THE FREE PRESS.

THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 22, 1881.

CHRISTMAS.

On this, the eve of the seventh Christmas in the history of the FREE PRESS, we desire to wish all our readers many happy returns of the festive season, and hope the new year will bring to us all, new hopes and new aspirations for the welfare of our country. We have good reason to be thankful to a kind Providence for all the mercies vouchsafed during the year that will so soon close; in a plentiful harvest, in commercial prosperity, in the general healthfulness of the people, and above all, for the blessing of peace. We could wish that the Angel's chorus could be sung around the whole earth at this grand Christmas festival, and that we could write that we have "Peace on Earth."

How delightful is the recurrence of this event in which all hearts seem gladdened! Whose heart does not warm as the thoughts are turned towards Christmas, the day of all the year, when absent ones will gather around the old family hearth! Or the new home giving its first welcome to the friends whom nature and affection have rendered dear. The pleasure of these reunions is almost without alloy. the heart is too glad to be meanly selfish, the vein of sadness that creeps in as the vacant chairs are noticed, and the familiar voice and merry laugh of dear ones are missed, purifies the thoughts, and enriches the soul in the belief that the missing ones are enjoying a rest and a delight of which the earthly festival is but a faint symbol.

Of all the countries in the world which should celebrate Christmas Day with enthusiasm, it is this Canada of ours. One would almost think either that Christmas was instituted for Canada, or that Canada was made for Christmas. Is it possible to conceive a proper orthodox twenty-fifth day of December without snow on the ground; this rushing hither and thither of innumerable sleighs; the merry jingle of sleigh bells in the clear, crisp, cold air of Christmas; the skating and hearty merriment of the boys and girls; the sliding; the coasting, and the combination of out door amusements which go to make up a real Christmas Day! It is true that such days there have been, but they are scarcely remembered as Christmas; they are like unpleasant dreams; and, at all events, people kept in their houses all day, and made up, as well as possible by inside happiness for out door sport and pastime. What! A Christmas without sleighing! Absurd.

While we all sit at hearths surrounded with more or less comfort, let us not forget that that surrounding comes as a free gift from the Father of the poor; and let us, therefore, not forget that the memories of this blessed season receive no proper interpretation, save in that overflowing of charity and tenderness which arises from the feeling that all mankind are kin. Trusting earnestly that our subscribers will put on that true Christmas spirit, that they will each play the part of a "Santa Claus" in heartiness and jollity to those of their households, that they may live good lives at the head of loving homes, for many a year to come, we wish them once more from the bottom of our heart,

A MERRY CHRISTMAS.

THE TRUSTEE ELECTION.

Next Wednesday a meeting will be held in this village for the purpose of electing three persons as trustees for Acton School Division. Many of our readers will no doubt wonder how it is that three persons are to be elected this year, when on former years but two were required to be elected. This is accounted for by the fact that at the close of the present year the rural portion of the Division will be separated from this Division and be formed into an independent school section. This will cause the retirement of the rural representatives at present members of the board, and as the school boards of incorporated villages are required to have six members, three persons will consequently be elected.

Owing to the separation of the rural portion from the Division, a large amount of important business will come before the village board during the coming year, and the electors will serve their own interests by electing effective all competent men to the vacant places.

The object of the rural people in favor the separation of the rural portion from the Division is no doubt calculated to lessen their taxes and to give a feeling of greater independence, but in our humble opinion the desired result will not take place, and we believe that before many years have passed they will will themselves reunited with Acton School Division. However, since the action necessary for separation has been taken, we wish the movement success and trust that the ratepayers will not meet with any greater troubles than they have heretofore experienced.

Acton Village Council

Council met on Tuesday evening. Members all present. Reeve in the chair.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

The Finance Committee presented their eighteenth report, recommending that the following account be paid:—

F. Barclay, searching abstract of title, part lot 37, block 3, Acton, $1.35

Moved by D. Henderson, seconded by E. Nicklin, that the Finance Report be adopted. Carried.

A communication was received from Mr. R. Little, asking the council to report to him all claims against Acton School Division.

Moved by D. Henderson, seconded by D. W. Campbell, that the reeve, mover and seconder be a committee to prepare a statement of the claims of this Corporation against the Acton School Division, as required by the P. S. Inspector. Carried.

Moved by D. W. Campbell, seconded by M. Speight, that this council adjourn to meet on Tuesday evening, 27th inst., for examining plans and other business. Carried.

WELCOME CHRISTMAS.

SANTA CLAUS AGAIN IN THE FIELD.

WHERE TO BUY CHRISMTAS BOXES, NEW YEARS' GIFTS AND HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

Christmas, with all its attendant train of festivities and social gatherings is upon us, and as this is the time to select Curistmas presents and New Year's gifts, it affords us much pleasure to draw the attention of our readers to the advertisements in this issue. Our citizens never had so good an opportunity before for selecting Christmas goods.

MR. GEO. HYNDS

shows a fine assortment of watches and jewellery particularly suited for holiday presents, also a very large stock of Christmas goods of all kinds.

MR. J. E. MCGARVIN

has a splendid display of Christmas cards, toys, books, vases, motto cups, in fact an unlimited stock of fancy articles.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, HENDERSON & CO.

are prepared to furnish articles of every description to decorate the outer person.

MESSRS. HUGHES & GRIFFIN

have a rare assortment of goods in wool, silk, etc., which would look very pretty on a Christmas tree and please the parties receiving them.

MR. B. HASLETT

announces that he has a special lot of Christmas novelties in ladies' and gentlemen's silk handkerchiefs, laces, fancy wools and Christmas goods.

MR. J. B. PEARSON

has a splendid lot of skates, cutlery of all kinds, toy chests of tools, china and glassware, and a splendid stock of Christmas groceries.

MR. W. P. BROWN

will show you a nice lot of moustache and motto cups, mugs for children and an assortment of china and glassware. He claims that his Christmas groceries are fresh and cheap.

MR. A. W. GREEN

has a complete stock of Christmas groceries and provisions, as well as full lines of china and glassware.

MR. C. W. HILL,

our photo artist, has a beautiful assortment of picture frames which are admirably adapted for Christmas presents.

MESSRS. E. NICKLIN & SON'S

stock of Christmas confectionery, cakes, his cuits is unlimited. They also show a good stock of canned goods, oysters, etc;

MR JAMES GOODALL

offers a fine stock of opera and carpet slippers of all kinds, and

MESSRS. KENNEY & SON

also have a splendid assortment of carpet and leather slippers.

Our butcher stalls are supplied with the choicest meats and fowls in great variety, and there is no reason why all may not be satisfied.

The above named merchants will all take pleasure in welcoming you to their shops, and each one will wish you a

MERRY, MERRY CHRISTMAS.

DISTRICT DOINGS.

A batch of interesting items gathered from correspondents and exchanges, and written up in palatable form for the benefit of our readers.

—Messrs. J. R. Barber and W. McLeod are in the field for the reeveship of Georgetown.

—The Guelph daily *Mercury* has been issuing supplements every day for two weeks. Prosperous.

—The Annual Christmas fair and live stock show, under the auspices of the Guelph Fat Stock Club, which was held on Thursday, was a pronounced success in every respect.

—On Thursday last 81 cars containing 620 cattle, which, at an average of $65 each, netted over $40,000 in cash, which had changed hands at the Christmas cattle fair, were shipped over the G. T. R. at Guelph.

—The festival given in Crewson's Corners, by the friends of the C. M. Church, last Friday evening, was largely attended. The programme was very good, and all dressed seemed to enjoy the entertainment. Proceeds about $40.

—The G. T. R. authorities have announced a reduction in fares for the holiday season. On the 24th and three days following, return tickets will be issued, good till the 27th, at one-fair and a third. On the 31st and two following days, tickets will be issued at the same rate good till the 3rd of January.

THE CRADLE.

SIMPSON.—In Guelph, on the 6th inst., the wife of Robt. T. Simpson, printer, of a daughter.

THE ALTAR.

STRIVER—POLLARD.—In St. Alban's church, Acton, Wednesday, 21st inst., at 6 p. m., by Rev. W. J. Pigott, Mr. M. Simpson, of Toronto, to Mrs. Harriet Ann Pollard, of this village.

THE GRAVE.

MATTHEWS.—In Acton, on the 21st inst., Frederick Leslie, infant son of Mr. James Matthews, Postmaster, aged two years.

MASALAK.—In Acton, on the 16th inst, Robert, grandson of Mr. Christopher Masalak, aged 5 years and 3 months.

—WINCEYS—Competent judges pronounce our 12½c. Wincey extraordinary value. Examine it, compare it, and you will be sure to buy it. Winceys from 5c. up, at Christie, Henderson & Co's.

MANTLES.—Christie, Henderson & Co's. stock of ladies' light and dark mantles, just received. These goods are from the best makers, and comprise a full range of prices. They will be sold cheap.

CHRISTIE, Henderson & Co. beg to apologize for their lack of advertisements during the past few weeks. The fact is the boom is so great they have no time to write advertisements. Business is rushing at the Glasgow House. The cheapest goods always draws the biggest crowd.

FANCY WOOL GOODS.—Christie, Henderson & Co. have received and will open in a few days an immense stock of all kinds of Fancy Wool Goods, comprising Knit Shawls, Clouds, etc., etc., all of the latest designs and shades. These goods are extremely handsome and will be sold at very closest prices.

40 OCEAN SHELLS, &c., Cards, name on, 10c. Agent's outfit 25c. Geo. H. Hunt, Jersey City, N.Y., U.S.A.

LOOK Here! If you want 100 new & popular Songs, send a 10c. stamp to WM. J. PLATTS, Nassagaweya, Halton, Ont. Mention this paper.

SETTLE YOUR ACCOUNTS.

The undersigned will be at Agnew's hotel, Acton, every Tuesday, to settle accounts.

DR. R. MORROW.

Guelph, Nov. 1st, 1881.

TENDERS WANTED.

The undersigned will receive tenders up to the 24th inst., for thirty cords of Wood, Beech and Maple, to be two feet long and cut from green standing timber. Must be delivered and piled in the shed at Acton Public School before the 1st March.

H. P. MOORE,
Acton, Dec. 7, '81. Sec. Board of Trustees.

H. L. THURSTON,

Prof. of the Organ and Vocal Music,

Will be at Bennett's Hotel, Acton, every Monday, Tuesday Thursday and Friday.

Four more pupils can be taken for instruction.

Address, Box 53, Acton P.O.

TIMBER OF ALL KINDS WANTED.

The undersigned desire to hereby inform the farmers and others in this vicinity who own timber, that they are prepared to purchase a large quantity of all kinds of timber. About 400,000 feet of Hemlock is wanted. An advance in price will be paid for green Hemlock, unpeeled.

As this is the last year that the mill will be in operation in Acton, all having timber they wish to sell or cut will do well to bring it in this season.

BROWN & HALL.

Acton, Dec 19, 1881.

"Medical Hall."

DR. M. FORSTER,
PROPRIETOR.

Full lines of all kinds of

PATENT MEDICINE,
PERFUMERY,
COAPS,
HAIR BRUSHES,
DYES,
TRUSSES,
SPONGES, ETC.

—EVERYTHING IN THE—

DRUG LINE

KEPT CONSTANTLY ON HAND.

M. FORSTER.

Acton, Dec. 22, 1881.

Christmas Presents.

My stock is now complete in

GOLD AND SILVER
Watches, Clocks, Electro Plate,
—AND—
Gold and Silver Jewellery for Xmas.

B. SAVAGE,
GUELPH.

A. W. GREEN

Desires to hereby apologise to his many customers for not inserting a Christmas advertisement, but his time has been so much occupied of late that it has been impossible.

He wishes to thank all for their kind patronage and at the same time would remind them that his stock of Christmas Groceries is very complete.

Christie,
Henderson
& Co.,

ACTON, ONTARIO.

This week and through the Holiday Season our stock of

GENERAL DRY GOODS,
MILLINERY,
BOOTS & SHOES, ETC., ETC.,

Will be found Complete, Fresh, Choice and Cheap.

Our regular weekly purchases from Leading Dry Goods and Millinery houses enables us to show the Latest, Newest and Neatest Designs, just what is wanted at this season.

In Staple Goods of all kinds our object is to place before our customers the best makes at *Prices as Low as are asked for old and undesirable brands.*

OUR IMMENSE STOCK OF

BOOTS & SHOES

Enables us to fit and suit everyone, besides, our goods being made up by reliable manufacturers, can always be depended on to give good satisfaction, as can be testified by thousands who have worn our Boots for two or three seasons. This together with our low prices accounts for our immense sales.

WOMEN'S BUTTON AND LACE SHOES FROM $1.00 UP.

MEN'S STOGA BOOTS FROM $1.50 UP.

MISSES, WOMEN'S, AND MEN'S OVERSHOES FROM 25c. UP.

Our Felt Boots and Half Boots are the Cheapest Offered.

Overcoats,
Shirts & Drawers,
Mitts and Socks,
Tweeds & Scarfs,

ALL NEW AND CHEAP.

In Gents Collars and Fancy and Fashionable Ties We show full lines.

LADIES KNIT SHAWLS, CLOUDS, FUR, AND FANCY GOODS, OF ALL KINDS,

HAVE BEEN SELECTED WITH CARE AND ECONOMY.

OUR MILLINERY TRADE THIS SEASON

Quite surpasses former years, being more than double that of last year. Our efforts have been to please, and we accept this as satisfactory evidence.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas,

WE REMAIN,

CHRISTIE, HENDERSON & CO.

J. B. PEARSON.

HEADQUARTERS
FOR XMAS GOODS.

SANTA CLAUS HAS ARRIVED AT THE POST OFFICE STORE, ACTON,

WITH THE LARGEST STOCK OF FRUITS, ETC., EVER BEFORE EXHIBITED IN THE VILLAGE, CONSISTING OF

RAISINS

Valencias, Loose Muscatels,
Sultanas, (seeless), London Layers,
Black Baskets.

CURRANTS

IN BARRELS & CASE.

NUTS

Almonds, Filberts,
English Walnuts, Brazils.

Oranges, Orange Peel,
Lemons, Lemon Peel,
Figs, Citron Peel,
Dates, Mace,
Oysters, Canned Goods
Fish, Candies, &c.
Novelties,

all of which we are prepared to exchange for cash at

ROCK BOTTOM PRICES.

Wishing You all the Compliments of the Season,
I remain, &c.,

J. B. PEARSON.

XMAS & SANTA CLAUS.

W. P. BROWN

Has Just Opened a Magnificent Lot of

CHRISTMAS GOODS,

—COMPRISING—

Glassware, in every tasteful shape and form.

China, in fancy and useful articles, in Motto Cups, Moustache Cups, Children's Mugs, Tea Sets, and Dinner Setts, suitable for either the little child of four or five years, the newly-wedded and happy beginners in life, or the old folks of seventy.

A Nice Assortment of most lovely Vases of every description, and just the thing for Christmas Presents.

Christmas Groceries.

A line of Goods for Christmas Cookery, which for quality & price Cannot be beaten in town.

MY 50 CENT TEA

Still takes the lead, and it's sales are beyond my most sanguine expectations.

FANCY GOODS.

Mrs. Brown has opened a nice assortment of Fancy Goods, in Berlin Wools, Fingering and Zephyr Yarns, Laces, Embroideries, Braids, and Croquet Braids, and all goods generally kept in a Fancy Shop.

Children's Fancy Woollen Garments knit to order.

Wishing you the Compliments of the Season,
I am, yours, &c.,

W. P. BROWN.

J. E. McGarvin's Drug Store for Purses, Albums, Writing Paper, [illegible]