APPLE GROWING.

At a meeting of the Halton Dominion Grange, No. 6, held on 7th June in the hall at Omagh, Mr. George E. Fisher read the following paper on apple growing:—

"I have considerable hesitation in addressing this meeting on the subject of apple growing, as I know there are those present who are quite as familiar with the best method of procedure as I am, and hence do not assume to be a teacher, but will mention some things which I have learned from observation and experience, and hope that the reading of this paper will be followed by a thorough examination of its distinct parts, as the discussion of the question would certainly be more beneficial than the mere reading of a paper.

When we take into consideration the wide extent of territory, north, south, east and west of us, in which the apple is found growing, we may well ponder over the oft repeated assertion that it does not succeed throughout the whole extent of any country, but only in certain circumscribed localities; and while we may admit its truth we fail to comprehend the reasons why certain soils or sections should be more congenial than others. Yet the fact that success does attend its cultivation in particular locations, while it comparatively fails in others is patent to every casual observer; but whether these failures are attributable to the injudicious selection of varieties, to the conditions of soil or climate, or to the mode of culture, is not always easy to determine.

That the careful selection of a site is absolutely necessary to the successful cultivation of the apple, is abundantly proven by the result of the indiscriminate planting which has been going on in our province during the past fifteen or twenty years. There is, however, no doubt that there are particular varieties which are better suited to one section than to another, and that a situation well protected from wind is always desirable.

The situation of an orchard with regard to exposure or aspect requires very little consideration in our part of the country, where, owing to our proximity to a large body of water, the winters are uniform in temperature, or comparatively so, and late spring frosts do not prevail. The main difficulties to guard against are the winds, especially those from the west, north and east, that injure the blossoms and blow off the fruit. If possible a situation should be chosen where some natural obstacle, as a hill, or a belt of woods, would break the force of these destructive winds. Where no such obstacle exists, a belt or border of rapidly growing trees should be planted simultaneously with the planting of the orchard, that they may grow up and form a protection by the time the trees have come into bearing. Instances occur every year right here, in our own section, where sheltered trees bear full crops, while those fully exposed to wind fail almost entirely. In other sections, as in some of the central counties, where late and fatal spring frosts prevail, the selection of a situation is most important. In such localities, an eastern or southern exposure or low ground is to be avoided, as it is well known that frost frequently strikes low grounds when those more elevated escape, and that agitation begins earlier and continues later on an eastern or southern exposure than on a western or northern. In all localities where fruit culture has made any considerable progress, there is generally experience enough to be found, if carefully sought for and collected, to guide beginners in fixing upon sites for orchards, and no man should venture to plant without giving due attention to the subject and availing himself of the experience of his neighbors, for experience, after all, is the only reliable guide.

The soil should be dry, for trees cannot live where stagnant water is; but not too dry, as the roots must replace a large amount of moisture which is constantly being given off by the leaves. It should be deep enough to admit of the roots reaching a permanent supply of moisture, but if they penetrate to too great a depth the circulation of sap will continue too late in the fall, preventing the maturing of the young wood, which would go into winter wholly unprepared and perish from freezing, which seems to be the difficulty in some sections of the back part of our county. A heavy clay is undesirable for apple plantations, because of its retaining surplus water too long, and of the difficulty the roots experience in reaching a sufficient depth; when a farmer has no alternative, but must use such a soil, these natural impediments may be overcome to a considerable degree by a careful preparation previous to planting. The ground should be regularly underdrained, putting the drains equidistant between where the rows of trees will be, for if put too near the little rootlets will not be long in finding their way into them and filling them so completely that not even water can find a way through them. I have had some trouble of this kind myself, and upon several occasions have been required to take up the drains, which is by no means pleasant work. The ground should also be plowed with a common and subsoil plows, and if the operation be repeated crosswise of the first plowing the preparation will be more complete. An orchard upon coming into bearing, unless it be planted on good strong land, requires abundant nourishing, for this reason light sandy and very gravelly soils are not good, being too poor, and being so very porous they allow any application of manure to filter through almost immediately. On the other hand, there are soils wholly unfit for fruit trees of any kind, such as peaty or mucky and damp, cold and spongy soils. For an orchard of apples a dry, deep, substantial soil between a sandy and a clayey loam, and possessing a considerable proportion of lime is, according to all experience, the best. On such soils we find the greatest and most enduring vigor and fertility, the healthiest and hardiest trees, and the fairest and best flavored fruits. Trees planted on such soils retain their vigor and productiveness to a great age without receiving more than the most ordinary culture. It has also been observed that apples grown on clogey soils weigh heavier and keep better than those grown on very light soils.

The selecting of varieties must in all cases be made with reference to the special purposes for which they are intended, as there are two distinct kinds of plantations, viz: the family orchard and the market or commercial orchard. The size of the family orchard must be regulated by the requirements of the family, and should contain a perfect succession of varieties suitable for kitchen and table purposes, so that no season of the year would find the farmer unprovided. He must also consider how many he will want for sauce, drying, cider, dessert, &c., and what proportion of sweet and sour. These are all considerations that depend upon the habits, taste and mode of living of the family and for which I will not undertake to provide. I desire, however, to say a word in behalf of the, as it seems to me, insufficiently appreciated sweet apple, for in my opinion a real good sweet apple properly baked and served with cream and sugar, is second to not one of the many dainties we have. Nor can I understand why those people who aim to practise the most rigid economy do not use largely of them, for, when well baked, if served without either sugar or sauce, they are not only very palatable, but easily digested and highly nutritious.

The commercial orchardist must exercise the same discrimination in selection of his varieties, adapting them to the market he intends to supply. In the immediate vicinity of large cities and towns, where he may carry his fruit to market in a few hours, the most profitable culture will generally comprise a proportion of the better summer and early autumn varieties, or such as require to be consumed immediately after maturity, and are unfit for distant transportation. These, together with a few kinds in much larger proportion of the long keeping and good shipping sorts, will make up his list. I say a few kinds, for the planting of a great number of varieties in the commercial orchard is a grave mistake and a very common one. Of the three or four thousand varieties whose names have been recorded, for winter sorts I would be satisfied with one for each thousand, and in any case would not exceed the half dozen. Still, owing to peculiarities of seasons, it sometimes happens that fall fruits do better than either the earlier or later kinds, for which reason it might be safer to add a couple of these in small proportion.

In purchasing your stock have as little as possible to do with pedlars, but, if at all practicable, deal directly with a responsible nurseryman, and, if he will allow it, select from the nursery rows, choosing clean, healthy and stalky trees in preference to those tall and slender, always looking carefully for insects or their eggs, which are frequently conveyed to the orchard directly from the nursery, and avoid leaving the roots exposed to the air.

The plan for laying out an orchard, which I prefer, is first to procure a half inch line long enough to reach across the field, which the nurseryman of whom you purchase will possibly supply; then make as many half-inch stakes, one foot in length, as there are trees; calculate where the outside rows will come, then stretch the line along each side, very tightly, and tramp it down; along this line measure with a pole the distance between each row, and plant a stake; having thus prepared the outside rows, stretch the line from each stake to the one opposite to it, both ways of the field, and tramp it down, which will leave a distinct mark; then plant a stake perfectly erect at each point of intersection, and you will be surprised at the regularity and precision which prevail; look which way you will and the stakes stand in perfect line. Next procure a board six or eight inches wide and five or six feet long, cut a notch two inches square in the middle along the side and a triangular notch two inches deep in the middle at the ends; place the board so that the stake locating the tree will stand in the notch at the side, then put a stake through the notch at each end; remove the board and dig the hole large enough to admit the roots in their natural position; cut away all injured parts from the roots, reduce the top to correspond, replace the board, stand the tree in the hole with the trunk in the notch, and the top slightly inclining towards the west, then work in fine soil about the roots until they are covered, after which in filling the hole tramp well; this is very important.

I think cultivation necessary to a young orchard for the first few years, after which we must be governed by the condition of the trees—if disposed to bear, continue the cultivation; but if making too much wood, seed down.

Pruning may be safely done at any time of the year, except when the sap is rising in the spring, say during April and May; but it is conceded that the best time to prune for growth of wood is the month preceding this term, and the best time to promote fruitfulness the month immediately following it. The presence of a large variety of insect pests is perhaps the greatest difficulty which the orchardist has to contend against, the most conspicuous of which are the borer and bark louse, which prey upon the sap, and the various caterpillars, codling moth and curculio, which prey upon the leaves and fruit. For the former, wash the trunks of the trees in the spring with an alkaline solution, and if the bark louse has taken possession, the application should be made about the first of June, as the lice are then unprotected and running about, and if they are found, out on the small limbs, these can be reached more easily and more thoroughly by spraying. (Lye of a strength that will scarcely carry an egg, I like best; but a solution of washing soda, in the proportion of half a pound to a pail of water, answers perhaps equally well; crude carbolic acid is also very useful as an insecticide.) For the latter, use Paris green in the proportion of a pound to forty gallons of water, applied by spraying shortly after the blossom falls, and while the fruit remains erect upon its stem, for the moth deposits its egg at the blossom end. So if we wait till the fruit turns down we are too late for the codling moth, which is the most troublesome. The notable absence of late years of insectivorous birds is to be deplored—perhaps some one present can explain why this is. Every grower of fruit should pack and ship his own fruit himself, to some good, perhaps foreign, market, to be sold on commission, beside being able to send the fruit as it matures, not having to wait for some one to come and put it up. I have found it more profitable per barrel than to sell at home.

I prefer making two grades, for while there are those who desire good, useful fruit at a moderate cost, there are also those who, having plenty of money, prefer paying a fancy price for a fancy article. I am satisfied that more money will be realised from a crop handled in this way than if only one quality be made.

—Geo. E. Fisher.

Useful Hints.

For scouring steel knives, rub two common, hard bricks together, put the dust thus obtained in a box in a handy place, you will find nothing better.

Mix stove blacking with vinegar to the consistency of cream, add a pinch of sugar, rub with a brush, it will give a beautiful and lasting polish.

Rub the inside of tomato cans, just after the fruit has been emptied out, with a cloth covered with soda, it will brighten them wonderfully.

Raise you bread in a well buttered stone jar; warm the jar well in cold weather before putting the dough in.

Sew carpet rags on the machine, it saves both time and labor; fold the same as to sew by hand, run in and out on the same side, sew awhile then clip and wind.

"My little five-year-old came home from church last sunday," said Mr. Ed. Stevens, with, "Papa, I can tell you what the preacher said to-day."

"Let's have it, I answered.

"He said that Jesus was in the temple, and after awhile he put on his hat and went out on the sidewalk where a man lay sick, and he said to him, roll up your mattress and go home, and he went."

CASTORIA

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"Castoria is so well adapted to children that I recommend it as superior to any prescription known to me." H. A. Archer, M.D., 111 So. Oxford St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Castoria cures Colic, Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhœa, Eructation, Kills Worms, gives sleep, and promotes digestion, Without injurious medication.

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ROPER, THE BAKER, TO THE FRONT

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

Plain and Ornamental Cakes of every description for the Holidays. Please send in your favors early. Orders from the country, to receive prompt attention, should be in not later than December 15th.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON.

LESSON FOR JULY 1st.

God's covenant with Israel.—Exodus xxiv, 1-12.

Notes.—"*And he.*"—God.—"*Up unto the Lord.*"—Upon Mount Sinai.—"*Nadab and Abihu.*—Sons of Aaron. Lev. x, 1.—"*And seventy of the elders of Israel.*"—Representatives of the people.—"*They shall not come near.*"—Only Moses was to come near. Ex. xix, 12.—"*Moses wrote all the words of the Lord.*"—So that there should be no cavil or mistake; that posterity might know what the Lord saith to his chosen people.—"*And he sent young men.*"—These on account of their innocence and youth had committed to them the tasks that the Levitical priesthood undertook as their right later.—"*Burnt offerings.*"—These were wholly consumed by fire on the altar. They were mainly expiatory and also were the signs of complete heart offering to God.—"*Peace offerings.*"—Partly consumed and partly eaten by the offerers. These were the signs of thankfulness for mercies received. Both were generally offered together.—"*Half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar.*"—It was as representative of the people that Moses covenanted by this act to be faithful to God. Thus he might expect the blessings and promises that fidelity could demand.—"*And sprinkled it on the people.*"—Not all, of course, but those representatives. This was the most solemn seal of the acceptance of God's covenant by the people.—"*A graved work of sapphire stone.*"—Sapphire is of various colors. The gem in those days was more valued for it light blue transparent color than for dark blue. This is a wonderful and realistic description of splendor that could not be described.—"*And upon the nobles . . . he laid not his hands.*"—The vision did them no harm.—"*They beheld God.*"—As in a trance of ecstacy. This refers more to a prophetic vision.

Instruction.—The same cry that Moses and the people heard has been reverberating down the centuries in ever-increasing volume and strength, *Come up unto the Lord.* Nor to our minds is the Lord on a high hill where only a single representative may see him for us. He is to be found by the seeking. He is to be heard by the hearing. He speaks to us in a thousand tongues. All can go to him. Christ revealed a God on Calvary. A God with all his people.

Yet to see him we must still go up as they did of old at Sinai. It is a toilsome, but oh, how pleasant a journey! Our passions, our wicked appetites, all that holds us back from heavenly purity—all must be left at the base of the ascent. Then up and onward. God in Christ our high goal. He will not harm us, nor will the lightning flash of wrath blast us as we upward march.

There are some holy and privileged ones who by a life of devotion and purity live far nearer to God than others. Shall they not tell of the glories they see? Shall they not teach the slow what they now see by intuitive love? If any man knows or even thinks he knows more than his neighbors let him teach them as Moses taught the people. True knowledge will bring forth fruit. The false will gradually find its level.

An honest and enthusiastic presentation and interpretation of God's truth will generally carry assent and belief. No truth need be despaired of. Some truths are only partially known. Some more fully. Yet where truth is there believers must be.

Is not God making a covenant with us at this time? There is no more blood-sprinkling now. What need? Was not the last victim slain a sufficient sacrifice for all ages? God's covenant is in the heart of each believer. He knows God accepts him. He knows it on Christ's authority and on his own consciousness, provided he has done his part of the agreement.

The blood covenant is somewhat of a mystery in its early origin, but its meaning is full of suggestion, as the blood was the inner life, and by tasting blood one received another's life. So our spiritual life, that inner life, comes from God. God is a spirit. Only those whose spirits are quickened can understand such a God. And from no other source than from the Father can spiritual life come.

As that memorable covenant was followed by a vision of the Life-give himself, so when we take his life into ours will we see him more as he is than as we think him to be.

So let us go up into the mount will all the saints. Learn more of God and his will—be strengthened in the inner man—then go and teach others the blessedness of the knowledge of God and of life in him.

The Ways of Widdy Wimmin.

D. R. McAnnally's Irish Wonders

Widdy wimmin are like lobsthers when they wunst ketch hold, begob, they have no conaste av lettin' go at all, but will shtick to ye tighter than a toeasil; till ye've aither to marry thim or murther thim, that's the wan thing in the end; fur if ye marry thim ye're talked to death, and if ye murther thim ye're only decintly hanged out o' the front dure o' the jail. Whin they're afther a husband they're as busy as owld Nick, an' as nuch in aimest as a dog in pucahoot av a flea! More-be-token, they're always looking for the proper man, and if they see wan that they think will shuit, bedad, they go afther him as strait as an arrer, an' if he doesn't take the alarum, and run like a shape-thief, the widdy will have him afore the althar and married fast and tight while he'd be sayin' a Crado.

Excursion Rates.

A very complete list of tourist round trip rates and routes to western points for 1888, has just been issued for free distribution by C. H. Warren, Gen. Pass. Agent, St. P. M. & M. Ry., St. Paul, Minn. 49-6t.

A recent Bismarck, Dak., bride had "bad luck" on her wedding day. She had almost reached the church when she discovered that she had forgotten her bridal veil. She went back after it. On the way to the church again she sneezed three times and split the satin bodice from belt to shoulder. The carriage stopped at a millinery store, needle and thread were procured, and the rent repaired. As she stepped from the carriage at the church door the lace bodice of an underskirt caught and the underskirt at the waist gave way. As she walked up the aisle the skirt began to slip down, but she managed to grab it through the side of her dress skirt and hung on until she was safely married and back in the carriage. Then she wept.

Consumption Surely Cured.

To the Editor:

Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for the above named disease. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy FREE to any of your readers who have consumption if they will send me their express and P. O. address. Respectfully,

Dr. T. A. Slocum,
50-1y. 87 Yonge St., Toronto.

NEWS ITEMS.

Lord Wolseley's term as Adjutant-General has been extended two years.

Postmaster General McLelan is to be sworn in as Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia on July 9.

It is rumoured in Montreal that ex-premier Joly has consented to be the local Ministerial candidate in Magantic against the recently unseated member, Mr. Johnston.

Mr. Justice Falconbridge has decided that it an employee uses insulting language towards his employer it is perfectly in order for the latter to dismiss him without warning.

Crofters settled in Southern Manitoba are delighted with the location and have already made a good commencement towards building new homes. They have written their friends in the Old Country in the highest terms of praise of Manitoba.

Several young men were sitting together on a bench in Fairmont Park, when a young lady happened to approach. One "real sweet" dude, seeing, as he thought, the young lady looking at him, said: "Well, Miss, do you want to eat me?" "No," she replied, "I never eat greens."

Omaha Dame—"Didn't you know before your marriage that the man you loved had contracted the liquor habit?" Neglected Wife—"Yes, I knew he had contracted the habit, and if it had only stayed contracted I should not have complained, but after marriage the habit expanded."

Toronto, June 18.—A petition was filed this afternoon at Osgoode Hall against the election of Archibald Campbell as M. P. for Kent County, on the ground of bribery and corruption by respondent personally, as well as by agent.

"Pshaw!" exclaimed Grimshaw "I have no patience with a woman. You look under the bed to see a man and you'll scream blue murder if you saw one." "What of that" retorted his patient wife. "I saw you put your hand on the radiator to see if it was hot, and you jumped up and down and swore like a trooper when you found that it was." Grimshaw has now less patience with 'em than ever.

T. V. Powderly contributes an able article, "Shall We Restrict Immigration?" to last Saturday's "America." The noted leader of the Knights of Labor is a high authority on the labor question and his article will be read with great interest. Julien Hawthorne, Mary Murdoch Mason and other eminent writes also contribute to the number. "America" is essentially an American magazine. It is published weekly by the American Publishing Co., 180-182 Monroe Street, Chicago, and costs 10 cents a number, or $3.50 a year. For sale by all newsdealers.

LOW TOURIST RATES.

For $47.50 a first-class round trip ticket, good for 90 days, with stop-over privileges, can be obtained from St. Paul to Great Falls, Montana, the coming manufacturing centre of the northwest. Minneapolis or St. Paul to Helena and return $47.50. Only $25.00 additional for stopover privileges. Reductions in proportion from points east and south. Rates correspondingly as low will be named to points in Minnesota and Dakota, or upon Puget Sound and the Pacific Coast. For further particulars address C. H. Warren, Gen'l Pass. Agent, St. Paul, Minn.

Manitoba — St. Paul, Minneapolis, Dakota

NASAL BALM — Guides through nasal passages to the seat of disease. Gives immediate relief. Cold in the Head. Catarrh.

Soothing, Cleansing, Healing. It Cures Catarrh, Cold in Head, Hay Fever. Stops Dropping from Nasal passages into the throat and excessive expectoration caused by Catarrh. Sold by Druggists, or sent pre-paid on receipt of price, 50c. and $1. Address FULFORD & Co., Brockville, Ont.

GO WEST! 18,000,000 acres of Montana Indian Reservation just opened for settlement near Great Fall, Ft. Benton, Assiniboine and Glasgow, consisting of rich mineral and coal districts, grazing and farm lands of the very highest quality. The opportunities for making money here are greater than anywhere else in the United States. This is the time to go and secure your location. For maps, Maps, and other information, Address, C. H. Warren, Gen. Pass. Agent, St. P. M. & M. Ry., St. Paul, Minn.

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Everybody pleased with their elegant display

New Stripe Dress Goods 20, 25 and 30c.
New Plain Dress Goods 10, 12½, 15, 20, 25c.
New Check Dress Goods 7½, 10, 20, 25c.
New Chambrays 10, 12, 15, 20.
New Prints 5, 8½, 10, 12½c.
New Seersuckers 8½, 10, 12½c.
New Tapestry Carpets 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75c.
New Brussels Carpets 75, $1, $1.10.
New Wool Carpets 37½, 50, 60, 75, $1, $1.10.
New Lace Curtains, taped, $1, $1.25, $1.50, $2, $2.50.
New Scrim Haircloth 10, 12½, 15, 20c.
New Curtain Poles 50, 75, $1, $1.50, $2.50.
New Millinery very cheap.
New Jersey Jackets, extra value, $3.50.
New styles in Dressmaking.

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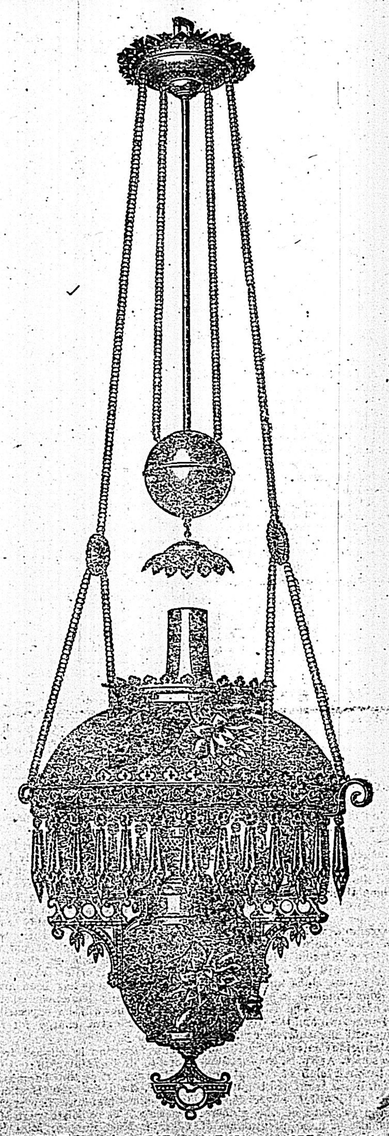

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Now is use, go to

W. J. STEARN,

who has now had 4 years experience in making the various kinds, and purchasers all information; also how to make creamery butter by M. Moyer. I am also prepared to do

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The undersigned has opened a Wood Yard on Brown's Block, Milton, just east of the Roller rink, and is prepared to furnish all who may favor him with orders, with

Hard and Soft Wood of all kinds

ready cut and split for use, at rock bottom prices.

John W. Bowes

Milton, Nov. 10, 1887.

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

I have also a full line of Summer and Winter Tweeds from 45c. a yd. And I have a good assortment of Sheetings, Blankets, and Horse Blankets all double width; have also a large variety of Yarns, all colors, made of Wool, as I use no substitutes for Wool (a boast which few mill owners can make) so that you can depend on good sound Yarns or any other goods you may get manufactured, and always from your own wool when desired. Carding, Spinning, Weaving well and promptly done. Give us a call and you will be well dealt with. ☞ The highest possible price allowed for all kinds of Wool.

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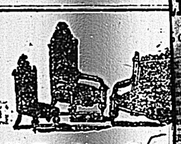

The Subscriber now offers for Sale at his Ware Rooms, Stevenson's Block, Main Street, Milton, his large and well-assorted stock of Furniture at prices lower than has ever been offered hitherto in the Town of Milton, consisting of

Parlor Suits, Bed-Room Suits, Lounges, Extension Tables, Side Boards, Wire Mattrasses of all kinds, Also a large quantity of Sea Grass and Fibre Mattrasses, Feathers, wool on both or on one side.

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JAS. A. FRASER.

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