MISREPRESENTATIONS.

That in the heat of a widespread agitation there should be some errors rather hastily accepted and disseminated is natural, and should not excite those who perceive the error to uncharitable aspersions on those pulpit and platform orators who repeat them. But there is a limit to the amount of exaggeration and distortion which can be regarded as consistent with a fairly logical mind, capable of reasonably impartial investigation. There is, too, a kind of mistatement or distortion not consistent with the honest desire to state the truth, or with what is characteristic of really honest minds, to know the truth. The rash, impulsive natures operating with a state of inflammation and the radically wrong moral ideas of some Scott Act advocates, and the lack of knowledge or of opportunity to know, may explain the origination or acceptance of many errors propagated by the Scott Act agents, but we have a right to repeat that clergymen and moral reformers, quite as much as party politicians, shall put to reasonable tests any statements they see or hear which seem to help their cause before scattering these statements broadcast with the weight naturally attaching to the utterances of public men. And when errors have been pointed out, as publicly as possible, we have a right to expect at least a little candid examination of the statements of opponents, and not a repetition in chorus of the same old mis-statements and a blind, even Pharisaic attitude, which virtually proclaims that critics must of necessity be bad men.

A truly honest man will not distort, color and select with a view to creating false impressions, however much these impressions may appear to aid his cause. The best class of politicians, however much bias and other causes may lead them to different deductions, are careful in regard to their facts and honest in their attempts to draw conclusions. We surely might expect equal fairness amongst clergymen. We do not always get it.

The people of Halton are probably familiar with the misleading comparisons originated by a Montreal clergyman, Rev. Mr. Lucas, formerly resident in Halton, and of late an agent of the prohibitionists. In these comparisons, which the Rev. lecturer and hundreds who have since, without any investigation, reproduced them as conclusive evidence of the benefits of the Scott Act, Peel is represented as having 6,000 smaller population than Halton, and to show how the Scott Act has reduced crime a comparison as to number of convictions for drunkenness and other offences is made between Halton and Wentworth. The fact that Halton is one of the smallest and most rural counties in Ontario, and contains a population of only 22,000, while Wentworth is a large county and contains a busy city of 40,000, is carefully suppressed. No comparison is instituted with several rural counties under license law which show less drunkenness and crime than Halton, or with the county of Waterloo, which, while being much more than twice as populous as Halton, contains large manufacturing towns and a total town and village population of 29,000, or nearly 7,000 more than the entire population of Halton, but which nevertheless shows relatively less drunkenness and crime than Halton, and in some years absolutely a smaller number of commitments for drunkenness, despite the notorious fact that the consumption of beer in that county is large and almost universal.

The unfairness of Dr. Lucas's comparisons was again and again pointed out [illegible] brought to his attention [illegible] again even by letters to leading [illegible] papers, and every means [illegible] publicity, but despite [illegible] others still continue to [illegible] circulate them over [illegible] Canada, the United States [illegible] Britain, when they are used [illegible] as a safe distance from [illegible] the service of prohibition, [illegible] conceal the sorries of the church as evidences [illegible] a prohibition paradise.

A Woodstock clergyman, employed extensively as a Scott Act agitator, shows likewise a strange indifference to facts. He comes with a specially prepared recommendation, from his first session, declaring that the Scott Act has almost annihilated treating, a statement from which the electors of Halton are supposed to infer that in Woodstock treating has at least greatly decreased, and the Scott Act there is at least a tolerable success. Yet the fact is notorious that in Woodstock there is no diminution in drinking or drunkenness, that open bars in the hotels, and shebeens almost as open, abound, that treating has not at all diminished, and that recently one of the most attractive liquor bars in Canada has been opened. This same clergyman obtained a few years ago, from the then mayor, a written statement that not one-fifteenth as much drinking was done as before under the license law. The document was obtained just after the Act went into force and before the people had learned how to safely adapt their drinking habits to the new order of things. A few weeks later the bars were open and in full operation. A few months later the sale was almost as bold as in a license county, and the bars were crowded, regardless of the hours enforced under the license law, till long after midnight. Yet the mayor's old certificate was paraded—without a date—in every county into which the reverend gentleman entered, and the impression conveyed that the mayor's letter was applicable to the then condition of affairs. It is scarcely from sources like these that electors can hope to obtain unprejudiced and even approximately correct statements to guide them in giving an intelligent vote. Such statements keep many people who wish to see intemperance in liquor diminished or disappear in a perpetual chase after a will-o'-the-wisp which, through the jugglery or inflamed imaginations of prohibitionists, is made to appear now in Halton, now in Oxford, now in Renfrew, or in some remote corner of the earth. Thus every earnest prohibitionist is led into a wild pursuit of a phantom, and practical methods of reducing intemperance are not only neglected but even are opposed by many, who, if they were undeceived, could under solid moral reform find very substantial help. As it is, those who cannot see eye to eye with prohibitionist orators are too frequently credited with being indifferent to the evils of intemperance and as being selfish and unchristian. The result is that the elector who dares to assert his judgment against the clerical pressure in favor of the Scott Act and and kindred measures must have a clear head and a courageous spirit.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with pain of Cutting Teeth? If so send at once and get a bottle of "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for Children Teething. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it mothers; there is no mistake about it. It cures Diarrhœa, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, cures Wind Colic, softens the Gums, reduces Inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. "Mrs Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for children teething is pleasant to the taste, and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists throughout the world. Price, twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," and take no other kind. 14yr.

Subscribe for The Champion.

Scott Act and Drunkenness.

Carefully selected comparisons are presented by Scott Act clergymen to prove by official returns that the Act diminishes intemperance. The opposite side, the increases that have occurred under the Scott Act are just as carefully ignored, as are diminutions of arrests for drunkenness in license counties. The Provincial report on tavern and shop licenses for 1887 gives a comparative statement showing the number of prisoners committed to the county jails for drunkenness during the years 1876 to 1887. The tendency of the Scott Act agitator is to repeat with "convincing" ostentation carefully culled comparisons such as these:—

Elgin had 82 committals for drunkenness in 1884, and only 25 in 1887; Huron's four under the license law in 1881 was reduced to none in 1887; Kent's 26 to 7, Lambton's 105 to 38, Leeds and Grenville's 195 to 24, Renfrew's 27 to 2, Simcoe's 99 to 16, Muskoka and Parry Sound's 84 to 8.

"This," he says, with triumph, "proves how the Scott Act has been a success, and proves it beyond the power of contradiction by the whiskey party." "Now," he continues, "look at the license counties.—Algoma increased from 1 committal in 1886 to 85 committals in 1887, an increase of 8,500 per cent. Nipissing from 6 in 1885 to 18 in 1887, Wentworth from 295 in 1885 to 378 in 1887, and York from 1,705 in 1886 to 2,166 in 1887." "There," he says, "that's what license does." [But he carefully ignores such facts as these:—Algoma under license, shows only four committals for two years in succession. Nipissing, if it did increase from 6 committals in 1885 to 18 in 1887, decreased from 6 in 1885 to 0 in 1886, and Wentworth, though it does show an increase from 1884 to 1887, shows a small decrease from 1886 to 1887, and the large decrease from 447 in 1880 to 378 last year.

Nor does the Scott Act agitator care to allow such facts as these concerning license counties to become public. In Essex committals for drunkenness fell from 121 in 1883 and 103 in 1884 to 45 in 1887; Nipissing from 17 in 1884 to none in 1886; Peel from 24 in 1885 to 8 in 1887, and Perth from 17 to 12; Prescott and Russell, which defeated the Scott Act by 1,800 majority, from 37 in 1883 and 17 in 1885 to 12 in 1887; Grey from 80 in 1885 to 21 in 1887; Thunder Bay district from 705 in 1884 to 148 in 1887, Waterloo from 14 in 1883 and 11 in 1884 to 4 in 1886 and 8 in 1887, Welland from 321 in 1878, 145 in 1881 and 40 in 1886 to 32 in 1887, and Prince Edward from 76 in 1882 and 41 in 1885 to 20 in 1887. To cite such instances as these of decrease in license counties would impair the force of the argument the Scott Act agitator draws from his group of reductions in Scott Act counties.

Nor does the same agitator relish the disclosure of the increase in Dufferin from no committals in 1882 and 1883, and 1 in 1884 to 14 in 1886 and 8 in 1887; nor the increase in Brant from 58 in 1884 and 28 in 1885 to 91 in 1886 and 112 in 1887; nor the increase in Frontenac from 25 in 1882, 46 in 1883, 75 in 1884 to 108 in 1887; nor the increase in Middlesex from 277 in 1885 to 404 in 1887.—These are Scott Act counties.

If he is disposed to ascribe the smallness of the number of committals (only 5) in Halton in 1887 to Scott Act, he prefers silence on the facts that Halton had 13 committals to jail for drunkenness in 1886, and only one under license in 1878. Nor does it help his argument to point out that the benighted county of Prescott and Russell, which so emphatically condemned the Scott Act two years ago, had only 3 committals for drunkenness in 1885, only 2 for each of three years out of the past twelve, only one in each of other three years, and none in four years, including 1887.

And when general results over the province are considered, it is not pleasant for a Scott Act speaker to let his audience know that, despite all the boasts made in regard to the Scott Act, which is in force in most of the counties and two the cities of Ontario, the number of committals for drunkenness increased from 3,555, in 1886, to 4,130, last year, or to a larger number than is on record in twelve years, excepting 1884, when exceptional circumstances in Algoma resulted in much drunkenness and the committal of 5,[illegible]5 persons for drunkenness in that district. Nor will any plea about the Scott Act doing good when honestly enforced help the Scott Act cause, for in some of the Scott Act counties where the decrease in committals is most marked the taverns are selling openly, as in Simcoe, over most of the county; in fact rigid enforcement only seems to aggravate the evils of drunkenness by driving people to low places where, especially amongst young men, over-indulgence exposes them to less public odium and less restraining influence. The worst epidemic of drunkenness ever known in Maine was during a tremendous spurt of enforcement in 1876. In that little state, with no breweries and no distilleries, with the importation of liquor as well as its sale prohibited, and with a population one-third that of Ontario, there were no fewer than 2936 prosecutions for violation of the prohibitory law. Yet, with this active enforcement of prohibition, the little city of Portland was so filled with shebeen produced drunkenness that there were more than 7 arrests for drunkenness to over 100 of the population. Yet there were clergymen and other zealous prohibitionists who never saw the shebeens, and but little of the drunkenness, because they were too prejudiced to admit facts and too well known to be allowed an opportunity of seeing the drinking and the drinking places of the city. The towns of Halton have had a somewhat similar experience.

There is reason to think, from the experience of some parts of the country, that no enforcement of the Scott Act at all, if less efficient in preventing drunkenness than license law, is not nearly so harmful as enforcement of the Scott Act. People prefer drinking in respectable places, and the temptations to excess are less and the hindrances to it greater than in low places kept by men of indifferent and vicious character. Where attempts are made to enforce the law amongst a people divided in sentiment, the taverns lose business and the shebeens, which are much more difficult of detection, increase in number and prosperity. When there is no enforcement the shebeens cannot make a living, the taverns attracting the drinkers. When the tavern-keepers are orderly and fairly good citizens, an effort is made to prevent excessive drinking, and drunkenness rarely occurs.

If our people would devote one-tenth as much attention to keeping improper persons from obtaining licenses and by giving reasonable security to good men, encourage a good class of men to take hotels, drunkenness would become comparatively rare. But as prohibitionists appear to be fighting liquor more than intemperance, public attention is diverted from practicable measures of reform.

Heavy snowstorms are causing trouble throughout Europe.

A general emeute is expected in the Russian universities on March 13.

Killing frost in Port au Prince shows that Cannibalism prevails in Hayti.

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Magistrates' Convictions.

Why crime should abound in one year more than another or in one series of years more than another is not easy of explanation. The Scott Act agitators who predicted empty goals, and an almost total cessation of drunkenness and crime may have been believed by some, but any who may have been deceived into these vain expectations of a reduction of expenses through prohibition will find ample refutation of the Scott Act claim in the following statement of the number of convictions before Halton magistrates. We have been able to procure the figures for 9 years. The returns for some quarters, especially in regard to drunkenness, exceed those for any quarter in any year under the Crooks Act:

CONVICTIONS BEFORE HALTON MAGISTRATES.

Year.	Assaults, Thefts, Larceny & Trespass.	Drunk & Disorderly.	Violat'n Liquor laws.	Miscellaneous.	Total Convictions.	Convictions for offences against Liquor laws, C. C. Hudson.
UNDER THE LICENSE LAW.						
1879..	37	5	4	9	55	51
1880..	26	8	3	22	59	56
1881..	17	15	2	11	45	43
YEAR THE SCOTT ACT WAS INTRODUCED.						
1882..	21	2	18	28	69	51
UNDER THE SCOTT ACT.						
1883..	9	5	29	5	48	19
1884..	20	11	32	17	79	48
1885..	20	15	19	55	109	90
1886..	18	11	27	26	82	55
1887..	19	15	47	51	132	85

Amongst the convictions embraced in the miscellaneous class for 1882, after May 1st, were 11 for disorderly conduct, and amongst those for 1887 were 18 for disorderly conduct and disturbing religious and other meetings (mostly due to drunkenness). The number of cases in 1887 of disorderly conduct was thus raised to 33, a record unexampled, we believe, in the history of the county. Nor does the actual record represent the relative increase of disorderly conduct under the Scott Act. Under license law, the hotel keeper could call in the services of a constable or prosecute. But under the Scott Act, the liquor seller dare not do so, for it might expose him to prosecution for violation of the Act. In this way hundreds of cases of drunkenness and disorderliness and assault in the village shebeens go uninvestigated, in Milton, alone, dozens of such cases occurring sometimes on a single Saturday night and Sunday.

The Scott Act went into force on May 1st, 1882. Of the convictions for violation of the liquor laws in that year, one was for breach of the license law and seventeen for breach of the Scott Act.

The returns prove how unfounded are the claims which have at various times been made that the Scott Act diminishes offences against the law. It is all very well to seek to impose on the public the accidental reductions of convictions which may correspond in some cases with a change from license law to Scott Act, as has been done with a flourish of trimpets in the case of a few counties in Ontario, while in other counties the accidental increase which has followed the introduction of the Scott Act is carefully ignored. The experience of Halton has been wholly contradictory of Scott Act claims. While the highest number of convictions, excluding those for violation of liquor laws, was only 56 in any of the three years under license, for which we have obtained returns, the highest number, with the same exclusion, under the Scott Act was 90. The total average yearly number of convictions for three years of license law was 59, and the average number under Scott Act, was 90, an increase of 37, or 70 per cent. Deducting convictions for breaches of liquor laws from the total, we find that the average number of convictions was 50 under license and 59 2/5 under Scott Act, an increase of nearly 10 or of 20 per cent. For drunk and disorderly the average number of convictions under license was 9½ and under Scott Act 11 2/5, notwithstanding the causes already referred to which prevent prosecutions otherwise would be made.

The whole returns show that one of the principal ostensible objects the Scott Act agitators promised should be accomplished by the Act has not been accomplished. Whether the increase in the number of convictions is or is not due, in part, at least, to the feeling of lawlessness which it is the tendency of a law to produce which is cordially detested by a large portion of the community, it would be impossible to determine with confidence, without a comparison based on long experience over a wide area. But of one thing we are certain, that here, as in Maine, where the number of committals to the county jails doubled in twelve years—1873 to 1884—prohibition has failed to reduce crime.

$4,299 LOST FOR NOTHING.

The actual loss of revenue, without any moral gain, through the Scott Act, is greater than the amounts of the license fees which existed six years ago would indicate. The Government fees a minimum fee, but councils can and many do largely increase it, besides which, for provincial purposes, the benefit of which Halton receives, a large addition to the fees has been made. The minimum fee now chargeable for general tavern licenses in towns is, under the Act of 1886, $150; in incorporated villages, $120, and in townships, $90. Were the same number of licenses granted seven years ago this would represent $4,200, a large sum, which would not only do much pecuniarly for the municipalities and general provincial purposes, but furnish sufficient money to enforce with efficiency the license law which by recent amendments has been made more stringent and easier of enforcement.

The question is asked why, if the Scott Act is successful, do liquor dealers wish to see it repealed? The question is a silly one. Even liquor dealers have human nature, and dislike being constantly in danger of fine and imprisonment. They besides do not care about preparing meals and bedding for the public and to increase expense for house-hold servants, which the shebeen men are not by their business compelled to do, and yet have to divide profits from the sale of liquor with the shebeens, their strongest opposition.

Tamarac

A cold will often cause an irritation, dryness and soreness inside the throat. The first dose of Trmarac Elixir will afford relief.

The "White Gloves" Story.

The statement has been made again and again that in Halton at assizes the white gloves have been presented, there being "no criminal cases on the docket." This statement is false. Crimes have been committed which were not disposed of by summary trial, and if in some cases the crimes remained unavenged at the assizes, it did not alter the fact that there had been crime, that there were "cases on the docket," and the white gloves could not be presented. Halton is and has always been a peaceable and quiet county, remarkably free from offences of a serious character. The Scott Act has not altered this fact, nor the fact that crime was committed. Besides the character of the population which settled in this county, there are other reasons for the comparative immunity from crime. The county is very small, having only four townships, and very rural, having only a few towns or villages, and those of small population. Several causes under license law, similar in their rural character to Halton, show a similarly small amount of crime, and even in some of the large and manufacturing counties, the recurrence of no convictions at the assizes is not regarded as remarkable. That there may be no cavil, we reproduce the docket of cases that have come before the courts in the last five years:

AUTUMN ASSIZES, 1882.

Regina vs. Sarah Flynn; assault. True bill; verdict, not guilty.

Regina vs. Joseph Maloney; perjury. True bill. Defendant did not appear and his bail was estreated.

Regina vs. John Stedford; perjury; no bill.

AUTUMN ASSIZES, 1884.

Regina vs. Geo. W. Black; pointing a pistol. True bill; case adjourned.

Regina vs. John Bennett; assaulting a constable. True bill; case adjourned.

SPRING ASSIZES, 1885.

Regina vs. Geo. W. Black; pointing a pistol. Jury disagreed.

Regina vs. John Bennett; assaulting a constable. Verdict, guilty.

AUTUMN ASSIZES, 1885.

Regina vs. Geo. [illegible]; assaulting a pistol. Verdict, not guilty.

SPRING ASSIZES, 1886.

Regina vs. W. D. Bevounes Richard White; libel. Verdict, not guilty.

AUTUMN ASSIZES, 1887.

Regina vs. W. J. Degeer; rape. True bill; verdict, not guilty.

[For the spring assizes of 1888, there are already four criminal cases on the docket, viz., 2 of perjury, 1 of seduction, under the Charlton Act, and one of false pretenses.

Removes the Cause.

Many persons suffer from a symptom of Catarrh that causes nausea, more especially after eating in the morning. Nasal Balm will cure by removing the cause.

SUMMARY CONVICTIONS.

The number of cases that go to the juries is to a large extent affected by local custom and to some extent by the confidence placed in the County Judge, the option being allowed a defendant of choosing a summary trial before the County Judge, or a trial by jury before the regular courts. So that the number of trials before the regular courts furnishes no trustworthy criterion by which to judge of the number of offences committed. The following, extracted from the records, show the number of offences in each year under the Scott Act, tried summarily before the County Judge from 1st May to 31st December, 1882:—Assault, with bodily harm, 1; assaulting a woman, 1; larceny, 1; total, 3. 1883—Burglary or larceny, 4; neglecting to support wife, 1; total, 5. 1884—False pretenses, 1; carrying concealed weapon, 1; burglary or larceny, 7; total, 9. 1885—Rape, 1; receiving stolen goods, 1; bigamy, 1; attempted suicide, 1; burglary or larceny, 8; arson, 1; total, 13. 1886—Assault, 1; assault, with bodily harm, 2; attempt to injure property, 1; attempt to injure person, 1; assaulting constable, 1; horse stealing, 1; pointing pistol, 2; indecent assault, 4; indecent exposure, 2; arson, 1; burglary or larceny, 6; total, 25. 1887—Malicious injury to property, 1; assault, 1; assault, with bodily harm, 2; assaulting constable, 1; receiving stolen goods, 2; placing obstruction on railway, 3; rape, 1; horse stealing, 1; burglary or larceny, 9; total, 20.

Increase of crime under Scott Act:—1882, after May 1st, 3; 1883, 5; 1884, 9; 1885, 13; 1886, 25; 1887, 20. Average number of trials yearly, 12.5.

Halton Presbyterians, Please Notice.

The following statement, drawn up by the Rev. Mr. Wright, a Presbyterian minister, missionary at Damascus, and signed, as he states, by *the men most competent in the whole world to speak on the subject*, was submitted by him to the General Assembly of the Presbyterians in Scotland:

We, the undersigned missionaries and residents of Syria, having been repeatedly requested to make a distinct statement on the subject, hereby declare that during the whole time of our residence and travelling in Syria and the Holy Land we have never seen or heard of an unfermented wine; nor have we found among Jews, Christians or Mohommedans, any tradition of such a wine having existed in the country.

Rev. W. M. Thompson, D. D.
Rev. S. H. Calhoun.
C. V. A. Van Dyke, D.D.
Rev. James Robertson.
Rev. H. H. Jessup.
Rev. John Wortabet, M.D.
James Black, Esq.
Michael Meshaka, doctor.
Rev. John Crawford.
R. W. Brightocke, M.D., F.R.C.S.
Rev. Wm. Wright, B. A.

May, 1875.

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John W. Bowes.

Milton, Nov. 10, 1887.

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These goods are made by the best manufacturers in the Dominion, and will be sold at lowest possible prices. Boots and Shoes made to order. A perfect fit and first-class stock and workmanship guaranteed. Fine repairs.

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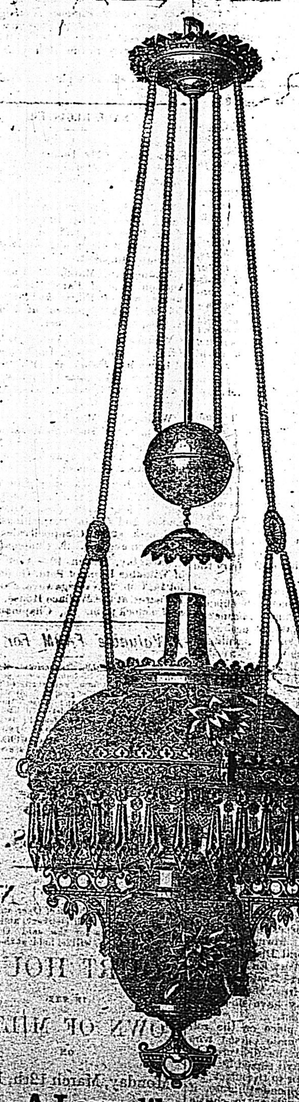

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LUMBER, FLOORING, LATH AND SHINGLES, kept constantly on hand and for sale.

Also Builders and Contractors. We are prepared to contract for the erection of all kinds of buildings either in part or whole. PRICES MODERATE. Factory—Mill Street, Milton.

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Begs to intimate that he is prepared to fill all orders for

Wagons, Democrats,

at short notice, at fair prices, good workmanship and low figures. Agricultural Implements on hand, including Minney's Self-Binder, Hose Rakes. Blacksmithing and Repairing on wood work a specialty.

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Gang down to Roper's and get some cakes
Some buns and shortbread and some bak
For a thing o' the kind he makes,
And set our table cheery O.

Plain and Ornamental Cakes of every description. Please send in your favors early. Orders from the country prompt attention, should be in not later than December

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I have a large stock of goods to choose from, consisting Denims and Cottonades; also Fine Grey Flannels, Check Grey Unions and Woolen Dress Goods.

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Now is the time for families who wish to furnish their money at the Furniture Rooms in the STEVENSON BLOC MILTON.

JAS. A. FRA

Milton, Dec. 10, 1887.

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These lamps are still at t for lighting large rooms o buildings. Chimneys breakable by heat and smoke up even when us cheapest oil. They are plosive and easy to mana

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