

THE FREE PRESS.

TUESDAY MORNING, Dec. 22, 1881.

Ladies, you ought to call soon and see how we work. I have the most complete selection and value very cheap.
Toys, Dolls, Yarn, Buttons,
Call in soon and make your purchases
Geo. Hynd's Jewellery & Fancy Goods
Store, Acton, Ont.

BITS OF BREVITY.

Local and otherwise, prepared by the use of the pen and scissor for readers of the Free Press.

- New Year—1882.
- No sleighing yet.
- Our last issue this year.
- Rain, and mild weather.
- Don't forget to write 1882.
- Municipal elections of Monday.
- The public schools reopen on Tuesday.
- Mr. Abram Matthews, tax collector, is very ill.
- There were no sleds on the Christmas tree this year.
- Last meeting of the old council next Tuesday evening.

- Christmas, 1881, has passed, Mother Shipton notwithstanding.
- We have a number of election cards of a new character in this issue.
- Mr. H. Marlett, butcher, is laid up with a felon on his left hand.
- The present Board of Education will hold its last meeting next Monday.
- We wish you all a Happy New Year, and we trust the year will continue happy throughout.

- We are glad to be able to announce that Mr. J. E. McGarvin, village clerk, is gradually recovering health.

- Those of our merchants who did such a rushing business on Friday and Saturday can tell us how it pays to advertise.

- Santa Claus, who generally interferes so much with the peace of childish minds, has made another visit and again departed.

- We are informed that the wife of Rev. James Coutts, of Georgetown, died very suddenly yesterday morning, of heart disease.

- Mr. Donald McKinnon and wife bade farewell to Georgetown on Tuesday last, and started for San Francisco, California — Herald.

- Mr. T. Wardley, an employee of Mr. James Matthews, met with a severe accident on Monday, by falling through the hay mow. His side was severely injured.

- There has been a large number of visitors to town this week, spending a day or so with their friends during the holidays. Nearly every case has proved fatal, although medical skill has tried every available remedy. Yesterday an operation was performed on the throat of a child of Mr. W. Williams by Drs. Lowry and Forster, a tube being inserted in the windpipe, which promises to be a successful experiment.

VILLAGE VARIETIES.

A collection of local news and other matters of special interest to our Village Readers.

CHRISTMAS STORE.—Mr. Chas. Knepp, of the Cordovan tannery, treated his employees to an excellent supper on Christmas Eve.

REAL ESTATE.—Mr. D. Whirlam, of Nassagawaya, has purchased 200 acres of the estate of the late Alex. Stewart, of Esquinton.

OPEN WINTER.—The question whether winter is unfavorable to health, whether "a green Christmas makes a fat chrysalis," is now being discussed.

CHRISTMAS TURKEY.—On Saturday last Messrs. W. H. Storey & Son, of the Grand Glove Works, presented each of the married men in their employ with a fine turkey.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES.—In the several churches in this village special services were preached on Sunday in commemoration of our Saviour's nativity. St. Alban's Church was tastefully decorated.

BIBLE SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of the Action Branch Bible Society will be held in the Presbyterian Church on Wednesday evening. Rev. Dr. O'Meara, the agent of the society, will address the meeting.

STRAY CATS.—This is the time when farmers begin to look up their stray cattle, and if cannot be well known that if any person harbors any stray cattle, and omits to advertise them, he renders himself liable to be arrested.

OUR CALENDAR.—This week we present to each subscriber a very neat and tasteful calendar for 1882, which we trust all will accept with our compliments. If each reader will, as soon as he receives the calendar, post it up in a conspicuous place in his residence or place of business, it will be found very useful for reference nearly every day during the year. Our village subscribers will receive theirs from the carrier boy on New Year's morning.

OUR CAREER BOY.—The Free Press carrier boy's annual address is now being prepared, and will be placed in the hands of his patrons on New Year's morning. It is understood, although he doesn't wish us to say anything about it, having told us privately, that pockets of extraordinary depth have been introduced into his clothing, and there need be no fear of entertaining by his patrons that he won't be able to show away their New Year's offerings to him in return for his weekly calls during the year.

EXAMINATIONS.—The Christian examinations of the pupils of Acton Public School, held last Friday, were not very largely attended, but the pupils in each department acquitted themselves very creditably. At the close of the examinations the pupils in Miss McKellar's department were

awarded first with a splendid photographic album and a very pretty card case, second prize with a book, and third with a pencil. Miss McKellar's term as teacher expired at reception, and the pupils made her the object of the above gift as a token of their esteem and affection.

BOOKS.—At the annual meeting of the Friends of Schools Trustee for this municipality, held yesterday, (Wednesday), the following gentlemen were proposed and seconded:—Messrs. D. Henderson, W. H. Storey and James Moore. This being just the number required, there will consequently be no election. We are glad that the electors chose competent men, and the people can rest assured that they have now a most efficient board of trustees.

The board will now be composed of Messrs. James Matthews, W. H. Lowry, James Brown, D. Henderson, W. H. Storey and James Moore.

CHRISTMAS MEATS.—On Saturday the several butcher stalls in town were neatly decorated, and presented a very tempting appearance. Those who visited the stalls soon concluded that Mr. W. C. Robinson had spent some time in decorating, and had much greater expense for his stock of meat than any of the others. Mr. Robinson's stall exhibited very tasteful arrangement, and the variety of meats on exhibition must have been sufficient to have satisfied the whims of the greatest epicure in town. His assortment was made up of several very fine beavers, two or three prime sheep and lambs, a number of excellent hogs and porkers, a splendid carcass of veal, and hares, turkeys, geese and ducks, in abundance. Mr. Robinson's patrons were exceedingly well pleased with the assortment from which they were at liberty to choose what they required for their Christmas dinner.

CHRISTMAS DAY.—Another Christmas Day has come and gone, bringing with it the full measure of hollow indifference and joyous memories which usually pertain to this, the day of all the year. Owing to the extraordinary state of the weather, it was almost impossible to realize that the day was really being celebrated for Christmas.

The only excitement of any moment, during the day, was the musical nomination of the usual Christmas visiting was indulged in by many, and turkey and plum pudding were devoured as usual. A number of the less sensible among our young men spent the day in skating on Nicklin's pond, it being at the time covered with about an inch of water. As a consequence, colds are abundant. It seems impossible to enjoy a green Christmas with enthusiasm, but we trust all our readers enjoyed the day to some extent.

THE ICONOCLAST.—We have before us a copy of the first number, first volume of the above journal. It is an eight page, illustrated monthly, published by Rev. T. L. Wilkinson, of this village. The reading matter is very tastefully arranged, and the printing is neatly and mechanically executed. As its name implies, the *Iconoclast* has for its object the extirpation and overthrow of all ecclesiastical shams and impositions, as well as all idolatrous usages and practices in the church. The liquor traffic will also receive a share of the editor's attention, and a high and scriptural standard of christian life will be advocated. The aims of the new journal are certainly high and commendable, and we feel that the editor's self-imposed task will be one requiring careful, considerate and intelligent study, but from our personal acquaintance of the Rev. gentleman's abilities, we are confident that will be competent to successfully dispose of any question requiring his attention. We wish the *Iconoclast* success in its object.

CHRISTMAS TREES.—The usual anniversary and Christmas tree, in connection with the Sabbath school of the Methodist Church, was held on Friday evening, and the attendance was exceedingly good. The two Christmas trees were laden with presents of all kinds, costly and otherwise, for young and old, and there were very few present who did not share in Santa Claus' generosity.

The programme was much enjoyed, and consisted of singing in chorus by the Sabbath school children, dialogues and recitations, all of which were well received. Rev. J. B. Milian, of Fergus, addressed the children, as well as the teachers and parents, in a very interesting manner. Rev. T. L. Wilkinson acted as chairman, and Rev. Mr. Lowe was present. At about 9 o'clock Santa Claus appeared, and his costume greatly pleased the children. The presents were then distributed, and the meeting brought to a close with the benediction.

THE CRADLE.—McKenna.—In Erin, on the 21st inst., the wife of Mr. David McKenna, of a son.

THE ALTAR.—McDonald.—Gosport.—In Erin, at the residence of the bride's mother, by Rev. D. B. Cameron, Mr. Wm. McDonald to Miss Sarah Gordon, daughter of the late Alex. Gordon, Esq., all of Eversley.

THE GRAVE.—Matthews.—In Acton, on the 26th inst., Walter Edward, son of Mr. Edward Matthews, aged five years, six months and twenty-one days.

GARVIN.—In Acton, on 23rd inst., Willie, son of Mrs. Garvin, aged about three years.

SHEFF.—In Acton, on 23rd inst., Ronald McDonald, son of Mr. Alex. F. Smith, aged eight years, three months and seventeen days.

Look around and see.

The evil ways of men—
And oh, beloved child!

I'm more than reconciled—
To thy departure then.

The little arms that clasped me,

The innocent lips that press'd me—
Would they have been as pure
For eye, as when of yore?

I held close on my breast—
I look around and see.

With a crystal stone—
There's none in heaven, my love!

Safe with the arms of love—
The everlasting love!

And when the hour arrives—
From death that sets me free,

Thy spirit may await—
The meet at heaven's gate,

To meet and welcome me.

—Look around and see.

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