

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

FOR THIS

our most successful year's business

We Thank You

and wish our many friends and customers a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous and Happy New Year.

During the balance of this month we are offering special bargains in everything in Dry Goods, Clothing, Shoes, Furnishings, Furs, Crockery, Glassware, and Groceries. Come and see—and profit by our bargains.

- Men's Suits and Overcoats, 5.00 to 12.00. Boys' Suits and Overcoats, 3.75 to 7.50. Boys' Coats, 3.00 to 3.75. Boys' Pants, 30c. to \$1.00. 60 pair working men's heavy underwear, tweed pants, pure wool, worth 2.50 for 2.00. Other lines from 1.00 to 1.75. Men's Gloves and Mitts 50c. to \$1.00. Men's Sweaters 75c. to 1.25. Men's Cardigans at 1.00 worth 1.25. Men's Top Shirts 50c. to 1.00. Men's Underwear 75c. to 2.00. Men's Flax Shirts, colored and white, 75c. to 1.00. Men's Fur Coats, 18.00 to \$25. Men's Fur Caps, 1.25 to 10.00. Ladies' Fur Coats, \$35 to \$60. Ladies' Ruffs, 3.00 to 12.00.

- For \$7.00 to \$8.00 you can get your choice of a large sized dark grey Coat Robe or imitation "Bellefleur" (the Gait Robe)—see them. Snap in House Slippers. All felt, Women's sizes 15c. pr. All felt, Misses sizes 13c. pr. All felt, Children's sizes 10c. Ways Mullers for men and boys 25c. to 75c. Neck Scarfs for Men and Boys 25c. to 1.00. Men's Fur Mitts, 4.00 to 4.50. Blankets, pure wool, unshrinkable, 3.00 to 6.00 pr. Comforters, 1.50 to 3.00 each. Silk Handkerchiefs, 25c to \$1. Table Covers, 60c to 2.50. Rugs, 1.50 to 3.00. Dinner Sets, 7.50 to 12.00. Toilet Sets, 2.00 to 4.50.

This is the store where you can always depend on getting the best goods and the least to pay.

H. MERCER, Markdale.

The Imperial Music Store

HEADQUARTERS FOR

Musical Gifts

A musical instrument is a gift that will please anyone. It is something that will remain with and cheer the recipient for many years to come. An inexpensive, highly artistic, and tasteful gift to a musical friend is a beautifully bound volume of vocal or instrumental music, such as follows:

- Vocal & Instrumental folios: "Wide World," "Sabbath Echoes," "Comic Songs," "Scotch Songs," "50 Gems of Scotch Songs," "Queen's University," "Jewell's Library, Instrum'l folios." Other Gifts such as: Violins, Guitars, Mandolins, Banjos, Autoharps, Flutes, Piccolos, Flageolets, Mouth Organs, Accordions, Concertinas, Music Eggs and Rolls, Pianos, Organs and Sewing Machines of the highest grade. Violin instructors, Organ and Piano instructors, such as "Bellak's," "Czerney," "Piano Forte," "Coronet," "Royal Crown," "The Doherty," and "Jouesse's" Catechism.

Wake the children Christmas morning with an Edison Phonograph. It sings as sweetly and as clearly as the human voice, and takes the place of all musical instruments. It is a source of delight and amusement to old and young, sick and well. We have them at prices ranging from \$10.00 to \$40.00. Come and see us.

T. F. WILSON, Markdale.

Farm for Sale. Lot 8, con. 12, Glenora, 150 acres, about one half under cultivation, and the balance hardwood bush and pasture, frame barn and house, good well, school, post office convenient, good roads and good neighborhood. ROBERT GOODWILL, Glascoot.

Farm for Sale. About 55 acres, being lots 30 and 31, west of the T. & E. road, situated in the village of Holland Centre, about 20 miles from the C. P. R. station and half a mile from the school. Soil, good day pasture, balance hardwood bush with good spring thereon, well watered by the South River. All tillable land, 40 acres under crop and pasture, balance hardwood bush with good spring wells at barn and house, good frame solid brick house, two story sheds, well furnished. For particulars apply to John Sawley, Holland Centre, O.C.

Farm for Sale. 100 acres, being lot 63, con. 1, east gravel road, Holland, Berkeley. Well improved and in good condition, well fenced and has two barns with stone basements, house and orchard, also good well. For particulars apply to the premises, or to James Wright, Berkeley, Ont.

Farm for Sale. One hundred and fifty acres, lot 20 and 21, on the 2nd range west of T. & E. road, Holland, Ont. on the premises a good stone and a half brick house with stone kitchen, four large bedrooms upstairs, parlor, dining room and kitchen, woodshed and large well, also summer house; two good wells, and a good stream runs across the farm; large frame barn with stone stables; frame straw shed with stone walls; good driving house, frame, also good log barn. For further particulars apply to Mrs. T. WILSON, on the premises, or DAVID POTTER, Markdale.

Store for Sale. At Peabody, a country place in the township of Sullivan, Grey county, about 20 miles south of Owen Sound and 7 1/2 miles north of Chesley. A good business stand surrounded by prosperous farming country. No opposition. Dwelling house adjoining store, also an orchard, stable, driving shed and never failing well. Goods sold with store, Post Office in the store. Apply to N. L. Dowling Peabody, P.O. Ont.

THE MARKDALE STANDARD

C. W. Rutledge, Publisher.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE \$1.00 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.

MARKDALE, DECEMBER 31, 1903.

A 28-TON CHRISTMAS BOX

We are to-day in receipt of the Christmas Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine, of London, Ont., and upon examination of its beautiful cover and contents, have no hesitation in saying that the fortunate readers of that ever-popular periodical are receiving a veritable treat. The Advocate people certainly use their readers well. Besides all the good things of the year, they receive this superb number complimentary. Among the various holiday publications, this one stands in the very first rank in regard both to matter and illustrations. In short, the number is not only an entertainer, but an educator. As usual, it is an exponent of the highest type of Canadian art, being illustrated by over 100 photographs and reproductions of paintings by eminent Canadian artists; while it contains over 60 especially-written articles, all of exceptional merit, of which some deal with subjects of practical agricultural value, no department of the farm being overlooked, some with scenery and methods of life in different parts of our great Dominion, while others appeal to the nature-student, the educationist and to the devotee of literature. For its publication no less than over 28 tons of paper were required. We heartily congratulate the Farmer's Advocate on its success, and are glad to see that it is about to add still more to its efficacy in advancing the farming interests of the country by being issued henceforth as a weekly. Its Home Department is also being greatly strengthened, which popularizes the Advocate more than ever with the home-makers of our country. For the home life, as well as for our agricultural and live-stock interests, the Farmer's Advocate continues to render the very best kind of service.

Samples of Choice Grain for the Improvement of Seed.

By instruction of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture another distribution will be made this season of samples of the most productive sorts of grain to Canadian farmers for the improvement of seed. The stock for distribution is of the very best and has been secured mainly from the excellent crops recently had at the branch Experimental Farm in Indian Head in the Northwest Territories. The distribution this spring will consist of samples of oat, spring wheat, barley, Indian corn and potatoes. The quantities of oats, wheat and barley to be sent this year will be 4 lbs. of oats and 5 lbs. of wheat or barley sufficient to sow one twentieth of an acre. The samples of Indian corn and potatoes will weigh 3 lbs. as heretofore. Every farmer may apply, but only one sample can be sent to each applicant, hence if an individual receives a sample of oats he cannot also receive one of wheat, barley or potatoes, and applications for more than one sample for one household cannot be entertained. These samples will be sent free of charge, through the mail. Applications should be addressed to the Director of Experimental Farms, Ottawa, and may be sent in any time before the 1st of March, after which the lists will be closed, so that all the samples asked for may be sent out in good time for sowing. Parties writing should mention the sort of variety they would prefer, and should the available stock of the kind asked for be exhausted, some other good sort will be sent in its place.

Wm. Saunders, Director Experimental Farms.

East Mountain.

Mr. Jas. E. Lowe, of Owen Sound, arrived in our midst on Thursday last and will remain with us for some time. Mr. Charlie Braniff, of Collingwood, has returned home after spending a couple of weeks at Mr. John Braniff's. Mr. Will Martin, who has been slightly indisposed with neuralgia, is recovering.

La Grippe has been making its appearance in this locality. The family of Mr. Robert Allen have all been ailing, but are recovering nicely. The funeral of Mr. Matthew Simons, Sr., took place on Friday, the 18th December, to the Flesherston cemetery, and was conducted by the Rev. Mr. Sinclair, of Engenia. Mr. Simons was ill for about three weeks and although faithfully attended by his wife and daughter, Mr. Allen, both medical skill and loving care were of no avail, and he passed away at 9 o'clock on Wednesday morning the 16th inst. Mr. Simons was a fine old Englishman, of upright character, whom all

respected, and it was with sincere sorrow that old friends and neighbors followed the remains to the cemetery. Mrs. McMillan, of Collingwood, attended her father's funeral on Friday last.

Miss Mary Braniff, of O.S.C.I., is spending her Christmas holidays at home.

Mr. W. S. O'Brien and Mr. Jas. F. Lowe spent Christmas in Owen Sound.

ADDRESS AND PRESENTATION.

The school-room of S. S. No. 17, Euphrasia, was the scene of a happy gathering on Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 22nd, when a number of friends met together to hear the entertainment which had been prepared by the pupils. At the closing of the programme the following address was read by Miss Sophia Manary. Accompanying the address a beautiful gold locket and chain and a handsome fountain pen was presented to the teacher, Miss Burrows.

Dear Teacher,—Knowing of your intended departure from our midst, and realizing our great loss, we feel we cannot let you go away from amongst us without showing in some degree, at least, our appreciation of your services here. We have at many times been disobliged at our inability to do so, and endured it all with the greatest of patience. We now ask you to accept this locket and chain and fountain pen as a slight token of our esteem for you; and hope that when you leave this place you may carry with you some of the remembrances of the school and the pleasant, useful times we have spent together. We join in wishing you a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and a prosperous hereafter. Signed in behalf of the school,

Mary Thompson, Susan E. Wren, Mary Manary, George Caswell.

In a few words Miss Burrows thanked the pupils for their kindness, at the close of which farewells were said and all dispersed.

I WANT TO GO TO BERKELEY.

(The wail of one who wanted to go, but couldn't.)

I want to go to Berkeley And see the place once more; I want to meet the people, Their passion to explore. The four weeks since I journeyed, So far away from home, I want to meet the people, And tell them I have come.

I want to go to Berkeley, But how am I to go? The road is somewhere buried, Some roads beneath the snow, The high stakes of the fences, Are nowhere to be seen; The only things to guide me, Are spruce tops waving green.

I want to go to Berkeley, I do—indeed I do, I want to tell the people How wild the whirlwind blew, I want to speak of snow drifts That barricade the way, I want to go to Berkeley, I want to go to-day.

"You want to go to Berkeley?" Grey's Genius made reply, "Indeed you'll take no journey, I'll fill all my storms sweep by, My winds are on the rampage, And whosoever dares, To face such furious demons Will surely put on airs."

Good-bye to you, dear Berkeley,— Some day I'll go to you, When birds are singing blithely, And April skies are blue; Then we'll renew acquaintances, And tell what we've endured (Tho' the dreary winter) And how our coughs were cured.

We'll tell of Turner's, Stephen's, Specifics for all ills,— Cold, whooping cough, and chills; We'll tell how one small bottle Instantly did the thing, So good luck to you, Berkeley, I'll see you in the spring.

Is Your Back Lame?

You Are Doubtless Suffering From Diseased Kidneys—Surest Cure is Ferruzone.

Unless you want to be stricken with incurable Bright's Disease, don't let your kidneys go without attention. Ferruzone is a special remedy for this trouble, and never fails to give prompt relief and bring about a perfect cure. Mr. Gordon J. Macfarlane, of Bradford, was cured by Ferruzone, after being treated unsuccessfully by three doctors for kidney complaint. "I write," and I had dreadful pain in the back and sides, and was never free from a dull, heavy feeling, that made me miserable. I spent a lot of money to any extent. Then I tried Ferruzone. One box helped me so much that I got six more, and before they were used I was quite well. I never used anything giving such prompt and lasting relief as Ferruzone. It beats all other kidney cures."

People suffering from kidney disorders quickly lose strength, and often die young. Therefore it is important to get Ferruzone at once, and be relieved from every symptom of this beautiful disease. Price 60c a box, or six boxes for \$2.50, at all druggists, or by mail from The Ferruzone Company, Kingston, Ont.

F. T. HILL & CO.

Christmas and New Year's Greetings

We extend to our hundreds of customers far and near the season's compliments and best wishes. The remarkable success which has characterized our business in past years, but more particularly during the year just closing will be an incentive to go on and do better and bigger things in the future. We already have mapped out plans for 1904. These we will unfold as the year advances. In the meantime we are making hundreds of homes happy by selling SUITABLE and USEFUL Xmas. and New Year's gifts at prices within the reach of all. Come as soon as you can—as often as you can.

Ladies' Fancy Blouses for 48c.

These blouses, in sizes, light, medium and dark colors, all of which are absolutely fast and dependable. They are made of the finest quality material, and are guaranteed to be as good as the best. The entire lot and bought at a special price to sell these regular seventy-five cent goods for only 48c.

15c. Child's Underskirts for 9c. 60 Child's Underskirts at this price. All are made of extra heavy pure wool yarn and are exceptionally cheap at 15 cents. Clearing out for only 9c.

\$2.00 Mercerized Sateen Blouses \$1.25

72 Ladies' extra fine, Black Sateen Blouses, made of finest mercerized cloth like extra fine black cloth, with extra fine black trimmings and button trimmings. Regular 2.00. On sale for only 1.25.

3 Snaps in Felt Shoes

96 Pairs Child's Felt Shoes, sizes 1 to 4, all colors and beautifully trimmed and finished. These are particularly nice and very cheap for children's shoes. Regular 25c. On sale for only 15c.

35 pairs Misses Felt Shoes, sizes 11 to 2. These are probably the most comfortable and most inexpensive footwear possible to get. We want to clear out this lot during the next two weeks and as they are regular 1.25 shoes we expect to easily accomplish this at per pair of 85c.

34 Pair Women's Felt Shoes, buttoned and laced, sizes 3, 4, 7, 8. Nowhere else to our knowledge are these shoes retailed at less than 1.50. The assortment being broken up we have decided to clear out the balance at per pair of 1.00.

Hundreds of other pairs of Felt Shoes for men and women at the very lowest prices.

All Trimmed Millinery at Half Price.

Our assortment of Trimmed Millinery is yet as thorough and complete as ever. It would be the case earlier in the season in smaller businesses. However, it must be sold during the next few weeks and to do so we have cut the prices extremely in half.

37 TRIMMED HATS AT HALF PRICE. 75 HEAD-TOWERS AT HALF PRICE.

Special Prices on Fur Jackets, Mens Clothing and Carpets

Hardware! Hardware! Hardware!

Not much need to say much about this department, as we are getting a reputation for our goods as being the best. The unexcelled growth of this end of our business since our opening here and our efforts have been recognized by the various times we have in stock that are not kept in the ordinary hardware store, we will say that it is scarcely a hardware requirement that we are not in a position to fill, and our price will be the lowest in Grey County. We have saved money for others who can do the same for you.

With kindest Christmas and New Year's greetings to all, and thank you for your loyal and generous patronage, we are, Yours faithfully,

F. T. HILL & CO.

To Cure a Cold in One Day Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. Cures Grip in Two Days. on every box 25c.



W. J. SHORTT Jeweler, Markdale. The best of the best. REDUCED PRICES. Men's size genuine watches in gold-filled case, usual price \$18. All grades and sizes at prices right. About 100 assortment of Clocks, from \$1.00 (in fact over one hundred) consisting of Alarm, Mantel Clocks, School, etc. Parlor and Fancy Clocks, lowest price. Guaranteed every time piece.

Be Fitter

After all, there is a better, more comfortable way of getting your clothes made and to suit you. The tailor's shop on hand.

Robt. ...

C. P. R. ...

Barrister, Solicitor, ...

Lucas, Wright, ...

M. Givens, ...

Pomona J. O. ...

A. Brown, ...

Graduate Toronto ...

Dental Surgeon, ...

Surveyor, ...

Markdale Lodge, 141, A.O. ...

R. J. Sprout, ...

G. S. Burt M.D., ...

Court Markdale I.O.F. No. ...

Assessments must be paid to the ...