

Two boats rocked on the river...

The one that rode the river...

One frets against the quiet...

One wastes of the days...

Of all that life can teach us...

What a Good Wife Accomplished.

Disraeli married in 1839 a lady...

He was going to deliver...

Miss Abigail, said spinner that she was...

Without a thought of the ludicrousness...

He is not likely to be a true man...

Our happiness and misery are...

Let us learn to appreciate and value...

There are men who love only themselves...

What is One Man's Meat in Another Man's Poison.

Good beef, good bread, exercise, sunshine...

Two Curious Needles.

The King of Prussia visited a needle...

Humor of the Day.

One of the naturalists gives the comforting...

A muff is defined as "a thing which holds...

It isn't a great way to the end of a cat's...

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 IX. No. 28.

ACTON, ONT., THURSDAY, JAN. 10, 1884.

Whole No. 445.

THE FREE PRESS will be sent to subscribers...

ADVERTISING RATES.—Casual advertisements...

CONTRACT RATES.—One column one year...

THIS PAPER may be found on file at the...

Business Directory.

W. H. LOWRY, M.B., M.C.P.S.—Graduate of Trinity College...

L. B. BENNETT, DENTIST, Georgetown, Ont.

JOHN LAWSON, GRADUATE OF ONTARIO VETERINARY COLLEGE...

T. J. FISHER, V.S., GEORGETOWN, Ont., will visit Acton every Wednesday...

C. H. RIGGS, L.D.S., of the firm of Russ & Tracy, Toronto.

MOWAT & McLEAN, Barristers, Solicitors, Notaries, Conveyancers...

G. S. GOODWILLIE, Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public GEORGETOWN & ACTON.

JOHN DAVY, ARCHITECT, Ontario. Office—Queen's Hotel Block, Market Square.

W. B. BRAGG, PRACTICAL MILLWRIGHT. Re-arranging of Flour Mills a Specialty.

PATENTS SECURED FOR INVENTIONS. HENRY BRIST, CIVIL ENGINEER.

FRANCIS NUNAN, Successor to T. F. Chapman. BOOKBINDER.

W. M. HEMSTREET, Licensed Auctioneer. For the Counties of Wellington and Halton.

LIME FOR SALE. Lime can be had at the Canada Lime Works...

SHINGLES, STAVES AND HEADING FOR SALE.

DELAWARE FARMS FOR Sale. From \$10 to \$50 Per Acre.

ACTON BANKING CO'Y., STOREY, CHRISTIE & CO., BANKERS.

A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

MONEY LOANED ON APPROVED NOTES.

Notes Discounted and Interest allowed on Deposits.

SPECIAL NOTICE. GRAND XMAS SALE.

10 Cent Store, and CHEAP CASH BAZAR.

Special Inducements to make large purchases.

10 Cent Store and Cheap Cash Bazar.

JAS. F. KIDNER.

OUR SCOTCH TWEED FALL SUITINGS.

Have now all arrived, and orders for Suits are respectfully solicited.

SHAW & GRUNDY, MERCHANT TAILORS, GUELPH.

FARMERS Railway Men!



PATENT DUST-PROOF CASE, With Waltham Movement.

B. SAVAGE, GUELPH.

JAMES MATTHEWS, Agent for Fire Insurance Co's.

Accident Insurance Tickets. (\$3000 for 25c per day.)

Money to Loan. Good joint or endorsed short date notes discounted.

Deeds, Mortgages, Discharges, Chattel Mortgages, Farm and House Leases, Arrangements, &c.

CASH FOR GRAIN AND FLOUR.



The Great Dr. Dio Lewis.

His Outspoken Opinion. The very marked testimonials from College Professors, respectable Physicians...

My purchase of German, French and British Toys, Games, Dolls, Trains, Cards, Trains, and other Fancy Goods...

Special Inducements to make large purchases.

10 Cent Store and Cheap Cash Bazar.

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CASH FOR GRAIN AND FLOUR.

Acton Free Press.

THURSDAY MORNING JAN. 10, 1884.

POETRY.

AN OLD MAN'S REVERIE.

An old man sat by a cottage door, Snowed and silent, one summer day...

"Good day, kind sir," I said with a smile, Sleeping aside from my usual way...

"With mumbled came the one love of life, For Ade Campbell I early met...

OUR STORY.

THE ORPHAN BOY.

Miss Abigail Barr was a little brown old maid, who lived in a little brown old house with her cat, Debby, and her woman-of-all-work, Prudence...

One spring twilight a boy opened Miss Abigail's garden gate and walked up the path between the rows of straggling lilacs...

He defied his tattered hat-crown. "If you please, ma'am, will you—may I have something to eat?"

"I was not at all a tramp's manner of asking; there was nothing in his voice which Miss Abigail could not help noticing...

"I have to get Jones Barrows to do the milking," Miss Abigail said. "I can't. I've burned my hand that bad."

"As I have intimated, Prudence did not like boys, and that she sometimes expressed her dislike in a very forcible manner...

"You might let him try, Prudence," said Miss Abigail, thinking dubiously of the nervous, mouse-colored laborer in the yard.

"I chored on a farm all last summer," explained the boy, eagerly, glancing from mistress to maid. "I want some supper, and I'll be glad to do something to pay for it."

And Prudence smiled as she went about her work.

setting a lunch of bread and butter and cold meat. She felt miserably certain that the flighty Almerly boiler, used only to waman-kind...

"He can't do it," she said to Miss Abigail, who brought her knitting work into the kitchen. "The boiler will send him sky-high!"

"But he could, and he did. Soon he appeared in the door, his hair brimming with snowy foam."

"I'm pretty hungry," he said. "This is the first bite I've had since morning, and it tastes good."

"To be sure it did. Miss Abigail thought of a little brother who died years and years before, ere his tender feet began to feel the pricks in life's path."

"Thank you for my supper," said he. "You don't want a boy to work, do you?"

"No, we don't!" said Miss Abigail, shortly. "And then—it was enough that she could not help thinking again of that frail life which had blighted in the bud so long before."

"How far are you going?" she asked. "I don't know, ma'am."

"And where have you come from?" proceeded Miss Abigail. "Tresscott, ma'am. Mother died there three months ago. There was a pathetic quaver in his voice."

"I've been trying along for a chance to work," continued the boy, smiling faintly. "He was very near to tears, now, but he held them back steadily."

"I don't think I paid enough for my supper—eat such a lot," he said, "so I've split some kindling, and I'll milk for you this morning, if you want me to."

"Go on the way you came in," said Prudence, "or else you'll bring bad luck!"

When a man finds a dog collar in a piece of raiment he feels a little sorry for the dog, but his sympathies are mostly concentrated on himself.

And Prudence smiled as she went about her work.

freely?" This Abigail said to Prudence, who had come to the door.

"Yes, he would have been handy about milking and getting the wood for you," said Miss Abigail.

"An' he got as good a mess o' milk from the heifer as I could ha' done myself with a well hand," Prudence went on.

"I might have kept him," she said. "Tain't too late yet," put in Prudence. The two women looked into each other's eyes.

"If you can make him hear," began Miss Abigail.

"He's comin' back," she said.

"I am sure he has succeeded, for the lilacs have been in bloom three times since that morning, and he is with Miss Abigail yet, growing tall and strong and manly as the years go by."

"Indeed, I'll try to please you!"

"Harmless as a harmless does, an' you are deservin' of a bed o' black velvet, ole horn, for the deed you done that day!"

"The King of Prussia visited a needle manufactory in his kingdom, in order to see what machinery, combined with the human hand, could produce."

"The second curious needle is in the possession of Queen Victoria. It was made at the celebrated needle manufactory at Redditch, and represents the column of Trojan in miniature."

"It isn't a great way to the end of a cat's nose, but it's fur to the end of his tail."

"The skeleton in the closet" was first discovered when the hospitable was interviewed.

How a woman can keep on talking while she twists up her back hair and has her mouth full of hairpins is a mystery not yet explained.