

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

For Sale—
The "Lithbert"—Wm Harrison.
For Sale—Box 136, Thornhill.

The Liberal.

RICHMOND HILL, Thursday, April 23, '91

A LOCK-UP NEEDED.

There is something disagreeable and dismal about the sound of the word Lock-Up. Pleasant recollections are not generally entwined around the walls of prisons. Nevertheless, there are times when such places of confinement are not the least unnecessary buildings in a village. The mere presence of a Lock-up is often sufficient to prevent disturbances, and will have a more salutary effect upon noisy lunatics than a dozen or more constables. In Richmond Hill peaceable citizens are liable to have their doors knocked in any night, and the individual who figures in the act may go unwhipped of justice just because the needful institution does not exist. No matter how anxious our village authorities are to repress ruffianism and protect the citizens, there are times when they are practically helpless. The village constable has the power to arrest law-breakers, but if he does so, what is he to do with his prison birds. It is true such offenders are sometimes taken before a Justice of the Peace, but those officials are not always available when their services are required.

We are satisfied our present Council have the public weal at heart, and are ever ready to work for the benefit of the village. But having an eye to economy we believe they have been slow in this particularly necessary building. The outlay of a few hundred dollars would be well spent. Let the Council put their shoulders to the wheel, and they will be backed by the majority of the rate payers, who are law-abiding citizens.

In the meantime let the authorities be on the watch to protect our citizens in their person and property. If they know that individuals are molested, let them move in the matter at once and not take advantage of any technicality of the law. It is not enough to say that where no complaint is made no action should be taken. We do not mean to say that the people of Richmond Hill and vicinity are less law-abiding than those in other towns and villages, in fact we believe the opposite would be nearer the mark. But whilst this may be the case, there are times when some mode of chastisement is absolutely necessary in order to secure good behaviour. By all means let us have a Lock-Up, and when disturbers of the peace pay our village daily or nocturnal visits, give them a berth in "the cooler."

Spring Work.

To the Editor of THE LIBERAL.

DEAR SIR,—As Spring is opening rapidly and the time for making our village improvements for the Summer is at hand, I take the liberty of writing you a few lines on the subject.

There is always an accumulation of filth during the winter. Dead leaves and grass of last fall, sticks, old tins, bones, &c., find their way into the ditches and along the streets and should be carefully cleared away and burned. Coal ashes that have accumulated during the winter months should be scattered where walks are required, and if evenly spread on the back streets there could be no objection, as they make an excellent road bed, but our inspector should see that they are not emptied on the street during the winter, as they are very unsightly when the snow leaves in the spring. Refuse of all kinds should be kept in the back yards till it can be removed in the spring. If thrown on the streets during the winter the stench from its decomposition, as the weather becomes warm, is very disagreeable and dangerous to the public health.

Our citizens have always been very particular in these respects and the result is that Richmond Hill has for the last few years had very little sickness of a contagious nature.

We have less fevers than other places

of the size, and diphtheria is almost unknown among us. But while we have always prided ourselves on these matters it is not out of place to review the situation and see where we may improve. Our health By-laws require all cellars to be cleaned out and decaying vegetable matters to be removed by the 15th of May, but the sooner now it is done the better as the odors from decaying matters in the cellars find their way all through the house, and in case disease gets in it keeps the air in good, yes the best possible, condition for the development of the disease germs.

The By laws also state that all wells shall be cleaned out before the first of July each year. This date is placed later to be sure there will be no further soakage from the spring rains. This well cleaning is a very important matter for all villages, and one of the worst things in connection with it is the presence of manure heaps. The rain soaks through the manure and in turn finds its way into the wells where its yellow color is often well marked at this time of the year. Those keeping horses, cows or pigs should have the manure removed frequently, and I believe the health By law says no more than two loads should be allowed to exist at one time at hotels, livery stables &c.

Another matter we want particularly to attend to is the planting of shade trees. We have planted a great many during the last 10 years but from various causes a large number have died, and there are a great many gaps in the rows that must be filled up.

There is nothing that adds so much to the attractiveness of a village as well arranged shade trees, nicely arranged lawns, and well painted houses and fences.

Of course property owners as a rule are supposed to look after the tree planting in front of their own premises, but there are places owned by people at a distance and by others who are not in a position to attend to the matter, and unless it is locked after by some one a blot is left on the general appearance of the village. After the trees are once planted on the streets they become public property and this being the case it would be right for the council to take the matter in hand and see that all gaps in the rows are filled up. By so doing they will add to the appearance of the place and as a result more people will be attracted to our village and be induced to make their homes among us. We have in the past planted mostly maples, but if we could get some other kinds to mix in such as elms, oaks or some fancy varieties, it would be quite an improvement.

We have very few hedges in our lawns and if we could have a few nice cedars planted it would be a great improvement.

We have the nicest situation for a village between the lakes, and visitors always remark what a pretty place Richmond Hill is, but one of the strangest things about it our best sites for private residences are not taken up. In the south end on Mr. Arnold's corner there is room for many building lots, and the situation is unsurpassed any place. The drainage is perfect and the view over the farming country to the east, south and west is exceptionally good.

We natives are so used to it that we are blind to its full beauty, but no one can ride out or in on the stage, if he looks around him at all, but be struck with the extent and beauty of the view.

I fear, Mr. Editor, I have trespassed too much on your valuable space so will come to a close.

Yours, &c.,
CITIZEN.

Richmond Hill, April 18th, 1891.

Maple

Our Special Correspondent informs us that four of the citizens went to the Holland Landing on Monday last, and returned on the evening train with 216 large Suckers. His account of the excursion is given in the following words:—

"And it came to pass that on Monday, the second day of the week, four fishermen of the village having mended their nets as did the apostles of old, went forth to fish, and verily did they perform miracles.

Now the names of the fishermen are these: The first John, who is called Thomas, and his brother William, the publican; and John, the tinsmith, with William, the butcher.

And early in the morning did they buckle on their gripsacks and hasten to the nearest station, where they were sat upon by thieves, who attempted to strip them of their day's allowance and send them away hungry and thirsty. And even their friends turned against them and laughed them to scorn, treating them as publicans and sinners.

And when the fishermen reached the water's edge, verily did they hire three of the natives who knew the windings of the river, and straightway did they cast their nets into the water, and lo and behold their nets were full.

And at the hour of noon and at other hours, did they fall in their boats, and there upon their bended knees offer up their grateful thanks for their good luck, and for the exhilarating beverage which they had furnished in their gripsacks.

And on the same day when they returned in the evening great multitudes were gathered together, and the whole multitude stood on the platform and were astonished. And the four fishermen were moved with compassion towards the multitude and gave them fish to eat and they did eat. And when they had finished there remained several basketfuls, but their gripsacks were empty. And all the village were astonished at their good fortune."

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A. L. SKEELE.

February 5th, 1891.

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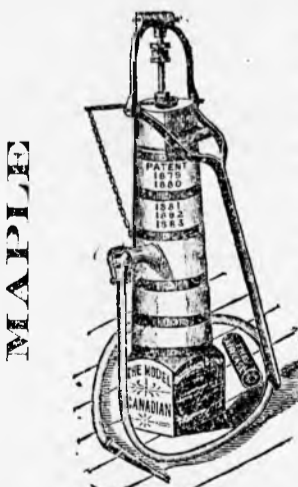
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