

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. Early Closing. Stray Steer.—Wm. Reed. The Dominion and its Province. Lovell Publishing Company.

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Acton Free Press. J. H. W. HARRISON, EDITOR.

THURSDAY MORNING, Dec. 9, 1875. The FREE PRESS can be had from now until January 1877 for only One Dollar—free of postage.

IS IT UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE?

We have received a copy of a Bill introduced in the Ontario Legislature by Hon. Mr. Currie, "respecting the Elections of Members of the Legislative Assembly," which seems to follow the United States custom of offering the elective franchise to every male resident twenty-one years of age, without respect to property or income qualification.

Many of our up-country friends have for some years eagerly desired a change in the formation of the county boundaries, and sundry notices have appeared of their intentions to apply therefor to the Legislature at its present session.

Short-horn Convention. A convention of breeders and dealers in Short-horn Cattle, from all parts of the United States and Canada, was held in Toronto during the past week.

From Mr. Craig's herd, F. W. Stone, of Guelph, purchased "Seraphina" for \$500; G. S. Smith, Acton, "Scrapiron" for \$455, and "Sensation" for \$300; John Pipe, Guelph, "Isabel" for \$150.

Thirty colliers and several iron mines, belonging to the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company also 25 individual colliers are said to be stopped in Pennsylvania immediately. Ten thousand people will thus be thrown out of employment in Schuylkill.

Hon. Mr. Simpson has applied in the Queen's Bench for a criminal information against the publishers of the West Durham News, and in doing so filed affidavits denying in toto the vile charges and insinuations which that paper and its political allies have been industriously spreading over the country during the last few weeks.

ESCAPE OF "BOSS" TWEED FROM CUSTODY.

Great excitement has been caused in New York by the escape of "Boss" Tweed from custody on Saturday night. He was confined in Ludlow street gaol awaiting the \$6,000,000 suit against him.

The Council of the Township of Erin met on 30th ult. Mr. Barbour moved, seconded by Mr. Reid, that the Reeve order the payment of the bill from the General Hospital, Toronto, amounting to \$4.50, for nine days attendance, etc.

The Whitty clock factory was partially destroyed by fire on Thursday evening last. The building was insured for \$10,000.

The Ontario Government, has, it is said, given permission for the ballot boxes supplied for the local elections to be used for the ensuing municipal elections.

Nothing has been heard of the French steamship America, reported disabled at sea. The Anchor Line vessel Anglia, from New York, Nov. 13th, for Glasgow, was not yet arrived.

The Legislature has been petitioned to make it compulsory on County Councils to grant a retiring allowance to officers under them who have served a certain number of years as stipulated by the present Act.

The next annual meeting of the Dominion Board of Trade, which will be held in Ottawa next January, is expected to be more largely attended than on any previous occasion.

The English Government has sent an agent to Panama to make a collection of seeds and plants of the caoucho tree, with the object of forming plantations of that plant in Bengal and other parts of British India.

The World & Darling insurance case, in which the firm sued the Liverpool, London and Globe Insurance Company to compel them to carry out the contract made by their local agent in Hamilton, has been finally settled in favor of the plaintiffs.

GENERAL NEWS.

The celebrated revolutionist Moody and Sankey are expected in Toronto in March.

A scheme for lighting Goderich with gas is taking a practicable shape.

South Wellington Fat Cattle Show takes place at Guelph on Friday, December 10th.

Wm. B. Astor's taxes amounted to half a million dollars per annum. He paid one forty-fifth of the taxes of New York City.

Earl Dufferin assisted at the opening of a rink in Ottawa on Saturday, and acted as one of the skippers.

The Wellington County Council met in Guelph at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, and are proceeding with business.

A little daughter of Mr. James Russell, of Fergus, recently fell over a pot of hot water which was on the floor, and was badly scalded.

The number of lives lost by the explosion in the Swaithe Main Colliery in Yorkshire on Monday, is now stated to be one hundred and thirty.

On Saturday, the 27th ult., seven head of cattle, valued at \$14,260, were landed at Toronto, having been imported by Mr. John R. Craig, of Edmonton, from the United States, for the improvement of stock.

The Grand Trunk Railway Company will not buy any wood at Berlin Station this season. Last winter they purchased about \$20,000 worth.

Mr. Samuel Platt, of Goderich, who was the first to discover salt in Canada, says that the salt business in this Province is just now in a rather sad plight.

A law suit is now going on at Forest between the Canada Company and Mr. Jennings. The latter party settled on lot 45, south boundary, Boanquet, and claims that a residence of twenty years absolves him from paying the land tax.

GENERAL NEWS.

At a meeting of the creditors of J. C. Cleary, proprietor of the Cleary House, Ottawa, a statement presented showed liabilities to be \$28,000, available assets \$7,000.

A call is to be given by the Bond Street Congregational Church, Toronto, to Rev. Dr. Ormiston, formerly of Hamilton and now in the United States. Rev. F. H. Manning is to receive a handsome present.

The Directors of the Guelph General Hospital have a bill before the Legislature, asking for power to borrow money on mortgage, in order to complete the original design of the building.

Two Mormon disciples are at present preaching up the doctrines in this Province. They have reached Goderich. In London their number is not altogether legion; but, according to their own statements, fast approaching it.

Owing to the near approach of Christmas the girl of the period exhibits the most patient and pleasing manners towards the young man who insists on staying after she begins to yawn in the evening. He will know the reason presently.

Thirty-seven large sharks were recently captured near the mouth of the Saguenay, and it is suggested that the presence of immense numbers of these voracious creatures in the summer possibly accounts for the notable failure of the "salmon take" last season.

The residence of Capt. Coffin, of the New York World, was broken into by burglars recently and robbed of clothing and jewelry valued at \$100 and \$35 in money.

The Mark Lane Express in a review of the grain markets for the past week says: "An unusually severe winter having completely stopped field labour and partially closed the Baltic, has caused the wheat market to harden somewhat, but owing to the quantity of grain in granaries, there is little prospect of a material advance before spring."

Plymouth Church, Brooklyn met on Friday and condemned Deacon West and Mrs. Moulton, both of whom have been expelled from the roll for furnishing newspapers with copies of letters relating to their grievances before the letters had reached the congregation to which they were addressed.

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A Good Step.—At a meeting of the merchants of Teeswater, it was unanimously agreed that they should demand a settlement from all their customers on the first of January, and again on the first of April, and on the first of October next year. Thus customers will get six months credit during the summer.

A few nights since a New York joker transferred an underfaker's sign to the front of a Myrtle avenue liquor store. The sign read: "Bodies laid out and prepared for burial at the shortest notice within."

The body of a woman taken from a Chicago country and sent in a barrel to the express office in Chicago, has been identified as that of Mrs. Emma P. Adams, wife of a prominent hardware dealer of that city.

A frightful tragedy occurred at the Back River, six miles from Montreal, on Saturday night, by which Rev. Fathers Murphy and Lynch and an inmate lost their lives. As well as can be learned, the facts are as follows:—Father Murphy was in company with Father Lynch, proceeding to St. Therese to preach there on Sunday.

The steamer Deutschland, of the North German Lloyd's Steamship Company, from Bremen to New York, with about two hundred souls on-board, ran ashore on the Long Sands, off the coast of England, at five o'clock on Monday morning.

It seems to be now agreed that the property of Mr. W. B. Astor, (whose death was announced last week) was not so large as at first reported, its value now being placed at not over sixty millions at the outside.

It is a great pity that Henry Wilson did not live long enough to see this gracious paragraph in the Philadelphia Times:—"What a contrast between Astor and Wilson! The one was born with a check-book in his hand, and the other with a shoemaker's awl, and yet the death of the former produces no other feeling than a curiosity to know how much he is worth, while the tears of a nation will consecrate the grave of the latter."

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CLAIMANTS TO AN ESTATE OF \$250,000,000.

An association has been formed in New York, composed of descendants of John Vermilyea, who, it is alleged, was possessor in 1667 of a large tract of land in the upper part of Manhattan Island, which was granted to him and some others in 1666 by Richard Nicholas, then Governor of New York, and which, it is claimed, has never been alienated, as the title of the heirs has remained intact and valid.

The five burglars arrested in Hamilton, on Sunday night were examined before the Magistrate on the charge of committing a robbery in Guelph on Friday night. One of the prisoners, named Denahy, alias Griffin, turned Queen's evidence, and divulged the whole operation.

DEED. In Pulnah, on the 6th inst. of Typbold Ferry, Maggie, daughter of Mr. Adam Gerrit, aged 28 years.

ACTON MARKETS. White Wheat, 0 95 to 1 00. Red Wheat, 0 85 to 0 98. Spring Wheat, 0 85 to 0 90. Barley, 0 60 to 0 68. Oats, 0 35 to 0 40. Potatoes, 0 60 to 0 63. Dried Apples, per lb., 0 08 to 0 10. Onions, per bushel, 0 75 to 1 50. Butter, 0 20 to 0 25. Eggs, 0 18 to 0 20. Hay, per ton, 15 00 to 16 00. Dressed Hogs, 6 50 to 7 00. Lambing, 9 00 to 9 50. Pelt, 5 00 to 6 00. Chickens, per lb., 0 05 to 0 06. Ducks, 0 05 to 0 06. Turkeys, 0 06 to 0 07. Geese, 0 05 to 0 06.

Fall wheat, 97c to 1.01; treawell, 97c to 98c; spring wheat, (Glasgow), 85c to 86c; spring wheat (red), 84c to 85c; oats, 33c to 35c; peas, 80c to 70c; barley, 60c to 62c; eggs, per dozen, 17c to 18c; butter, dairy packed, 15c to 16c; potatoes, per bag, 50c to 60c.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. STRAY STEEL. Came on the premises of the subscriber, about the 1st of November, a Red Steer. The owner is requested to prove property, pay charges and take the animal away. WM. REED, Knatchbull. Dec. 3, 1875.

PHOTOGRAPHS. Now is the Time for Cheap Pictures. Best Retouched and Burnished Photographs reduced to \$1.00 per dozen at the Ontario Photograph Gallery, Acton. Call at once and obtain a good and cheap picture, finished in the best style, before prices are again advanced.

OLD POST OFFICE BUILDING, MILL STREET, ACTON, where he is prepared to turn out work second to none in the Dominion, as cheap as the cheapest, and on the shortest possible notice. I have on hand a large and well selected stock of

ROBT. GRECH, MILL STREET, ACTON. Who is always ready to supply customers with everything usually kept in a first-class Harness Shop. Harness made to order on the shortest possible notice.

LIVELY! LIVELY! LIVELY!

The best Fall Trade we have ever done, and cash that does it. For cash we buy cheap. The leading house all at hand, buying largely and underselling everything. Files of new goods again arriving, to be rushed off at picnic prices.

AT "THE GOLDEN LION," GUELPH

New fresh stock of Furs on hand, in every class, cheaper than any hitherto shown. 4 cases New Dry Goods tremendous bargains, worthy the attention of buyers. Three cases New Mantles.

New Flowers, New Feathers in endless variety in the Millinery Department, up stairs. Thousands of Cloths, Shawls, Shawls, all being sold decidedly cheap.

A bankrupt stock of Tweeds will be sold at once, terrific bargains in every piece. 100 pieces of Scarlet Flannel, etc. quality, at 20c per yard.

In the Up Stairs Department I am full of Buffalo Robes, much cheaper than anything in Guelph. We do the best Tapestry Carpet at 70c with 50 different patterns to choose from.

J. D. WILLIAMSON, See the Golden Lion over the door.

PLATED WARE For the Season

McBean & Co's, ALMA BLOCK, GUELPH. We are showing the best variety of MERIDEN WARE. (SQUIRES' SMITH'S CELEBRATED STAMP). Ever placed before the people of Guelph.

PRIZE PHOTOGRAPHS. Now is the Time for Cheap Pictures. Best Retouched and Burnished Photographs reduced to \$1.00 per dozen at the Ontario Photograph Gallery, Acton.

HEIGH HO, STOP! What's the Matter? Why any person who wants a good and cheap SET OF HARNESS, Should call on ROBT. GRECH, MILL STREET, ACTON.

LITERARY ENTERTAINMENT. The Young People's Literary Society of the Methodist Church in Acton, holding a Christmas Tree in the Church on Christmas Eve. Parties wishing to hang presents thereon their friends can do so on the afternoon of the 24th. A good literary and musical entertainment will be provided by the members of the Society. Doors open at 9 p.m. CHAS. LASKY, Secy. Acton, Dec. 9, 1875.

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