



MERRY, JOYOUS CHRISTMAS

To-morrow, Christmas, the festive time to which we look forward with such pleasurable anticipations, and from which we feel back in the majority of cases, with feelings of gratification, will have come and gone. Another notable landmark in life's journey will have been passed before the FARE PASSE again greets its many readers.

There is no time in all the year like Christmas time; the children look forward to it for months, and the scattered members of the family gather then under the father's roof to enjoy together the happy season. Those who are far away are remembered with precious tokens from home. The regular routine of business is suspended. Father gives up his time to the little folks, and mother plans with them and becomes a willing partner in their secrets and surprises. The colleges and schools close their doors, and a season of pleasure and relaxation takes the place of the busy school life.

THE DOMINION LICENSE ACT

Declared Unconstitutional by the Privy Council.

THE PROVINCE TO REGULATE THE TRAFFIC

The report of the Privy Council on the Dominion Government's appeal from the Supreme Court of Canada as to the constitutionality of the Dominion License Act was made last Friday. It confirms the judgment of the Supreme Court to the effect that the power to issue tavern and shop licenses rests exclusively with the Provinces.

The highest judicial authority in the realm decides that the law gives to the provincial authorities full and exclusive control over the traffic in intoxicating liquors. The series of decisions given by the Judicial Committee of the Imperial Privy Council have now so far defined the powers and privileges of the Provinces, that in the future their right will require no questioning. The federal principle of government as against that of a legislative union seems to be destined to take the lead.

Rockwood News.

From our own Correspondent. Some persons, supposed to be tramps or burglars, broke open the door of the Presbyterian church the other evening and then broke into the library, expecting to find something valuable. Having built a fire in one of the stoves they then brought in a goose, picked it, scattering the feathers upon the floor. Then, lifting one of the covers of the stove, laid the fowl over the flame and fired it. The caretaker had his time cleaning the grease-splattered stove and the smoky surroundings.

THE ROBIN HOUSE PULLED

To the extent of \$100 and Costs for Violating the Boot Act.

THE FIRST MONTH'S EXPERIENCE.

The first court of the Police Magistrate of the county ever held in Acton took place yesterday afternoon in the town hall before P. M. Young.

The work before the court was a charge of second violation of the Scott Act against Geo. Robinson, one of the managers of the Robin House, who took possession a few weeks ago. Mr. McGibbon, barrister, appeared for Robinson.

The first witness in the case, Wm. Lee sworn, said:—Know Robinson; keeps a public house; was in the house on Thursday night, 3rd December; was a number present; had something to drink; was betted and intoxicated; had more than one glass; saw money paid for it by David Bell; Robinson took it; only saw money passed once; Betty was present; was in the back sitting room—Robinson brought it in in a pitcher; couldn't say who all drank with me; it was about midnight; I boarded there then; was there at least until half-past one.

To Mr. McGibbon—Saw money pass only once; Betty was in the company; don't know if he has any interest in the business; got beer; don't know what kind; know the difference between Crock and beer; didn't pay any money myself; have no doubt about getting beer; had also "short," thought it was rye whiskey.

David Bell, sworn:—Know Robinson; won't swear he keeps a public house; keeps a bar; was there on the 3rd of December; had something to drink; it was beer; drank more than once; I paid Robinson for it; he brought it in; this was about ten o'clock; don't know what time I left; wasn't able to tell; am well aware the liquor was intoxicating; paid more than once.

Mr. McGibbon desired cross examination. He admitted the previous conviction of defendant as set forth in information.

The evidence was of such a straightforward and corroborative character that the magistrate deemed it sufficient to convict, and fined Robinson \$100 and costs, payable forthwith, failing this to spend two months in the county jail.

It is rumored that the defendant has skipped the country. A distress warrant was issued for the seizure of his goods.

At the conclusion of the trial the magistrate, in a very neat address, complimented the Reeve and Council and citizens generally upon the possession of such an excellent town hall, and said it was one of the finest he had ever been in and a credit to Acton.

He was glad to find the witnesses in the case reliable and straightforward, notwithstanding their undesirable position as witnesses against violators of the law of the county.

He had formed a very favorable opinion of Acton and the people here, and hoped they would in their desire to have right prevail rise to a man and assist in ridding the community of such dives as the place concerned in this case was reported to be.

The hall was full of spectators and P. M. Young is neither the tyrant nor the ignorant he has been pictured by the enemies of the law, but that he is a fair-minded gentleman, fully capable of honorably sustaining the responsible position he occupies.

Who is W. Allan?

To the Editor of the FREE PRESS. Sir:—I see a person has undertaken to answer my letter of the 10th inst. and signs himself W. Allan. Now, Mr. Editor, I would like to know who is this W. Allan? Has he ever taken any interest in the welfare of our village? Has he ever given his aid in assisting those who would like to make Acton one of the gems of this county? If so I do not know him. I have lived here some years and I never heard of him as a public benefactor. I know a gentleman by the name of Wm. Allan, a Justice of the Peace, and the Colonel of the 20th Batt. It certainly cannot be him. Therefore I fancy the party who has undertaken to write this letter has done so when the school master was away from home.

I shall correct some misleading points he tries to make, so as to put it right before the electors. He says he was one of the persons appointed to get signatures to the petition. Then there was a petition. So he and Mr. Pearson do not agree altogether. Then he says it was distinctly ordered, &c. Now I would like to know who did the ordering. It certainly was not the council, therefore it must have been Messrs. Pearson and Immond that were bossing the job. Then he makes a very broad assertion when he says Mr. Wells and he failed to get that majority. How does he know they failed? Did he count the names of those entitled to vote? If so, why does he not give it? He ought to be careful when he makes a statement to ascertain if it be true or not. Now, I showed in my last, and which is evidence beyond doubt, that they did get a majority of those entitled to vote, as shown by the vote polled. I extend the same challenge to him to produce the petition and count the names. He evidently tries to hide himself behind the word "ratepayer," so as to mislead the people. Now, all ratepayers are not entitled to vote on that by-law, and I suppose he was so instructed when taking around the petition which he says he did; therefore, if he did go around, will he tell how many signatures he got to the petition, and how many of those were not entitled to vote on the by-law? He keeps that part hidden.

Christmas Items.

—Now is the time to secure bargains in ready made clothing, boots and shoes, and fur goods. Nelson, McRae & Co. —Where are those fellows going? Don't you know? No!—Why they are going down to Stoddard's to get a boss oyster stew. That is where you can get one and don't you forget it. He is open at all hours, and always pleasant when you call on him.

"We ring the bells and we raise the strain, we hang up garlands everywhere, and bid the tapers twinkle fair, and feast and frolic—and then we go back to the same old lives again."

—For the holiday season. A large assortment of choice new goods of new designs all suitable for handsome Christmas presents. Call and examine our goods and compare prices and you will be convinced that Howson's is by far the cheapest place in town. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, we remain, yours truly, J. E. Howson, next door to Drug Store.

—Rare values in wool hoods, wool caps, shawls, clouds, scarfs, &c. Beautiful Goods. Nelson, McRae & Co. —All sizes for men, women and children, in rubbers and overshoes, cheap, cheap. Nelson, McRae & Co.

—Just in, new fur capes, from \$5.00 upwards, the best range of ladies' caps and muffs in the trade, and a large assortment of men's fur caps, special values. Nelson McRae's Co.

New Advertisements.

M. E. MITCHELL. SOLICITOR-IN-CHIEF, ACTON. Office—First door west of the Court House, Main street, Milton. Money to loan at 6 per cent.

NOTICE. ALL PARTIES indebted to the undersigned are hereby notified that all book accounts four months due and all overdue notes not settled on or before the 1st of January, 1887, will be placed in court for collection. J. J. YFFE. Acton, Dec. 16th, 1886.

SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR. WANTED for Singer Machine. Must be first-class. Also, a good smart girl for light work. Apply personally to MOORE & MCGILLIVRAY, Value Factory.

CATTLE ASTRAY. STRAYED from the premises, lot 22, on 2nd Nov. 1886, about the middle of June, two heifers rising three just one white and red, horns turned in the other red. Any party having information which will lead to the recovery of the same will be suitably rewarded. D. W. ALLEN, 111 St. James Street, Montreal, Que. Residing, Dec. 2nd, 1886.

FARMS WANTED TO BUY. TWO 300-acre farms, three 100-acre farms, two 50-acre farms and one 20-acre farm wanted for someone who are willing to fill we get them at low rates as by any other route. Both farms and addresses will be given to owners of the farms. At present we have 40 applications for farms from all parts of Canada, the U.S., Europe and Asia. No charge unless you are selected. Apply to JOHN J. DALEY, Quebec.

A GIFT. Send 10 cents postage and we will mail you a royal, valuable sample box of goods that will put you in the way of making some money at once, than anything else in America. Sixes of all ages can live at home and work in spare time, or at all times. Capital not required. We will start you. Pay sure for those who start at once. STRONG & CO., Portland, Maine.

Telephone Connection. FLORAL VIEW Greenhouses, GEORGETOWN, ONT. THE newest and choicest Plants and Cut Flowers, Wholesale and Retail. Funeral and Wedding Designs prepared on short notice. And shipped safely any weather.

THE AMERICAN EXPOSITION opens at New Orleans, Nov. 10th, 1886, and continues until April 1st, 1887. The GREAT SHORT LINE between the North and South, will place on sale round-trip tickets at very low rates. Winter routes to Florida, Texas, Mexico and California can purchase tickets via New Orleans, with stop-over privileges to visit the Exposition. At low rates as by any other route. For full and winter excursion folder giving routes and rates and a very complete map styled "Ten Points" from the American Exposition, address A. H. HANSON, 121 North Dearborn St., Chicago. THOS. DORNING, 121 Hamilton St., Chicago.

MORTGAGE SALE. VALUABLE, FARM PROPERTY. UNDER AND BY VIRTUE OF THE POWER conferred by the Statute in that behalf made, dated the 11th day of September, A.D. 1882, there will be sold at Public Auction, on a certain day, to wit: At Agnew's Hotel, in the Village of Acton, in the County of Halton, Wednesday, 13th Jan., 1886. AT THE HOUR OF 12 O'CLOCK, SOON.

That valuable property, being composed of the north-west part of Lot No. 62, in the 1st Concession of the Township of Esquesing, containing 57 Acres, more or less. That near Crosson's Corner, adjacent to the Grand Trunk Railway, about three miles from Acton. There is a good frame dwelling-house and barn barn upon the property. Terms—Ten per cent. on day of sale; the balance in one month thereafter. For further particulars apply to Miss ANN FLETCHER, Esquesing, or to J. A. MONTAGNE, Esquesing, or to Wm. HEMSTREET, Auctioneer. Dated at Acton December 16th, 1886.

WANTED! 10,000 VOLUNTEERS To buy Christmas Cards and Presents from Waters Bros., GUELPH.

Prices lower than ever: Canadian Cards, Photograph Cards, Chromo Cards, Fancy Cards, Painting Cards, Albums, Handbags, Purse, &c., &c., &c. Artists' Materials, Oil & Water Colors, Frames, Pictures, &c. WATERS BROS., The Picture Gallery, near 110 Po Office.

THIS PAPER may be found on file at the Acton Free Press, on or before January 1st, 1887.

THE FASHIONABLE WEST END

CUELPH.

BUCHAM & CO.

We have pleasure in stating that our stock for the season's trade surpasses in extensive variety and choice selection anything we have ever formerly laid before our customers.

SILKS, SATINS AND VELVETS.

In this department no house here can successfully compete with us in point of variety, real sterling value, and downright cheapness. Ladies who are in the habit of buying elsewhere are not aware of the inducements we offer in this department to purchasers. Inspection invited.

DRESS GOODS.

This department is a large one with us, and always presents a choice of really desirable goods to select from seldom met with even in the largest cities.

Ladies will do well before buying to visit our Establishment, and look through, compare prices, &c., &c.

BUCHAM & CO., Fashionable West End Dress Mantle and Millinery Establishment.

XMAS XMAS C. B. GRIFFIN NEW STOCK.

Greatest Bargains Ever offered in Cuelph. —GOLD AND SILVER— WATCHES

Necklets Locketts Gorn Rings Chains Charms Earrings Scarf Pins Par Pins

Great Reduction in Clocks and Plated Ware —AT THE— WATCH AND CLOCK HOUSE OF GUELPH.

WM. S. SMITH. —THE SINCER— Sewing Machine

Has secured a portion of the Post Office Store, where will be found a full stock of the Genuine Singer Sewing Machines. Any orders left at the store will receive prompt attention.

Oils, Needles, and parts of Machines always kept in stock. JOHN BENNETT. MONTHLY AUCTION SALE.

THE undersigned has a large lot of goods which will be sold at AGNEW'S HOTEL, ACTON On Saturday 16th Jan '86 at 10 a. m. Any parties having goods to dispose of can not time in this sale by visiting particularly at 10 a. m. O. Acton, on or before January 1st, 1886. J. S. MURRAY, Auctioneer. Acton, Dec. 16th, 1886.

THE POST OFFICE STORE, ACTON.



HAVING moved my Bakery and Feed Business into this commodious store, where I have added a choice stock of Groceries, all new and fresh, I beg to tender my most sincere thanks to the people of Acton and surrounding country for their very liberal support in the past, and now most respectfully solicit a share of your patronage in my new place of business. It will be my aim to merit this by my care dealing, reasonable prices, attention to business and wants of my customers. Please call and see me.

GROCERY DEPARTMENT.

Tens, 25c. up. Sugars of all kinds, Syrup, good, 50c. per gallon and up, Raisins, Currants, Peas, Eggs, Canned Goods of all kinds, Coffee, Rice, Tapioca, Sago, Spices of all kinds, Beans, Pickles in bulk, &c., Mince Meat, Nuts, Candies, Tobacco, and everything kept in a First-class Grocery. Fruits and Vegetables.

FLOUR AND FEED DEPARTMENT.

Very best Roller and Stone Flour, Bran, Shorts, Chops, Oats, Peas, Barley, Oat and Corn Meal (three kinds of each), Buckwheat Flour (two kinds), Cracked Wheat, Thorley's Food, Linseed Oil Cake Meal, Linseed whole and ground, Package Goods, Crushed Oats, Wheat and Barley, Yellow, White and Flaked Maize, Sump Hominy, S. R. Buckwheat Flour, Wheat, Corn, Prepared Tea Flour, Rice Flour, Choice Perina.

BAKING DEPARTMENT.

Bread, white, brown and steamed. Rolls, Cottage Sponge Cakes, Jelly Rolls, Cakes and Buns of all kinds, Mince Pies, Meat Pies, Wedding Cakes to order.

L. G. MATTHEWS

CASH CASH CASH

You can buy anything in CLOTHING, BOOTS AND SHOES, AND MILLINERY

At less than cost of manufacture from C. B. GRIFFIN FOR CASH!

I am selling off. No Reserve. Headlight oil 20 cents per gallon

Come straight to the right place. YOU CAN SAVE 30 CENTS On every dollar you spend with us.

C. B. GRIFFIN, ACTON.

COMMON SENSE TREATMENT OF CATARRH AND CONSUMPTION. New Goods JUST OPENED.

If not charged with disease-creating elements (foul air) will kill when breathed continuously, air charged with remedial elements will cure when breathed continuously.

The Pillow Inhaler

is an elegantly made hair pillow, charged with remedial elements, the vapor of which the patient inhales all night long whilst sleeping as usual. It cannot get out of order, and is perfectly safe to the most delicate. It will last for years, and serve any number of persons in a family in succession. It hatters down the stronghold of Catarrh, Bronchitis, Asthma and Consumption.

and makes a permanent cure by a continuous application of healing and curative air directly to the diseased parts. Sufferers from any of the above-mentioned diseases are urgently requested to send their address, and a 60-page pamphlet will be mailed to them free, which will give a complete history of this wonderful discovery and the principles upon which it works, together with a long list of testimonials from those who have used it, and who now rejoice in perfect health.

Do not delay, for the longer a disease is allowed to run unchecked, the slower and harder it is to effect a cure. There is no medicine brought into the stomach, no dobbing or snuffing, nor anything disagreeable about this treatment. It has never been known to fail. Send your name and address plainly written, to The Pillow Inhaler Agency, LONDON, ENGLAND.

John Bennett, AGENT, ACTON.

English Gold Gem Rings, Silver & Scotch Pebble Jewelry

B. SAVAGE, GUELPH.