

MERCER'S, Markdale's Cheapest and Most Reliable Store.

Mercer has again at the commencement of another year to thank his many friends and customers for their very liberal patronage during the past year, which has been the biggest and best year's business he has ever done by several thousand dollars; and during the present year he is bound to still further increase his trade, and the only inducement he holds out to bring people his way is

Good Goods and Low Prices.

HERE ARE SOME REASONS why you can get the best values at Mercer's: His expenses are not half what other merchants are to do the same amount of business; He pays cash for every dollar's worth of goods that comes into his store; Pays no rent or interest; His profits are all his own; Don't buy his business on the market; Keeps a better class of goods than other merchants—hence the reason it will pay you to buy your goods from Mercer. As usual after the holiday rush we clear out all winter goods at special reductions, such as Mens Fur Coats, Ladies Fur Coats, Caps, Caprioles, Ruffs and all sorts Mens and Boys Overcoats, Suits and Revers, Blankets, Comforters, etc. Come and see us and profit by our bargains.

H. MERCER, MARKDALE.

JOHN CHAPMAN, MARKDALE.

The rush of December is over, but

FURNITURE

at CHAPMAN'S continues to attract buyers and prices are equally attractive. Our fall trade has proven quite large, but the stock is replenished weekly and thus kept up. I now return thanks for past favors and wish all

A Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

JOHN CHAPMAN

FOR

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FEW

DAYS

Everything we have in Holiday Goods will be sold at greatly reduced prices.

W. TURNER & CO.

Markdale.

Wedding Bells.

A very pleasant afternoon was spent at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Putherford, of Aberdeen, on Xmas day, when their eldest daughter Cassie was united in matrimony to Mr. Chas. Dowding of Enphrasia.

Shortly after four o'clock the groom took his position before the Rev. Wray R. Smith, of Durham, and was soon joined by the bride, who came in leaving on the arm of her father, and the vows that made them husband and wife were spoken in a clear and steady voice in the presence of about seventy guests who had assembled to witness the ceremony. The groom was ably supported by Mr. W. S. Chalmers, of Markdale, while the bride was assisted by her sister, Sarah, of Orton. As your correspondent is not versed in the art of describing dress, he will not make any attempt otherwise than just say that if the beautiful and substantial looking robes were a fair representation of the mind and character of the wearers, we prophecy a happy and useful life for them. After formal congratulations the company repaired to the dining room, which was beautifully decorated with evergreens and Chinese lanterns. The table, which was adorned with roses and mistletoe, and laden with good things, presented a very attractive appearance. Not the least part of the attraction was the large and beautiful bride's cake, which was the handiwork of the bride's sister Sarah, and was pronounced one of the best and most beautiful seen by the guests. After satisfying the inner man and tasting the fruits that grow in a warmer clime, the rest of the evening was spent in listening to music and indulging in games such as different tastes suggested until a late, or rather early, hour, when the company departed, expressing their best wishes for the future of the young couple.

We will not take up space to describe the presents, except the groom's present to the bride, which was a solid gold brooch set with sapphires, and a silver sewing machine, and to the bridesmaid a pair of fur gauntlets. The presents were numerous, costly, beautiful and useful, expressing the good taste and best wishes of the givers for the comfort and happiness of the young couple.

Those present from a distance were: Mr. W. S. Chalmers, of Markdale, the Misses and Mr. Birch, Wodehouse; Mr. Howard and John Clark, Wodehouse; Mr. John Dowding, brother of the groom, Mr. S. Fenton, sr., and Mr. S. Fenton, jr., of Moorsburgh; W. J. Watson and sister, of Paisley; the bride's sisters Sarah and Jennie, of Toronto, and her brother James, of Nairn Centre—Con.

Shelburne

We wish ye editor and readers of the STANDARD a happy New Year.

We are having fine winter weather and the roads are fine, making business brisk.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Neely, of Victoria street, lost their only child through diphtheria on Friday, after an illness of a couple of days. Mr. and Mrs. N. have the sympathy of the entire town in their sad loss.

Mr. F. C. Dance, of Fergus, who bought out G. Peart's furniture business a few weeks ago, has moved his stock into the Marshall block. The block is now filled, Mr. H. Bretz and R. J. Watson having moved into the other two stores some time ago.

Dr. H. J. Rolstin leaves town soon. Dr. J. A. Smith having brought out his practice.

Mrs. Wm. Ferguson, of Priceville was visiting her daughters, Mrs. R. J. Watson and Mrs. G. Rutherford, for a few days, returning home to-day, (Tuesday.)

The Methodist Sabbath School entertainment held in the Town Hall on Christmas evening was a great success. The programme, which was of the highest order, passed off without a hitch, the children doing remarkably well. The proceeds was about \$302 for concert and with collections of about \$100 for anniversary. Our school is in a very flourishing condition at present.

Mr. Elmer Rutherford returned to Toronto on Monday morning, after spending Christmas under the parental roof.

Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Dance spent Christmas with friends in Fergus. Mr. Dance returned home on Monday. Mrs. Dance will remain for a short visit.

Miss Jennie Sleighholm, of Toren-to, spent Christmas at home with her parents on Main street.

Rev. C. W. Watch gave an At Home to the officers and teachers of the Methodist Sabbath School on Tuesday evening.

Mr. W. G. Bowland, one of our popular merchants, gave a pleasant evening to his staff on Tuesday evening.

The Presbyterians intend having a grand concert in the Town Hall on New Year's evening. A good time is expected.

F. T. HILL & CO.

December marks the close of the best month's business and the biggest year's business yet enjoyed by us. That we possess in a very large measure the confidence of the public at large is amply evidenced by our ever-increasing business—a confidence that we value more highly than anything else and which we shall always endeavor to merit. We thank you for your generous patronage during 1902 and solicit a continuance during 1903 which we trust may prove to one and all a Happy and Prosperous Year.

French Flannels and De Laines

25c.

About 75 yards fine all pure wool, French Flannels and De Laines. These are strictly new goods that until now have sold at 40, 45 and 50c per yard. The price we put on them now is the lowest we have ever heard of—clearing at per yard only 25.

French Flannel Blouses 78c.

18 French Flannel Blouses (assorted sizes) beautifully made and nicely colored, fine all-wool goods. Blouses worth up to 1.00, clearing now for only 78.

Ladies Underwear 50c.

10 dozen Ladies Vests and Drawers, fine ribbed wool goods, silk trimmed and first class in every respect—the 75c quality at each 50.

Boys and Youth's Moccasins 78c

34 pairs Boys and Youths Moccasins—the regular 1.25 quality on sale now at per pair. 78.

Blankets 2.55 or pair.

20 pairs all-wool grey Blankets, extra nice quality goods that are thoroughly dependable, full, large size and very cheap. Per pair only 2.55.

Speciai prices in MILLINERY for next two weeks. We want to clear it all out.

Family Syrup in pails at 50, 1.00 and 1.20. This is nice flavored amber syrup—the best that money can buy.

Business is always rushing in our HARDWARE DEPARTMENT. Almost everything you can think of is to be had here. See us before you buy.

We're still selling Penncoline Coal Oil, the best oil in the market. If you've been trying unsuccessfully to burn inferior grades of oil just try a gallon of Penncoline and do not forget to change the wick in your lamp-burner. Penncoline is guaranteed to be the best oil in the market, and is not sold elsewhere in town.

F. T. HILL & CO.

The Christmas Farmer's Advocate

"The Golden Fields are waving,
The sun sets golden red.
A sleeping Empire's waking,
An Empire's day is breaking,
A maiden Empire's making,
A mother Empire's bread."

The above lines were written by Cy Warman the clever American author, who makes his home in Canada, for the beautiful colored frontispiece of the Christmas Farmer's Advocate, of London, Ont., to which the readers of that ever-popular periodical have been treated. Some idea of the magnitude of the issue may be seen from the fact that it actually required 16½ tons of paper to print it! Some 30 or 40 specially-written articles on every phase of agricultural and kindred themes by the most eminent writers on this continent and in Great Britain, appear in its 80 pages, which are embellished with over 100 photogravures and reproductions of many of the best of modern paintings. It is a unique production, every page disclosing something of interest and value. We congratulate the Farmer's Advocate on its success, and the farming interests of this country on having such a splendid exponent. With a large and competent staff, thoroughly understanding the practical needs of all departments of agriculture, the Advocate has laid plans for 1903 that make it indispensable to the man who wants a reliable and high-class farm paper at a very moderate outlay.

A Great Sufferer Cured.

Mr. Benjamin Dillon, of Leeds, Ont. was cured of muscular rheumatism by Polson's Nerviline, and says: "I feel my duty to proclaim Polson's Nerviline as an infallible cure for rheumatism; it cured me after 30 years of suffering, and nothing I know of can equal its penetrating power. Nerviline simply has no equal in quickly relieving and curing rheumatism, Neuralgia, Sciatica and Lumboago. A trial will convince anyone. Price 25c."

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Clubbing Rates.

STANDARD and Weekly Sun \$1.75

STANDARD and Globe 1.75

STANDARD and Mail 1.75

STANDARD and Toronto Daily Star 2.00

STANDARD and Family Herald 1.75

STANDARD and Weekly Witness 1.75

STANDARD & Farmer's Advocate 1.75

STANDARD & Christian Guardian 2.00

These rates are good for all of

next year with balance of this

year unless otherwise specified.

My repair bench is laden with watches

for repair—an evidence of the fact that

the watch-wearing public know in

whom to entrust their repair work.

My bench is equipped with the most

modern and up-to-date tools that can

be found anywhere.

I have in mind of

any repairs I believe that a trial will

convince you that I can serve your

interests as well as the best.

W. J. SHORTILL

Jeweler and Optician

Markdale

42 Main Street

Markdale, Ontario

Telephone 125

Open 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

7 a.m. to 9 p.m.