

# THE LIBERAL.

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"In Essentials, Unity; in Non-Essentials, Liberty; in all things, Charity."

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for commercial travellers. A good livery in con-  
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further the interest of the  
store. This is well under-  
stood by the people who at-  
tend to your Mail orders.  
Careful, cautious buyers all.  
One choice only is their motto  
and that in strict accordance  
with the written wishes of the  
far-off patron. Mistakes have  
been made. When our Mail  
Order Department was in its  
infancy, perhaps a good many,  
but always when such was the  
fault of our people, even and  
ample compensation followed.  
*Past errors act as future guides.*  
Mistakes now-a-days are rare  
and of a trivial nature. Still,  
the compensation when the  
fault lies at our door.

There's a big lot of philos-  
ophy in purchasing through  
the mail. Perhaps you have  
never given your thought to  
its solution—wholesale saving  
time Your share of the  
weary drudgery of 'shopping'  
dispensed with. The advan-  
tages of the variety that a big  
store presents in every line of  
goods etc., etc., not forgetting  
the money-saving. Take any  
item—any half-dozen items  
promiscuously out of any de-  
partment. Look around you.  
Prove by comparison that  
there is money saved and find  
how much.

You are our friends. We  
want you to count us among  
your friends and to allow us  
the privilege of rendering you  
a share of that faithful service  
which thousands all over the  
Dominion now enjoy.

Do you want Dress Goods,  
linens, woollens or that like?  
Don't be slow in asking for  
samples. Busy scissors are  
cutting and clipping to have  
them ready when you write.

Every preparation has been  
made by our Mail Order De-  
partment to insure accuracy  
and despatch in the execution  
of Mail Orders during the  
Holiday time.

**BLANKETS**—Prices range  
from \$1.50 to \$6.00 per pair.  
Their very looks bespeak high  
quality. Get inside. Handle  
them for anything lumpy or  
shaky or shoddy. You'll look  
in vain for such imperfections.  
We haven't a scrap of blanket  
meanness to give you. Size  
and weight have all to say a-  
bout the price. Horse Blan-  
kets too, from \$1.00 to \$7.50  
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Address  
**T. EATON & CO.,**  
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**Toronto, Ont.**

Richmond Hill and Vicinity  
No. 20.  
**James Miles, Esq.**

To the Editor of THE LIBERAL  
Of the names of all the early settlers of  
our village who helped to clear away the  
forests—organize society, and build up  
homes for those who were to come after  
them—there is no name so green in the  
memory of all who recollect him as the  
name of James Miles, Esq., the first own-  
er of lot 46.  
Mr. Abner Miles, to whom we have re-  
ferred in previous letters, when dying,  
left all his property, consisting of some  
two thousand acres of land, to his only  
son James. These lands were situated in  
the Townships of Markham and Vaugh-  
an, in the city of Toronto, and on the  
River Thames, 600 acres of which now  
comprised part of the Indian Reserve,  
afterwards purchased by the Indian  
Missionary, the Rev. Peter Jones. This  
property, if owned by any one now, with  
their increased value, would constitute  
him a millionaire. Of all this land Mr.  
James Miles never sold an acre, but  
divided it among his relatives, and donated  
for public purposes. In our village the  
sites of the Presbyterian Church and  
Manse, with all the rentals along the  
front, the cemetery and the grounds of  
the High and Public Schools, are all the  
gifts of this man's liberality.

James Miles was a man of quiet and  
dignified deportment, and commanded  
respect of his official position  
Justice of the Peace. His religion,  
though leaning to the Scotch Kirk, em-  
braced the welfare of every denomination  
and his hand was extended to aid the dis-  
tressed or struggling circumstances of  
every unfortunate. Many a young man has  
profited by his timely sympathy and  
fatherly advice, but human nature was  
sometimes perverse even in those early  
days for his kindness and generosity was  
not always appreciated. He once offered  
two hundred acres of excellent land to an  
able-bodied young man, and to find him  
in axes and provisions, if he would go  
and work on it for six months, and the  
offer was rejected.

Mr. Miles' life of useful and philan-  
thropic efforts to benefit all around him,  
began a long way back. Before the vil-  
lage was large enough to support a church  
the Squire organized a Sunday School,  
and by his energy and liberality kept it  
going to the benefit of many a boy and  
girl whose only chance of obtaining the  
rudiments of education were derived  
from that source, for Sunday Schools in  
those days were similar to Public Schools  
in after years, the alphabet and writing  
taught, and corporeal punishment not  
unfrequently administered.

James Miles was a man of very even  
temper, but when roused would display  
considerable energy. He once struck an  
incorrigible boy so hard that he drew  
blood, for which the really kind-hearted  
old gentleman made ample amends. On  
another occasion a boy darted out of  
school to avoid punishment, the Superin-  
tendent gave chase through the woods  
for nearly half a mile and brought the  
delinquent back to castigation and duty,  
and he would often box a boy's ears with  
the Bible, which, in those days, was about  
their only text book, and out of it the  
scholars were instructed mentally, spiri-  
tually, and with it sometimes corporeally.

Many boys and girls in this Sabbath  
School could recite almost every chapter  
in the New Testament, and there are  
those still living who recollect with pleas-  
ure the time when they received from his  
hands, on a day set for the occasion, a  
Bible, for reciting the Squire's favorite  
selections from the scriptures, the Sermon  
on the Mount, and 14th and 15th chapters  
of St. John. Of Bibles and Testaments  
he seemed to have had a good supply, for  
he presented them frequently to young  
people who he thought would appreciate  
the gift, and what appears to have been  
somewhat eccentric with a copy of the  
scripture he would give a pocket hand-  
kerchief, perhaps intended as a gentle  
hint that "Cleanliness is next to Godli-  
ness."

Mr. Miles' Sabbath School was estab-  
lished in 1811. At the first Provincial  
Sabbath School Convention held in the  
city of Kingston in 1857, the Rev. Wm.  
Smart, of Gananoque, was presented with  
a testimonial for being the founder of the  
first Sabbath School in Canada. The  
date was 1811. It is only a question in  
reference to the month as to whether the  
Richmond Hill Presbyterian Sabbath  
School has not the honor of being the  
pioneer of the thousands of Sabbath  
Schools in our Dominion.

As with every christian community, as  
the village increased in population the  
spiritual interests of the people demanded  
a place for public worship. The christian  
liberality of those days was shown, not  
only in the erection of so large a struc-  
ture as the old Presbyterian Church (for  
it equalled in dimensions St. James'  
Cathedral in Toronto as it was at that  
time), but in the unselfish sentiment that  
characterized its promoters, for our first

church was built by all and for all de-  
nominations in the village, and no one  
exemplified that christian spirit more  
fully than Mr. James Miles, for he was  
the most liberal contributor and the most  
active promoter in carrying on the work,  
and for many months supplied from his  
own purse the funds necessary to supply  
the pulpit. The church was completed  
in 1821, and sheltered its flock for sixty  
years, until it gave place to its handsome  
and commodious successor.

In 1826 Squire Miles, with Messrs.  
Marsh and Fulton and the Rev. Wm.  
Jenkins, organized one of the oldest so-  
cieties in our village. The Richmond  
Hill Branch of the British and Foreign  
Bible Society, from which the village was  
supplied with religious literature.

Mr. Miles built, lived and died in the  
large square residence now owned by Mr.  
John Boyle. From the side line to Mr.  
Atkinson's Concrete was long known as  
the 'public lot,' because Mr. Miles would  
allow every family that wanted wood to  
get what they needed, and others who  
would not cut on their own lots, or were  
too lazy to go farther, went there too.

James Miles' business transactions  
were on a very accommodating basis. If  
a neighbor wanted a ton of hay the Squire  
would first enquire the market price and  
then always sell below it. Kind and  
liberal to all others, he was negligent of  
himself. His wardrobe consisted of his  
every day wear—a linen suit and a straw  
hat. When a hint of warmer clothing  
would be thrown out by those  
who knew his circumstances, he would  
rub his hands over the fire and say "he  
couldn't afford it."

As a Magistrate he was often called  
upon to unite such of his neighbors who  
were inclined to matrimony. Money in  
those days being a scarce commodity his  
marriage fees were various. On one oc-  
casion it was a pair of warm socks knitted  
by the industrious fingers of the blushing  
bride, and on another he received a pair  
of tame pigeons, which comprised all the  
riches of the youthful bridegroom—riches  
in this case, of a kind that "had wings,  
and flew away.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

If you want to buy or sell a Farm, ad-  
vertise in the Toronto WEEKLY MAIL.  
That paper reaches 100,000 Farmers'  
homes every week, and your advertise-  
ment should meet the eye of some one  
who wants to purchase. Advertisements  
of this Class are inserted in the Toronto  
WEEKLY MAIL for Five Cents a word  
each insertion, or Twenty Cents a word  
for five insertions. Address THE MAIL,  
Toronto, Canada.

### Hope.

The friends of the Methodist Church  
have decided to hold their annual dinner  
and concert on New Year's Day. Great  
pains are being taken in order to make  
this the event of the season.

Quite a number went to Maple last  
Sunday evening to hear Rev. C. A. Simp-  
son, of Willowdale. On the way home,  
owing to the darkness, one lady fell off a  
bridge into the ditch, but fortunately re-  
ceived no other injury than a sprained  
ankle.

Mr. Tom Kirby has commenced store-  
keeping at Teston, in J. Lund's old stand.  
We wish him success.

J. Jackson started last week for Am-  
herstburg, where he intends to work at  
engineering.

G. Nixon has been quite ill, but we  
are glad that he is again able to attend to  
his studies.

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BAKING POWDER  
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