

## DIED.

## FOR MUNICIPAL HONORS

MORTAY.—In Milton, on 29th December, Richard Mortay, aged 65 years.  
MULLEN.—At her residence, base line, Esquinton, on 21st Dec., Mrs. Mary Miller, aged 70 years.  
MURRAY.—In Newmarket, on the 2nd Dec., Mrs. Mary Vanhook, aged 80 years.  
SHOOTER.—At her residence, Fergusson, east of Acton.  
SMITH.—In Brantford, on the 26th, Mrs. Margaret Smith, aged 77 years.  
WILLIAMS.—At Kinsland, on the 11th December, George Williams, son of Robert Williams, aged 22 years.  
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## The Acton Free Press.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 1891.

## NOTES AND COMMENTS.

A novel sort of legal punishment is reported from Montreal, N.B., where a lad of 11 was convicted of stealing shoes from the store in which he was employed. There was no reformatory, and the boy was too young to be sentenced to prison. The Judge summoned his mother and ordered her to give him a severe spanking in the presence of the Court, after which he was released, a sadder but wiser youth.

The main features of the plan of civic reform upon which the people of the town will vote in January, says the *Globe*, are the reduction of the number of wards to six, each to be represented by four aldermen; the lengthening of the aldermanic term of office; the reduction of the number of committees to four, each consisting of six members with a chairman to be nominated by the mayor; the payment of a salary of \$2,000 each to the chairmen and of \$500 each to the aldermen.

The intimation that Commissioner Smith, of the Salvation Army, and a right-hand man of General Booth, has resigned his position owing to a misunderstanding respecting the General's "Darkest England" scheme, and that consequently there is a danger of the scheme collapsing, will be read with disappointment by the benevolent disposed. It is also stated that Gen. Booth did not write the book which bears his name, which will be a further disappointment to people of an upright way of thinking.—*Mail*.

The census is to be taken on April 6th. Mr. George Johnson, the Dominion statistician who was Census Commissioner for Nova Scotia in 1871, has charge of the work. In a statement just made by Mr. Johnson it appears that the census staff will consist of 15 general commissioners, 200 county commissioners, and 3,000 enumerators. The information will be passed from hand to hand, and will finally reach Ottawa, where Mr. Johnson, who has quite a taste for statistics, will digest it and prepare it for publication. Some desirable and indeed important features will be added to the census this year. We are to learn what the educational condition of the people is, and we are not to be misled by figures which include aborigines as well as actual residents. A man who has been out of the country for a certain length of time will not have the pleasure of being counted.

Canada has several problems of an interesting and far-reaching character which are engaging the attention of the people. The first and widest of all is what is to be her destiny. At this moment, with five millions and more of people, with great wealth, rapidly developing industries, with two of the greatest railway systems in America or the world; and with all the elements of national life Canada is nothing but a colony," an "appendage" to the British crown. This position is humiliating, but it pays. The people of Canada have all the advantages of British prestige for their protection. All the ministerial councils of the empire are the servants of the Canadian people without cost, and they have been able to work out large problems of domestic economy undisturbed by any haunting sense of foreign aggression, or any responsibility for the happiness of the world at large.—*America*.

The Champion went a long distance out of its way last week to give its时间-honored friend and supporter Mr. Robert Agnew, the following notice:

Mr. Robert Agnew, hotel-keeper of Acton, had himself interviewed by the editor of the *Faxx*. During the interview he insisted that the recent charge of violation of the Licensing Act on which he pleaded guilty and was fined, was laid against him at the instigation of the police. On Friday, at Georgetown, where the matter was before the magistrate, Mr. Agnew was the victim of an Acton hotel-keeper's spite. Agnew had sought an opinion of his own magistrate. He was advised to go to the police station, and it is doubtful if his name would ever have been mentioned during the last month if he had not got himself into trouble through violating the Licensing Act. His defense against the Milton hotel-keeper's plainly unfair action, and it is doubtful if his name would even have been mentioned during the last month if he had not got himself into trouble through violating the Licensing Act.

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In all fairness the *Faxx* is bound to say that the Champion puts a construction upon some of Mr. Agnew's words he never intended in his remarks to this journal.

WENT THROUGH THE ICE.

A Cobourg Fatality—Rescued but to Die.

Cobourg, Dec. 27.—On Christmas morning, while 22 young people were driving home across Rice Lake to Hawarden from Beldry, where they had spent the night dancing, the sleigh and horses broke through the ice, precipitating the whole party into the water. After a desperate struggle the men succeeded in getting the girls and themselves on the ice. The weather was intensely cold, and before the half-drowned people could get ashore a number of them were severely frost-bitten. On their arrival on the shore they possessed of a vacant house, which fortunately contained a stove. Before a fire could be lighted, Miss Eliza Johnston succumbed to the hardships she had undergone and died notwithstanding the efforts of the others to save her life. Several others of the party are in a critical condition, and fears are entertained that one or more of them will not recover from the effects of their cold plunge and exposure.

Died Among Strangers.

Lucknow, Dec. 25.—The body of Murdoch McLeod, son of Alexander McLeod, 4th concession of Kinloss, was brought to Lucknow station yesterday. The young man had broken his leg in the woods in Michigan and died at Duluth.

Sporus Koch lymph is being manufactured in Berlin and sold to foreign physicians.

## EQUINOX TOWNSHIP.

The interest manifested in the municipal nomination on Monday was not at all what has sometimes been in the past. Some forty or fifty ratepayers gathered in the town hall and the nomination of candidates proceeded as usual. The circulation of Mr. Sturz's letter to the electors a couple of weeks ago, declining to accept further honors at the hands of the municipality, resulted in necessary to look elsewhere for a fit and proper person to fill the chair of chief magistrate during the present year.

—In Brantford, on the 26th, December, the infant son of Mr. William Mullin, aged 17 days.

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