A lot of short ends clearing at 5c a yard

GLOVES

MITTS

HOSIERY

WINTER - WEIGHTS, - ALL - AT - CLEARING - PRICES

Boots
Gum Rubbers
Felts
Moccasins

AT - BARGAIN - PRICES - TO - MAKE - ROOM - FOR - NEW - GOODS.

## Clothing Special

A line of heavy All Wool Tweed Pants, all sizes, going at .... $1.00

## Grocery Specials

Pail Pure Sugar Syrup, 95 cents
Baking Powder, 10 cents a pound
3 Boxes Sardines, choice, 25 cents
2 Bottles Pickles, 25 cents
3 Boxes Matches, 25 cents
6 Bars Richard's Pure Soap, 25 cents
Prunes, 5c lb.; Evaporated apples, 5c.
Raisins 5c., Figs 5c.

## HARDWARE DEPARTMENT

# Next to Nothing

*Is what we are clearing off several lines of Goods at during Stock Taking.*

Peerless Metal Polish for silver, brass or tin, worth 15 cents, for.... 10 cents
Stone's Genuine Lanterns, to clear at 35c, worth 50 cents.
Carving Knife and Fork, worth 35 and 50 cents, for.... 25c a pair
Asbestos Sad Iron Stands, worth 15 cents, for.... 8 cents
Michigan Axes, cheap at 75 cents, for.... 60 cents
Cake Plate Handles, regular price 10 cents, for.... 5 cents
50-cent Rodger Bread Knives for.... 26 cents
Soup Plates, any pattern, worth $1 a dozen, for.... 5 cents each
Knife Board and box of Polish, worth 25 cents, for.... 15 cents
No. 9 Pot Covers, special, at.... 5 cents each

A LOT OF Fancy Tea Pots at 10 cents. Gravy Pitchers at 10 cents and Clothes Brushes at 10 cents still left.

PURSES, POCKETBOOKS, HAIR BRUSHES and SPECTACLES

SPECIAL BARGAINS

COME TO US for anything you want in any line and we will give you it right.

# M. Richardson & Co