The Acton Free Press.

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The Acton Free Press

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1 inch	5.00	3.50	2.00	1.00

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Changes for contract advertisements must be n the office by noon on Tuesdays.

H. P. MOORE
Editor and Proprietor.

Business Directory.

J. F. UREN, M. D. C. M.
Office and residence—Corner Mill & Frederick streets, Acton.

J. E. WILKINSON, D. D. S., L. D. S.,
SURGEON DENTIST.
Graduate University of Toronto, Member of the royal College of Dental Surgeons.
None but first-class operations performed.
OFFICE—Over the Drug Store, ACTON.
Open every day from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

L. L. BENNETT, L.D.S., DENTIST,
GEORGETOWN, ONTARIO

McLEAN & McLEAN
Barristers, Solicitors, Notaries, Conveyancers &c. Private funds to loan.
Office:—Town Hall, Acton.
WM. A. McLEAN. JNO. A. McLEAN.

J. A. MOWAT,
BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, NOTARY PUBLIC
Money to Loan.
OFFICE DAYS—Tuesday and Saturday
OFFICE:—Kannawin's Block, Acton, up-stairs

R. J. McNABB,
Clerk, Fourth Division Court County of Halton, Conveyancer, Agent Fire and Life Assurance Real Estate Agent. Money to loan, etc.
OFFICE—Matthews Block.
ACTON ONT.

SHILTON, WALLBRIDGE & STONE,
Barristers, Solicitors, &c.,
TORONTO AND GEORGETOWN.
Offices:—Creelman's Block, Georgetown, and Traders' Bank Chambers, 63 Yonge st., Toronto.
J. SHILTON, B.A. W. H. WALLBRIDGE. R. E. STONE.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.
J. L. CHARLES,
Issuer of Marriage Licenses
Office:—Charles & Co's Grocery
Mill Street, Acton.

JAMES HUTCHEON.
Land Surveyor and Civil Engineer
Office, adjoining J. A. Mowat's Macdonnell street, Guelph.

JOHN DAY,
ARCHITECT,
GUELPH, ONT.
OFFICE:—Wyndham Street

HENRY GRIST,
OTTAWA, CANADA
Solicitor of Patents, for Invention etc
Prepares Applications for the Canadian, American, and European Patent Offices, and for the Registration of Trade Marks. Send for pamphlet. Thirty-two years experience.

WM. HEMSTREET,
LICENSED AUCTIONEER
For the Counties of Wellington and Halton. Orders left at the FREE PRESS office, Acton, or at my residence in Acton, will be promptly attended to. Terms reasonable.
Also money to loan on the most favorable terms, and at the lowest rates of interest, in sums of $500 and upwards.

FRANCIS NUNAN
BOOKBINDER,
Wyndham St., Guelph, Ontario
(Over Williams' Store.)
Account Books of all kinds made to order. Periodicals of every description carefully bound Ruling neatly and promptly done

THE PALACE BARBER SHOP,
MILL STREET ACTON
H. H. WORDEN, Proprietor
An easy shave, a stylish hair cut, a good shampoo, an exhilarating shampoo always given Razors honed and put in first-class condition Ladies' and children's hair tastily cut

JOB PRINTING,
INCLUDING Books, Pamphlets, Posters, Bill Heads, Circulars, &c., &c., executed in the best style of the art, at moderate prices and on short notice. Apply or address
H. P. MOORE,
FREE PRESS Office Acton

Wellington Mutual Fire Insurance Company
ESTABLISHED 1840
INSURANCE on Mutual plan. Any communications forwarded to my address, Box 7—, or telephone 68, will be promptly attended to.
JOHN TAYLOR, Agent, Guelph

THE METHODIST CHURCH ACTON.
REV. J. E. HOWELL, M. A. Pastor
Parsonage, Bower Avenue
Public Services 10.30 a.m., and 6.30 p.m. Sunday school 2.30. Bible Class conducted by the pastor. All cordially invited
Strangers and visitors always welcome. Attentive ushers at the door

Guelph Business College.
Stands head and shoulders above all its rivals. It is not only a famous "Business College," the range of its patronage extending from Great Britain on the East to British Columbia and California on the West, but it has also developed into a great

College of Language.
Being at present engaged in giving practical instruction in six languages. No other Business College in Canada can do so much for its patrons nor offer such favorable terms. The ambitious, wide awake, business student will attend no other.
For a copy of the illustrated Curriculum, mailed free, address,
PRINCIPAL McCORMICK,
Guelph, Ont.

ICE CREAM AT XMAS
Is not a more rare sight than a consignment of 10,000 rolls of
Wall Paper
this time of the year. It's the old story. An American manufacturer needed money. We didn't need the paper, but at the wonderfully low price we could not resist and bought.
Fancy 35c. Gold for 15c
20c. and 15c Papers for 9c
10c Papers for 7½c
7c papers for 5c
DAY'S BOOK STORE.
GUELPH.
Day Sells Cheap.

Bank of Montreal
CAPITAL - $12,000,000
REST - 6,000,000
A SAVINGS DEPARTMENT
Has been opened in connection with this Branch.
Interest Allowed at Current Rates.
JAS. H. FINLAY,
Manager GUELPH BRANCH.

THE WATERLOO MUTUAL Fire Insurance Company.
ESTABLISHED IN 1863
HEAD OFFICE WATERLOO, ONT.
Cash assets over $360,000.00
The aggregate amount insured in Western Ontario is over $17,000,000.00.
Ample assets for all liabilities.
All honest losses honorably adjusted and promptly paid
OFFICERS
CHAS HENDRY, President
GEORGE RANDALL, Vice-President.
C M TAYLOR, Secretary.
JOHN KILLER, Inspector.
A. C. BIGGS, Agent,
BURLINGTON P O

Hamilton's Marble Works.
HAMILTON'S Block (formerly Hatch's Block), the gore, corner of Woolwich and Norfolk streets, Guelph, Ont
JOHN H. HAMILTON,
Proprietor,
The only direct importer in Guelph, of Swede Scotch, American and other superior Granites, Limestone and Marble. A large stock to select from, and none but superior workmen employed

Novelties.
IN GENTLEMEN'S WEAR
New Suitings,
New Spring
Overcoatings
Fine New
Trowserings
Correct Styles, First-class Workmanship, Perfect Fit and reasonable Prices. Upon these features we solicit your patronage.
You will find the very latest styles in Hats, Caps and Gents' Furnishings at lowest prices at
R. E. NELSON,
Merchant Tailor and Gents' Furnisher,
99 Upper Wyndham St., Guelph

SEASON---1894
WHILE returning thanks to our many patrons for their liberal support in the past we wish to inform you that we have entered into an arrangement with R Stewart, Guelph, to keep constantly on hand a full stock of the ordinary sizes of
Sash, Doors, Etc.
and will also supply any special sizes on short notice at Guelph prices.
Frames of All Kinds
made to order. We also keep in stock a line of Base, Window and Door Casing, Corner Blocks, &c.
Your Lumber Dressed While You Wait
Price $1.50 per M
PUMPS
... more reliable than ... apply other wood or iron pumps ... All work guaranteed satisfactory,
Please call and inspect before purchasing elsewhere
THOS. EBBAGE Manager
Acton

ACTON MACHINE AND REPAIR SHOP.
GRINDELL & WRIGHT.
Are well equipped with all the Machinery necessary to execute all repairs to
MACHINERY
AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS
And to do all kinds of
STEAM FITTING
HORSE SHOEING and
GENERAL BLACKSMITHING
And woodwork repairs performed in a satisfactory manner. We can repair any machine or implement of any make. Saw gumming and filing done
AGENTS FOR
FLEURY'S INPLEMENTS AND REPAIRS.
GOWDY'S CELEBRATED LAWN MOWER, high wheel, high speed
Grindell & Wright.

Main Street PLANING MILLS, ACTON, ONT.
John Cameron,
Architect and Contractor.
Manufacturer of Sash, Doors, Frames, Mouldings in all styles.
DRESSING,
MATCHING,
and MOULDING
to order on short notice.
Well assorted stock on hand at prices to suit the times.
JOHN CAMERON,
Proprietor.

The Traders' Bank OF CANADA.
Capital Authorized $1,000,000
Capital Paid up 607,400
Rest 75,000
GUELPH BRANCH
4 per cent paid on sums of $1 and upwards deposited in the Savings Bank department and paid or compounded every six months.
Deposit Receipts issued.
Farmers notes discounted
The collection of sales notes a speciality.
A general Banking business transacted.
A. F. H. JONES,
Manager.

IT DOES NOT PAY
To buy inferior twine when you can get old standard brands at these prices:
Sterling .... 6½c.
Red Cap .... 7 c.
Blue Ribbon .... 8 c.
Don't give these old reliable brands the "go by." Remember the grand results in the past.
Terms Cash
For sale at
BOND'S
Hardware Store,
GUELPH.

Prove it.
You, no doubt, have read shoe advertisements. You have noticed what is said about Low Prices. Prove for yourself who is telling the truth about shoes.

Test it.
Go into any or all of the shoe stores commence with Oxfords at 75 cents, and examine carefully up to $3.00. We claim that we can give a nicer and better fitting Oxford for the money than any other store in the city

Oh yes!
This great Family Shoe Store keeps the lead and intends keeping it.
The Leading Shoe Store.
W. McLaren & Co.
GUELPH.

YOU MAY BE Interested.
GENTLEMEN
We respectfully invite your attention to our assortment of Tweeds and Cloths for this Season's trade, that it will compare, favorably with any in the city we feel quite confident.
Although we do not advertise ourselves (in print) as the "only first class tailors in Guelph," we think that our record justifies us in claiming to be tailors whose goods and work are eminently satisfactory
We do not allow any of our competitors for your patronage to outdo us in any creditable particular.
We have done and are doing as good work as any in Canada and court comparison
YOURS TRULY
SHAW & TURNBULL
Tailors and Furnishing Dealers. GUELPH

EXCURSION
every Saturday
ACTON to SPRAGGE'S
Popular furniture Store
GUELPH
Every Saturday is our
BIG BARGAIN DAY
And on a purchase of goods that would cost you $5.00 at any other store you will save your railway fare if you buy from us, and I will give you a few examples.

1	Extension Table	$4.00	former price	$6.00
2	Sideboard	7.50		9.00
3	Dining Chairs	.60		.80
4	Parlor Suites	20.00		25.00
5	Parlor Suites	25.00		35.00
6	Baby Carriages at net cost			
7	Bicycles at net cost			
8	Bedroom Suites from $11.00 up			

Try us once and you will never leave us.
P. SPRAGGE.
The People's Popular Furniture Store.
Upper Wyndham St
Guelph.

W. BARBER & BROS.
PAPER MAKERS,
GEORGETOWN, ONT.
MAKE A SPECIALTY OF
Machine Finished Book Papers
—AND—
HIGH GRADE WEEKLY NEWS
The paper used in this journal is from the above mills.
WM. BARBER & BROS

Poetry.

HARRY'S CRACKED HEAD.

R. W. McAlpine in Harper's Young People.

She sat in the shade at the farm-house door,
With a scowl on her brow and a flush on her cheek,
And her handmaiden Katie stood weeping with shame,
And so frightened her lips would not serve her to speak.
"Now, Katie, me girl," said the angry dame,
"How is it ye canna mair caution display?
Ilka day ye're destroyin' me platters and bowls,
As though it were nothing for china to pay.
Here, the morn, ye come gallopin' ower the field,
And toomble and shatter me best tureen;
And noo ye destroy a fine Aberdeen bowl—
It's ilka day thus. Now, pray, what does it mean?"
Poor Katie looked up through her glistening tears;
Her features an aspect of misery wore.
"Dear mistress," she stammered, "the bowl I break not,
The Aberdeen bowl it were crackit afore."
"Ah, Katie, 'tis over the fib that ye tell,
Ilka jug broken were crackit afore,
Erelang ye will have a dew ditty to sing,
For I will be kind and forgiving na more."
The good dame's boy Harry, a sharp little imp,
Had heard Katie's plea, and began to reflect;
And resolved that, in case of accident, he
Would use it with equally happy effect.
One day down the staircase he came with a bounce;
A yell and a scream told the tale to the ear.
In the arms of his mother the victim was held,
As she cried and caressed him with matronly fear.
"Has he broken his head, me own darling, me pride?"
"Nay, mither," said Hal, with a sob and a roar,
As he rubbed his wet eyes and his little round head,
"I pray dinna scold me 'twere crackit afore."
Years after, the lad grown to manhood, was seen
Where titles and honors he modestly wore,
And when in defending a vilified Queen
None thought that his head had been "crackit afore."

Select Family Reading.

A Terrible Charge.

BY TALLIE MORGAN

Prisoner at the bar, have you anything to say why the sentence of death should not be passed upon you?

A solemn hush fell over the crowded courtroom, and every person waited in almost breathless expectation for an answer to the Judge's question. Will the prisoner answer? Is there nothing that will make him show some sign of emotion? Will he maintain the cold indifferent attitude that he has shown through the long trial, even to the place of execution? Such were the questions that passed through the minds of those who had followed the case from day to day.

The Judge waited in dignified silence. Not a whisper was heard anywhere, and the situation had become painfully oppressive, when the prisoner was seen to move, his head was raised his hands were clinched and the blood had rushed into his pale, care-worn face. His teeth were firmly set, and into his haggard eyes came a flash of light.

Suddenly he arose to his feet, and in a low, firm, but distinct voice, said:

"I have! Your honor, you have asked me a question and I now ask, as the last favor on earth that you will not interrupt my answer until I am through.

"I stand here before this bar, convicted of the wilful murder of my wife. Truthful witnesses have testified to the fact that I was a loafer, a drunkard, and a wretch; that I returned from one of my prolonged debauches and fired that fatal shot that killed the wife I had sworn to love, cherish and protect. While I have no remembrance of commiting the fearful, and cowardly and inhuman deed, I have no right to complain or to condemn the verdict of the twelve good men who have acted as jury in this case, for their verdict is in accordance with the evidence.

"But may it please the court, I wish to show that I am not alone responsible for the murder of my wife."

This startling statement created a tremendous sensation. The Judge leaned over the desk, the lawyers wheeled around and faced the prisoner, the jurors looked at each other in amazement, while the spectators could hardly suppress their intense excitement. The prisoner paused a few seconds, and then continued in the same firm, distinct voice.

"I repeat, your honor, that I am not the only one guilty of the murder of my wife. The Judge on this bench, the jury in the box, the lawyers within this bar, and most of the witnesses, including the pastor of the old church, are also guilty before Almighty God, and will have to appear with me before his Judgment Throne, where we all shall be righteously judged.

"If twenty men conspire together for the murder of one person, the law power of this land will arrest the twenty, and each will be tried, convicted and executed for a whole murder, and not one twentieth of the crime.

"I have been made a drunkard by law. If it had not been for the legalized saloons of my town, I never would have become a drunkard, my wife would not have been murdered, I would not be here now, ready to be hurled into eternity. Had it not been for the human traps set out with the consent of the government, I would have been a sober man, an industrious workman, a tender father and a loving husband. But to-day my home is destroyed, my wife murdered, my little children God bless and care for them cast out on the mercy of a cold and cruel world, while I am to be murdered by the strong arm of the state.

"God knows I tried to reform, but as long as the open saloon was in my pathway, my weak, diseased will power was no match against the fearful, consuming, agonizing appetite for liquor. At last, I sought the protection, care and sympathy of the church of Jesus Christ, but at the communion table I received from the hand of the pastor who sits there, and who has testified against me in this case, the cup that contained the very same alcoholic serpent that is found in every bar-room in the land. It proved too much for my weak humanity, and out of that holy place I rushed to the last debauch that ended with the murder of my wife.

"For one year our town was without a saloon. For one year I was a sober man. For one year my wife and children were happy, and our little home a perfect paradise.

"I was one of those who signed remonstrances against re-opening the saloons in our town. The names of one half of this jury can be found to-day on the petition certifying to the good character (?) of the rumsellers, and falsely saying that the sale of liquor was necessary in our town. The prosecuting attorney of this case was the one who so eloquently pleaded with the court for the license, and the Judge who sits on this bench, and who asked me if I had anything to say before sentence of death was passed on me, granted the license."

The impassioned words of the prisoner fell like coals of fire upon the hearts of those present, and many of the spectators and some of the lawyers were moved to tears. The Judge made a motion as if to stop any further speech on the part of the prisoner, when the speaker hastily said:

"No; no! your honor, do not close my lips; I am nearly through, and they are the last words I shall utter on earth.

"I began my downward career at the saloon bar—legalized and protected by the commonwealth, which has received annually a part of the blood money from the poor, deluded victims. After the state had made a drunkard and a murderer, I am taken before another bar—the bar of justice (?) by the same power of law that legalized the first bar, and now the law power will conduct me to the place of execution and hasten my soul into eternity. I shall appear before another bar—the Judgement Bar of God, and there you, who have legalized the traffic, will have to appear with me. Think you that the judge will hold me—the poor, weak, helpless of your traffic—alone responsible for the murder of my wife? Nay, I in my drunken frenzied, irresponsible condition, have murdered one, but you have deliberately and wilfully murdered your thousands, and the murder-mills are in full operation to day at your consent.

"All of you know in your hearts that these words of mine are not the ravings of an unsound mind, but God Almighty's truth. The liquor traffic of this nation is responsible for nearly all the murders, bloodshed, riots, poverty, misery, wretchedness and woe. It breaks up thousands of happy homes every year, sends the husband and father to prison or to the gallows, and drives countless mothers and little children into the world to suffer and die. It furnishes nearly all the criminal business of this and every other court, and blasts every community it touches.

"This infernal traffic is legalized and protected by the Republican and Democratic parties, which you sustain with your ballots. And yet some of you have the audacity to say that you are in favor of prohibiting the traffic, while your votes go into the ballot box with those of the rum sellers and the worst elements of the land in favor of continuing the business. Every year you are given the opportunity of voting a protest against this soul and body destroying business and wash your hands of all responsibility for the fearful results of the traffic, but instead you inform the government by your Democratic or Republican ballot that you are perfectly satisfied with the present condition of things, and that they shall continue.

"You legalized the saloons that made me a drunkard and a murderer, and you are guilty with me before God and man for the murder of my wife.

"Now your honor, I am done. I am now ready to receive my sentence and be led forth to the place of execution and be murdered according to the laws of this State. You will close by asking the Lord to have mercy on my soul. I will close by solemnly asking God to open your blind eyes to the truth, to your own individual responsibility so that you will cease to give your support to this hell-born traffic."—*Ram's Horn*

HEALTH ALPHABET.

The Ladies' Sanitary Association of London, gives the following simple rules for keeping health which we find copied in the *Sanitarian*.

A s soon as you are up shake blanket and sheet.
B etter be without shoes than sit with wet feet.
C hildren, if healthy, are active, not still,
D amp beds and damp clothes will both make you ill.
E at slowly and always chew your food well,
F reshen the air in the house where you dwell,
G arments must never be made too tight,
H omes should be healthy, airy and light
I f you wish to be well, as you do I've no doubt,
J ust raise up the windows before you go out,
K eep the rooms always tidy and clean,
L et dust on the furniture never be seen
M uch illness is caused by the want of pure air,
N ow to open your windows be ever your care,
O ld rags and old rubbish should never be kept,
P eople should see that the floors are all swept,
Q uick movements in children are healthy and right,
R emember the young cannot thrive without light,
S ee that the cistern is clean to the brim,
T ake care that your dress is all tidy and trim,
U se your nose to find if there be a bad drain
V ery sad are the fevers that come in its train
W alk as much as you can without feeling fatigue,
X erxes could walk full many a league,
Y our health is your wealth which your wisdom must keep,
Z eal will help a good cause and the good you will reap

HIS RELIGION.

A story was told on the House side relating to a certain Western banker and politician whose name, for good reasons is not to be disclosed. This man was prominent for some time by reason of the success with which he dictated appointments in his vicinity under the present Administration. Reverses overtook him and he disappeared as a political factor. One day, a short time ago, he met an old friend of the Presbyterian faith on the street.

"Hello Brother Buster, how do you fare?" said the good man.

"I am crushed by reverses" said the ex politician, in a querulous voice. "Every thing is gone. All I have left, Brother Billings, is my religion."

Brother Billings met an acquaintance shortly after, and to him related the conversation he had had with the late Banker Politician.

"He says all he has left," related the good man, "is his religion."

"His religion!" exclaimed the other in a tone of irreverence, "even that's in his wife's name."—*Washington Post.*

ANOTHER MEANING FOR O. K.

"O. K." has another significance than the one usually attaching to it. In Russia O. K. used to mean a mysterious brilliant writer who filled columns of the Moscow *Gazette* and Russia with letters in favor of an Anglo-Saxon alliance. The mystic letters meant Olga Kireeff, one of the most prominent of all the fascinating set of social-political Russian luminaries.

She was the only daughter of a distinguished Russian family, and the god-child of the Emperor Nicholas, and led the usual life of the upper class Russian girl until her marriage with Gen. Novikoff. She was the typical leader of the social diplomatic set for awhile, but was not seriously interested in politics until one of her brothers was killed in the Russian-Turkish war. Then she awoke suddenly to the fact of political life, and believing that had England and Russia been on friendly terms such sacrifices would not have been necessary, she became an earnest advocate of an alliance between the two countries.

In England she has many friends of distinction. Kinglake, the Hon C.P. Villiers, Bernal Osborne, Prof Tyndall, Gladstone, Carlyle, John Bright, Prof. Freeman and Froude were all personal friends of hers, some of them supporters of her views.

DOCTOR AND PARSON.

It is not an altogether unheard of thing for a clergyman, in parts of the country where clergymen always have horses, to like to drive at least as swift and spirited a horse as comports with the dignity of his office. On one occasion, such a clergyman, driving through the town, overtook a doctor of his acquaintance on foot.

"Jump in Doctor," said the minister, pulling up. "I've got a horse here that goes pretty well."

The doctor "jumped in," and the minister drove off. The horse did "go" well, in the sense of speed, but in a little while it began to behave badly and ended by tipping over the carriage and spilling out both occupants.

The doctor jumped to his feet, feeling himself all over to see if he was injured. The parson also got on his feet.

"Look here!" exclaimed the doctor. "What do you mean by inviting me to ride behind a horse like that?"

"Well, you see," gasped the minister, "luckily this time I guess, there are no bones broken, but on such occasions I like to have a doctor along!"—*Youth's Companion*

ABOUT AIDING THE POOR.

A leading American journal, writing on the important subject of aiding those who really stand in need of aid, remarks as follows:

One dollar given to help the unemployed to honorable work is worth $10 given in charity

One hour of thought for the well being of others is better than a week of self-indulgence.

The Church of Christ is the wisest and safest almoner of Christian beneficence.

Give the bread of life to the poor and bread for the body will soon be provided.

Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

All things therefore whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, even do ye unto them, for this is the law and the prophets.

An hour of kindly sympathetic fellowship with the lowly in their humble homes brings to them more of real comfort and happiness than a gift of money sent by mail.

HOW TO SPOIL THE BOY.

If you want your gray hairs dishonored by a spoiled and ruined son, adopt the following directions:

1. Let him have plenty of spending money

2. Permit him to choose his own companions without restraint or direction

3. Give him a latch key and allow him to return home late in the evenings.

4. Make no inquiries as to where and with whom he spends his leisure moments.

5. Give him to understand that manners make a good substitute for morality.

6. Teach him to expect pay for every act of helpfulness to others

7. Allow him to occupy a seat in church with the boys rather than the pew with his parents

8. Permit him to regard the Sunday school unsuitable for a boy on the verge of young manhood

NOT SURE OF HIMSELF.

Great confidence has been the ruin of many a man. It is better not to be at, but rather to remember ourselves, lest we also be tempted. So thought a venerable negro, mentioned by the Washington *Star*.

He had applied for work.

"So you want to do chores for us?" said the gentleman on whom he had called.

"Deed I does."

"Well, I don't know. You look as if you were honest."

"Colonel I'll tell ye de troof 'bout dat."

"Very good."

"Well, yer see, I se puffictly hones' but I kain't be sho'."

"Why not?"

"Kase I aint had nough sperience. I se wifstood watermillions all right enough, but I aint nebber had no face ter face temptations wid chickens."

GETTING AT THE FACTS.

Attorney—"You are the president of the Dazzling Sun Gas Company, are you not?"

Witness—"I am."

"Now, sir, for the purpose of getting at the exact facts in this case, I am compelled to ask you what it costs the company per thousand feet to manufacture gas?"

"That, sir, is a matter of no concern to you and has nothing to do with this case."

"I insist upon knowing."

"I prefer not to answer, sir."

(To the court) Your honor, it is absolutely necessary to get the figures."

The Court. The witness will answer the question."

"Now, then, I will ask you again, sir, How much does the manufacture of gas cost the company a thousand feet?"

"I haven't any idea. I have nothing to do with the business affairs of the company except to draw my regular dividend of 5 per cent."—*Chicago Tribune.*

The scrofulous taint which may have been in your blood for years, may be thoroughly expelled by Hood's Sarsaparilla. Give it a trial.

NEW ABBREVIATION.

A lady tells the story of a young man who had come from the country to the city in which she lived, and in a short time fancied himself equal to any social emergency. He never asked advice upon questions of etiquette, and in consequence he made many mistakes. At one time the lady issued cards to a dancing party, and among the invited guests she included this rather conceited and awkward young man.

He was to be out of town at the date of the party, and so was unable to accept the invitation. At the foot of the card he read the letters R.S.V.P. and was much perplexed as to their meaning. However, he was nothing daunted by his ignorance, and wrote a note, declining the invitation in a formal and stilted terms as he could command and after signing his name added the letters, M.S.C.C.

On his return to the city, after the party he went to call on the lady, and in the course of the conversation asked, "By the way Mrs. Clapp, what did you mean by R.S.V.P. at the end of the invitation you sent me?"

"Why," replied the hostess, without a note of surprise in her polite voice, "they stand for the French phrase, *Repondez, sil vous plait,*—Answer if you please."

"Oh, yes! Well, I was all right, then," said the young man in a tone of much satisfaction. "I thought I should hit it in my answer."

"Now that you speak of it," said his courteous hostess, "I do wish to ask you what M.S.C.C. stands for. I can't imagine and I can't find any one who has ever seen the abbreviation used!"

"Oh!" replied her visitor, airily, "that meant 'Mighty sorry couldn't come.' I should think that was plain enough."

WATERING GARDEN PLANTS.

Watering garden plants, as commonly practised, is an absolute injury to vegetation, for the reason that it is not done plentifully enough. When the earth is dry and hot, the application of a little water only increases the heat and has a tendency to make the soil more compressed and drier than before. The most of our soils are more or less calcareous, and the action of the sun's heat has the same effect as heat upon limestone. The carbonic acid is expelled, and brought into contact with moisture, heat is generated, and unless sufficient water is applied to overcome the heat, vegetation suffers. A sprinkling pot should never be used in time of drought, unless the soil around the roots of the plants is at the same time thoroughly soaked, and the watering should always take place after sunset, when the dew has begun to fall.

This is in accordance with natural laws. Rain and sunshine seldom appear together and, further, when nature waters vegetation the atmosphere is filled with moisture. Pool water and soapsuds are good for the garden, and cistern water may be used, but should be exposed to the sun and air before applying. Strong liquid from the barnyard is death to garden plants and should only be used after diluting until very weak. My plan of watering to avoid making a hard surface crust around the plants, says a writer, is to dig three or four holes on the different sides of the hill a few inches away, and into these pour not less than one pailful of water, and after all has soaked in, replace the dry earth, and then with watering pot sprinkle the dry earth.—*Farmer's Voice.*

WORDS OF WISDOM.

Progress, the highest lesson of statecraft.

Men at some time are masters of their fate.

The simple heart that freely asks in love obtains.

The society woman is the element of good manners.

Better a little chiding than a great deal of heartbreak.

A man in earnest finds means, or if he cannot find, creates them.

Some men weave their sophistry till their own reason is entangled

Moderation is commonly firm and firmness is commonly successful

Oh, how portentous is prosperity! How, comet like, it threatens while it shines

No woman is educated who is not equal to the successful management of a family.

The memory has as many moods as the temper, and shifts its scenery like a diorama

Conceit is easily driven from all other shifts, and forced to appeal to itself for admiration

He that knows the world will not be bashful; he who knows himself will not be impudent.

There are few wild beasts more to be dreaded than a talking man having nothing to say

WHEN A CHARACTER IS MADE.

Youth is the period of life when character is made. Many young men have deluded themselves with the idea, that the evil life they are now leading is but a temporary matter, and that when the time comes to sober down, they will be able to cast off their soiled clothing. That is a great mistake. You cannot do an evil act, or think an impure or evil thought without being the worse all your life for having done so. But, even, if it were not so, if it were not true that every evil thought and act has a permanent, lasting effect it is true that a habit, be it good or bad, once formed cannot be cast off as easily as soiled linen. Not one man in a thousand has sufficient will power to break himself when once it was formed. "The law of harvest is to reap more than you sow. Sow an act and you reap a habit, sow a habit and you reap a character, sow a character and you reap a destiny." And as someone else has said, if you sow nothing but wild oats in your youth, you will reap nothing but tares in your age.

AT THE CIRCUS.

"Well," remarked the royal Bengal tiger from his cage as he observed the elephant reach up to the top of a wagon and get an apple, "if I had to put up my trunk for my board, I don't think I'd let everybody know it."

"Don't you worry about me," retorted the elephant, with characteristic bonhomie. "I'd a blame sight rather put it up my trunk for it than have no trunk and get it by wearing stripes," and the royal Bengal withdrew to the farthest corner of his cell, where he might not hear the elephant smile.

Men make laws; women make manners.

"HE LEADETH ME."

In pastures green? not always, sometimes He
Who knoweth best, in kindness leadeth me,
In weary ways, where heavy shadows be.

Out of the sunshine, warm and soft and bright,
Out of the sunshine into darkest night,
I oft would faint with sorrow and affright.

Only for this—I know He holds my hand,
So whether in green or dessert land,
I trust, although I may not understand

And by still waters? no, not always so
Oft times the heavy tempests round me blow
And o'er my soul the waves and billows go.

But when the storm beats loudest, and I cry
Aloud for help, the Master standeth by,
And whispers to my soul, "Lo, it is I."

Above the tempest wild I hear Him say,
"Beyond this darkness lies the perfect day,
In every path of thine I lead the way."

So whether on the hilltops high and fair
I dwell, or in the sunless valleys where
The shadows lie—what matter? He is there.

And more than this, where'er the pathway lead,
He gives to me no broken, helpless reed,
But his own hand, sufficient for my need.

So where he leads me I can safely go
And in the blest hereafter I shall know
Why, in His wisdom, He hath led me so.

—*Philadelphia Times.*

WORK FAITHFULLY DONE.

Two men employed by the city government, says an exchange, were conversing lately about their work.

"How much can you do in a day?" asked one.

"When I came to this place last fall," he replied with a smile at the recollection. "I was quite 'fresh,' and I worked with all my might. I did a big day's work every time," and he specified the amount. "But I have learned better since then. I do about a third of what I did at first," and he seemed to feel quite proud of his increased worldly wisdom

"When I am paid for a day's work I do it," said the other

"Everybody knows your practice, and it will make you unpopular with the rest if you persist in being so exact to the minute in the morning, and in working your full time or over at night."

"I am willing to take the risk," said his friend decidedly. "It will be the first time I ever saw it work to a man's disadvantage to do his duty honestly and faithfully."

"There is no use in being so particular," said another in the same line of work, "when you get your money just the same, whether you work or not."

It might look so on the surface, but even on the low ground of expediency, faithfulness was best.

Troublesome investigating committees have a fashion of coming around at times and making a good deal of disturbance where they are honestly conducted. It is not the really useful workers who are really weeded out. It is the nature, too, of all dishonest procedings to multiply themselves, and sometimes losing his place is the least of the evils that befalls such a workmen

In these days when even perjury seems so common, a young man cannot pay too great pains to have his character rooted and grounded in truth. Nothing short of its will save him from a thousand pitfalls. "Being found out," is a small consideration compared with being dishonest, and being dishonest in the matter of time is the same in principle as being too free with an employer's money. The responsibility is not the least lessened when that employer is the Government of the United States.

The first year of a boy's business life often decides much with regard to his future course. When the Duke of Wellington stood in his later years overlooking the playground of his boyish school days and observed the skill and science and endurance of the lads, busy with their athletic games, he said with warm interest and sympathy: "It was here that Waterloo was won!" Many a youth has won or lost his Waterloo in just such unconscious moments. That was a sad day for Napoleon, but not in the least more disastrous than for one to lose the battle of life

SECRET OF LIVING LONG.

The necessity of relative harmony throughout the entire physical system can not be too strongly urged. Herein lies the chief secret of health and long life. Manifest weakness, or even predominant strength in any part opens the avenue for the invasion of disease and the approach of death. What can be done for the restoration and maintenance of structural and vital harmony? Space would fail us to give details adapted to varying conditions, but the underlying fundamental principle for its accomplishment may be imparted in few words. Strive to strengthen and develop those parts of the body which have been slighted by nature or weakened by disease or abuse, guard jealously such structures and see that they are never subjected to undue strain or too severe exertion, neglect not the improvement of every part of the economy, but seek first to improve the weakest structures, look well to organs of vital importance the heart, lungs, kidneys, etc and seek especially to advance their good. A fine physique is not to be ignored, but of far greater importance are a strong pair of lungs, a normal, well guarded heart, good digestive apparatus and functionally sound kidneys. The strengthening and developing of vital structures require more skill and perseverance than the training of the muscular system and should be conducted with much care and diligence

EAT FRUITS.

The warmth of summer tends to bilious ness and fevers, and the free use of fruits counteracts this tendency. This is because the acids of the fruit help to facilitate the separation of the bile from the blood, a process slackened by the approach of hot weather. "Fruits are cooling" is an expression often used, but why this is so very few understand. They are so because the acid of the fruit stimulates the liver to greater activity in separating the bile from the blood, which is its proper work, the result of which is the bowels become free, the pores of the skin are open, and under such conditions fever and want of appetite are impossible.

"Ten cents it costs," sweet Mary cries
"My dress is just a treasure,
I dyed it with the Diamond Dyes
One day when had leisure."

If you mail this verse and notice and 25 cents in stamps or money to Wells & Richardson Co., Montreal, you will receive *Our Home*, Canada's new monthly family paper, for one year, also illustrated book on "How to Make Mats and Rugs," and one package of Ink Powder, for making 16 ounces of best black ink. Mention this paper.