Flesherton Advance.

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

VOL. XXIII, NO 1162 Flesherton, Ont., Thursday, December 17, 1903 W. H. THURSTON, EDITOR PROPRIETOR

Up to Our Neck in Work

We Wish You All A Very Merry Christmas . . .

WE are doing the best we can for you, working night and day. Still we cannot get our orders out half fast enough.

W. A. Armstrong, Flesherton
JEWELLER AND OPTICIAN

The Battle of Inkerman

THE RECOLLECTIONS OF A SURVIVING BRITISH TAR.

[Written for The Advance]

The winter of 1854-5 was past and yet the siege continued with the same dogged defiance by both the besiegers and the the besieged. The summer was fast waning and still the enemy held their stronghold, and it was beginning to be feared that another winter would yet be spent on that cold Crimean shore. But the longest siege must come to an end, and fortunate for us Sebastopol was doomed soon to fall into the hands of the besiegers. To give in detail the account of the struggle is beyond my power to describe. Suffice it then to say that on the 18th of September a brave and determined attempt to reduce the fortress proved successful. After a severe bombardment a breach was effected, and breach followed breach through which our forces entered, cutting and fighting their way with an impetuosity that the enemy could not resist. On and on came our troops, cheering as they came. The enemy began to waver, then to break and finally to fly in disorder and in every direction. Their batteries were crumbling, the thunder of the guns grew fainter and fainter, until they ultimately ceased. A British cheer, which seems to ring in my ears whenever I think of it, rent the air, and Sebastopol, the mighty, impregnable Sebastopol, was ours. If the victory was great, high was the price paid for it. Many gallant officers gave up their commissions with their lives in that great struggle, old, war-stained veterans who had fought for their country on the sunburnt plains of India and in the mountain passes of Afghanistan; men who had hitherto passed through bloody struggles scathless; young men fresh from their homes and all they held dear, fell to rise no more, and many names were added to the list of widows and orphans on that 18th September, 1855.

Little more remains to be told. Shortly after the fall of Sebastopol our ship proceded to Malta, where she was dry-docked for repairs, after which we returned to Sebastopol. Admiral Lyons was promoted to commander-in-chief, hoisted his flag on the Prince Albert, taking with him Captain Menzies, and we bade fareweli to two of the best officers that ever commanded a British man-of-war. We took on board the Grenadier Guards and sailed for Portsmouth under Captain Paisley.

After disembarking the troops we stripped the old Agamemnon. She was put out of commission, her crew paid off and I was free from her majesty's service.

. . . . . .

For his services Mr. McRae received the war medal and three clasps. What a munificent feward for five years of hard and dangerous service and a life-long injured limb! We read that thousands of pounds are annually paid out of the national treasury to dukes, earls and marquises, merely because their great, great grandfather or some distant relative rendered some great service to their country. It is all very well and most praiseworthy for a generous and grateful nation to recognize and appreciate such services by rewarding its heroes with handsome gratuities and annuities, but why these annuities should descend from generation to generation for two hundred years or more, and be paid absolutely for nothing to those who never rendered any service to their country, is an inexplicable problem. Could not these thousands be appropriated to a more laudable cause were they used in increasing the pensions of those old and worn out veterans who have given 21 or more years of the very best part of their lives to the service of their country, and many of whom in old age and past their labor find themselves struggling through the balance of life on a meagre pension barely sufficient to sustain life. It is to be hoped that in the many changes and reforms that are to be made in the army and navy a comfortable provision will be made for the old age of those who so long and faithfully served their country in the prime of life.

It is gratifying to note that our esteemed friend and fellow citizen, Mr. McRae, though ill requited for his service to the empire, has, by his indomitable courage and hard labor, out of the primeval forest hewn for himself a comfortable home in which to take a well merited rest in the evening of life, and we trust that he may live in health and comfort to see many anniversaries of the battle of Inkerman.

After leaving the royal navy Mr. McRae spent some pears in the merchant service, in which he sailed to nearly every part of the globe, experienced many perilous adventures including shipwreck, and long and dangerous voyages made in overladen and unseaworthy vessels. Apart from the active service which Mr. McRae had seen while in the navy, his experience as a sailor in the merchant service fades to insignificance his former career as a sailor in the imperial service. At some future period we hope to give a detailed account of his voyages and adventures in the merchant marine. —F.

From the Wheatfields

Another Entertaining Letter from Mr. F. T. Carr

It is not wise to go far from home here in the West, even in August, without your fur coat. It might be needed quickly. While the harvest was in full swing, on Sept. 12, down came a snowstorm and heavy frost and the grain not cut was cooked, and most of that in stook not dried hard enough was frozen, too, so that there is not much wheat this year for No. 1 hard. I tell you, Mr. Editor, it is an experience in farming when you sit on the binder clad in fur coat, mits and cap, with the prairie wind blowing sixty miles an hour, and your teeth chattering as if in prize contest with the band of the Coldstream Guards, whilst you are hustling to get the wheat cut down before the frost destroys it. It did catch us this year in earnest. On Sept. 12 the wind blew a blizzard and the snow covered the face of the country here six inches deep, and at night the snow froze so hard you could walk on the drifts the following morning. But the old settlers say it is not often like this, and the wheat in the stook will not be hurt, but the sequel proved the contrary this time. It froze in the stook, too, yet it sells, although not as No. 1 hard, at 40 to 65 cents per bushel.

The harvest is over, threshing done and farmers are busy hurrying the plough. Whilst some say with Horace Greely, "Tickle it with a hoe and it laughs with a harvest," experience has taught intelligent men that it pays to cultivate the land well here, as elsewhere. Because of the frost enormous yields are not the burden of the song of many in this part of the wheat garden this year. Still there is not much complaint, although many a man's wheat returns are about what Ontario farmers call good chicken feed. But the oat crop is a good average crop.

And still the newcomers come and new homes are rising on every hand along the line of the new branch of railway. This opens up a most extensive and beautiful stretch of the very best of this prairie country. From where I sit in my cabin I can see a mile away the grading gang at work nearly completing, ready for the steel, which is being laid by the construction gang at the rate of two miles per day. This bids fair to be a very important section of the C.P.R. lines. From here to Regina, northwestward, 92 miles, being, the engineers assert, the longest, straightest and most level piece of track in the world. The town at this point is the intended junction of another branch to be built next summer to Estevan, 30 miles south, to the coal fields, and it is the intention to convey the passenger traffic over this Arcola-Regina extension from the East to the coast in future.

It is remarkable with what energy and enterprise these western people take hold of things. This new town of Stoughton was only surveyed by the C. P. R. surveyors a week ago, and the town lots have sold like the proverbial hot cakes at $150, $175 and $200 each, according to location, lots 25x120 feet. A block of forty acres was surveyed, and still more is being called for and some of the purchasers have commenced building operations already. All hands are possessed with enthusiasm, for the train is expected here in a month, and men from everywhere, representing the various business lines, are pushing to be on hand when the train arrives. This all tends to stagger one when we think we drove over this very spot only two years ago, a wide open plain with scarcely a settler's hut in sight. This all goes to show that previous travellers and prospectors did not ride over these plains with the object of sightseeing merely, or love of adventure, but luckily behind it all was the desire of conquest and the attainment of something of grand commercial value. For this men, and women, too, will brave the inconveniences of life for a season to obtain a broader sphere of operations.

Here there often comes severe electric storms in the summer time. They come up suddenly, and, if at night, to a new comer it is terribly sublime. It is a unique experience, anyway, to wake up, aroused by a deafening crash of thunder and feel as though your cabin was being knocked about the prairie like you would kick around a pair of old boots. You jump up to look at the awful scene. The lightning is at times one continuous glare as if our Fred Deagle had his finger on the button and at every twist the lights all along the line would flash out in blinding brilliancy. At other times there is a blinding flash and then an instant of intense Egyptian darkness, and you listen instinctively for the crack of doom, while at the same time the waters come down from above in one great sheet as though the bottom of a sea had fallen out. It is sometimes apalling—similar, perhaps, to the experience of a down east congregation recently, an account of which reached me just at the time of one of these phenomena here. The account ran that the minister in a certain town was in the midst of his Bible talk, when an electric storm came over and a crack of thunder caused alarm amongst the natives, causing such a commotion that he could not proceed but announced a hymn and the people sang and left the church.

The face of the country here at night in autumn is often illuminated beautifully by the lights from burning straw piles in every direction. The threshing being done on the fields the straw is burnt there, there being no need to save it as in Ontario. These beautiful illuminations would give you the impression that you were out on the ocean and approaching a great city and those were lights all along the shore. As I write I look out and see an immense blackened waste. A prairie fire has swept off everything it could reach over a large extent of country. These fires are awful to behold. Imagine a plane of dry grass knee deep or so, and a wind blowing at sixty miles an hour. On the far distant horizon you see a dense smoke. The prairie is on fire and it is rushing before the wind with more than racehorse speed, everything getting out of its way as fast as foot or wing can carry it. Man, alone, feebly attempts to stop the fury. If there is time to turn a few furrows of sod around stacks or buildings, or run out a little way and burn a few spots in the line of the approaching wave, then slash it out with a blanket or boughs and thus turn the element aside, but stop it? No, might as well try to turn back the tides. —F. T. C.

What is Catarrh

It is inflammation of the mucous lining of the throat, bronchial tubes and nasal passages excited by germs that can only be destroyed by fragrant healing Catarrhozone which is breathed direct to the seat of the disease, and has never yet failed to cure. Pleasant to use, absolutely certain to cure. Catarrhozone always gives satisfaction. "I suffered from nasal catarrh so badly that I couldn't breath through my nostrils, writes G. K. Wilmot of Meriden. I used Catarrhozone for a few minutes and was relieved. It cured in a short time." No other remedy just like Catarrhozone,—it's the best. Two months' treatment $1.00; trial size 25c.

The News in speaking of the possibility of Gamey assisting in the North Renfrew election now pending has this to say:—"The truth is that both Stratton and Gamey should be driven out of the Legislature. If our politics had not got down to a low level neither could hold any place in the public life of the country. Neither could sit in the British Parliament for one hour, and we discredit British institutions and British traditions when we accept such traffickers in the public honor as leaders of the community. If the Royal Commission had done its whole duty and set its mark on Stratton as it did on Gamey, both would have disappeared. As it is, Gamey is able to attack the findings of the Commission with considerable effect, while Liberals accept the report as a vindication of Stratton and an apology for all the discreditable ministerial negotiations with the member for Manitoulin."

McFARLAND, STAFFORD & CO.

MARKDALE, ONTARIO

GREY COUNTY'S BIGGEST AND CHEAPEST STORE

Only six Shopping Days Before Christmas

Think of it! Next week will be Chritmas and only six days after to-day in which to do your holiday buying. Why not commence at once and select your Christmas presents, before the best things are picked over? If undecided what to buy a visit to this store will help you, because of its immense variety and uniformly reasonable prices.

This is but a partial list of such things:

Practical Christmas Presents

SILK WAIST LENGTHS AT $1.50

30 waist Lengths of pure silk in a large variety of shades, floral designs, and Persian stripe effects, specially adapted for ladies waists, in 4 yd. lengths (sufficient for a waist), each put up in a separate box labelled "Xmas Greetings," elegant Xmas gift at $1.50, $2.00, $2.50, $2.90

DRESSING SACQUES FOR $1.65

8 Dressing Sacques of heavy quality Eiderdown in cardinal only, sailor collar, cuffs, nicely trimmed with fancy braid, only 1.65

10 Dressing Sacques of knitted Berlin wool, handsomely worked out with fancy stitch of white, edged with ball trimming, colors pinks, cardinal and sky—handsome gift, only 1.65

$1.75 KIMONOS FOR 98c.

12 Kimonos of imported eider flannel in heavy weight of assorted rich floral patterns and colors, combination wide collar and reveres of Roman satin, edged with lace, regular value $1.75 for 98c

$3.50 LADIES SKIRTS for $1.75

75 Ladies Homespun Dress Skirts bought at one-half the regular values, from a leading skirt manufacturer, comprising medium and dark grey stripe effects, also rich dark green, and a few black that are lined throughout. The makers could not take orders for any one line as they could not give a complete range of sizes, therefore they had to sacrifice the lot. Grooping them all together, there is a complete range of sizes. The price we ask for them is less than the bare cost of cloth. On sale this week at your choice, only 1.75

$4.00 LADIES MANTLES for 98c.

25 only Ladies' Mantles, 27 inches long in black, blue and brown nap cloth—last year's style, many of them are trimmed with fancy braid and have pearl buttons, good value in regular way $4.00, to clear, we have put them on sale at each 98

$2.50 KNIFE & FORK SETTS $1.50

50 sets of triple plated silver knives and forks, either dinner or desert size and put up in sets of six knives and six forks in a box, sold in most places for $2.50 Our price this week per set 1.50

DOLLS! DOLLS! DOLLS!

Dont fail to have a look through our big collection of dolls, just placed in stock the other day for Xmas trade. All are new and prices low as follows: 8c., 10c., 20c. 25c., and 35

COME EARLY IN THE DAY!

We emphasize that word "EARLY" because it is of mutual benefit. We can insure early shoppers better choice, better service; and certainly you can shop with greater ease and comfort by coming early.

McFARLAND, STAFFORD & CO.

SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS FOR CHRISTMAS TRADE.

10 Men's all-wool Tweed Suits $7 and $8 for..... 5.00

12 Ladies' Fine Coats, $7.50 and $9.00, for..... 5.00

A large assortment of carpets, arranging in price from 25c. to.....$.125 per yd

An extra good stock of Horse Blankets on hand, and we are selling them at the lowest living prices known. Also a full range of Men's Heavy Footwear, such as Felt Boots, Heavy Rubbers, Moccasins, Leggings, etc.

20 Men's Heavy Ulsters, good valve at $6

12 only Men's Pea Jackets, on sale at 3.90

20 all-wool Men's Sweaters, worth $1.00 for.....65c.

50 yds. crash toweling, worth 8c. yd. for 7

6 pr. gray wool Blankets, to clear out at $1.90 pair

12 Men's Cardigan Jackets, reg. $1.50, for.....1.19

Men's Kid Gloves, regular price 90c. and $1.00, for.....60c. per pair

A Reduction in Groceries

5 lbs good Japan tea for.....$1.00

5 lbs Ceylon Black tea..... 1.00

13 lbs. best selected raisins..... 1.00

25 lbs. best Tapoica..... 1.00

25 lbs. fresh Figs..... 1.00

90 large bars soap, reg. 12½c for 9c. pr. bar

A nice assortment of Faucy Glassware to Choose from for Xmas Giftt. . . .

Highest prices paid for Fowl and Butter.. . .

W. HOCKLEY Proton Station

Mr. W. J. Blakeston, principal of the Dundalk public school, has completed statistics in connection with keeping a cow for a period of one year, from October to October, which will be found interesting. The expenditure during that time was as follows:—Chopped feed $2 25, bran $3.20, pasture $6.00, turnips $8.80, hay $18,—total cost $38.25. The receipts from the cow were as follows:—226 1-2 pounds of butter $35 00, milk and cream used $24.00, sale of calf $8.00,—total receipts $67 00 Amount of receipts over expenditure $28.75. To attend to the cow enquired about one hour a day, or about thi ty-six days, which at least is valued at a dollar a day. This would mean a loss of $7 25, and Mr. Blakeston's conclusion is "no money in keeping a cow in a village, but it is very convenient."—Dundalk Herald.