

TERMS...\$1.00 in Advance.

The Newspaper—"A Map of Busy Life, its Fluctuations and its Vast Concerns."

\$1.50 if not so paid.

Volume VII. No. 88.

ACTON, ONT. THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1882

Whole No. 370.

**ACTON BANKING CO'Y.,**  
STOREY, CHRISTIE & CO.,  
BANKERS,  
Acton, Ontario.  
A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS TRANSACTED.  
MONEY LOANED ON APPROVED NOTES.  
Notes Discounted and Interest allowed on Deposits.

**FLOUR AND FEED.**  
B. W. NICKLIN,  
In tending hearty thanks to the people of Acton and vicinity for their kind patronage in the past, would respectfully inform them that he has constantly on hand at his Mill, foot of Mill Street, a full stock of

Flour, Oat Meal, Corn Meal, Buckwheat Flour, Cracked Wheat and Chopped Stuffs  
Of all kinds, any of which he is prepared to deliver daily.  
Your patronage is kindly solicited.  
Orders left at my residence will receive prompt attention.  
Terms Strictly Cash.  
B. W. NICKLIN,  
Acton, Feb. 9, 1882.

**Medical Hall,**  
ACTON  
DR. M. FORSTER.

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FOR CASH.  
You can get the best bargains ever offered in Guelph in  
Lancaster Watches.  
Waltham  
Elgin  
Swiss  
CLOCKS at all Prices.  
—AT—  
WM. S. SMITH'S  
The Watch and Clock House of Guelph.  
(The Lancaster has no equal for the money.)  
American Watches.  
The Finest Stock we ever had of Elgin & Waltham make, in Nickel, Silver, and Gold Cases.  
I claim my Nickel cases are whiter and purer than any other, being made especially for myself.  
B. SAVAGE,  
Watchmaker & Jeweller,  
GUELPH.  
East-End Butcher Shop.  
H. MARLATT & BRO.  
Desire to inform the citizens of Acton and vicinity that they have decided to make the butchering business a permanent one, and customers patronizing them can rely on being supplied with fresh meat all the year round.  
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**THE FREE PRESS.**  
THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1882.  
**POETRY.**  
**TATTLEBURG.**  
There is a town I think you have seen,  
Perhaps you have known it, too;  
For restless mortals once in a life  
This little town will view.  
It is built on a river broad and deep,  
Sometimes it is on a hill,  
Whether on river, hill or dale,  
Tattleburg never stands still.  
It is restless and busy like ants in a hill,  
This world that is all its own,  
From Mr. and Mrs. Middleman's Grunt  
To Miss Busybody alone.  
And the ladies there are always at work,  
And an idler never was known,  
For all the Tattleburg people mind  
Business that is none of their own.  
And never a young man looks at a girl,  
Or lifts his hat in the street,  
But the women all wag their heads and say,  
"He is getting wonderfully sweet,  
If I was Miss A—I'd look out for my name."  
He isn't a very good man;  
But he's low and had, and everything else;  
She'd better draw back while she can.  
And never a girl can bow to a man,  
But "She wants to get married, I know,"  
Or "She's carrying her hair and flirting around."  
And trying to catch her a bean.  
The girls put on are ashamed enough,  
And the way that she dresses are best,  
Between you and me, and the "ain" and the "obs."  
And the wags of the head, tell the rest.  
The diet there is simple enough;  
It's nothing but scandal and tea,  
And the people thrive and grow fat, they  
And are better able to "see."  
And friends become foes in less than a day,  
The neighbors are all by the ears,  
And this is the way that friendship has been  
In Tattleburg town for years.

**OUR STORY.**  
**UNDER A FLY-WHEEL.**  
It was ten o'clock in the morning. Every one in the factory was at work. The clacking and rattling of the lighter machinery, the groaning of heavily laden shafts, the oily thud of hundreds of clogs, mingled in a busy din. The huge engine sighed as, with its brawny arm of polished steel, it impelled the main shaft to turn the wheels of the factory.  
Tom worked by the door, near the engine-room. He could, therefore, easily see the engine and all its surroundings. The latest of its rapid, ceaseless motion partly concealed him to the fact that, while most boys of thirteen were enjoying their liberty outside, he was shut up within doors.  
This morning, more than usually, he had been watching the forbidden splendor of the engine-room, for the engineer appeared no one in his sanctum. The great machine fascinated Tom with its easy grace of movement. His eyes lit long on the great fly-wheel of the horizontal belt-head that gleamed about the cylinder. He tried to tell from his position how full the glass oil-cups were, as they flushed to and fro on the polished arm; and then his eyes rested on the fly-wheel that revolved so gracefully in its narrow prison. Only one half of the wheel could be seen at once, the other half being below the floor, almost filling a narrow rock-lined cavity called the "pit."  
As Tom watched the whirling spokes, it seemed as if the mass of iron stood still, so swift was its motion. He remembered that once the engineer, seeing his interest in the machinery, had stood leaning over the frail wooden guard, his face so close to the fly-wheel that the wind from its surface blew back his hair, while he looked down into the pit with wonder and dread. He remembered asking the engineer if he supposed anyone could climb down there while the engine was in motion. The answer had come: "There isn't a man in the factory that has nerve enough, even if there were room." The space between the wheel and the wall being hardly a foot and a half in width.  
The boy's eyes next wandered from the object of his thoughts and rested on the bright brass homes of the force-pumps that crossed and re-crossed above the tolling machinery.  
Suddenly, glancing down, he saw a little child standing beneath the guard, close to the great fly-wheel.  
The engineer was nowhere in sight, and little May, his only child! Tom's heart gave a great leap. In an instant he scrambled down from his perch and was in the engine-room.  
As he passed the doorway he was just in time to see the child toddle forward and fall into the pit! With an awful shudder he waited to see the monster wheel spin the baby girl from its curved sides; but no such sight came.  
He dashed forward and looked into the pit. She sat on the hard, rocky bottom, sobbing to herself. The fall had not harmed her, yet she was still in great danger. Any attempt to move from her position would give the reckless wheel another chance.  
Tom slipped out of his brown "jumper," tore off his light shoes, and stood inside the guard. One eye looked in the direction of the iron door through which the engineer would come, and then he began the descent. The great mass of iron whirled directly close to his eye; the inclined plane down which he was slowly sliding was

covered deep with dust mingled with oil; thick, oily, damp air, fanned by the heavy breeze from the wheel, almost took his breath away. When the curve of the wheel was nearest, it almost brushed his clothes. With his back pressed tight against the rocks he slid down until his feet struck the bottom. And now came the worst part of the ordeal—the ponderous wheel, sweeping in giddy curves above him, so affected his nerves that his strength began to fail. There was one space where the wheel curved away from a corner, so he dropped on his knees there, and for an instant shut his aching eyes.  
The child was in the other corner of the pit, sitting in an open space similar to that in which Tom had sat. As he looked past the terrible barrier, she made a movement as if to stand up. That brought back Tom's fleeting senses. If she should stand up, the wheel would strike her. Lying carefully, flat upon the bottom of the pit, he began slowly and cautiously to work his way beneath the mass of flying iron. He could feel the awful wind rising his hat as he crept along. Nearer and nearer he came to the curve of the wheel. As he passed beneath it, an incautious movement and a sudden "burst" on his shoulder showed that he had touched it.  
The little one had not seen him at all yet, as she had been sitting and rubbing her eyes, but she looked up now, and seeing the pale face stricken with oil and dust coming toward her, she opened her face again with her little hands and sobbed harder than ever.  
Tom crept on until he came so near to the child that he could feel the hot breath of her face. A strange dizzy blue kept throwing a veil over his eyes, and he tried in vain to overcome a longing for sleep. He could feel the ceaseless whirl of the great wheel, and it made him almost wild. Curious vagaries and half delirious fancies danced through his head. With an effort he threw them off, raised his face from the rocky couch, called for help.  
Instantly a dozen mocking voices from the sides of the pit flung back the cry into his very ears. But the wheel caught the cry and whirled it away, up into the engine-room, in distorted echoes. He called again and the sound seemed less terrible. The little girl tried to get up, but he held to the white dress and soothed her the best he could.  
A moment later he distinctly heard footsteps in the engine-room, then he felt that some one was looking into the pit, and then the clattering of the piston in the empty cylinder showed that the engine was about to stop.  
Less swiftly, and at last slowly and more slowly, whirled Tom's massive jailer; fainter and fainter came the clatter of the piston, until both ceased, and the engineer, with great beads of perspiration on his forehead, swung himself between the harmless spokes of the fly-wheel and got down close to the two prisoners.  
"Is she hurt, Tom?" he gasped.  
"No, sir," said Tom, faintly. "If you'd only stop the fly-wheel I'd lift her out."  
"It stopped, my lad—its own dizzy head that deceives you. Let me take my little May."  
The engineer reached down and lifted his darling up from the dust, and holding her fast in one arm, climbed out.  
Tom lay still. He did not seem to care since the little one was safe and the fly-wheel had stopped. He felt a fearful weariness stealing over him. He would like to sleep a year.  
The engineer was by him a moment later, asking if he was hurt.  
"No, sir, I think not—only a little tired," said Tom, and slowly and wearily his eyes closed.  
Without another word the strong man lifted him up from the rocky floor and sent him out, and climbing again by the spokes of the fly-wheel, bore the boy out of his dungeon. The air from the open window soon cleared the "aloeopsis" away, and he was able to tell the whole story. The engineer grasped his hand, but he could not speak, and there were tears in his eyes.  
Many were the words of praise from the sturdy workmen that crowded in from the "steel works" to see why the engine had stopped. Tom was the hero of the day.  
When the superintendent heard of it, he sent for a back and had Tom taken home in a style, with a comfortable little present in his pocket, and the permission to be out until he should feel all right again. It took about a week to clear the dizzy feeling away, and at the end of that time he was working at his machine just as if he had never been under a fly-wheel.

**A Man's Hat.**  
A man without a hat is a helpless creature indeed. No matter what the hat is—tall or soft, silk or straw, shiny and new, or old and broken—only a crown, only a brim; so long as he has it, he is a free agent. He can go anywhere, do anything; beside him women is a slave. But take away that hat, and to what a condition do you reduce him!  
A woman being benevolent, can cover her head with a shawl, apron, or handkerchief, or a parasol. She would never be kept at home for want of a bonnet in case of necessity; but that man—why, if he had bought a ticket to California and his fortune depended on travelling in that special train, he would not go without his hat. He could not go out for his meals, or to see his dearest friend, until some one had brought him one. He would not run-hatless after a thief who had snatched his watch; and my belief is, that unprovided with a hat in a desert he would hide behind a bush and die rather than risk the chance of a fellow-man meeting him bareheaded. You will meet "tramps" without coats, without shoes, without most articles of raiment, but who ever saw a hatless tramp?  
The shabbiest beggars who sit on the sidewalks at least hold their hats between their knees for pennies. And the railing passion is strong even to boys. In a fight, a street boy is only utterly subdued when some friend of his enemy snatches his hat and throws it into a tree, or down an area, or runs away with it altogether. Then all is over.  
The savages who thought the white man's hat a part of his body until they saw him take it off, were scarcely wrong, for without it he is nothing.

**It is "Not" the Fact.**  
That the proper way to open a deadlock is with a skeleton key.  
That a dark lady cannot be said to belong to the fair sex.  
That all machinery wheels do always travel in cog.  
That the best way to turn people's heads is to come into church late with creaking boots.  
That a new covering is being provided for all the New Year bells that have been perished.  
That a chimney sweep likes his trade because it soothes him.  
That the best way to have your eyes opened is by getting married.  
That when a man stands on his dignity he is any the taller for it.

**The Bachelor.**  
Surround a bachelor with every possible comfort; give him the roomiest of bed-chambers, the most restful of couches, the largest of sponging-baths; cover his breakfast-table with the whitest of tablecloths; make his tea with the hottest of boiling water; envelop his body in the most comfortable of dressing-gowns, and his feet in the earliest of slippers; feed him amid the luxuries and comforts of the sabbath of clubs; do all those things and more for him, and he will nevertheless, be unhappy. He hopes, and ponders, and dreams about love and marriage.

**A Remarkable Fact.**  
We have many times been an unwilling listener to the "said she" and "said I" narrations in public conveyances and elsewhere (but never knew an instance where the "said she" didn't say all the smart and vicious things, or where the "said I" didn't come off victorious in the end.)  
An irritable man, who was annoyed in an omnibus by the lady who sat next to him, scolding violently, exclaimed, "That's a very bad cough of yours, madam." To which she meekly replied, "I know it, sir, and I'm sorry for it; but it's the best I've got."

**Wise Words.**  
He who can plant courage in a human soul is the best physician.  
He who says all he likes will often hear what he does not like.  
He who thinks his place below him will certainly be below his place.  
The world would be a dreadfully silent place if people talked as little as they thought.  
A failure establishes only this, that our determination to succeed was not strong enough.  
It would improve some people very much if they would be as careful of their daily lives as they are of their orthodoxy.  
His habit which gives him the real possession of the wisdom which they have acquired, and gives enduring strength in it.  
Energy will do anything that can be done in this world; and so talents, and circumstances, no opportunities, will make a two-legged animal a man without it.

**Magazine's Footnote.**  
Cured coughs, colds, catarrhs, croup, whooping cough, sore throat, diphtheria, and all lung complaints, best remedy for consumption. Price 50 cents per bottle. Sold by all druggists.  
The postpaid remedy for consumption, coughs, colds, catarrhs, croup, whooping cough, sore throat, diphtheria, and all lung complaints, best remedy for consumption. Price 50 cents per bottle. Sold by all druggists.

**Patents.**  
SECURED FOR INVENTIONS  
HENRY CRIST  
OTTAWA  
CANADA.  
Sole Agent, Acton.

**HOUSE & LOT FOR SALE.**  
This undersigned offers for sale the property situated on the corner of Main Street and St. George's Street, one of the best locations in the city. The property is well improved and is situated on a large lot. The house is a two-story brick building, with a full basement. The lot is large and is well suited for a business or residential purpose. The price is \$10,000.00. For further particulars, apply to the undersigned at his office, 100 Main Street, Acton, Ontario.

**ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.**  
Capital, Ten Million Dollars.  
Liability of Shareholders Unlimited.  
Funds in excess of \$2,000,000.  
Protection of Canadian Policy Holders.  
\$500,000. This Royal Insurance Company has the Largest Surplus of any Fire Insurance Company in the World.  
All kinds of property—Building and Townships—Agriculture—Livestock—Maritime—D. McLELLAN, Esq., Hamilton, A. A. SCHOON, Esq., Agent, Acton.

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