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Member of College of Physicians and
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Flour and Feed always on hand,
wholesale and retail. Grinding and
Chipping Daily. Cash for all kinds of
Grain.

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Close to
the G. T. Railway Station. Ex-
cellent accommodation for the travelling
public. THOS. CAMPBELL, Prop.

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ROBT. GAGAN, Proprietor.
This new Hotel is fitted up in first-class style,
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attention paid to the wants of the
travelling public. Well supplied with the
best Liquors and Cigars. Good Stabling
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Samples Rooms large and commodious.
For Commercial Travellers. Good accom-
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Best brands of Liquors and Cigars at the
Bar. Good Stabling and attentive
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WM. HENSTREET,
Licensed Auctioneer
For the Counties of Wellington and Hal-
ton. Office, Acton, or at my residence in
Rockwood, will be promptly attended to
on terms reasonable.

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LICENSED AUCTIONEER
For the County of Halton.
Sales attended to in any part of the
County, at reasonable rates.
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KENNEDY'S
Marble Works,
Opposite side from Mills &
Lodgill's Foundry, and
Near Eramosa Bridge,
Guelph.
ALL KINDS OF
MONUMENTS
Tomb Stones, Mantle Pieces,
&c., made to order, and put up in any part of the
country.
Best Scotch Granite. Monu-
ments imported to order.
P. S.—A. Kennedy is a practical
marble cutter.

PURE MILK.
The undersigned begs to thank his
customers for the liberal patronage re-
ceived during the past summer, and
would say that he is now prepared to
supply an additional number of custom-
ers with good, pure, fresh milk deliv-
ered every morning, and twice a day on
Saturdays. Parties who keep cows will
find it much cheaper and less trouble to
get milk delivered at their doors, and
they would do well to sell their cows
and keep their milk. Twenty-one quart
tickets for \$1, if paid in advance, or
twenty-one pint tickets for 50 cents.
P. S. ARMSTRONG,
Acton, Nov. 10th, 1875.

JOB PRINTING of all kinds
neatly and promptly executed at the
FREE PRESS OFFICE,
Next the Post Office, 1111 street.

CANADA GLOVE WORKS,
ACTON, ONT.
Wholesale Manufacturers of every des-
cription and style of

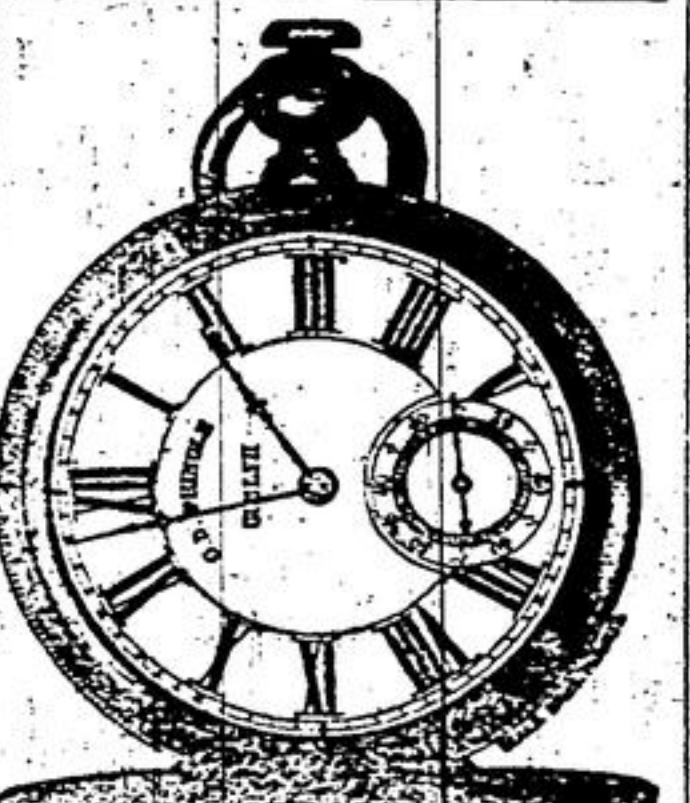
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Leather & Cloth Gloves
MITTS AND CAUNTLIES.
Also
Dressers of Plain and Fancy
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Highest Market Price paid for
WOOL SKINS.
Agents for Raymond's Sewing Ma-
chines.
Acton, July 1st, 1875.

ACTON BAKERY,
First-class Bread, Buns, Cakes
Biscuits, etc.
Fresh every day—delivered at their
houses.

WEDDING CAKES
Made to order in the latest styles and at
reasonable charges.
Highest price in Cash paid for Eggs.
D. GALLOWAY,
Acton, July 1st, 1875.

The subscriber begs to inform the in-
habitants of Acton and vicinity that he
has prepared to supply
**First-class Bread, Buns, Cakes
Biscuits, etc.**
Fresh every day—delivered at their
houses.
WEDDING CAKES
Made to order in the latest styles and at
reasonable charges.
Highest price in Cash paid for Eggs.
D. GALLOWAY,
Acton, July 1st, 1875.



PRINGLE,
Watchmaker, Guelph.
Has a good stock of
**"RUSSELL" AND "AMERICAN"
WATCHES**
Always on hand.
He attends to repairing of the watches
himself.
Mr. Hacking, of the FREE PRESS, will
kindly carry notices and forward to
Acton, Sept. 27, 1875.

**ACTON
PLANING MILLS**
AND
Pump, Sash, Door and Blind
Factory.

EBBAGE & CAMPBELL,
Manufacturers of
**Window Sash,
Doors,
Venetian Blinds
Mouldings,
And other Building Requisites**
Also Makers of
IMPROVED SUCTION PUMPS
Lumber Planed and Dressed to order
in the best manner.
All work guaranteed.
Acton, July 1st, 1875.

NOTICE.
Any person or persons trespassing on
Lot 25, Concession 3, of the Township
of Eschewing, (adjoining the Village of
Acton), or injuring trees of any kind, or
leaving gates improperly shut, or fences
partly down, will be subject to prosecu-
tion after this date.
P. S. ARMSTRONG,
Acton, August 20, 1875.

DON'T DRINK TO-NIGHT.
I left my mother at the door,
My sister on her side;
Their clasped hands and loving looks
Forbade their doubts to hide.
I left and met with comrades gay,
When the moon brought out her light,
And my loving mother whispered to me,
"Don't drink, my boy, to-night."

Long years have rolled away since then,
My jetty curls are gray;
But those words are with me yet
And will not pass away.
I see my mother's loving face,
With goodness radiant bright,
And hear the words rise in my ears,
"Don't drink, my boy, to-night."

My mother now is resting sweet,
In the graveyard on the hill,
But mother's words come back to me
And haunt my memory still.
I've often passed the spot,
Oh! then my heart was right,
Because I heard the warning words,
"Don't drink, my boy, to-night."

I've now passed down the road of life,
And soon my race is run,
A mother's warning listening to
An immortal crown has won.
Oh, mothers, with your blessed smile,
Look on your boys to-night,
And say as you alone can say,
"My boy, don't drink to-night."

These words will prove a warning when
In the thorny paths of life,
The boy is in the tempter's wiles,
And yielding in the strife.
These words will stop the morning cup,
And the revelry at night,
By whispering back a mother's voice,
"Don't drink, my boy, to-night."

A LIFE'S REGRET.
I am the youngest of three sisters—
Margaret, Louisa and Helen,
the last named being of course my
self. We reside in a small villa on
the outskirts of the town of Nor-
tonfolgate, and from all appear-
ances are likely to remain for the
rest of our lives pursuing what
strangers would suppose was the
calm and even tenor of a colorless
existence.

Our income, though small, admits
of our keeping two domestics, and
when we pay visits, which at rare
intervals we do to some of the coun-
try families, we jointly subscribe
and charter a close carriage, which
enables us to make our calls with
something like dignity. Not that
my two elder sisters are lacking in
that respect, for they never, either
sleeping or walking, I believe, for-
got that our late father was des-
cended from an ancient and hono-
rable family, and that the name
of Howard, which we bear, is
derived from a source which, even
though it is not acknowledged us,
is ours justly; and on the tree
which testifies to our pedigree, our
relationship is clearly set forth.
Our late mother could also boast of
gentle blood, so that on both sides
of the house our connections were
undeniable.

In addition to those advantages,
nature had not been unkind to us—
indeed, in our younger days we
had our own share of admiration,
and the three Misses Howard had
on many occasions been pronounced
the best looking girls at the numer-
ous balls which, chaperoned by our
mother, we used regularly to at-
tend. Our admirers were not few,
and we were always engaged for
every dance whenever we went;
but, for after more seasons than I
dare record, none of us were
married. Plainly, girls, by fate
even penniless ones, in due time
made their appearance, had an in-
terval of gayety, and then announ-
ced their engagements, which duly
ended in marriage; and they duly
return in all the dignity of matron-
hood to patronize and remind us in
more ways than one of the wide
gulf that separated our unappreci-
ated selves from them and their
"position" as married women! At
first it was not so galling, but by-
and-by I began to feel it keenly,
and long, as every woman does
sooner or later, for ties of my own;
but my longings were not to be
gratified, for the one hateful reason
that no ordinary man was supposed
to be good enough to mate with "a
Howard," though one degenerate
descendant dared to wish it, could
be otherwise.

By degrees it became known that
we were hard to please, and though
it was true enough of Margaret and
Louisa, still I felt so differently
toward them on the subject, that it
was rather hard to be included; and
I was "a Howard," and so had
to pay for my privilege.

Margaret was seven years my
senior, and Louisa five, consequent-
ly I was accustomed to being con-
sidered quite a child until I had
attained the ripe age of twenty-five,
when an event happened which,
but for my precious pedigree might
have changed the color of my whole
existence.

We had received invitations to a
ball given by a certain Lady Ayl-
mer, who always made a point of
asking us to her entertainments;
and though I was beginning to be
very weary of gayeties to decline
was out of the question; so, after
some deliberation as to attire, etc.,
the evening arrived, we accompa-
nied by our mother, crushed our-

selves into a hired carriage, and set
out for Aylmer's court. We were
received as usual, most cordially;
and after a few dances were over I
became conscious of the presence of
a gentleman who seemed to regard
me with some interest. He was a
young and pretty girl leaning
thirty, rather fair, and with a small
moustache slightly inclining to red.
He was not tall, neither was he
very short; his figure was good,
and he had a soldier-like look about
him which I rather admired.

As usual I was well supplied
with partners; but when Lady
Aylmer approached with the in-
dividual I have just described, and
introduced him to me, I was very
glad I had a spare dance still left,
for which he at once engaged me.

I did not catch his name when
Lady Aylmer brought him up,
and when my eldest sister inquired
who my new acquaintance was, I
could only say he was Captain
Somebody; I fancied Bruce was
the name.

"A good name," remarked Mar-
garet; "I fancy he is a relative
of Lord Bruce."

But I was doomed to undecive
her shortly, for on addressing him
as Captain Bruce he smiled and
told me that was not his name,—
his name being Bebb.

Bebb, I thought—what a funny
name! However it did not pre-
vent.

To be brief—after several meet-
ings, Captain Bebb, whose name
had now transpired in my family,
began to pay me marked attention,
but, although in my inmost heart
I liked him, still I was well aware
that for "Howard" to ally her-
self with a Bebb would be regard-
ed as an impossibility by my family.

His personal appearance was
stigmatized as the most vulgar that
had ever been seen; his hair which
was really brown, was always al-
luded to as curls; and a shudder-
ing fit frequently overtook
Louisa as she described the hor-
rible scene which she had witnessed
with her, and his hot, clammy
clasp had almost given her a fit.

Perhaps owing to this, his name
degenerated from Bebb into Blub-
ber, and several times my mother
herself narrowly escaped address-
ing him as such, so persistently
was he called behind his back.

A dead pig having been found
one morning in the street, I was
strongly advised to "down" my
self, which, however, I refused to
do, as I was not in the habit of
seeing the likeness, which, from
my partiality for Blubber, my sister
felt sure would be interesting to
me. I am ashamed to confess that
I had not the moral courage to re-
fuse those uncalled-for caresses;
these incessant cruel taunts were
enough for me, and when I did re-
ceive a proposal of marriage from
Captain Bebb, my answer may be
imagined. I refused him, and
cried myself to sleep for many
nights afterward.

But the deed was done, and Cap-
tain Bebb was not one to ask again,
and I heard soon afterward that he
had left Nortonfolgate.

Very little was thought of the
affair in my family, and of the
general opinion in the village, I was
unable to speak. The idea that I
"a Howard," had been asked to
become Nelly Bebb, or Nelly
Blubber, sometimes elicited wou-
derful remarks from my sisters;
but by degrees the existence of
Captain Bebb came to be totally
forgotten by every one except my-
self.

Meanwhile we did not grow
younger as the years rolled quickly
on, and as they went I became
more and more conscious of the
error I had made in rejecting a man
whom I felt I could have loved and
respected simply because he was
ridiculed by my sisters, and bore
the unattractive name of Bebb.

Seven years had passed away—
still we "went out to parties," I,
unwillingly, but my sisters more
persistently than ever. But alas!
times had changed for us; partners
were no longer plentiful, and we
were obliged to be thankful to the
few who asked us to dance, or
offered to escort us to supper, and
who were, generally speaking, more
boys, whose nursery days seemed
like yesterday. However, rather
than return home without having
danced at all, I was indeed glad
to take a turn with them. But on
one particular occasion at a ball in
the Assembly rooms, even the boys
failed us, and the three Misses
Howard were standing together in
a most palpitably family group, when
the entrance of a large party gave
us some momentary diversion.

It was the Aylmer's Court party
—Lord and Lady Aylmer, two or
three dowagers, a boy of bright
eyes, pretty girls, and several gen-
tlemen. Amongst the latter who
should I recognize but my old
friend and rejected admirer, Cap-
tain Bebb.

He was looking remarkably well
—happy and handsome. No re-
semblance to a pig was possible
now, surely, and for an instant a

wild hope shot through my mind
that around her she is a tower of
strength; she possesses that which
makes life's bitterness sweet; not
she ever have to rood what I,
the poor neglected old maid, do
here, the history of a life's regret.

Seven years had not improved me
—with a bitter pang I felt that
He, bowed and passed on, with a
young and pretty girl leaning
on his arm. Oh, the mortifi-
cation of that evening; the weary,
desperate longing I had had to hide
myself somewhere; but there I stood,
a faded "wall-flower," youthfully
attired in white tulle and blue
stained ribbons, unnoticed, neg-
lected, and what I felt far more un-
cared for.

Whether he meant it or not, I
could not tell, but he seemed to be
perpetually passing where I stood.
At last my sisters consented to go
home, and Margaret having secured
the arm of a weak minded little
couple, who offered his other to my
mother, the three walked across the
ball-room, followed by Louisa—
proud, erect, indignant of the want
of appreciation she had met with
—and myself with downcast eyes
and a burning face. The clock
room seemed a haven to me, and
the drive home was comparative
bliss, although it was embittered
by remarks from my sisters on the
reappearance of Captain, or, as he
was now, Colonel Bebb, and the an-
nouncement that "after all, Nelly
might have done worse."

Yes; Nelly knew that now, as
many another foolish girl or elder-
ly young lady knows when it is too
late; and in my quiet corner a few
heavy tears dropped silently upon
my crimson shawl, when I remem-
bered how I had allowed myself to
be influenced by ridicule to reject
what I felt sure would have secured
the happiness of my life.

But our ball-days ended at last,
for our mother died, and after that
Margaret and Louisa gave up the
gay world, and devoted themselves
to mother's meetings, Bible read-
ings, and various other laudible
occupations, to the great satisfac-
tion of the curate I have before
mentioned.

We settled down in our
little villa, and ere long three
confirmed maiden ladies, without
much to make us care for life, be-
yond the daily colorless routine
which makes "each day twain with
the last."

Once a year we go to the sea-
side, and during our last visit there
I became much interested in some
children, who were employed by their
nurse, used to make their appear-
ance at an early hour, every morn-
ing on the sands. I was so fond
of the children that I soon made their
acquaintance. Little Amy was
four, and the elder girl about a
year older, whilst there was a boy
of about two—Master Curlew, by
his nurse called him. It never oc-
curred to me to ask what the sur-
name was, though they became
quite confidential as to their small
affairs generally. Papa and mamma
were in London, but they were
coming down soon; and at home
they had all sorts of possessions,
from ponies and a tiny little basket
carriage, downwards. Would I
like to see them? But what was
my name if I did come?

"Helen," I answered, "but they
call me Nellie at home."

"That's my name," exclaimed
the elder child. "But what is
your other name?"

"Nellie Howard," I replied, much
amused at her pertinacity.

"Mine's Nellie Bebb. My papa
is Colonel Bebb, and he's got a
Victory Cross and lots of medals."

"Yes, papa," I answered, stag-
gered at her unpopularity, which
I found to be what I instantly sus-
pected. They were the children of
my rejected admirer, Captain
Bebb.

The little group on the sands
had a strange fascination to me
after I knew it and I felt very
curious to know what the sur-
name of my little girls to the
children. But our perscribed
month was now over, and though
the weather was enchanting, our
rules were those of Medes and
Persians—go home we must. So
we went; and my last glimpse, as
we drove to the station, was of my
three little friends—a joyous trio,
with Colonel Bebb, a shade stouter
than of old, but looking bronzed
and jovial; whilst beside him stood
a bright faced, pretty little woman,
who had accepted the happy fate
which I, in my senseless girlhood,
had declined. But it is over—
regrets are vain, and though my heart
feels young still, I am fast fading
into old age.

My experiences recorded here
may make another victim, for out of
the depths of my bitter disappoint-
ment I have written the short
story of my mistaken existence.
For though doubtless there are
many happy old maids woman was
not made to live a single life. Home-
ties, family cares, troubles and anx-
ieties may be her lot; but if she
is loved, and if she feels herself the
centre of a little kingdom—poor,
perhaps, but precious—she has joys
to balance the cuts, to love to smooth

over the troubles, and a strong arm
to shield her from danger. With
that around her she is a tower of
strength; she possesses that which
makes life's bitterness sweet; not
she ever have to rood what I,
the poor neglected old maid, do
here, the history of a life's regret.

"General Inquiries."
Never take "come and see" me
as a phrase meant in earnest unless
it is accompanied with a date. Such
an invitation amounts to nothing
at all. If a lady or gentleman de-
sire your company, he or she will
appoint a time for your visit. "Call
on me when you can make it con-
venient." "Drop in as you are pass-
ing." "Make us a visit whenever
you have an hour or two to spare,"
are social impositions by which
men and women of the world in-
fer that they are not expected to
do the thing requested. When
people wish to be cleanly polite
there is nothing like this kind of
vagueness. The complimentary
small change of society must always
be taken at a large discount. It is
never worth its face or anything
like it. Yet it is a convenient in-
dium of exchange, and heavy debts
of gratitude that ought to be re-
quired in better coin are often paid
with it. People who have more
polish than principle use it lavishly
—plain, blunt, honest men sparingly
or not at all. Whoever makes
a friendly visit to a fashionable
house on the strength of a mere
"Come and see," will very soon
find that the family circle he has
dropped into by request is as un-
genial as the Arctic circle, and he
will probably leave it with a chilly
feeling that will prevent him from
venturing into the same high lati-
tude again. But when a whole-
souled man, whom you know to be
your friend, grasps you vigorously
by the hand and says, "Come and
dine with me to-day—be sure to
come, we shall expect you," you can
take it as certain that your presence
is strongly desired. It is pleasant
always to make or receive a visit
from a friend, but a nod on the
street is insufficient from a fash-
ionable acquaintance.

How often do we read or hear of
one's personal character being at-
tacked! and we find ourselves be-
lieving the slander without ever
stopping to think of the social po-
sition and standing of the slanderer.
No matter how insignificant the man
who ridicules his neighbor it is
always he a stain on the party at-
tacked. The slandered party may
be a man of virtue and good stand-
ing in the community, and his ac-
cuser a low and unprincipled man;
but public opinion will decide that
the charge is a bold one, and is
evidently true. How mean and
low it is to speak ill of another!
Often a man's reputation is attack-
ed because he has attained a high
position in society, and become
wealthy and influential among his
fellows. Oh, reputation! you are
difficult to gain, but how easily
lost, we are thrown out of society
into the depths of degradation,
never perhaps, to raise our heads
to the level of our lost position!

How various are the characters of
the people in this world! Some
are ever ready to lend a helping
hand, while others will dig deep
into the history of their fellow-be-
ings, vainly endeavoring to find
their vices, so that they can go forth
and proclaim them to the world,
hoping to gain favor by it. Ivel
inquiries of such a nature should
commence at home; then this
world, in my humble opinion,
would be pure and good. A man
with ever so little judgment and
common sense will ever be pre-
pared to conceal his friend's vices, and
instead of exposing him, will en-
deavor to raise him higher in
other's estimations by speaking of
his virtues. If you cannot speak
well of your fellow beings, never
speak ill of them; because there is
no character so mean, low and un-
principled, as the character of a
slanderer. Therefore "Forbear to
judge, for we are sinners all."

To keep warm—Keep the fur-
naces cold.

A young fellow offered to bet the
principal of a boarding school that
he was boasting of the pro-
ficiency of his pupils, that he hadn't
a girl in his school who could
"decline" a husband.

The stupidest boy that ever suc-
cessfully resisted the attempt to pre-
pare the etymology of the word baker
into more ingenuity and knowledge
of strategy in robbing an apple
orchard than the colonel of a militia
regiment.

There is a rising boy in Spring-
field, Ill. His father said: "Now,
George, you may take your choice
—go with me to visit grandpa, or
have a new velocipede. The un-
chick scratched his head, and an-
swered: "I'll go and see grandpa, and
make him buy the velocipede."

Nassagaweya Council.
This Council met pursuant to
adjournment on Saturday, Nov. 27.
Members all present. The Record
in the chair. The minutes of last
meeting were read and confirmed.

A petition praying for aid in the
half of Adam Schram, who being
in indigent circumstances through
paralysis, signed by G. Davis and
eight others, and a petition signed
by W. A. Young and six others,
were on motion received and read,
and on motion duly seconded and
carried.—It was ordered that \$10
be paid to Adam Schram, \$6 to
Mrs. Brain, \$7 to Mrs. Alcock,
\$1.50 to P. Garral for shirts, and
\$4 to A. & D. McLean for assist-
ance rendered.

Mr. Menzies moved, seconded by
Mr. Norrish, for leave to introduce
a Levy for the improvement of
roads and bridges for the current
year. By-law introduced and read
the necessary times and passed.

On motion duly seconded, a by-
law was introduced making provi-
sions for the election of the Muni-
cipal Council for 1876, which passed
its several readings.

Mr. Easterbrook moved, seconded
by Dr. Winn, that the sum of
\$2 be paid to J. Dewar, Esq., for
legal advice.—Carried.

Mr. Norrish moved, seconded by
Mr. Menzies, that the sum of \$40
be refunded to Benjamin Cochrill,
said amount having been paid by
him for timber on side line between
lots 15 and 16 in the 1st con., said
timber not having been removed
by reason of a dispute in the loca-
tion of said line.—Carried.

Mr. Menzies moved, seconded by
Dr. Winn, that the account of S.
B. Lister for prosecution in the
suit Queen vs. Tremble, amounting
to \$3 be paid.—Carried.

The Inspector of Taverns pre-
sented his report which informed
the Council that he had visited all
the taverns in the Municipality and
found them kept in accordance with
the Acts and By-laws in reference
to the same.

Dr. Winn moved, seconded by
Mr. Easterbrook, that the sum of
\$7.93 be paid to John Easterbrook
for postage, stationery and freight,
and the further sum of \$8 for the
use of the town hall, frowood, &c.
—Carried.

Mr. Norrish moved, seconded by
Mr. Easterbrook, that the following
sums be paid to the several par-
ties named, for sleep killed by
dogs, all the claims having been
duly certified, viz: W. Kitching
\$11.33 for four sheep, W. Reid
\$20 for three sheep, A. Saunders
\$6 for two sheep.—Carried.

Mr. Easterbrook moved, seconded
by Mr. Menzies, that the sum of
\$2 be refunded to Robert Holmes
for a bitch, and the further sum \$1
to W. Little for a dog, being errors
in the Assessment.—Carried.

Dr. Winn moved, seconded by
Mr. Norrish, that Robert S.
Hutchinson's time for removing his
timber from the road allowance
between lots 10 and 11 in the 6th
con. be extended to the 13th day
of Dec., 1876.—Carried.

Mr. Menzies moved, seconded by
Mr. Norrish, that the Clerk be in-
structed to accept of the offer of the
agent of the London and Middle-
sex Mutual Fire Insurance Com-
pany to insure the Township Hall
to the amount of \$1,000 at 75
cents per \$100.—Carried.

Dr. Winn moved, seconded by
Mr. Norrish, that William Martin
be paid the sum of \$66 for furnish-
ing and painting the seats for the
Township Hall and putting the
base board on the outside of said
building.—Carried.

The Council then adjourned.
JOHN EASTERBROOK, Clerk.

Mother Shipton's Prophecy.
(From the Springfield Republican.)
From now and then, for these
400 years and more, some one has
brought to light the prophecy and
memory of Mother Shipton. As
events follow event in mechanical
progress, her doggerel verses fall in
so pat that they must needs be
quoted. One of the predictions
thereof: "Fire and water shall
wonder do"—has come to pass
times and again; and the latest ful-
fillment is in the Keely motor.
This Mother Shipton was one that
would have taken high rank as a
medium in our day; in her's the
fifteenth century, she was said to
have been begotten, like the wizard
Merlin, of the phantom of Apollo,
or some aerial demon under that
guise, and his wife and children could
truly say of him, "He never
brought a frown or unhappiness
across his threshold."

The sorest trials and the severest
ordeal may be borne with acqui-
escence, and even best a noble
determination to triumph over ob-
stacles that at the first blush ap-
pear insurmountable. For, after all