Flesherton Advance.

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

VOL. XVII, NO. 875 Flesherton, Ont., Thursday, December 23, 1897 W. H. THURSTON, EDITOR & PROPRIETOR

XMAS GOODS!!

I have just added to my already large stock a new line of Diamond and Opal Rings, also an assortment of the famous Dueber Hampden Gold Filled Case, Ladies' and Gents', including the smallest watch ever made in America. Also a new line of Silverware and Optical Goods, all of which I am going to sell, not below cost or at cost, but very little above cost. Call and get my prices before purchasing.

Watch Repairing a Specialty,

W. A. ARMSTRONG.

F.T. HILL & CO.

MARKDALE

To our Friends and Customers in Flesherton and Vicinity.

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS

At the close of another year, marked by unusual increase in business, we desire to thank you for the generous and substantial support given us. We are thankful too for the confidence you have placed in us, and our highest ambitions will be to so conduct our business as to be worthy of its continuances.

Let us express the hope that the pleasant relations existing between us as customers and merchants, may continue and that our transactions with each other throughout the year upon which we will shortly enter may be mutually profitable

WE WISH YOU A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

MARKDALE

F.T. Hill & Co.

For The Advance

Christmas.

Great Prince of Peace, on this glad day
When joy prevails throughout this land,
We triumph in that righteous sway
Which doth all earth and heaven command:
This Christmas day Thy praise we sing:
Thou art the universal King.

We praise Thee for that wondrous love
Which Thou didst on our race bestow
By leaving Thy bright throne above
To dwell with mortals here below.
For us who were by sin defiled
Thou didst become a little child.

Of Thee the prophets sang:
Thy kingdom was their constant thought:
Of Thee their sweetest music rang:
Thou didst inspire the words they wrote.
All types and signs in days of old
The coming of the Christ foretold

To lonely watchers in the field
Who kept their flocks secure by night
Thy wondrous coming was revealed
By angels from the realms of light.
They said "To you good news we bring—
This day is born a Saviour King."

O marvelous babe; O matchless man;
A little child the Lord most high,
To execute Redemption's plan
Thou in our stead didst bleed and die.
All purest joy and life divine
Henceforth are ours while we are Thine.

Colborne, Dec. 1897. T. WATSON.

Written for The Advance.

The Bogus Cheques

The administration of the law frequently results in a miscarriage of justice from various causes. Circumstantial evidence and mistaken identity are means by which many an innocent person has been convicted and forced to pay the penalty in place of the guilty party. Again, ignorance of the law, which is no excuse for transgression, frequently leads some unsuspecting person into trouble. The writer once very narrowly escaped what might have proved a serious affair had it taken the usual course of such cases. About thirteen years ago, after an absence of nearly thirty years, I paid a visit to my native city in England. My only relatives were a brother and an elderly widowed cousin, consequently I found myself almost an entire stranger in my native place. My brother was a member of what was designated "The Industrial Co operative Association," which was similar to the Grange, or Patrons of Industry, with us in Canada. The association had a very large establishment in the city, similar to our departmental stores, where anything could be purchased, as the old saying goes, from a needle to an anchor. The principal feature of this association was a liberal discount to its members on every purchase, which must be strictly cash—credit or barter being in no case tolerated. After making a purchase the purchaser, if a member, received a cheque corresponding with the amount of the purchase. The cheques were about the size of a 25 cent piece, made of tin and brass respectively. The tin cheques were stamped with denomination of one shilling, the brass ones ten shillings and one pound (20 shillings), the whole having the superscription of the firm. These cheques were received as cash at their discount value in the purchase of goods, or they might be deposited as cash to credit of the holder, entered into the member's pass book and interest allowed on the deposits, and accounts regulated every three months. On my arrival my brother had accumulated quite a number of these cheques, and for safe keeping gave them into my custody until they were required. About three months after my arrival in England my brother died, his widow and family left the city to reside in or near London, and I took up my abode with my cousin, who, I might here remark, was a poor, honest, kind-hearted woman without a spark of education, as she had to work hard from childhood up She was shrewd, nevertheless. A few days after my arrival at her house she said to me one morning:

"I wonder how these here things cumd about my house?" handing me four cheques—two one shilling and two one-pound cheques.

Examining them, I replied, "It is quite an easy matter to explain; they are most likely some of the cheques I had charge of for Ed., and these were caught in the lining of my pocket when I gave the others up to Ellen, and have since found their way out of my pockets on to your floor."

"Well," she retorted, "they baint of no use to her now, any hows, they baint; her's up in Lunnon or Oolidge (Woolwich) or somewheeres else; besides her's had more ner that out of ee, her has, so its only far and squar that ee shud keep um, so there now."

"Yes," I replied, "but what good are they to me?"

"I thinks as 'ow they be a goodish bit of good these hard times," replied Nelly. "Why, them there two brass uns be wuth a couple o' bob (shillings) apiece, I reckon, and they two tin uns ool be wuth a tanner (sixpence) anyways. I ha'nt arued much this wick, I han't, and four bob and a tanner ool buy tay and sugar enow to do all wick. If you' take um up to the shop they ood give ee summit for um, they ood."

"Do you think," I asked, "they would accept them from me, not being a member?"

"Ood um? Aye, ood um, and ax ee no quastions, neither."

"Very well, then," I said, "I will try what I can do," and off I started, when she shouted after me, "Don't ee forget to get a bit of bacca for eeself, lad."

Arriving at the store, I presented the cheques to a young lady enclosed in a kind of cage behind the counter. She took them up, examined them, then walked out of the cage to the other end of the counter, and gave the cheques to a person who proved to be the manager. He, too, examined them, and I began to think there was something wrong. Presently he came to me, and laying the cheques on the counter, said, "These do not belong to us; they are spurious."

"Is it possible?" I asked.

"Not only possible, but true," he replied. "There is too much of this kind of work going on, and it must be stopped." "I hope, Sir," I replied, "that you do not for a moment imagine that I tendered these cheques knowing them to be spurious." I then gave a straight-forward account of how I became possessed of them, also an account of my brother's connection with the association, but he would not believe one word of it, but only muttered to himself "all very fine, very fine for a trumped up story." While I was making this statement to the manager, he seemed to be scrutinizing me very closely and the thought occured to me that there was trouble brewing, but concealing my embarrasment, I replied, "Well Sir, as you say these checks are spurious, perhaps you had better take charge of them and thus prevent any other innocent person from falling into the same error." He declined to take them, however, muttering something about innocent people looking out for themselves.

I now felt fully convinced that his refusal to keep the cheques meant mischief for me, so appearing quite unconcerned, I left the shop. As I sauntered along the street I thought to myself, that man has taken a complete mental photograph of me and marked me as a rogue and vagabond; he will likely follow me and hand me over to the first policeman he meets, or watch where I go, and procure a warrant for my arrest, and the result will be a conviction, as any statement I make will be discredited, for I am almost totally unknown here, with no one to corroborate my statement or say a word in my favor.

As these gloomy reflections were drifting through my troubled mind, a bright thought suddenly occured to me, which seemed to give me considerable relief. I thought to myself, my best plan is to go straight to police headquarters, and if I am only fortunate enough to meet with Mr. W—, the chief of police, I will repeat the whole facts of the case to him and he will investigate the matter and prevent it from going any farther. With this determination I quickened my pace, taking the shortest route to the police-station. But my intentions were thwarted, for on emerging into High Street from the market house, I saw Mr. Manager and the chief of police in close conversation on the opposite side of the street. I stood a minute or two reflecting on what course to adopt, for my resolution had begun to waver as I caught sight of the man whom, for a time, I desired to avoid. The chief took a note book from his breast pocket in which he commenced to write; this revived my resolution, and walking boldly to where they stood, but unobserved by them, I addressed the chief thus: "Mr. W—, if you will kindly permit me to speak I think I can give you a satisfactory explanation of this matter, for I presume the conversation between you two gentlemen very closely concerns myself; and if this gentleman can detect any deviation from the statement I made to him half an hour ago, I will willingly submit to any course he may choose to adopt." The manager, who had been watching me during this recital, addressing the chief, said, "This is the man." "Well," returned the chief, "let us hear what you have to say."

I then repeated to the chief, in precisely the same words the statement I had previously made. At the conclusion of my statement, that gentleman, addressing the manager, said: "Mr. H—, I am but very slightly acquainted with this person, whom, I understand recently arrived in this city from Canada. His brother, who died a short time since, I have been for a number of years personally acquainted with, and he was a highly respectable person, in fact he was one of the most efficient of our prison officials, and I think I can safely vouch for the veracity of this man's statement, which I trust is satisfactory to you." "Quite so, quite so," retorted the manager, and addressing me, said "I beg your pardon, Mr. —, for so unjustly condemning your statement, but as there has been so much of this going on lately it is difficult to judge who are impostors and who are not, but we are determined to put an end to it, so you must be good enough to excuse me if I have acted too precipitous in this matter."

I begged of him not to mention it, as I considered he was perfectly justified in taking the steps he had, and on the whole I thought I had reasons to be thankful for the fortunate result, for had the matter taken the usual course the consequences might have been more serious. Then politely bowing to both gentlemen, I took my leave, feeling thankful I had escaped punishment for a crime I had never committed.

Returning home, poor Nelly, who had been anxiously awaiting my return, exclaimed, "What, hasn't ee brought no tay nor sugar?"

"No, Nelly, nor no bakka either."

"What: oodn't they take um?"

"No, Nelly, they oodn't, but they came very near taking me, though; those confounded cheques were bogus. I explained, was not believed, set down as a rogue, came near being arrested, saw manager and chief together, walked up to them, explained again, the chief believed, the manager apologized, I lifted my hat, bowed and retreated; there are the miserable cheques, and into the fire they go. There are you, minus your tay and sugar, and here am I without a bit of bakka, too."

"Never ee fear, I'll get some tay and sugar, I ool, somehows or nuther, and a bit of bakka, too. Aye lad, what I ool, and so there now.' Get them she did, some hows, and "so there now."

Whenever I chanced to meet either the chief or the manager, which I frequently did, they always treated me with as much courtesy as though I was the senior alderman of the city. But how the bogus cheques came into Nelly's house always remained a mystery.

Address.

Following is the address presented Rev. L. W. Thom by the Sabbath School Association, referred to in last week's issue:

DEAR BROTHER:—We cannot allow you to retire from the office of General Secretary of the Sabbath School Association of the County of Wellington without showing, at least in some humble way, our appreciation of your valuable services.

We remember, with pleasure and gratitude, all the way by which the Lord has led us in our Sabbath School work in this County under your direction and inspiration. When you entered on your work, there was little or no organization, and we found it most difficult to collect funds for any object. But now, there is not a township without its organization and convention, and Wellington is known as one of the Banner Counties in Provincial work.

We have all greatly appreciated your faithfulness in reminding us of our duty, and your kindly Christian intercourse personally and by correspondence; and although we could hardly expect you to continue to discharge the duties of Secretary, now that you have left our bounds, yet we sincerely regret your departure.

Be kind enough to accept of this gift from the Superintendents and Sabbath Schools throughout the County, as a parting token of their love and esteem for you as a brother in Christ, and as a slight acknowledgement of all the good work you have so cheerfully and faithfully rendered. May this copying instrument not only help you to repeat yourself, in a good sense, but the better to represent that Master who said, "I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day: the night cometh when no man can work."

May you long be spared, not only to take an interest in Sabbath School work, but also to proclaim the unsearchable riches of Christ; and when the Chief Shepherd shall appear may you receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away

Such is the earnest prayer of the Sabbath School workers of this County.

Signed on behalf of the Superintendents and School.

P. BAKER,
President of Co. Association.
GEO. SUTHERLAND.

Two young men— James McFarlane and Chas. Gamon disappeared from Colingwood last week. The body of McFarlane was found drowned near the dock. The where-abouts of Gamon is unknown.

Proctor - -

The Tailor

Will supply you with a nobby suit for fall. Workmanship and fit guaranteed. Stand—In Clayton's Brick Block, Flesherton.

- - Proctor

The Tailor