The Acton Free Press.

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The Acton Free Press

—IS PUBLISHED—

EVERY THURSDAY MORNING,

—AT THE—

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MILL STREET, ACTON, ONT.

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Advertisements will be changed once each month if desired. For changes oftener than once a month the composition must be paid for at regular rates.

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

Accounts payable monthly.

English office, 30 Fleet Street, London, E.C., where Messrs. E. and J. Hardy & Co. will receive for us news, subscriptions and advertisements, and where our readers can, free of charge, see our paper when in England.

A. T. MOORE
Editor and Proprietor.

Business Directory.

MEDICAL.

JOHN M. MACDONALD, M. D., C. M., SUCCESSOR TO J. P. UREN, M. D. C. M.
Office and residence—Corner Mill Frederick Streets, Acton.
Office Hours:—4 to 10.30 a.m.; 1 to 3 p.m., and 7 to 9 p.m.

THOS. GRAY, M. D. C. M., McGILL.
L. R. C. P. EDINBURGH.
L. R. F. & S. GLASGOW.
MEMBER BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, ETC.
Office—Frederick Street Acton, Ont.

DR. DRYDEN,
EYE, EAR, THROAT AND NOSE.
Corner Woolwich and Baker Streets, GUELPH.
OFFICE HOURS—10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 to 6 p.m.
SUNDAYS—10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

DENTAL.

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

J. M. BELL, D.D.S., L.D.S.
ACTON. DENTIST.
Office at Residence, Main St.
HONOR GRADUATE OF TORONTO UNIVERSITY.
VISITING DAYS.—First and third Tuesdays, Brookville; Friday, Rockwood.
The latest anæsthetic used if desired.

LEGAL.

A. J. MACKINNON,
BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, CONVEYANCER.
OFFICE—Mill Street in Matthews' Block, Upstairs.

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

MISCELLANEOUS.

E. AND J. HARDY & CO.,
ADVERTISING CONTRACTORS AND NEWS CORRESPONDENTS.
30 Fleet Street, London, E. C., England.
A File of this Paper can be seen free of charge by visitors to London, to whom advice gratis will be given if required.

DR. A. P. HUSBAND, V. S.
Graduate Ontario Veterinary College.
Hon. Member Veterinary Medical Society.
Office—Over Worden's Barber Shop, next door to Food Store, Mill Street, Acton.

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.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.
H. P. MOORE
ISSUER OF MARRIAGE LICENSES.
Private Office. No witnesses required. Issued at residence in the evening.
Free Press Office, ACTON

WM. HEMSTREET,
LICENSED AUCTIONEER
For the Counties of Wellington and Halton. Orders left at the FREE PRESS office, Acton, or at his 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.

SUBSCRIBED STOCK CAPITAL $125,000.
THE WELLINGTON MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY.
Established 1840.
Head Office GUELPH, ONT.
INSURANCE on Cash and Mutual Plan. Any business required will be promptly attended to.
W. H. DENNY, Agent,
Young St., Acton.
Also agent for The Union Insurance Co., of England.

ACTON
Machine and Repair Shops
HENRY GRINDELL, Proprietor
All well equipped with all the machinery necessary to execute all repairs to machinery and agricultural implements, and to do all kinds of steam-fitting, horse-shoeing and general blacksmithing. Woodwork repaired performed in a satisfactory manner. We can repair any machine or implement of any make. Saw Re-filed and filler.

OIL--SMELTER--MINES.
Davidson & Carter
Market Square Guelph.
REPRESENTING
Douglas Lacey & Co.
NEW YORK.
Stocks paying 8% to 12%. Original investment secured and guaranteed. Call or write for particulars.

CHINESE LAUNDRY
In Pearson's Building, Willow Street, Acton.
Laundry collected and returned. Family Washing at reasonable rates. All work done by hand. No machines or chemicals used.
CHARLIE SUEY, Prop.

Day Sells Cheap
TYPEWRITING SUPPLIES
BOND PAPERS
CAP, LETTER AND NOTE
CARBON PAPER
RIBBONS,
All Sizes and for All Machines.
OILS,
Big Stock.
Satisfaction guaranteed in every case.
Day's Book Store
GUELPH.

MERCHANTS BANK OF CANADA

Capital $6,000,000
Rest 2,900,000

ACTON BRANCH
A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS TRANSACTED.
Interest at most favorable current rates allowed on Savings Bank accounts.
Letters of Credit, available in all parts of the world, issued at this office.
Special attention given to Farmers' Business.
MONEY ORDERS.
FOR ANY SUM UP TO $50
Payable at any banking point in Canada outside of the Yukon Territory, may now be procured at the Bank Counter without any delay.
Open every Friday evening from six to eight o'clock.
A. H. DEVITT, Manager.

R. W. PHILLIPS.
Plumber, Steam and Gas Fitter,
Quebec Street West.
GUELPH
PLUMBING
...AND....
STEAM-FITTING
IN ALL THEIR BRANCHES
A full supply of the celebrated Fairbank Steam Valves always on hand.

W. BARBER & BROS.
Paper Makers
Georgetown Ontario.
BOOK.
NEWS.
COLORED
PAPERS
JOHN R. BARBER

Eden Mills Flour
Fine Quality of this flour The well-known. It is now for sale in Acton by—
W. MOSIER
—AT—
ACTON MILLS
The businesses will be continued at Everton and Eden Mills, and Bran, Middlings Chop Feed, Etc., will be for sale at either of these places.
Chopping done and Oats rolled for horses every day at both Mills.
Cash for wheat and Oats.
HENRY HORTOP,
PROPRIETOR

—ACTON—
LIVERY
—AND—
BUS LINE
The undersigned respectfully solicits the patronage of the public, and informs them that
Well Equipped and Stylish Rigs can always be Secured
at his stables. A comfortable bus meets all trains between 10 a.m. and 6.10 p.m.
Careful attention given to everyone.
The waits of Commercial Travellers fully met.
JOHN WILLIAMS
PROPRIETOR

Acton Pump Works
Main Street Acton
If you are in need of a good Pump, either in wood or iron, come to Acton Pump Works.
—Cisterns Made—
—All Repairs Promptly Attended to—
—Wells Cleaned—
THE
CHICKCO KORNMOTOR
Is acknowledged the lightest running and best windmill manufactured. I am agent for this district. Call and investigate before you buy.
T. EBBAGE,
Main Street Acton

Ayer's
Give nature three helps, and nearly every case of consumption will recover. Fresh air, most important of all.
Cherry Pectoral
Nourishing food comes next. Then, a medicine to control the cough and heal the lungs. Ask any good doctor.
"I first used Ayer's Cherry Pectoral 45 years ago. I have seen terrible cases of lung disease cured by it. I am never without it."
ALBERT G. HAMILTON, Marietta, Ohio.
50c., 50c., $1.00. All druggists. J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.
for
Consumption
Health demands daily action of the bowels. Aid nature with Ayer's Pills.

National Portland Cement
THE FAMOUSED DURHAM, which in its first season, 1903, will have a margin in sale over any other brand on the Canadian market of from seventy five to one hundred thousand barrels—a most convincing argument in its favor.
Sole Guelph Agents—
JOHN M. BOND & CO.
GUELPH.

Chamberlain's Remedies.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.
For Coughs, Colds, Croup and Whooping Cough. Price 25 cents; large size 50c.

Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy.
For Bowel Complaints. Price 35 cents.

Chamberlain's Pain Balm.
An antiseptic liniment especially valuable for Cuts, Bruises, Sprains and Rheumatism. Price 25 cents; large size 50 cents.

Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets.
For Disorders of the Stomach, Liver and Bowels. Price 25 cents.

Every one of these preparations is guaranteed and if not fully satisfactory to the purchaser the money will be refunded.

Sold by A. T. BROWN.

Sayers' SAW MILLS
Nassagaweya.
Lumber of all kinds at Lowest Market Prices.
Bill Stuff cut to order.
Wood at $1 25 per cord
P. Sayers, Proprietor.
Nassagaweya P. O.

DUNLOP
SIDE-WIRE TIRE

The latest and most successful Carriage Tire on the market. Constructed with cross bars every three-quarters of an inch. Vulcanized in rubber and an actual part of it. Retained in channels by wires at the outer edge, resting upon the shoulder formed by these cross bars. Absolutely solid. Positively no movement. Write for particulars and price list.
The Dunlop Tire Co., Limited, Toronto.

GUELPH
BUSINESS COLLEGE
Traders' Bank Building, Guelph, Ont.
The ONLY BUSINESS COLLEGE in Canada giving full, up-to-date commercial, stenographic, pen-art, English, French, German and Spanish courses.
Full information sent free to any address
W. MACCORMICK, B.A., Principal

Poetry.

DAN'S WIFE.

Up in early morning light,
Sweeping, dusting, setting right,
Oiling all the household springs,
Sewing buttons, tying strings,
Telling Bridget what to do,
Mending rips in Johnnie's shoe,
Running up and down the stair,
Tying baby in her chair,
Cutting meat and spreading bread,
Dishing out so much per head,
Eating as she can, by chance,
Giving husband kindly glance,
Toiling, busy life—
Smart woman,
Dan's wife.

Dan comes home at fall of night,
Home so cheerful, neat and bright.
Children meet him at the door,
Pull at him and look him o'er.
Wife asks him how day has gone,
"Busy time with us at home!"
Supper done, Dan reads with ease,
Happy Dan, but one to please,
Children must be put to bed,
All the little prayers are said,
Little shoes are placed in rows,
Bedclothes tucked o'er little toes.
Busy, wearing life—
Tired woman,
Dan's wife.

Dan reads on and falls asleep—
See the woman softly creep;
Baby rests at last, poor dear,
Not a word he leart to cheer,
Mending basket full to top,
Stockings, shirt and little frock;
Tired eyes and weary brain,
Side with darting, ugly pain;
"Never mind, I will put to away,"
She must work, but never play;
Closed piano, unused books,
Done the walks to pleasant nooks.
Brightness faded out of life—
Saddened woman,
Dan's wife.

Upstairs, toiling to and fro,
Fever holds the woman low;
Children wander, free to play,
When and where they will to-day;
Bridget loiters—dinner's cold;
Dan looks anxious, cross and old;
Household screws all out of place,
Lacking one deer, patient face,
Steady hands, so tired and true,
Hands that know just what to do,
Never seeking rest nor play,
Folded now and laid away,
Work of six in one short life—
Murdered woman,
Dan's wife.

Select Family Reading

The Silent Man's Wooing.

HE was a big, silent man, wholly absorbed in business and self, the world said.

Respected by many, but loved by none, his employees said.

No one could be more just than he, but those about him often wished he was more like other men. He was not conscious of the fact that he threw a damper on every one in the office.

He had never known what a home was in the true sense of the word. His father had deserted his mother when he was a few weeks old, and the poor little woman had lingered until the lad was six years old. He had loved her passionately, but after she had left him he had learned to live within himself.

He had found the world a cold, hard one to the homeless, but with a fine physical inheritance and dauntless courage he had worked his way up from a carrier-boy to the proprietor of one of the largest newspapers in the metropolis.

He never was a social creature, and refused all invitations. He knew very few women and they rarely saw his best side.

He lived in a very quiet boarding house where Madame Brunig, a kindly German woman, kept a half-dozen men who could afford to pay her well.

Elizabeth Wells, a wholesome, attractive girl of twenty-five, had spent the summer vacation with Madame as she was teaching in a neighboring city, and her mother was travelling with a party in California. Madame was always ready to welcome the girl as she had no children of her own.

The other men had treated her most kindly—the youngest having paid her considerable attention, but Norman Baker had never exchanged a half dozen words with her. The fact was he did not know what to say to a woman. He seldom felt at ease in a woman's presence, but instead of disliking her as the other boarders said, he had grown much interested in the merry, sunshiny girl, and when Thanksgiving came and with it Miss Wells, none greeted her with a heartier handshake than the reserved Mr. Barker.

He did not as usual retire to his sanctum immediately after meals during the young woman's visit, but mingled with the other boarders and, for him, was quite genial.

Saturday morning he asked Miss Wells to drive with him that afternoon, but she had promised Jack Bradshaw the night before.

"Will you go with me Sunday afternoon then?" he inquired, knowing this was his last opportunity as the young girl was to leave early Monday morning.

Very much astonished at the invitation, she pleasantly accepted.

The first few miles of their drive Mr. Baker seemed quite oblivious of the young lady at his side.

All at once he said in an embarrassed manner: "Miss Wells, I am a plain, blunt man, unused to the society of ladies. I probably have a strange way of showing it, but I am deeply interested in you and want to make you my wife. I have never loved any woman in my life before, except my mother. My life has been a quiet, lonely one and I have no close friends."

To say that Elizabeth Wells was surprised, but mildly expresses it.

She had had offers before, but had never seen a man that she cared enough for to give up her freedom.

"I do not know you well enough, Mr. Baker, to feel sure that I should make you or myself happy as your wife. Our acquaintance has been so very brief, I do not know the least thing about you, except that you are the proprietor of The Bulletin. You know little more about me. I shall be glad to continue the acquaintance and at the end of six months you can ask me the same question again and I will answer it."

The twain kept their own counsel and no one was made any the wiser for that drive.

Mr. Baker made frequent visits to the city in which Miss Wells resided. Flowers, books, music and confectionery found their way to the young lady's home. Long letters reached her in which the cold, silent man told her of his early trials and loneliness, his longings and aspirations for a happier future.

"Could she be happy and satisfied with him?" she had asked herself over and over again, but could reach no decision.

She enjoyed his companionship more than even she herself knew. His friendship meant much to her, but might she not tire of him in time when it was too late?

The six months would soon be up, but she was no nearer a decision.

It was late in May one rainy Saturday when Norman Baker reached R——. His train was late and as he had an engagement for luncheon with Elizabeth Wells he took a cab. A few blocks this side of Miss Wells' home the cab came to a sudden stop, and upon calling to the driver he learned that a small newsboy had been knocked down and his papers scattered over the crossing. Jumping out of the cab he picked up the lad and learned that he was not seriously injured, although bruised and shaken up.

The child seemed much more concerned over the loss of his papers and his torn trousers than about his own injuries until he was told that Mr. Baker would replace the papers besides getting him a new suit of clothes.

How forcibly this incident brought back his own cheerless childhood to the man. Perhaps he could put a little sunshine into the newsboy's life! Requesting the lad to jump into the cab, he drove to Miss Wells'.

What was his astonishment to have her exclaim as she opened the door: "Harry, lad, where have you been? How did you get hurt?"

Mr. Baker explained the situation and learned that his young friend was one of Miss Well's favorite pupils.

"Run up to the bath room, Harry, and make yourself as presentable as possible and you shall have luncheon with us," she said at the conclusion of the explanation.

Miss Wells invited herself to go with Mr. Baker and Harry to select the new suit, which thanks to the young lady's assistance, proved very becoming and satisfactory.

Then the happy lad departed to his home, and the two friends visited an art gallery. They were seated before a cheery grate fire that evening both in a thoughtful mood, but with a peacefulness and contentment in the atmosphere that gave quiet happiness to the long silence.

"Norman," and the big, silent man was all attention, and a thrill with the sweetness and tenderness of that first utterance of his Christian name, "The episode of my little newsboy friend," she continued, "your generous impulse to lend your aid to the lonely lad, has made my answer to the question you asked me six months ago a decided "yes." I suppose I must have loved you all those months, but it took the little incident of this afternoon to show me that the love was really there."

AFRAID OF THE SALOONS.

It is not only the temperance agitators who are afraid of saloons. Municipal and state authorities the country over share that feeling. The World and Way calls attention to the fact that when Kansas City came face to face with the critical situation caused by the flood, the authorities ordered every saloon within the corporation closed. Why was it?

To ask the question is to answer it. The open saloon makes trouble, and already the city had more trouble on its hands than it had police power to manage. The saloons were adding to the serious complications.

Open saloons mean drinking, drinking means drunkenness, and drunkenness means every form of evil.

Not a dry goods store, not a fruit store, not a grocery, not a shoe store, not a bakery, was ordered closed. And why? Because there is nothing in any of these lines of business that in any way endangers the interests of the community. They are not makers of brawls. They do not demoralize men and incite them to lawlessness and indecency. It was the immoral nature of the business that forced the city authorities to recognize the saloons as elements of danger in the most trying situation that ever came to the city. By their act of closing the saloons the authorities demonstrated their estimate of the business. Their act calls fresh attention to the well-attested fact that the saloon is a school of crime. The authorities were well aware of the fact that a large volume of the business done by the police force and the police courts is furnished by the saloons.

It will go into history that in the time of its greatest trouble and peril, Kansas City was afraid of its saloons.

If your stomach is weak it should have help. Hood's Sarsaparilla gives strength to the stomach and cures dyspepsia and indigestion.

TWENTY YEARS AGO THIS WEEK.

Incidents of Interest From Free Press Columns of Nov. 8th, 1883.

The Georgetown Herald has a libel suit on hand.

Go to Mrs. S. A. Record for November fashion sheets.

Beardmore's new tannery is being entirely sheeted with iron.

Miss Maggie A. Moore, of Brighton, is visiting her home here this week.

Mr. W. T. Stone, teacher at Bannockburn, is visiting friends at Aurora.

Messrs. Mowat and McLean, barristers, of Guelph, have opened an office in Acton.

The young folks are beginning to talk about that town hall-stage-curtain-entertainment.

The six-o'clock-in-the-morning bell has been discontinued. Where's Councillor Kenney?

Mr. John M. Newton, Limehouse, and Miss Polly Coulson, of Rockwood, were married on the 31st ult.

Mr. C. H. Hembach will sell the whole of his stock of new furniture by auction at his warehouse next Monday.

Dr. W. H. McDonald arrived home from London, Eng., where he was taking a post graduate course, last Thursday.

Mr. G. W. Ross, of Strathroy, Inspector of the Model Schools, was in town on Monday—the guest of Mr. Robt. Little, P. S. I.

The dwelling of Mrs. Soper at Crewsons Corners was totally destroyed on Monday. Mr. William Crewson's home narrowly escaped.

Rev. Wm. Bryers united in matrimonial bonds at Agnew's Hotel on the 5th inst., Peter Petty and Miss Catherine Salter, of Puslinch.

There are fifteen or sixteen cases for violation of the Scott Act to be heard to-morrow. Half a dozen charges are made against two Acton hotel-keepers.

Messrs. Timothy Wardley and Thos. J. Speight have gone into partnership in the nursery business on the Speight farm. They are setting out 20,000 trees this week.

We are pained to learn that two more of the children of Mr. Ross, Acton, Scotch Block, have succumbed to diphtheria. By this terrible disease—four—of—the—family—have—died within a week.

Mr. Edward Jeans, who left Acton for England recently, was found dead in his berth and was buried at sea. His trunk is being returned to Acton. His sorrowing wife has the sympathy of the community.

It is reported that during the recent cold snap 367 stoves, with connecting stove pipes, were erected in town, and that 17 church members of good standing violated the eighth commandment 175 times.

Board of Education—Moved by D. Henderson, seconded by James Moore, that Thomas T. Moore be re-engaged principal of the Public School for 1884. Moved by W. H. Storey, seconded by J. E. McGarvin, that Miss Anna Morton be engaged teacher of the second department.—Carried.

Miss Anna M. Moore, eldest daughter of the late Edward Moore, and Mr. Lyman S. Butlin, of St. Clair, Mich., were joined in holy wedlock last evening, Rev. Wm. Bryers performing the ceremony. Miss Estella Butlin, sister of the groom, attended the bride and Rev. T. Albert Moore, of Salford, brother of the bride, was groomsman.

NO DIFFERENCE

The Frenchman did not know all about the English language.

"I yould like to come to see you vermuch. In fact, I vould have came, only I thought you were ver' busy. I do not like to cockroach on your time."

"Not 'cockroach,' that's not right. You should say 'encroach, encroach.'"

"Aha, that is it, 'henecroach, henecroach.' I have got de gender of de verb wrong."—C. Stratton, in Lippincott's Magazine.

STRANGE TEST OF INNOCENCE.

"A strange way of testing the innocence of an accused person is employed in India," said a traveller who lately returned from Madras. "They haul the man up and give him a mouthful of dry rice to chew. Dry rice takes a deal of chewing to get it masticated into a glutinous mass, like gum, and that is the condition that the accused is required to get it into within ten minutes. If you are calm and not afraid, you succeed, but if you are nervous and scared you fail. For it seems that fear has a strong effect upon the salivary glands. It prevents them from secreting saliva. The mouth of a badly-frightened person is always dry as a bone. It requires a tremendous flow of salvia to chew dry rice, and therefore the scared prisoner inevitably fails in this test.

DISCHARGED HIMSELF.

An amusing story is told of a young Scotch lad who in a very quiet, determined way made his exit from a house in which he had been but a little while installed as a domestic help. He had been told that he would be dismissed if he broke any of the china under his charge.

On the morning of a great dinner party he was entrusted, rather rashly, with a great load of plates, which he was to carry upstairs from the kitchen to the dining room and which were piled upon his two hands.

In going upstairs his foot slipped, and the plates were broken to atoms. He at once went to the drawing room, put his head in at the door and shouted:

"The plates are a' smashed, and I'm awa'!"

It keeps a lot of people moving to get enough money to pay rent.

WOMEN'S INTEREST IN MISSIONS

An Interesting Gathering, Encouraging Reports and Inspiring Addresses

IN KNOX CHURCH LAST WEEK.

The nineteenth annual meeting of the Guelph Presbyterial Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, held in Knox Church last Thursday and Friday, was an occasion of especial interest to the ladies throughout the bounds of the Presbytery who have listened to the command "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." The attendance was large. Nearly every auxiliary and mission band was represented by delegates, and numerous visitors also attended each session. Missions was of course the topic of every address and paper presented. The annual reports showed encouraging progress and the determination to exercise greater zeal in future efforts was a pre-eminent feature.

The following is the list of delegates as far as our reporter could ascertain them:

ACTON.—Mrs. J. Cobham, Mrs. D. Henderson.

BELWOOD.—Mrs. Dow, Mrs. Clark, Miss Lowe, Mrs. McIntosh, Miss Stivell.

BRGHTN.—Mrs. Bradley, Mrs. Halstead, Miss McIntyre, Miss L. McEven, Miss E. McMeekin, Miss Hagerdorn.

BRANCHTON.—Mrs. McKenzie.

CAMPBELLVILLE.—Miss McKenzie, Miss Lynn.

EDEN MILLS.—Mrs. James Ramsey, Mrs. W. Argo, Miss Garrow, Miss Scott, Miss Marshall, Mrs. Marshall.

ELORA.—Mrs. (Rev.) Horne, Mrs. Rose, Mrs. Boswell, Miss Davidson, Miss Murdock.

ERAMOSA.—Mrs. (Rev.) A. J. Mann, Mrs. Burnett.

FERGUS.—Miss Smellie, Miss Dow, Mrs. (Rev.) McVicar, Miss L. Brooks, Mrs. Mitchell.

GALT.—Miss Kerr, Miss Cant, Mrs. Goodwin, Mrs. Brownlee, Mrs. John Goldie, Mrs. John Deans, Miss Moore, Miss McIlwraith, Miss Irving, Miss Gilchrist, Mrs. James Cavers.

GUELPH.—Mrs. Jas. Watt, Mrs. Wm. Hart, Mrs. Rev. R. W. Ross, Mrs. T. Goldie, Mrs. G. Beattie, Mrs. (Rev.) Glassford, Mrs. John Kennedy, Mrs. Lochead, Mrs. Loch, Mrs. Patterson, Miss McLellan, Miss Ross, Mrs. Roberts.

HESPELER.—Miss Jamieson, Miss Haigh, Miss L. McInnis.

HOLLIN.—Mrs. (Rev.) Monds, Mrs. Hall.

MOSSBORO.—Mrs. Cleghorn, Miss Austin.

NASSAGAWEYA.—Mrs. (Rev.) Blair.

PILKTON.—Mrs. (Rev.) Johnston.

PUSLINCH.—Mrs. (Rev) Robertson, Mrs. Clark.

ROCKWOOD.—Mrs. (Rev.) Hall, Mrs. Bone, Mrs. J. W. Burns.

WATERLOO.—Mrs. (Rev.) Gilchrist, Mrs. Clemens, Miss Bragg, Miss Gilchrist, Miss Moore, Miss Jean Stewart, Miss C. Killer, Miss O'Donell.

Owing to the lateness of the train the first session was confined to devotional exercises.

The afternoon session opened with the singing of hymn 239.

The delayed morning programme was then taken up.

The Secretary's report was read by Miss Kerr. She reported among other things that clothing had been provided for over 50 young people at the Regina School and steady progress had been made in all branches of the work, only one mission band having become dormant.

Mrs. Goodwin presented the Supply Secretary's report. She was able to inform the meeting that since coming to Acton she had received word of the safe arrival at Regina of the bales of goods. Goods valued at $878 were distributed during the year.

The "Tidings" Secretary's report was given by Miss McLennan. 1100 copies of the "Tidings" have been subscribed for, an increase of 88 over last year.

The Treasurer's report, read by Miss Cant, was most encouraging. Since the last annual meeting the total receipts amounted to $2331.21, being an increase of $135.10 over last year's total, and it is still more gratifying in that the last annual meeting will hold only ten months ago.

The meeting was favored with a duett by Miss McClure and Graham.

Then followed a very interesting and instructive address by Miss Weir, a missionary from India, at home on furlough.

Our mission work in India, she said, is carried on on three distinct lines—educational, medical and evangelical. People at home hear more of the first two, so I will tell you about the evangelical.

When you think of the large population of India, you think of the cities of Bombay, Madras and Calcutta, etc., but nine-tenths of the population of India live in the villages. In the western part we have 17,000 villages and a great majority of these have never been visited by a Christian Missionary.

The poorer people cannot afford to keep their women in Zenanas. The village women are as free as you and I. They help the men in the field work. The work done by the missionaries is governed greatly by the seasons. The hot season extends over April, May and June, the rainy season until the end of September and the cold season till hot season comes again. During the hot season we are able to go out only to the villages near our station early in the mornings and in the evenings. It is not safe to be out during the heat of the day. During the wet season the villages are inaccessible owing to the state of the roads. In that season we train our workers in the stations. During the cold season we are able to reach villages not to be reached during other seasons.

Last cold season I went out into the Mhow district. My work was in the villages in that neighborhood.

I will speak, not so much of the needs of the people, as of the means by which we try to reach them and aim to give you some idea of what our work is like.

Miss Weir then described her work of the last cold season. She and her Bible woman, a native Christian, visited about 80 villages. They took their tents along and went on from one place to another telling their message at every opportunity, meeting with encouragement at one place and disappointment at another. Sometimes one or two only are spoken to, sometimes greater numbers. They were found in their houses, by the wells, in the fields.

A good deal of opium is produced in the part of India told of by Miss Weir. The opium fields are very beautiful in February. If one could only forget the misery caused by opium great delight might be taken in their beauty.

To give you some idea of the ignorance of the women of India the last returns say that over 99 per. cent can neither read nor write. When the women are being spoken to those who seem particularly interested are watched for and they are the ones to be got at and further instructed.

The Hindus are very fond of singing being able to sing is a great help to the workers.

Men are not generally allowed to attend the women's meetings. They come more often to criticize but if they are really anxious to learn they are allowed to remain.

The farming in India is of a most primative nature. The sowing is done by hand, reaping with a sickle and the oxen tread out the corn. In the cold season the women are busy at this work in many of the villages.

Miss Weir and her companion were well received at some of those places. The women were ordered to stop work and to listen to them. At another place they were forbidden to speak at all; even to go near the threshing floor.

In conclusion Miss Weir said: "We are called the Jesus Christ people—said in mockery, but it reminds us how careful we should be in trying to give these people a correct interpretion of Jesus Christ, because it is through us they form their ideas of Him. You cannot understand what Christ has done for you till you see the condition of these women in India.

Think of the women in India and pray for them.

A most thoughtful paper was read by Miss Smellie on "Work in Our Auxiliaries." It is the first and foremost duty of each member of the auxiliary to ask the question "Am I the one to go?" If not, then "whom can I send?" Second, to aid the General Society in sustaining female missionaries among the women and children. Third, as far as possible to promote an interest in the work of foreign missions among the children of the congregations.

Then followed discussion in regard to auxiliary work.

(Continued on Page 2).

THE HOMES OF THE POOR.

Come away from the crowded centres
Of the city's throbbing life;
The palaces grand on every hand,
The noise and heat and strife;
From the fever of pride and passion,
That the grave can only cure,
And walk with me in the twilight hour,
By the humble homes of the poor.

Here the father comes home in the evening.
From care and from danger free,
As the little ones run to meet him,
With their innocent shouts of glee.
No hireling's hand has nursed them,
Nor will guided them at night secure,
For the mother is all to her children,
In the humble homes of the poor.

I love to walk in the twilight,
Where I see through the open door,
Some busy at household duties,
Some at play on the simple floor.
No luxury makes them heartless,
No illness makes them impure;
The menace to souls where Mammon rules
Cannot enter the homes of the poor.

Come away from the hollow pleasures,
Of the ballroom and banquet hall;
For the children's hour in the cottage
Has joy that exceeds them all.
Come away from the proud, for their riches
Take wing and shall not endure,
Their pride will not weigh in the judgment day
With the humble homes of the poor.

—Catholic Home Companion.

THE CRUMBLING OF CASTE.

A writer in Epiphany names these five proofs that caste scruples are losing their hold:

"1. Numbers of strangers eat together in Hindu hotels where all kinds of Hindus are welcomed. In such a place Hindus of the lowest class sit together with others of higher castes and eat their grub.

"2. The Hindu gentry publicly keep Mohammedan cooks and eat with Europeans at the same table.

"3. Hindus of the highest class are employed in steamer service as doctors, clerks, or sortops. They live permanently on board the steamers, and most of them live on food cooked or touched by Mohammedans (even some make their own arrangements).

"4. High-class Hindus employed in military service go to foreign countries and eat food cooked by foreigners and do not lose their caste.

A Cure For Costiveness.—Costiveness comes from the refusal of the excretory organs to perform their duties regularly from contributing causes usually disordered digestion. Parmelee's Vegetable Pills, prepared on scientific principles, are so compounded that certain ingredients in them pass through the stomach and act upon the bowels so as to remove their torpor and arouse them to proper action. Many thousands are prepared to bear testimony to their power in this respect.