

The Acton Free Press.

VOLUME XXIV.—NO. 5.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, 1898.

PRICE THREE CENTS

The Acton Free Press

EVERY THURSDAY MORNING.
—AT THE—
Free Press Steam Printing Office,
WILL STREET, ACTON, ONT.

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A large quantity of Sponges at half price.
The store is full of Summer reading—the latest published, and all the old favorites.

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Binding Twine.

Full Stock
Best Qualities
and
Lowest Prices
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NORVAL, GEORGETOWN,
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Latest and Best Designs of
MONUMENTS
IN GRANITE AND MARBLE AT
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John Cameron,
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Bring Pictures to be framed.

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Deposit Receipts issued for large sums deposited.

Advances made to responsible farmers on their own names.

No charge made for collecting Sales Notes if payable in Guelph.

A General Banking Business transacted.
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HARDWARE,
GUELPH.

Select Family Reading.

The Stirring of Harmon.

BY MAY D. HATCH.

"Do these books shall stir up! These books shall stir up! You know I know! Do these books!"

Why honey, you do not give to skule in that for abo!"

The singer, who had been crooning to herself over her work in the back porch, and turned her head at an approaching step, dropped her hands limply, while a look of amazement bordering on horror stole over her placid black features.

"Certainly I am, but I shall be glad to do your bidding in anything else." Peggy shook her head gloomily.

"I dunno, Miss Jessie," she said, "dunno nuffin de de styles Norf, but I'd feef mighty bad if Colone' Preston's Mis' Lemgo or Mis' Pagon-Smith meels 'er to do rood lookin' like dat."

"Nonsense, Peggy! I am perfectly willing to meet the whole country as once; and it is not a question of style but a question of comfort; you must remember that."

She spoke indifferently, but she was conscious of a slight inward shiver at the thought of the general dispersal her innovation of riding to the school-house on a bicycle might be met with, in view of the fact that it had been at her very door.

She was a trim, sweet-looking girl, with gray hair, a broad forehead, and a soft, brown hair of a sunny cast that was reflected in her eyes, and she wore a modest dark-blue frock that fitted her slight figure well, reaching just to her shoe-tops, and leggings and shoes that would not show the dust of the road, and a long collar hat to shield her face from the warm August sun.

She wheeled the new bicycle, the first of the kind in Harmon, out into the yard, and mounting it easily, she was off like a bird on the country road, with the sunlight catching the shining wheels as they rolled on, and a long collar hat to shield her face from the warm August sun.

Of course, of course, but one must always consider them, and we decided that someone had better speak to you and advise you to give it up. If you wish to hold your present position in our school."

"Don't think I shall give it up," said the girl slowly, "until I can see the harm in it."

The lady rose, and just then Mrs. Hady appeared, with Peggy hovering in the background, and taking a look at the rider, and as the lady turned back, she saw the school-teacher's face and as she turned back, she saw the school-teacher's face and as she turned back, she saw the school-teacher's face.

As she sat there alone some one came into the room, and seeing the little school-teacher's dress, went softly up to her.

It was Mrs. Phillips, one of the boys getting ready for college, a tall, sturdy fellow of seventeen, afraid of nothing, always in some scrape, but with a big generous heart, and unable to see anyone in trouble without offering his help and sympathy.

"Come, Miss Jessie," he said, standing a bit awkwardly beside her, "won't you tell a fellow what is the matter?"

She looked up smiling, ashamed of her tears.

"I have got to give it up, I guess," she said.

"What do you mean—your bicycle?" she nodded, her lips quivering a little. "It was so much more than a child's affair."

"What for?" she asked. "I thought they had been badgering you about it. It is a shame."

Then she told him of the call she had received, and that it was particularly a question of losing her position if she persisted in riding.

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Poetry.

A MIDLIN MAN.

It seems 't me, jest lola o' me
Wee horns 't spend our days
A sort o' maddlin' folk who gets
No noob o' blame 't praise.

When I was jest a little chap
What could I talk o' all,
It seems like I was lach'ed-like
'T bout leorning 'ow 't crawl;

'Tbout then I heard my mother say—
'T father lola o' me,
'Tbout o' other little chaps
Wee lach'ed then me.

'N' when I tried 't lach' 't walk,
'Tbout no great leek I knowed,
The neighbors say 't was 't worse
'An half the ones they knowed!

'N' I, who's come 't say 't things,
Was sort o' maddlin' quick,
'Tbout pile o' chaps, but other piles,
Jest lach' me clean 't lach'!

Just then I lach' 't read 't school,
'Tbout lach' 't read 't school,
'Tbout lach' 't read 't school,
'Tbout lach' 't read 't school!

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