

HORN.

Writings in Mandarins. Price, July 21, to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Wilson & daughter.

MASHED.

Dinner-Dances. At the conclusion of the Emperor's birthday, on Wednesday, July 23d, by Rev. James A. Abbott, of Belmont Church, in his ship.

DIED.

Action-Al Appley, on Tuesday, July 16th, George H. Atwell, aged 70 years.

James Hance, aged 62 years.

Frances—In Kitchener, on Friday, with her son, Dr. Wm. G. Kitchener, aged 33 years and 10 months.—IA.

The Acton Free Press

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2nd, 1900.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

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The Director of the Department of Roads for Ontario states that work on an extensive scale is being carried out at Almonte, Fenfrew, Guelph, Galt, Galt's Mills, Welland, Niagara Falls, and St. Catharines, besides on a smaller scale, at many points. Next year the Ontario government will begin to supplement the efforts of rural localities in road improvement—the expenditure of \$100,000, and will continue to spend that amount annually till the sum of \$1,000,000 has been used in country road construction and improvement.

One of the department heads Washington recently wrote an article for the *Leader Home Journal* which required the President's approval for publication. The President asked that the article be given to him. At the end of a week the manuscript came back edited in a way which completely avoided administration. The President was apparently thoroughly conversant with all the marks which editors use in making corrections. Every sentence and punctuation had its proper sign, and each was in the President's own handwriting.

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The system of vertical writing, which has had such rapid development in the public schools of the country the past four or five years, is to be abandoned in the public schools of New York, and a return to the Spencerian system made in all schools. The reason for this is that vertical writing is not popular in business houses, and applicants for positions must either learn the slanting system or remain unemployed. It is hoped, now that the reaction set in, that the unnatural fondness for the system will be excluded from all schools and soon become a thing of the past.

The condemnation imposed in the minds of the public by the announcement a few days ago that the price of tea was rising in consequence of the disturbances in China, appears destined to be short-lived. Even in the New York market, where, for purely speculative purposes apparently, the rise in question was inaugurated, there seems to have been no sufficient reason for so doing, while from London—the great tea market of the world—the intelligence that the stocks of the large tea houses, either in hand or being consigned, are extensive enough to render a rise of price, except perhaps in the case of some special brands, very improbable for a considerable time.

Gen. Sir Archibald Hunter and his son, General of the Guards, Hector Macdonald, seem to have had fighting to do last week before they bottled up Prinsloo and his followers in the Bethlehem Hills. The dispatch from Lord Roberts, dated yesterday, shows that the summary of another dispatch, which at this hour has not been received in full, announcing the surrender of Prinsloo with 2,000 men. Lord Roberts has withdrawn his headquarters from Belmont to Pretoria. Midway, he has been occupied, and the campaign along the line of Pretoria to Delagoa Bay seems to have evenly on. The outlook is bright at all points, and reliable reports indicate the early return of peace to South Africa.

In Great Britain, Japan, and the United States unite in maintaining the integrity of China, the scheme of partition will not succeed. It is true that Japan would like, for many reasons, such a hegemony over the mainland as a slice from the corpus of her far-off enemy would give her. But what Japan really wants is to block the actions of Russia, America, and Germany, which would be a blow to her prestige.

On Wednesday evening of last week, the Sunday School Scholars entertained the Epsom League gathering to the delight of all present, when a collection was taken up to aid the school in making a gift toward the new church.

Last Thursday Epsom Sunday School was well represented at the Erasmus Township Association picnic held in Rockwood Exhibition grounds. The picnic, which was the first the Association got up, taking the place of the annual excursion, was pronounced a grand success.

Mrs. Peacock and daughters, of Guelph, were present with relatives in Montreal.

Mr. M. Miller, of Waterloo, arrived Thursday evening for a few weeks with relatives here.

Mr. Findall, and little daughter, of Guelph, spent last week with Mr. and Mrs. Findall, etc.

Three or four of our young men took the trip to Niagara on Monday, to celebrate the Queen's Birthday.

Next Sunday the Methodists of this circuit will gather at the stone church for sacramental services.

Every individual cap is unbroken, and the ingredient is the devil.—Shakespeare.

At evidence in evening.

5000 BOERS SURRENDER.

Gen. Hunter Held in Gen. Prinsloo And His Troops Unconditionally Surrender.

GENERAL DEWEY'S THE ONLY CHINAMAN FORCE LEFT.

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