MARRIED.

LOSH—LORBE—At the residence of the bride's father, on Wednesday, 29th March, by Rev. Dixon Sharpe, Mr. J. Lush, to Maggie, daughter of Matthew Loree, Esq., all of Eramosa.

BOYLE—DUFFIELD—On Wednesday, March 22nd, at the residence of the bride's mother, by Rev. D. Sharpe, assisted by Rev. Mr. Bolton, Adam Boyle of Garafraxa, to Jennie Duffield, of Eramosa.

The Acton Free Press

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 1899.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

It is said that the population of Manitoba has reached the 260,000 mark. The last census taken in 1891 gave the population as 152,000. This is an increase of 108,000 in nine years.

The stove manufacturers of Hamilton will increase the pay of their moulders 10 per cent. on May 1. The McClary Manufacturing Co., of London have advanced the wages of their hands 10 per cent.

Assessor Graham is now engaged in assessing the municipality. Every man who is 21 years of age should see to it that his name is made known to the assessor, so that all their names may be placed on the manhood franchise list.

Mr. Pattullo's bill to prevent Municipal Councils granting or renewing exemptions from taxation without the consent of the electors has passed in committee. Mr. Kribs thought that a majority vote of the electors should suffice, but committee voted in favor of a two-thirds majority.

Within ten years the British national debt has been reduced $335,000,000. The national debts of the principal powers are now: France $5,440,000; Russia, $3,218,000; Great Britain, $3,172,000,000; Italy, $2,581,000,000; Spain, $1,848,000,000; Austria, $1,743,000,000, and Prussia, $1,592,000,000.

J. H. Bell, M. P., the newly elected member for Prince, P. E. I., who moved the address in the House of Commons on Monday and made an effective speech is a barrister and an ex-Miltonian. He was a student in the office of Wm. Laidlaw, Q. C., when the latter gentleman was practicing in Milton.—*Champion.*

A grand military tournament in Montreal during 1900 has been suggested by General Hutton. It will be on a large scale, in fact, the biggest thing of its kind ever seen in Canada. The General's idea is to have detachments from all branches of the British service and representatives from the United States cavalry and other forces as well.

A member of Milton Council in debating the contemplated expenditure of a liberal sum with a view to improved streets and roads said that there were some four vacant stores and thirty vacant dwellings in town, and he could not see how the proposed improvements would fill these up. If the Councillor will send those vacant stores and houses up to Acton we'll fill them for him. We are in need of a new supply of about that number this spring.

Admiral Sampson, according to a correspondent of the London *Times*, is heartily in favor of an understanding between the United States and Britain. During the admiral's recent visit to Bermuda he is credited with having given utterance to the following suggestive words: "Formerly Great Britain was regarded as the only European power with which the United States was likely to have serious differences. Now we regard Britain as our best, perhaps our only, friend."

The 29th annual report of the Provincial Inspector upon the hospitals of the Province has just been issued. It shows that the work done by the hospitals of Ontario during the past year surpasses all previous years in their history, the number of patients treated having been 21,828, or an increase of 2,211 over any previous year, while the death rate has greatly decreased, there being 1,129, or about five per cent. of the cases treated. This is the lowest death rate yet in the Province.

The *Herald* wants the Government to provide Georgetown with a combined post office and customs house building, at a cost of about $8,000. Milton is badly in need of a building of the same kind and has not even a collector of customs, the latter want causing great inconvenience to business men. Milton's claims should be pressed.—*Champion.* And the needs of Acton, Burlington and Oakville, will also be considered, of course. Mr. Henderson's scheme when his party was in power, was to have a post office building for each of these towns, but "The schemes of mice and men gang aft aglee."

In its evident anxiety to show up the alleged sins of a political opponent our esteemed contemporary, the Milton *Standard*, overstepped the mark, when in its last issue it attacked the *Reformer* because it published the reply of Sir Wilfrid Laurier to the Dominion Alliance, and insinuated that the *Reformer's* prohibition principles were insincere. This is certainly unfair. The reply was published without note or comment. It was published similarly in newspapers of all shades of politics throughout the Dominion. For fourteen years the FREE PRESS and *Reformer* have stood side by side in the struggle to uphold the prohibition cause in the County of Halton, and whatever the *Reformer* has been in its political predilections, we have always found it true and consistent on the prohibition question, in season and out of season, and never before in its history has it been charged with being disloyal or insincere, even when the exigencies following the action of political leaders might be thought by some to justify a different course. The *Reformer* has been prohibitionist in principle first, last and always, and if our bright and energetic young journalistic representative of the Conservative party in the county is as true to the same principles under all circumstances for so long a period it will win permanent favor with the good men and true of Halton generally.

LIMEHOUSE.

The sale of the stock, implements, etc., of the late Thomas Scott will be held this afternoon on the farm, lot 22, con. 4, Esquesing.

The Lime Kilns are all running full time again with every prospect of a good summer's trade.

Five cars of timber left our station on Monday for Point Levis, Quebec. We understand they go from there to England to be used in shipbuilding.

We are glad to report that Mr. John Lewis [illegible] who has been confined to his home [illegible] is able to be out and around again.

DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS

Lengthy Speeches Criticising and Defending the Government's Policy Continue.

EASTER ADJOURNMENT TO-DAY.

OTTAWA, March 29.—Monday's order paper contained 148 items, including 19 public bills, of which 18 stand in the name of Government supporters, 84 questions by members, and 45 notices of motion. The speeches this week add about twenty to the record of the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne. It was thought early in the week that the immense stream of words relating to the address would be exhausted before the Easter adjournment to-morrow night, but yesterday the chief whip of the Opposition announced that a score at least of the members of his party have speeches yet undelivered.

MAJOR GEN. HUTTON'S SUGGESTIONS

Major-General Hutton has made some important suggestions in the annual report of the militia department which was laid on the table in the House of Commons Tuesday evening. He is not at all satisfied with the present condition of affairs and points out many reforms which are necessary to place the militia on a good basis. His suggestions, if carried out, will revolutionize the militia of to-day.

BRITISH MANUFACTURERS' WANTS.

The high Commissioner's office in London is in communication with the Department of Trade and Commerce on behalf of some British manufacturers, who want to be put in correspondence with the manufacturers of corn brooms, wooden pails and wooden ware generally. Another firm wants purchasing agencies for drugs, while another asks about exporters of canned apples, dried prunes and kindred fruit.

ILLEGALLY MIXING WHEAT.

Several western members of parliament waited on Henri Joly de Lotbiniere, Minister of Inland Revenue, on Saturday, and laid a charge that eastern elevator men are in the habit of mixing grains of inferior quality with first-class grain and selling the same as first quality. Sir Henry promised to give the matter his attention.

MANITOBA'S CHIEF JUSTICESHIP.

The Chief Justiceship of Manitoba becomes vacant on the 1st of April. The resignation of Chief Justice Taylor takes effect on the 31st March. Until the resignation of Sir Thomas Taylor takes effect, of course no one can be appointed, but the general opinion is that Justice Killam will be promoted to the Chief Justiceship. Mr. Isaac Campbell, Q. C., refused the appointment. There is a probability of Mr. Campbell being the Government candidate for the Commons in Winnipeg at the approaching by-election.

A BOY WHO RAN AWAY.

And Retailed Falsehoods About a Kind-hearted Farmer.

The Hamilton *Herald* does injustice to an esteemed farmer in Erin by the publication last Thursday of the following:

"Four years ago George and Bert Knight left the Marchmont home at Belleville, and took positions on the farm of Henry Near, who lives on the outskirts of Acton. The lads turned in as if they were old men—milked, plowed, reaped, pulled turnips and hoed corn. "This is a good thing," said Near to himself as he watched the boys toil. He gave them the glad hand and 25 cents for their 4 years' work and supplied them with clothes that had grown wearisome to him. The boys ran away, and for the past five months have been bumping along like freight cars. They reached town yesterday, and Inspector Hunter will provide them a home near Silverdale."

The first sentence is a mis-statement for Bert Knight never lived with Mr. Near, and if the *Herald* had known the upright character and reputation of Mr. Near it would not have published its "funny" paragraphs which follow. For a little over three years Mr. Near kept George Knights, clothed him, sent him to school during the winter months, and used him kindly. Last August just as the harvest was coming on, and when young Knight had grown to a size when he could make himself useful, he suddenly left without notice. He spent several months about Acton and left here about six weeks ago.

He was well repaid by Mr. Near for all the work he performed, but his sudden flitting and subsequent falsely told tales prove that in his case kind treatment was unrequited and undeserved.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The Monthly Meeting Held on Monday Evening.

The Board of Trustees of Acton Public School met on Monday evening at the call of the chairman.

Members present, Hiram Swackhamer, Chairman, George Hynds, W. R. Kenney, A. A. Secord and Robert Wallace.

The Committee on Finance presented their second report, recommending payment of accounts as follows:

George Dills, work at well	$ 1 50
A. Stephenson, repairs to pump, etc.	1 75
James Sinclair, cutting wood	2 50
E. P. Moore, printing and advertising	7 50
J. L. & J. M. Warren, 30 cords wood	97 50
	$110 45

Moved by George Hynds, seconded by A. A. Secord, that the report of the Finance Committee just read be adopted.—Carried.

After discussion as to certain improvements contemplated to the school grounds, etc., the Board adjourned.

HALTON POST OFFICES.

Growing Postal Revenues and Increasing Money Order Business.

The postal and money order business in the accounting offices of the County of Halton for the year ending June 30th, 1898, is shown by the annual report of the Postmaster-General, just issued to be as follows:

	Postal Revenue.	Business.	Allowances
Acton	$9,405 73	$44,883 33	$ 987 61
Bronte	597.71	3,635 07	305 73
Burlington	1,486 80	21,015 63	579 17
Freeman	443 33	4,466 73	167 75
Georgetown	4,027 15	80,301 29	1,157 15
Milton	3,853 97	88,995 68	928 35
Nassagaweya	474 71	4,191 64	187 91
Norval	380 68	3,879 71	177 83
Oakville	2,618 14	19,014 45	1,011 29
Omagh	163 67	839 99	55 43
Palermo	361 89	5,021 19	110 36

In addition to the above there is the revenue from the various non-accounting offices of the county.

TALK OF THE DAY.

Upwards of 175 French-Canadians, left Montreal for Manitoba in charge of Father Blais on Wednesday.

The French Chamber on Tuesday, Sept. 27, 1898, by 315 to 164, retained the motto "God and Our Kingdom" over the entrance [illegible]

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