

THE ACTON FREE PRESS Published every Thursday Morning \$1 Per Annum in Advance

Acton Free Press S. W. GALBRAITH, Editor.

THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 18, 1878. The War News.

The war news during the past few days has been of a contradictory nature, and, judging from previous experience, the safest method of estimating the actual situation will be to take a middle course between the ultra-warlike and the extremely pacific. While one correspondent asserted that a strong feeling of the inevitability of war exists both in London and St. Petersburg, another declares that an amicable interchange of views has taken place between the two Courts. However this may be, it appears certain that the two principal disputants in the European embroglio, while both professing an earnest desire for peace, are both unwilling to make any but the most trivial concessions. From the present aspect of the situation, it would appear that the best chance of a solution depend upon the mediatory efforts of Prince Bismarck, who is said to declare that the principal difficulties in the way of intervention have been overcome. The negotiations between Russia and England are said to be progressing, but advice from St. Petersburg do not appear to take a very cheerful view of the situation. Both Houses of the British Parliament adjourned on Tuesday—the Commons until the 6th of May, and the Lords until the 13th.

Editorial Notes.

For six months ending June 30, 1877, it cost \$84,610.77 to run the Kingston Penitentiary. The yearly salaries amount to \$39,640. Mr. C. W. Bunting, of the Mail, has been unanimously nominated as Conservative candidate for Welland, and has consented to run. The North Perth Reformers have nominated Mr. James Fisher their candidate for the Commons, and Mr. Hay, M.P.P., of Listowel, for the Local House. J. B. Plumb, M. P., has been re-nominated in Niagara as Conservative candidate. Captain Bigs has been nominated as Conservative candidate for the Legislature in North Bruce. Parliament will probably be prorogued by the end of the week. It is understood that the House, which must necessarily adjourn over Good Friday, will meet on Saturday, and again on Easter Monday. The Hon. John Young died in Montreal on Friday evening after a short illness. He was at one time a prominent member of Parliament and a leading public man. He was the Canadian Commissioner to the Australian Exhibition, and at the time of his death was chairman of the Montreal Harbor Board. A new paper is to be started in Toronto under the name of the Irish Nationalist. It will advocate Irish independence, and this object is to be gained, not by moral suasion, but by the same means the United States obtained their independence. In other words, it will openly advocate treason against England in that country's most loyal dependency. The Ottawa Free Press is now one of the best newspapers published in the Dominion. It has lately put on an entire new dress, which makes it good-looking and readable. It contains all the earliest political intelligence from the capital, together with a large amount of telegraphic and other interesting news. The Daily Free Press contains 32 columns of reading matter, and is mailed to any address for \$6 per annum. The Weekly Free Press is an eight page journal, and contains 64 columns of closely printed reading matter. The subscription price is \$1.50 per annum, in advance. An elegant oil chromo of Lord Dufferin is mailed to each subscriber on receipt of subscription money.

There was a general belief that the twenty-five cent scrip now in circulation—sometimes disrespectfully termed "skin plaster"—was only intended for a temporary purpose, and would be gradually withdrawn. From a statement made by the Minister of Finance lately, however, it appears that the government has decided not to call it in, but on the contrary such currency can still be obtained from the Receiver-General. The scrip now in circulation amounts to \$116,500.

In the Supreme Court on Monday, judgment was given in the Jacques Cartier and Charlevoix election cases. In the former the entire Court was unanimous for dismissal of the petition upon sixteen of the seven points of defence by the petitioners, and upon the seventeenth a majority took the same view. Mr. Lafamme's election is, therefore, sustained. In the Charlevoix case the decision—merely affecting the right of appeal—went in favor of the respondent, Mr. Langverin.

It is sometimes stated that the people in the Province of Quebec are considerably behind those in Ontario; but there is one thing in which they are ahead of us. They use Sunday as a day for political speechmaking—the politicians taking advantage of the people's attendance at church to explain their views. This is decidedly economical of time, as it does not interfere with a person's legitimate weekday occupation. But we do not think it would do in this Province. We have still a trace or two of the old-fashioned respect for Sunday left with us.

It has often been asserted that the novel theories relating to religious and philosophical matters which are agitating men's minds, are in a great degree responsible for much of the mental disease which now fills our asylums. The facts clearly point to some such relationship. In the two cases of suicides which within the past few days have occurred in Toronto, the state of ungodly mind which led to the fatal act is traceable to the adoption of such theories resting upon very slight foundation of scientific knowledge. A belief in spiritualism has ruined one career, a belief in "affinities" another. These are two subjects which have baffled the most vigorous intellects, and may well be left to those who have leisure and opportunities to investigate them fully and impartially. If scientific and philosophical problems are left in the hands of professed scientists, men who make it the business of their lives to unravel these mysteries, the truth will prevail just as soon, and the lunatic asylums will run less risk of being over-crowded.

Nassagaweya Teachers' Association.

The teachers of Nassagaweya held the first regular convention of their Association at Brookville, on Saturday, 6th inst. As was anticipated, a large number of teachers from Nassagaweya and other places were present; and the speakers were also well represented in the persons of some of the most respectable, influential, and intelligent people of the township. The Board of Directors presented the programme for the day to the President, and Mr. McPhee was consequently called upon to deliver an address on Book-keeping, which he did, treating his subject in a very scholarly manner. Mr. Black, a practical book-keeper, endorsed and supplemented the remarks of Mr. McPhee, concluding by expressing his approval of the Association and its object. An essay on teaching the Commandments and other religious exercises in school, was read by Miss Bousfield, by special request. The essay was commendable in its arrangement, but very comprehensive in its character, and elicited the well-merited applause of an appreciative audience. The meeting was next addressed by Mr. Cooper on the subject of discipline in school; he held up the ancient pedagogues with a bundle of rules under one arm and a rod of correction under the other, in a very ludicrous aspect. Mr. Cooper introduced a number of ideas on discipline, quite original, which led to a lively discussion, in which the majority of those present expressed themselves. Mr. Day, of Ermaosa, being present, was requested to address the meeting, which he did in a manner both practical and impressive. He showed the advantages to be derived from teaching the higher branches of literature and mathematics in public schools at an earlier stage than that at which they are generally introduced, clearly defining his theories by

practical illustrations. After each address had been given, the subject was considered as properly before the house and open for discussion and commenting on the various subjects introduced, was found to be profitably expended. The Convention adjourned at 6:30 p.m., after a session interesting and instructive to those who took part in it, and which it is hoped will be productive of subsequent advancement of educational interests in Nassagaweya. A feeling of sympathy seems to have been engendered among the teachers of Nassagaweya by these meetings, which must conduce to their mutual advantage in many respects.

University Boat Race.

In the presence of an immense mass of people, the thirty-fifth Inter-University boat race was held on Sunday morning over the usual course on the Thames from Putney to Mortlake. The weather was perhaps the finest during which any of these races has been rowed. Last year's dead heat, and the fact that Oxford was only one race ahead, led to increased interest (if an increase be possible) being taken in this year's contest, and the fact that Saturday's race was rowed at the more reasonable hour of eleven, as compared with half past eight last year, may also help to explain the more crowded appearance of the banks, and the greater number of boats and barges on the river when contrasted with the attendance in 1877. Cambridge won the toss, and paddled over to the Mortlake station amid the loud cheers of their supporters. At 10:16 the umpire gave the signal, and the start was expected. For the first quarter of a mile Cambridge led by a quarter of a boat's length, rowing forty-two strokes per minute to Oxford's fifty strokes. After this point the race was simply no race at all, but merely a procession. At the Creek, Oxford led half a boat's length, increasing her lead with the greatest ease. The race was won by six or eight lengths, and even that great distance could have been increased indefinitely if there had been any occasion for Oxford to exert itself. The time of the Oxford boat was 22 minutes 15 seconds; Cambridge's winning post in 22 minutes 50 seconds.

Pen and Scissors Selects.

Oakville's population 1,843. Brookville has 7,102 inhabitants. Brantford has three cricket clubs. Unionville is to have a driving park. A rowing club has been formed in Cobourg. A felt hat factory is to be started in Newmarket. The Welland Canal will be opened on May 3rd. Messrs. Robertson & Cull will get \$50 per week for watering the streets in Guelph. The judgments against Tweed are said to involve a total of twenty-two million dollars. Osborne, the Dominion Type Foundry manager's misappropriations amount to \$7,000. Thos. Beaman, of Selby, has got his degree of M. D., from Queen's College, Kingston, at the age of 18. The T. G. & B. R. Co., wants Toronto city council to lend it \$150,000 to assist in widening the track. The last trip for the season was made by the North Shore mail car from Little Current on the 29th ult. Gale Brewery has chosen Rev. J. K. Smith, of Galt, as General Sinner to the Presbyterian General Assembly. The Americans at Grand Forks, Minn., are reported to be making great efforts to retain in that State emigrants bound for Manitoba. It is rumored that Mr. James Crossin will remove his car manufactory, which has been located in Cobourg about ten years, to the neighboring town of Port Hope. The Protestant clergy of Montreal, of all denominations, are uniting in a petition to the Orangemen of the city asking them to forego their annual procession on the 13th of July. Three young ventriloquists, pupils of the Seaford Public School, were recently suspended by the teacher and trustees for practicing their art by annoying the teacher and school.

The Blackburn, Lancashire, cotton operatives decided at a mass meeting on Saturday, to hold out against the ten per cent. reduction of wages, and a general strike appeared to be unavoidable.

A young gentleman saved his life by an act of politeness. The steamboat "Magenta," being crowded with passengers, a young man gave his chair to an old gentleman and then went forward. In less than three minutes the boiler blew up and the old gentleman was killed.

The Canada Southern bridge over Kettle Creek is one of the largest wooden structures in Ontario if not in Canada. It is 1,475 feet in length and 95 feet high. On Saturday evening the house of Patrick Mellon, near Guelph, was entered by some young men, and \$310, belonging to his sister, were taken from a trunk. Several arrests have been made. Mrs. Tilton publishes a letter in the New York papers re-affirming a statement made privately a few weeks ago, of the truth of the charge brought against Bocher. The latter repents maintaining his innocence.

Matilda O'Neil, a young woman of St. John, N. B., has been working on Saturday morning, but committed suicide by taking a dose of strychnine. She previously stated to a friend her preference for death to marriage.

About three hundred passengers, known as the Patterson party for Manitoba, left Paris and Wood stock on Monday, for the Prairie Provinces. They are nearly all from the counties of Brant, Oxford, Waterloo, Wellington and Wentworth, and a better or more respectable class of settlers never left any country. They expect to reach their destination on Saturday.

The New York Express says:—The betting on the Hanlan-Plinist race was nearly all on Hanlan, with few takers. Plinist is not a well man; there is a lump as big as an egg in his stomach, which is cancer, the physician who is attending him in his training, states, by eating too heartily. Otherwise, he looks and feels first-class, but when spurring this affection troubles him considerably, and is at times painful.

On Monday, 15th inst., at ten a. m., Margaret Richardson, aged 26 years, daughter of Thos. Richardson, sr., of West Garafraxa, came towards Fergus. On attempting to cross a foot bridge, near New's saw mill, she fell in, and current took her over the dam, and drifted towards St. David's street bridge, where she was taken out of the water at twelve o'clock, noon, by Alex. Moffat, when life was extinct. Her husband held an inquest, when a verdict was returned in accordance with the above facts.

At the Peal Assizes, on Tuesday last, the first case called was that of Mary Backhouse vs. David Johnston. This was an action brought to recover damages for breach of promise to marry. Both parties to the action being of the same name, the case was called in the name of the plaintiff, that the promise had been attended by seduction, a child having been born. Mary Backhouse, the plaintiff, was a widow, and the defendant, a bachelor. The case was argued by Mr. J. H. Doyle for plaintiff and Mr. J. H. Doyle for defendant.

Some boys hunting for fish bait on a meadow at Glen Cove, L. I., a day or two ago, discovered an immense den of snakes. The meadow is perforated with holes over the extent of about an acre, and from each of these holes protruded the heads of three or four of the reptiles, which kept up a lively hissing at the intruders on their domain, while from the tufts of grass numerous other heads were seen. They were of the species known as blacksnakes. The boys killed about twenty, and reported that hundreds snaked into their holes. A grand snake hunt is talked of.

The honeymoon of Lord and Lady Rosebery at Lord Leconfield's beautiful seat of Petworth, in Sussex, was enlivened by an unsuccessful attempt to steal the Countess's magnificent wedding presents. The same process was attempted which succeeded in the case of the Earl of Rosebery's mother, the Duchess of Cleveland at Battle Abbey. The robbers, while dinner was going on, climbed by a ladder into the Countess of Rosebery's dressing-room, but they had their exercise for their pains. The Earl of Rosebery had sent down a heavy iron safe, and the jewel cases had all been quietly locked into it. At Battle Abbey, on the contrary, the Duchess of Cleveland's jewel cases were found exposed on a table and rifled of their contents to the value of many thousand pounds, including a superb necklace given to the Duchess when a young girl by Queen Victoria as one of Her Majesty's bridesmaids.

Erin's Cocoa—GREATLY IMPROVED AND COMFORTING. By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a judicious use of the properties of well selected cocoa, Mr. Erps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavored beverage which may save us many heavy doctor's bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maldies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape them by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame.—Civil Service Gazette. Sold only in packets labeled—JAMES ERPS & CO., Homoeopathic Chemist, 48, Threadneedle Street, and 170, Finsbury, London.

On Fair Day, says the "Hamburg Independent," four gentlemen belonging to this town and its vicinity were placed upon the weigh scales, which it was estimated that their combined weight amounted to 1,142 lbs., or an average of 285 1/2 lbs. each. Their names and individual weights are as follows:—John Ran, 327; John Stauffer, 254; Francis E. Tye, 282; and Engelhart, 249.

ACTON MARKET. Flour, per 100 lbs. \$2 50 to 3 00. Fall Wheat, 1 15 to 1 20. Spring Wheat, 0 75 to 1 00. Sprouted Spring Wheat, 0 50 to 0 60. Barley, 0 30 to 0 34. Oats, 0 15 to 0 15. Butter (fresh rolls), 0 12 to 0 14. Butter (salted rolls), 0 10 to 0 12. Lard (dark), 0 08 to 0 10. Eggs (now laid), 0 05 to 0 05. Potatoes, per bag, 0 60 to 0 65. Potatoes, per bush, 1 00 to 1 25. Hay, per ton, 10 00 to 12 00. Timothy seed, 2 25 to 0 00. Clover seed, 4 25 to 0 00. Dry Goods, as Cheap.

GUELPH MARKET. GUELPH, April 18th, 1878. Flour, per 100 lbs. \$2 50 to 2 70. White Wheat, per bush, 1 15 to 1 22. Treadwell do, 1 15 to 1 20. Spring Wheat, 0 90 to 1 05. Potatoes, per bush, 0 40 to 0 50. Barley, 0 45 to 0 51. Peas, 0 65 to 0 70. Eggs, per ton, 10 00 to 10 00. Eggs, per doz., 0 00 to 0 10. Butter, per lb., 0 15 to 0 15. Potatoes, per bush, 0 40 to 0 50. Hogs, per cwt., 4 00 to 0 00. Clover seed, 4 00 to 0 00. Timothy seed, 1 50 to 2 25.

WEAVING! WEAVING! Weavers in the Wavinglines promptly attended to. Special attention paid to Carpet Weaving. MR. H. McLOUGHLIN, near CHEWSON'S CORNER, 40-41.

ACTON MONTHLY SALE.

The Acton monthly sale will be held at Agnew's Hotel, on Fair Day, Thursday, May 2nd. All kinds of Stock, Implements, &c. will be sold by paying 50 cts a-piece. Sale at 12 o'clock. TERMS.—Ten months' credit on approved joint notes. All entries must be made to Mr. Jas. Ryder, Sec. WM. HEMSTREET, Auctioneer, 25-41.

1878. Weekly Globe.

The success that has attended the publication of THE WEEKLY GLOBE since the establishment of the paper has been such that the publishers have been enabled to offer to the public a new and improved edition of the paper, containing all the news of the world, and a large amount of interesting and valuable matter. The paper is published every week, and is sold at the rate of 10 cents per copy. It is a most valuable and interesting paper, and is well worth the price. The publishers are now offering the paper at a special price of 50 cents per year, in advance. This is a most favorable opportunity to secure a copy of the paper, and it is well worth the price. The publishers are now offering the paper at a special price of 50 cents per year, in advance. This is a most favorable opportunity to secure a copy of the paper, and it is well worth the price.

W. STEWART & CO.

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DYE STUFFS

All Colors. ANALINE DYES All Shades, at W. Stewart & Co., GUELPH, March 12, 1878.

J. E. MCGARVIN'S

DRUG STORE.

James Ryder

Wishes to thank the public for the patronage they have conferred upon him heretofore. As his books and notes were destroyed by fire, he would be thankful if those who hold notes would give him the dates and amounts of them, and also if those whose accounts have been rendered would bring them forward and settle. He would also be glad to be still carrying on business at the old stand, where he will be glad to see his old customers, and as his name is hard, he has had the price to suit them.

Look at these Rates! Lumber Wagon, complete, with spring seat, \$700.00. Demolition Wagon, \$100 to \$110.00. All who require a Wagon or Huggy at these rates call and give your orders at once. Material and Workmanship Guaranteed. Jobbing as follows: HORSE-SHOING A SPECIALTY. New Shoes, 25c. Setting Shoes, 10c. Putting Hooves, \$2.00 for saw shoes. Laying Hooves, 1.00 for setting shoes. Couplers, 25c. to 50c. All other Jobbing in proportion.

These prices are for Cash only. All work charged the old rates. Further particulars next week. Yours truly, JAMES RYDER, 41-3m.

LOOK!

T. Stewart & Co.

Having purchased the Tinsmith business from Mr. Robert Fisher, would respectfully solicit the continuance of the patronage heretofore extended to him, together with as much more as the public of Acton and vicinity shall be pleased to extend. All work entrusted to our Mr. Stewart will receive prompt and careful attention. Our Stock is now well assorted and shall be enlarged as soon as possible. TRY US, and be convinced that this is the place to get the best value for your money. Stand—Next door to the Methodist Church. 41-3m T. STEWART & CO.

NEW

SPRING GOODS

THE GOLDEN LION

GUELPH, Ahead as usual.

SPECIAL LOTS AND PRICES

W. STEWART & CO.

Invite attention and inspection to special lot of 5,000 YARDS OF NEW AND FASHIONABLE DRESS GOODS Purchased at a Discount of 33 per cent. The lot was detained in transit by cable hence the large sacrifice. These goods are cheaper than have been offered for a year, and could not be replaced. NO FAMILY SHOULD BUY THEIR WINTER DRY GOODS before they see our immense stock of New and Fashionable Goods.

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THE POST OFFICE

Cash Store

ACTON.

JAMES MATTHEWS.

Acton, Feb. 14, 1878.

GRENADINES

Among the numerous important arrivals which have lately come to hand, we would ask special attention to Fifty Pieces Choice New Black Grenadines in all the new and favorite makes for the season. CHEAP.

1 Case Handsome

"Bourette" Dress Goods,

at present commanding an immense sale in New York, and other cities of fashion. These we shall sell AT TWENTY-FIVE CENTS PER YARD, and every lady should see them.

One Case Lovely White Goods,

including Piques, Marseilles, Brillantes, Lawns, Centennial Stripes, Swiss Checks, etc., ranging from 10 cents per yard and upwards. For a choice variety of New and Fashionable Goods, ladies should come direct to the Fashionable West End, Guelph.

A. O. BUCHAM.

Fashionable West End Dress, Millinery and Mantle (Fashions) Dress, Guelph, April 18, 1878.

TRY US,

and be convinced that this is the place to get the best value for your money.

NEW

SPRING GOODS

THE GOLDEN LION

GUELPH, Ahead as usual.