Flesherton Advance.

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

VOL. XXIII, NO 1162 | Flesherton, Ont., Thursday, December 24, 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

BEFORE THE MAST

Being Experiences in the Life of Mr. John McRae of Ceylon, Ont.

BY FREDERICK GEE

"Well," said Mr. McRae, "I shall not attempt to give you a very close account of my career while in the merchant service, as there were many incidents in connection with it, and many strange places at which we called on our voyages that I cannot recall just at present, but as far as I recollect I will at least give you a sketch of my principal travels and adventures before the mast."

Like most young men when fresh from an apprenticeship which has not been altogether in harmony with their desires, I felt as gay and spirited on the day I received my discharge from the royal navy as I did on the day I was sworn in and sent aboard the old Victoria at Portsmouth, five years previously.

My money locker was well supplied, and, after two or three days of Jack ashore, I started north for the old folks at home, but I shall not try to describe, but leave to yourself to imagine the scene of my arrival and reception. For a little while all went well and I was as free and happy as a lark, but how prone are we by nature to become dissatisfied with our lot in life, though comfortable it may be, and wish and work for a change, and no sooner is that change effected than we repent and wish ourselves back to our old station in life. So it was with me. I had not been long ashore until I began to wish myself afloat. Life ashore became monotonous. I felt awkward. The sea had become my element. The vessel seemed to pitch and roll under my feet as I walked the streets. The comfortable bed in my mother's house had lost its charms, in the swinging hammock in which I had so long been accustomed to sleep, and it became quite evident that a life on the ocean wave and a home on the rolling deep was more compatible with my roving inclinations than the life of a landlubber. Having arrived at this conclusion I packed my sea bag and once more started off in quest of a berth, which, however, was not to be in the imperial navy. I wanted no more apprenticeships. I had learned the trade and could ship as an able seaman for a single voyage in the merchant service, and be free after each trip to engage with a new skipper, if I was dissatisfied with the old one.

I made for Cardiff, Wales, where I was at once engaged on a schooner with a cargo of coal for Gibralter. There was nothing of importance in this trip, neither was it very satisfactory to myself for I was only traversing the same ground I had frequently gone over, and I was desirous of visiting some part of the world that I had not yet seen. My hopes were realized in my next voyage. On our return to Cardiff we were paid off and I shipped on board the Ann Best of Liverpool for Cadiz, Spain, with a cargo of coal. After discharging our cargo at Cadiz we loaded with salt for Montevideo, South America. I was very well pleased with my prospects of this voyage, not only as regarded my money locker, but it would give me an opportunity of seeing more of the world. We set sail from Cadiz with favorable winds; passed the Canary Islands and found the climate growing salubrious as we quietly speed on our way towards Cape Verd Islands. Sometimes the wind would drop almost to a dead calm, when our sails would either lie or lazily flap against the mast. At other times every stick of canvas would be filled and we would skim over the broad blue waters as gracefully as the eagle with broad expanded wings, soars aloft between earth and sky. As we draw nearer the equator we find the weather getting warmer and the sun becoming more vertically above us. Onward we speed; the water is becoming rougher; we are nearing the equator. We reach the line fighting and buffeting waves. A stiff but friendly breeze catches us after. We plunge forward. The friendly breeze wafts us over the rolling billows, and for the first time in my seafaring life I cross the equator. We are now south of the equator and near the South American coast to which we keep close until we passed Rio Janeirio, when the weather became rough and we shered off from the coast, keeping to the open sea until we arrived at our destination. After discharging our cargo we reloaded with bones and hides for Liverpool, and having taken a short spell ashore we hoisted our sails for our homeward journey. With the exception of a little more rough weather the homeward trip was much the same as the out-bound journey. In due time we arrived at Liverpool, discharged cargo, and were paid off.

All things, considered, this voyage had been rather a pleasant one; the weather all through, had been fairly good; the skipper was not at all a bad sort of a fellow, and everything had gone along tolerably well. After being paid off I thought I might as well pay a short visit home and accordingly set out for Inverness.

To be continued.

Maxwell

The Church of England will have their Xmas entertainment to-night (Tuesday).

The Canadian Foresters hold their postponed concert on Wednesday night, Dec. 23rd.

The Methodist Sunday school will hold their Xmas entertainment on Xmas night.

Our hotel has changed hands and is now occupied by Mr. Geo. Flesher.

We are having a hard struggle with the snow, which these stormy times, obstructs our highways.

Wire fences figure in municipal election talk.

Vinegar Hill

Sleighing is very poor on account of frequent showers of snow.

Mr. McAuley visited this vicinity and bought a number of pigs, also Mr. Robert Fawcett of Dundalk.

Prayer meeting was held at Mr. Smart's Friday evening last.

A number of young people called at the home of Mr. Geo. Smith and spent a very enjoyable time.

Mr. Editor, please correct the statement in last week's issue about Geo. Smith calling Mr. McClung a liar, as he never called him a liar or a gentleman, but left the house without giving any insult whatever.

Vandeleur

Mr. John Shannon left on Saturday to visit his brother at Corbetton.

Mrs. McCallum and son, Alex., are leaving this week for Maple Creek N. W. T., where they intend to locate.

Mr. Mrs. Ed. Holley gave a party to a number of their friends on Friday evening. A very enjoyable time was spent

The two Mrs. Pritchards from Treherne, Manitoba, are visiting their uncle, Mr. Geo. Pritchard.

Mrs. Buchanan, sr., who had a stroke of paralysis a short time ago, is recovering under the care of Dr. Carter.

Eugenia

The heavy snow storm which has continued for almost two weeks and drifted up the roads, has made business at Eugenia very dull, so that news of interest is rather scarce.

Our faithful mailcarrier has a difficult job getting through these days. From Epping to Flesherton is a long drive with roads drifted as high as the fences, yet he gets in on good time.

All are very sorry at the departure from our school of both our teachers. Miss Badgerow is going to Chesley and Miss Robinson to her home at Markham. They will be greatly missed, as their places will be hard to fill in the hearts of the school children, and by all the many warm friends they made whilst here.

A merry Christmas and happy New Year, Mr. Editor, to yourself and assistants, and may you long be spared to send The Advance on its weekly mission to friends both far and near.

Mr. Duckett has been very ill, but at present we are pleased to hear that he is on the mend.

The coming municipal election promises to be a lively one. If they all get elected we may expect great things for Artemesia.

Miss Margaret Reid of Singhampton is visiting her aunt, Mrs. Bella Wilson.

Miss Hattie Reid was the guest for some time of Miss Lou Gordon.

Miss Cora Williams has gone on an extended visit to friends in the city.

Mr. Joseph Williams has sold his farm in the valley to Mr. W. A. Armstrong of Flesherton. With his family he has now become a resident of our village.

Mr. John Williams had the misfortune to lose one of his horses the past week. It injured itself in the stall so badly that it died from the effects.

Kimberley

Stormbound last week.

Messrs. J. Huff and J. W. Ford spent Saturday and Sunday at the former's parental home in Meaford.

We are pleased to learn that Mr. C. E. Stuart who has been attending Model School in Meaford for some time has secured the position as Principal in the Priceville Public School for the coming year. We congratulate the school board on securing the serves of such a bright intelligent young man as teacher.

Mr. Hill of Owen Sound spent a few days of last week with Mr. and Mrs. T. Bradbury.

While Messrs Robert and Jasper Stuart and Hugh Hammond were out hunting on Tuesday last they secured two live foxes which had been chased into a den by Stuart Bros' hounds and were kept for a short time for public inspection.

Following is the list of officers elected for the ensuing year in the Kimberly L. O. L. No. 1340: W. M., Hugh Smith; D. M., Jas. Lawrence; Chaplain, H. Hurd; Rec. Secretary, Jasper Stuart; Treasurer, Alfred Hill; Director of Ceremonies, R. Allen; Lecturer, William Lawrence, Committemen, George McConnel. Fred Martin, John Wickens, Wesley Abbot, Fred Stuart; Auditors, Robert Allen and James Lawrence.

Mr. Charley Smith, who has been in Wisconsin for some time, has returned to his home here.

We are pleased to learn that Mrs Wm. Sloan, who has been ill for some time, is in a much improved condition.

We understand Mr. John Plewes intends going to Delaware some time in the near future.

This week's item's.

Mrs. Ben Smith, who has been ill for some time, is very low at present.

Mr. John Plewes, who has been in Kirkville for some time, returned on Saturday last.

Rev. J. S. I. Wilson, pastor of Flesherton Methodist church, preached to a large congregation both morning and afternoon on Sunday last in the Methodist church here. Mr. Wilson is an excellent as well as an eloquent speaker.

Mr. F. D. Goff, of Clarksburg, preached a very interesting sermon in the Union church, on Sunday evening; his text being found in John 21—9.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Smith spent Sunday at the former's parental home here.

Messrs. Ford and Huff spent Sunday at the former's parental home in Markdale.

Miss Edna Thurston, of Woodstock, is visiting her mother here.

The roof of the blacksmith shop, lately vacated by Mr. T. J. Reid. blacksmith, collapsed in a terrible crash on Sunday last about six o'clock in the evening.

Priceville

Another consignment of books arrived last week for the public library here.

The A. O. U. W. "goat" is being well exercised this winter, thirteen new members having been admitted during the last four weeks, and several more candidates are preparing for their perilous ride on the 28th.

Mr John A. McLeod is at home with his mother for the holidays.

Mr. John McKechnie, who has been out in Dakota for several years, is now in this vicinity visiting old friends and neighbors.

The Methodist oyster supper, billed for the 22nd, has been postponed to the 5th of January.

Mr. Henry Watson, who has just emerged from the model school a full fledged teacher, goes after New Year to Bolton to instruct the rising generation of that town.

We were up town on the night of the 14th and found the dining room of Butters' hotel about full of Workmen, and they were having a jolly time over their oysters and congratulating each other on the growth of Lodge 140.

We hear that Mr. Stewart of Kimberley is engaged as principal of our public school for the coming year.

The library concert on Monday night was fine, but the bad weather and worse roads deterred many from coming out. However, the hundred or so that did hear, and were so pleased with the good rendering will serve as an advertisement for the repetition of the program that the people will be delighted to hear on Christmas night. Everybody should turn out and see what our local talent can do when they try.

The people of the school section presented Mr. Eastman with a gold watch as a slight token of the esteem which they have for his efficient work in the school, and also his untiring energy displayed in promoting and sustaining public enterprises while he has been here. The presentation was made at the concert on Monday night. Miss Moody, who is also retiring from the school here, received a token of regard as well

The roof of Mr. C. C. James' barn caved in on Sunday night, causing considerable damage.

McFARLAND, STAFFORD & CO.

MARKDALE, ONTARIO

GREY COUNTY'S BIGGEST AND CHEAPEST STORE

Only One Shopping Day 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 value 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 for Xmas Giftt. . . .

Highest prices paid for Fowl and Butter.. . .

W. HOCKLEY Proton Station