

THE FREE PRESS.

Acton, Wednesday, Dec. 16, 1880.

The Scott Act.

Relative to the working of the Canada Temperance Act or Scott Act in New Brunswick, Mr. George Tolpuke sends us the following item, clipped from the Moncton Times. We append a letter received by Mr. D. B. Christie, of Hamilton, from Mr. J. M. L. Marshall, police magistrate, in Fredericton, N. B., referring to the working of the Act in that city.

The Moncton Times says:— "We have information from several sources that there is no difficulty in obtaining liquor at half a score of places within a stone's throw of Sussex station, and that, at all events, liquor is drunk quite as freely there as before the Scott Act came in force. The Act does not appear to be working very well at Fredericton, either, at the present time, though it was rightly enforced at the commencement."

Mr. Marshall's letter says:—

As Police Magistrate of the city of Fredericton I have much pleasure in being able to certify to the favorable results of the Canada Temperance Act since it came into operation in this city on the 1st of May, 1879, and more especially since the Act was declared by the Supreme Court of the Dominion to be within the constitutional powers of Parliament. There is no such thing now as the open sale of liquor by retail in public houses or saloons: There is of course an occasional case of illegal sale discovered and punished—The cases of street drunkenness are very few indeed, and the fact that the police officers arising out of intemperance has been reduced by at least one-half. I feel safe in saying that in this city the working of the Act has been such as to satisfy the reasonable expectations of all friends of temperance."

We leave the people to judge for themselves.

Nasauwauya News.

From our own correspondent.

The cattle fed for the Christmas markets were taken to Guelph, Tuesday.

An open entertainment will be given by Prospect Division, S. of T., in a few weeks.

The revival meetings held at McEtt have been concluded. They resulted in much good.

An examination of the pupils of S.S. No. 7, (Mr. James Bayly, teacher) will be held on Thursday, 23rd inst.

Stewarttown News.

From our own correspondent.

The school teachers here have been re-engaged for another year.

The scarlet fever is in town. There are several cases of it at present.

Mr. Lawson, lumber and slingle manufacturer, has commenced to team saw logs to his mill here. He intends putting in a large stock this winter.

Mr. Murray has given up store keeping here. Mr. Curry, of Norval, who has moved to town during the past week, intends to carry on the business.

Mr. D. Cross is driving a big business here, he has just put a new steam engine in his tannery, and there is a great demand for hides, wood and bark.

A young man living not a thousand miles from here, got too much whiskey inside of him one day last week and fell against the side of a sofa, breaking his nose.

While feeding a threshing machine on the farm of Mr. William Thompson on Wednesday last, Mr. D. Marlett, of this village, received a very severe cut on the back of his hand by the knife of the hand cutter. It will be some time before he will be able to resume work.

The Village Recveship.

To the Editor of the Free Press.

DEAR SIR—I see by your last issue that my name is mentioned with several others as likely to be nominated for Reers of this municipality for the ensuing year. Permit me to state to the electors, through your columns, that I am not in the field as a candidate for municipal honors this year. In the first place, I do not believe in dual representation, and it would complicate matters if I were elected to fill the office of Village Reers, as I am at present chairman of the School Board, and secondly, I think there is not such a scarcity of fit men in our village that any one is required to take a double share of honor, and lastly, my health at present is such as would prohibit me from accepting the nomination.

Thanking you for the use of your valuable space, I remain,

Yours truly,  
JOHN SPRENT.

Acton, Dec. 14, 1880.

1500 Christmas and New Year's Cards to select

"Messenger" vs. Scott Act.

To the Editor of the Free Press.

Our friend of the Acton Messenger would have his readers believe that he is deeply exercised over the "Scott Act." But judging from the article in the December issue of his paper his trouble seems to be not so much with the "Act," as how to keep in favor with the hotel keepers, whose champion he poses himself, and also to appear friendly to the principles advocated by the supporters of the "Act." He says he don't favor drunkenness or drinking strong liquors of any sort, but he cannot support the "Scott Act," because it provides that the premises of parties charged with selling liquor privately or publicly may be searched: That is, he cannot support the law because it contains the necessary provisions to make it effective to the checking of that drinking and drunkenness which he don't favor. Perhaps he has some personal reasons for this objection, but the right of search into the premises of parties charged with concealed breach of law, has always been considered by legislators a necessity for the detection of crime, and for the protection of life and property, and no good reason can be advanced why this Act should be made an exception, for without such a provision, law, to a great extent, would be a dead letter. But he don't seem to be very clear as to whether his objection may arise, not so much from any fault in the law, as from some national constitutional characteristic of his own. He thinks he may be too much English to submit to such a law. We think it may rather be a certain grade of Americanism which may be illustrated by the case of the person who, when charged with the crime of assault and battery, put in a plea of justification. "Ain't I an American, and hasn't an American a right to do as his please?" At any rate he should have this point settled, as it is of vital importance to a correct view of his case.

He don't like to hear men called bad names, such as thieves, robbers, murderers. Neither do we. But the objectionable Scott Act don't make use of such names, what does he mean by the statement? We support the "Scott Act" because it aims at the suppression of that ruinous traffic which is a fruitful source of the crimes indicated by such names.

We do not propose to enter into the question whether there be any good men engaged in the sale of liquors, (it is of too personal a nature) further than to say that it is exceedingly difficult to dissociate our views of the morals of a person from the moral character of the business he is engaged in. A tree is known only by its fruit. He says he cannot be a party to deprive men of their property without compensation; it is not just. This looks plausible, but he overlooks the fact that so long as we allow intoxicating liquors to be legally sold, we are parties to a traffic that is the cause of depriving thousands not only of their property, but of their character and their lives. Who is to compensate for their loss? But this Act don't deprive anyone of their property. It simply deprives men of a privilege granted from year to year of selling intoxicating liquors, a privilege of which many even in Halton have already been deprived by law, and to some of these the loss was great gain.

But all at once our friend turns his face to the prohibitionists. An idea, new to him, comes up. "Stop the manufacture of it entirely, or make a law for the whole province, and make such a law as will be just to all men." These ideas appear to be new to him, but they are standing principles with the advocates of the "Scott Act." To stop the manufacture is the ultimate object of the advocates of temperance, but the Scott Act is the present stage in the process, and if he and those with him who join in the same cry are sincere, they will all with one accord give their voice and vote for the Act. But he wants a law that will be just to all men. That is exactly what we are working for, under the existing law a privilege of carrying on a ruinous trade is granted to about four in a thousand, of our population, and denied to all the rest. We claim this state of things to be very unjust, and therefore we support the Scott Act, as in this respect it puts all men on a common level, granting special privileges to none. We therefore, on the ground of justice to all men, claim the support of all good men for the Scott Act.

Next he fully admits that strong drink is injurious, very injurious, but something better than the Scott Act can, and must be devised, to stop drunkenness. So say we. But to that end we must support the Act, as that better thing can only be obtained by progressive steps. He admits the Act will make it a little more inconvenient to procure liquor. Yes, and it will make it a little inconvenient to those

from whom it is procured, it carried out. Again he says, "When you close the hotels you close free abets, rooms and pumps." But the Act don't propose to close the hotels. It simply proposes to stop the sale in them of that which is the abject cause of sending multitudes to hell. For drunkards are of that class that shall not inherit the Kingdom of God. If we have free abets, rooms, pumps, etc., at the expense of the trade over the bar, our natural consciences would say close them up at once, the convenience is too dearly paid for. But why not charge for the convenience itself and make those who are accommodated pay the bill, instead of the poor infatuated creatures paying double at the bar for the drink that ruins many of them. Wouldn't it be more just? Our friend carries another assumption, and would have a law against Tobacco, Fire arms, etc., but says, "You can't make men moral by law." Oh, consistency! Verily a double-minded man is unstable in all his sayings, as well as in all his ways.

Being pardon for using so much of your space,

I am, Mr. Editor, yours very truly,

OSWENVER.

Esqueving, Dec. 14th, 1880.

Municipal Councillors.

To the Editor of the Free Press.

DEAR SIR.—Not having been behind the scenes, I may not fully realize the ability required to acquit one's self creditably as a municipal councillor, but it appears to me that a good share of common sense and conscientiousness is about enough to qualify any man whose name appears on the assessment roll to take a seat at the council board. I never could learn that the office was a very profitable one, hence, as I take it, the honor of managing other people's affairs is what is most desired by those who seek this distinction; especially as we find those who have once tasted its sweets like very ill to be again left in the cold. It seems to me, therefore, that as honor is the chief aim of aspirants for municipal offices, it is desirable to divide it as much as possible among those who are anxious to enjoy it. I grant that in this, as in every thing else, experience is of great value, but the whole board need not be changed at once. The proper thing for the cleverest and most efficient public officer to do is to endeavor to bring some other deserving aspirant forward to supply his place. That indeed, would be his greatest, and it need not be his last honor.

I am yours respectfully,  
JOHN NEWTON.

Limehouse, D. C. 6th, 1880.

Notices Worth Attention.

—Best value in Skates at A. Secord & Co's.

—Hats from 75 cents to \$2.50 at J. Fyfe's.

—Second hand Stoves from \$1.00 up at J. C. Hill's tin shop.

—Acme Skates, \$2.25 at A. Secord & Co's.

—A good stock of Cooking Stoves at J. C. Hill's—the place to go.

—Don't fail to try A. Secord & Co's new stock of Teas.

—Fresh Bulk Oysters at the Excel sior Bakery.

—Hardware of all kinds at A. Secord & Co's.

—LADIES' mantles—newest styles at Christie, Henderson & Co.

—Highest price paid for fowls of all kinds at A. Secord & Co's.

—A good Felt Hat for 75 cents at J. Fyfe's.

—Any quantity of Butter and Eggs wanted at A. Secord & Co's.

—Oysters by the Can or Quart at the Excel sior Bakery.

—See the new Glass Ball Castor at A. Secord & Co's.

—If you want a nobby, durable and cheap suit, J. Fyfe's is the place to go.

—Nice clean and fresh Baisins and Currants at A. Secord & Co's.

—Suits and Overcoats at extremely low rates and made in latest styles. Be sure to call and see them. J. Fyfe, Acton.

—Royal Base Burner Coal Stove, the best in the market, at J. C. Hill's tin shop.

—For pure and fresh Groceries, suitable for Christmas cooking, go to A. Secord & Co's—all new goods.

—Scotch, English and Canadian Sallings in great variety, at the East End Clothing store, J. Fyfe, Acton.

—J. C. Hill has just received a splendid lot of Granite Ware at his tin shop.

—For the very best quality, new season Teas, at 40 cents, 50 cents, 60 cents, and 75 cents, go to A. Secord & Co's.

—McQuillen & Hamilton, of the Wellington Marble Works, Guelph, are noted for giving satisfaction to those favoring them with their orders. If you need anything in their line be sure and remember them. They do a very large business, consequently they are able to give better terms, and keep better workmen than smaller works. Send to them for particulars.

—New Prunes, —warranted this season's fruit— at A. Secord & Co's.

—Best value in the county in granulated, cut loaf, long, coffee, and baking Sugars, at A. Secord & Co's.

CHRISTMAS GROCERIES

T. H. HARDING

—HAS JUST OPENED A FRESH STOCK OF—

GROCERIES,

CONFECTIONERY, & C

SUITABLE FOR CHRISTMAS.

3 Bars of Walker Soap for 45c. 3 Cans Mustard for 25c.

60c Tea selling for 50c. 3 pounds Currants for 25c.

75c Tea selling for 65c. 11 pounds Light Sugar for \$1.00.

40c Tea selling for 35c. Etc., etc., etc.

Our Goods will give all customers Satisfaction.

T. H. HARDING.

P.S.—Christmas Candies just to hand, cheap.

Santa Claus' Headquarters.

J. E. MCGARVIN, DRUGGIST, ACTON.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND A BRIGHT NEW YEAR

Boys and Girls, Ladies and Gentlemen

ONE AND ALL.

TAKE NOTICE—

That owing to J. E. McGarvin, Druggist, Acton, having the largest and most varied stock of Christmas and New Year's Goods in this part of the country, suitable for all classes of people—old and young—rich and poor, I have appointed his store to be my headquarters, henceforth, where I intend keeping all my presents.

Don't forget the place. Call and see my stock and choose what you would like.

I am your old friend

SANTA CLAUS.

Clouland, Dec. 1st, 1880.

Stoves! Stoves!

STOVES.

Do not fail to see

HAVILL'S STOCK OF STOVES.

The Cheapest and Best Variety in Town.

FASHIONABLE TAILORING.

The subscriber wishes to announce to the people of Acton and vicinity that he has opened out in the premises lately occupied by L. G. Matthews, next to the post-office, a complete assortment of Cloths and Drapes, suitable for the Fall and Winter Trade, and is prepared to make them up in the latest styles, and offers good inducements to cash customers.

MY STOCK CONSISTS OF

BLACK AND COLORED BEAVERS, DIAGONALS, COATINGS AND VESTINGS, ENGLISH, IRISH, SCOTCH and CANADIAN TWEEDS, which have been bought in the best markets for cash.

An Early Call is Solicited.

Satisfaction Guaranteed.

R. E. NELSON.

NEW GOODS. NEW GOODS.

R. HASLETT HAS JUST RECEIVED A LARGE STOCK OF

NEW FALL GOODS.

—COMPRISING—

French Merinos, Cashmeres, Lustras, Colored and Plain Winceys, Gents' Underclothing, Ladies' Undervests, Berlin and Fingering Wools, Colored Stocking Goods, and

FANCY GOODS.

All of which he will sell cheap for cash or trade.

R. HASLETT.

from, at J. E. McGarvin's Drug Store, Acton. Fine Assortment

KING OF THE DRY GOODS.



LADIES, PLEASE READ.

Startling Hit in the

Dress Goods Trade.

Great Purchase in FINE DRESS GOODS

In Bond, in New York.

To Be Sold at a Little Over Half their Regular Price.

We have just concluded an immense purchase of what is beyond doubt the largest, finest and most fashionable line of Dress Goods ever offered by the dry goods trade of Guelph. The lot comprises all the leading and fashionable shades in

MOMIE CLOTHS,

Cashmeres and Oriental Broche Silks.

To match each and every shade of the goods, and commencing on WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10th, we shall offer the whole lot at a tremendous reduction on the actual cost of importation. The goods are of a very fine all wool texture, 44 inches wide, and sold regularly at \$1 per yard, and we are enabled to offer the whole lot at 75 cents per yard. A like opportunity to buy really elegant dress goods at the price of an inferior material may not occur again. We invite the ladies to suit themselves of this grand offer.

It may interest our lady friends to know how we are enabled to sell these goods at such a low price. Well, the facts are these—They are imported by a leading Chicago house for their finest trade. Through stress of circumstances they were compelled to "unload" before taking them out of bond. They were offered for sale, and in connection with a large Toronto firm, we bought the whole lot. Our Toronto friends are selling them freely at 80 cents per yard, but as the quantity which we were compelled to take is much larger than our ordinary trade demands, we have decided to create a grand sensation by offering them at 75 cents—FIFTY-EIGHT AND ONE-HALF CENTS per yard.

We have also made special reductions in our regular goods and on Wednesday, November 10th, we shall make the greatest offering of Dress Goods ever attempted in Guelph.

The Lion has the Goods,

The Lion Gives the Bargains,

The Lion Does the Trade.

J. D. Williamson & Co., Guelph

SPLENDID ULSTER OVERCOATS

MADE TO ORDER FOR

(\$9)

EXCELLENT LINES OF BEAVER, DIAGONAL AND TWEED OVERCOATINGS,

And a Stock of Hats and Caps, and Gents' Underwear, never passed in the trade.

CALL at the EAST END CLOTHING STORE

J. FYFE'S.

A CROWDED STORE.

—THE—

FASHIONABLE WEST END

—DOING THE TRADE—

DRESS DEPARTMENT RUSHING

Our Kilournan Tweeds, Our Harris Tweeds, Our Eldore Tweeds, Our Camels Hair Tweeds, Our Scotch Suitings, Our Wool Sewing

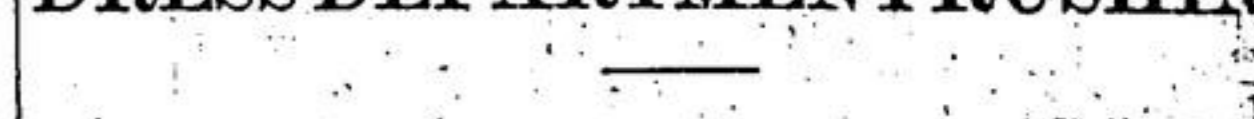
are Magnificent, and attract daily immense crowds to our Dress Department. If you look to us with confidence for the right materials, The Fashionable West End is to lay before its customers the very latest productions of British and Foreign Weavers.

A. O. BUCHAN,

Fashionable West End Dress, Mantle and Millinery Establishment, Guelph.

BRILLIANT SUCCESS

Silver Medal



Two Years Awards—Nine First Prizes.

SILVER MEDAL and DIPLOMA on Upholstered Goods and Carpets.

We were awarded the only Silver Medal ever offered for special excellence in Upholstery.

In this department we take the lead and challenge competition. Orders receive prompt attention. Inspection cordially invited.

WORSFOD & CO.

Sign of the Chair, Hasleton's Block, Upper Wyndham St. Guelph.