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THE REPORTER.

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THE REPORTER

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BETHUEL LOVERIN,
Publisher and Proprietor.

OUR MORNING STROLL.

No. 19—What Things of Interest We Note This Week.

SOME three years ago, Mr. Joseph Thomson came to this village from one of the rear townships, and started a small millinery shop in an unpretentious building on Main St., formerly occupied by J. P. Lamb as a drug store. The amount of business done at first was small, but, by degrees the custom increased until it became necessary to employ an assistant. About one and a half years ago it was decided to open a grocery and provision store, and part of the same shop was utilized for that purpose. This branch of the business was also very small at the beginning, but by perseverance, close attention to business, selling at reasonable prices, and strict honesty, the business has become one of the best in the village. During the past two seasons, Mr. Thompson has been on the road most of the time, gathering eggs for the Boston market from the local dealers in the surrounding villages. He seems to have been fortunate in securing a large portion of the local trade in this commodity, for from a glance at his books we learned that he has this season handled over 25,000 dozen eggs, for which he has paid out the sum of \$4,055, the average price being 16 1/2-50c. per dozen. We also learned that during the past year he bought and sold over \$4,500 worth of groceries and provisions. The millinery business during the past year has brought in some \$1,200, which shows that Mrs. Thompson combines the two very essential elements, viz.: a good saleswoman and the faculty of fitting up an article so as to please the most fastidious. Mr. Thompson also does a large business in outside barter, dealing in hides, pelts, &c. to the extent of some \$1,100, making the yearly business foot up to something near \$10,000. Mr. Thompson says his business has been greatly curtailed for want of transportation facilities, and he is therefore an ardent supporter of the proposed Brockville, Westport & Sault Ste. Marie Railway, believing that when the railway is built he can do a larger business, at far less cost for shipping, thereby enabling him to pay higher prices for the commodities that he handles.

It is said that the liquor-dealers contemplate petitioning Parliament to so amend the Scott Act as to admit of

the sale and consumption of beer and wines. Any movement in this direction should be promptly check-mated. The temperance people have had a hard fight from the beginning. Money for the furtherance of their cause and the conducting of their campaigns they have had to supply themselves. And this, too, with no selfish object in view. Arrayed against them they have had an interest of wide-spread influence, fighting for its very existence—a monied interest in defence of which money has been freely used. But the steady persevering work of the numerous temperance societies scattered through every village and hamlet in the Dominion has educated the public mind to a recognition of the virtue of, and necessity for, a prohibitory law. The sentiment in favor of temperance has for many years been steadily increasing, till now, when that sentiment is tested by a submission of the Scott Act, it is found to be entertained by a very large majority of our people. The carrying of the Scott Act in the fifty-one counties in which it is now in force has cost the temperance party a large amount of time and money, and anything that would tend to interfere with this finished work should be promptly and effectively resisted. It is scarcely likely that Parliament would grant such a petition, but the temperance people should see to it that they have abundant reason for not doing so.

Municipal Nominations.

On Monday last, punctually, at 12 o'clock, Jas. H. Blackburn, Clerk of the municipality of Rear of Yonge and Escott, took the chair at the Town Hall, and announced that he was prepared to receive nominations for the positions of reeve, deputy reeve, and councillors for 1885. Mr. Isaac Alguire was also present to receive nominations for police trustees. The following persons were then nominated:—

For Reeve—Isaac C. Alguire, S. A. Taplin, R. B. Alguire, Jas. B. Saunders, Hugh Mulvena.

For Deputy reeve—Jas. B. Saunders, R. B. Alguire, S. A. Taplin, M. Halladay, Thos. Berney.

For Councillors—Ransom Brown, Geo. P. Wight, Thos. Moulton, M. Halladay, A. W. Kelly, John Wiltse, A. James, H. H. Arnold, D. Fisher, Horace Brown, Chas. Johnston.

Police Commissioners.—N. Dowsley, H. C. Phillips, Wm. Parish. By acclamation.

At the lapse of one hour, the nominations were declared closed when all the candidates for councillors resigned, excepting Ransom M. Brown, Thos. Berney, and Geo. P. Wight. The Clerk declared these gentlemen elected by acclamation, to serve for 1885.

Mr. Saunders, Reeve, was then called upon, and in response, he gave

a resume of year's business, showing everything to have passed off smoothly and satisfactorily. Referring to Railway affairs, he said that he had consulted with men who were posted in the matter, and had learned that the debentures could be floated at five per cent., and calculating on the present assessment, in order to raise the amount of bonus in this municipality, ratepayers would be required to pay the sum of \$1.92 on each \$1,000, for a period of twenty years. He was in favor of the bonus being granted, and said that the ratepayers would likely be informed by public speakers before polling day as to all details of the scheme. He concluded his speech by thanking the ratepayers for past and present favors.

Mr. Isaac Alguire said he had served the municipality in the capacity of reeve and councillor, and with his record before them, if the people wished him to be their reeve for 1885, the choice must be unanimous, otherwise he was not in the field.

Messrs. Berney and Reid Alguire returned thanks for their nomination in short speeches.

Mr. Taplin spoke at considerable length, reviewing his relations with this municipality as a public man and as a citizen. He arraigned before the meeting several who were present, accusing them of truckling and slandering. He gave some interesting tit-bits of municipal history, vindicating himself from charges which he said had been made against him. His speech was a vigorous, scathing denunciation of his alleged traducers, and an effective defence of himself. He closed by expressing himself willing to resign, if by his so doing Mr. Isaac Alguire would be elected by acclamation.

Mr. Saunders spoke in contradiction of some statements made by Mr. Taplin, and said that he also was willing to allow Mr. Alguire to be elected without opposition, providing he was given the deputy reeveship.

Mr. Reid Alguire withdrew his candidature for the deputy reeveship, and M. Halladay was declared elected.

The only contest, therefore, will be between Messrs. Taplin and Saunders for the position of reeve.

YONGE FRONT.—Reeve—R. R. Phillips, W. A. Foster. Councillors—P. F. Purvis, Jas. Dickey, Chas. Malory, Vincent Buell, Ed Poole, P. C. Purvis, George Leeder, Jas. Avery, John T. Tennant, Roderick Morrison, D. T. Tennant.

ELIZABETHTOWN.—Reeve—F. H. McCrea, R. J. Jelly. 1st deputy—Samuel Simpson. 2nd deputy—Wm. Wilson. Councillors—Anson Manhard, Thos. Smith. The contest will be confined to the Reeveship.

SOUTH CROSBY.—Reeve—Gray, acclamation. Councillors—Stanton, Stout, Smith, Leake, Murphy Delong.

BASTARD AND BURGESS.—Reeve—W. C. Stevens, Thos. Myers. Deputy—Frank Harri-on, A. Elliott. Councillors—P. Murphy, R. Seymour, A. Derbyshire, John Preston, Wm. Smith, J. A. Bell.

PEITIONS are now in circulation throughout the Dominion, to be presented to the Senate and House of Commons at the next session of parliament, praying these bodies to amend the Scott Act in such a manner and form as may be deemed proper to remove the injustice at present existing, by making it necessary that a three-fifths majority of the total vote polled at any election which may be duly ordered hereafter by His Excellency the Governor-in-Council, shall be necessary to the enforcement of the Act.

Now we have every respect for the rights of a majority, and we certainly think that the false principle upon which this petition is based should be recognised by the Government and people, and a fitting reply be made in answer to it. The Scott Act, like other just laws, is framed and intended to confer the greatest possible good on the greatest possible number. And if even a bare majority favor its adoption, then the opinion and rights of that majority should be duly respected. Of course, where the people of a county or city are nearly evenly divided with regard to the merits of the Act, more difficulty is found in enforcing the law, but even in such a case, the friends of the Act should remember that they are fighting for the rights of the majority, however quiescent that majority may be. The size of the majority does not in any way affect the principles of justice upon which the law is founded. The granting of this petition would place the temperance party at a great disadvantage, and would be a concession to the liquor interest which its assumed merits do not deserve. It would also have the effect of defeating the Act in counties where its beneficial effects are most needed.

Glen Buell.

Mr. and Mrs. F. Barrington have returned from Grand Forks, Dakota, to spend the winter with friends in this vicinity. Mr. Barrington now owns 480 acres of land, 25 of which are under cultivation. The soil is a black loam, three feet thick, with clay subsoil. The average yield of wheat per acre is from 25 to 30 bushels; oats from 60 to 70; barley from 50 to 55. Roots of all kinds are also grown in abundance. Mr. Barrington thinks that Dakota is just the place for young men commencing life without capital.

Mr. D. M. McPherson the cheese king of Eastern Ontario, gave a grand entertainment at his residence, Lancaster, the other night in honor of his brother from the far West.