BORN.

Holmes—In St. Clair, Mich., on Monday, Aug. 20th, the wife of Howard G. Holmes, of a son

MARRIED.

Barry-Rutledge—In St. Peter's Church, Gaelrich, on the 22nd inst., by the Rev. Father West, P. P., cousin of the bride, M. P. Barry, Rockwood, Ont., to Mary T. Rutledge, Richmond, Mich.

DIED.

Embury—At 64 Dundas St., Toronto, on Tuesday, 14th August, Gladys, infant daughter of Harry and Bella Embury, aged 14 months.

Wright—In Acton, on Saturday, 25th August, James H., son of A. E. Wright, aged 11 years and 4 months.

Webster—At Ballinafad, on Monday, August 6, Margaret Webster, wife of the late Henry Botton Webster, in her 79th year.

The Acton Free Press.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 30, 1894.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Sir Henry De Villers, who represented Cape Colony at the Inter Colonial conference, has written the Minister of Trade and Commerce to state that since his return to South Africa he has become more than ever convinced of the possibility of working up a considerable trade between that colony and the Dominion of Canada.

The English wheat crop, although of the smallest acreage, promised until three weeks ago to give the greatest yield per acre on record. It has rained almost continuously since, and the deluge of the past three days has almost ruined the crop. Even oats are flat on the ground, and the demand for American grain is sure to be greater than usual.

The official crop estimates for 1894 as compared with 1893 are given by European papers. The figures for the countries outside of Europe are: India, 6,823,000 tons of wheat, against 7,749,000 last year. United States, 390,000,000 bushels of wheat, against 382,000,000 last year; [illegible] 000,000 bushels of rye, against 24,000,000 last year; 1,500,000,000 bushels of oats, against 1,809,000,000 last year. Canada 53,000,000 bushels of wheat, against [illegible] 000,000 last year.

Labor day which is set for the first Monday in September of each year is as much a statutory holiday as the Queen's Birthday or Dominion Day and so fixed by the House of Commons. All courts banks and schools are expected to be closed and business will generally be suspended. Labor demonstrations are projected some places to will probably take a few years for municipalities to get into line with this new holiday. In Acton no special announcements have been made for this year respecting it.

Importers of tea say that so far the price of the fragrant leaf has not been effected by the hostilities between China and Japan. Unless the ports of the two countries are blockaded the war will have little effect upon the tea market. The thing most to be feared is that the Japanese will blockade the Straits of Formosa as the French once did. At that time the supply of tea was almost cut off. It is not likely that this will occur. With the great Chinese tea depots of Shanghai, Foo Chow and Amoy hemmed in by the Japanese and Yokahama and Hiogo, in Japan, blockaded by the Chinese the tea market would be demoralized. The season for the importation of tea is now at its height.

Col. Howard Vincent, member for Central Sheffield in the British Commons on Tuesday asked whether the opinions of the law officers of the crown had been taken as the Earl of Jersey, the representative of Great Britain at the Ottawa conference, had promised, on the question as to whether the treaties of Great Britain with Belgium and Germany and the tariff union prevented preferential trade relations between the colonies themselves. Mr. Sydney Buxton, Parliamentary secretary for the Colonial Office, said that the opinion of the law officers had been taken on this subject, and that they decided that the treaties did not prevent preferential treatment by Great Britain in favor of the colonies, nor between the colonies themselves; but the treaties did prevent preferential treatment by the colonies in favor of Great Britain.

Evidences are wanting that the condition of the country is unhealthy, but evidences are forthcoming to prove that the country is healthy. The Government savings' banks returns for 1893 recently published are of the latter character. These banks are the depositories of the savings of the masses. And when people are hard up, not only do they not increase their savings but they are of necessity compelled to draw upon what they have in their day of prosperity put aside. No one will gainsay this. Yet, notwithstanding the hard times that some people have been bemoaning, we find that last year not only did these people increase their savings, but they withdrew less than they have done any year during the previous five years. The fact of the matter is, we are too much in the habit of crying "wolf" when no wolf is nigh. Half the time it is scare talk, and the want of confidence it breeds that clogs the wheels of commerce and prevents their running as freely as they otherwise would. When business is quiet, instead of sitting in sackcloth and ashes, merchants should exert a little more ingenuity to bring trade. That is the sensible way—that is the right way.—*Canadian Grocer.*

MILTON.

The Fall Assizes will be held in the court house here on Monday, Sept. 10th.

The Royal Templars of Milton purpose holding an open meeting this evening. Refreshments are on the programme.

There will be a concert, under the auspices of the Y. L. A. of the Methodist Church, in the town hall on the evening of the second day of the Halton County Fair.

James Alexander's thirteen year old son, while amusing himself on the second floor of Thos. Chisholm's unfinished new building, fell through and into the cellar. His collar bone was broken, his nose cut, and he was badly bruised, but he is doing very well.

Last week John Stadhain, a tramp, who said he hailed from Listowel, was tried before Judge Snider for stealing a watch from Robt. McCurdy, of Trafalgar. It seems that Stadhain went to Mr. McCurdy's house, and asked for supper and bed. He got both and rewarded his charitable entertainers by getting up next morning before any of the family were stirring and making off with the watch, which had been left hanging on a nail in the kitchen. Mr. McCurdy followed him and caught him in Chingacousy. The prisoner pleaded guilty and was sentenced to nine months in the Central Prison.

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MARCHING UPON PEKIN

Startling Report that the Japanese are Invading China.

CHINA BEHEADING JAPAN SPIES.

Shanghai, Aug. 29.—It is reported here that the Japanese transports, reported by war vessels, are landing troops in Corea in the northward of Taku, with the intention of marching upon Pekin. They are said to have 20 war ships there and to plan an attack on the Chinese from the rear.

Another report says that the Japanese have succeeded in landing 20,000 men on the banks of the Yalu Rivers separating Corea from China and thus have thus cut off the supplies of the large army which the Chinese have sent down the Corean Peninsula.

Finally, this report says that the Japanese troops are converging upon the rear of the Chinese army, marching southward and that the latter will consequently be taken between two fires, unless it is claimed, will alone bring about disaster.

A third report says that the French Commissioner at Hong Kong has been murdered by the soldiers of General Ah [illegible].

According to advices received from Formosa, 50 Japanese have had their heads cut off recently, having been arrested as spies.

In order to raise money to push the war the operations of the Chinese Government has increased the travel taxes on rice.

Vienna, Aug. 28.—The war fever here is growing more intense every day and there is a great popular demand for the transfer of the war to operations from Corea to China. It is suggested that Japan should seize Newchwang, occupy and march upon Pekin, [illegible]

The rumours of a French intervention in the war, which were circulated yesterday, [illegible] Paris.

[illegible] Parliament buildings [illegible] Park are a lasting monument to the [illegible] manner in which Mr. [illegible] looked after the interests of the [illegible] superannuation [illegible] of the late Mr. Fraser took place at Brockville on Sunday and was very [illegible] attended.

[illegible] at Stewartstown last week [illegible] were very present.

Moved by Mr. [illegible] seconded by Mr. Wrigglesworth, that the following accounts be paid:

[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]