

THE ACTON FREE PRESS.

Volume 1, No. 27. ACTON, ONT., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1875. \$1.00 per annum in Advance.

New Goods

CONSTANTLY ARRIVING AT THE
CENTRAL EMPORIUM,
MILL STREET, ACTON.
J. W. MANN'S
Winter Stock of
DRY GOODS
AND READY-MADE CLOTHING
Is now
SELLING OFF
AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES!
GREAT BARGAINS!
Are offered for cash or produce.
In Groceries, Crockery and Glassware
Will be found a complete assortment of the best quality.
J. W. MANN.
Acton, Dec. 29, 1875.

CHRISTIE, HENDERSON & CO

ACTON,
Begin their Grand Clearing
Sale on
3rd OF JANUARY NEXT.
JOB'S, DRIVES AND BARGAINS
In Every Department.
Another Reduction in Price!

D. McNAIR'S

MILINERY & FANCY GOODS
Call and see our beautiful stock of
Woolen Goods, Millinery, Dress Goods,
Children's Suits, Haberdashery,
Gentlemen's Furnishing Goods,
Toilet Articles, Toys,
Berlin Wool, etc., etc.
Also a nice stock of **JEWELRY** to be sold off very low.
HOLIDAY GOODS
In great variety, just received, to be pushed off at extraordinary low prices.
Butter, Eggs, Poultry, etc., taken in exchange for goods.
Acton, Nov. 17, 1875.

REMOVAL

GEO. E. MORROW,

CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST,
Has removed to the
Brick Drug Store on Mill Street,
Formerly occupied by the late DR. CARTER, which has been enlarged and refitted.
A large stock of Drugs, Medicines, Fancy Goods, Toilet Articles, &c. Always on hand.
Acton, Nov. 3, 1875.

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A GRAPHIC DESCRIPTION

OF THE
DOMINION OF CANADA AND ITS PROVINCES.
Also NEWFOUNDLAND, the NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, ANTICOSTIA and LABRADOR, with an Appendix containing information of special interest to the Emigrant, and a Table of the most useful Book to send to friends in the Old Country.
PRICE 50 CENTS.
Sent Free on Receipt of Price.
LOVELL PRINTING & PUBLISHING CO., MONTREAL.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NIGHT SCHOOL.

Members of the Night School are requested to attend at Matthews' Hall, at seven o'clock p.m., on
Wednesday, the 5th of January,
for the commencement of the term. Those who do not come till eight will receive tuition till ten o'clock.
J. H. LLOYD.
Acton, Dec. 29, 1875. 27-14.

SCHOOL NOTICE.

Annual Public School Meeting
Notice is hereby given to the assessed Freeholders, Householders, and Tenants, of the Acton School Division, that a Public Meeting of the School Electors of the Division will be held at
The Temperance Hall,
On Wednesday, January 12th, 1876, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of electing TWO fit and proper persons, as Trustees and Auditors, and for electing a School Auditor for the ensuing year, as directed by law.
E. MOORE,
Chairman B. of S. Trustees.
C. S. SMITH,
Sec.-Treas.
Acton, Dec. 28th, 1875.

NOTICE TO DEBTORS.

All parties indebted to the undersigned are requested to settle up by the 5th of January, 1876.
ROBERT GREECH.
Acton, Dec. 28, 1875.

FOR SALE.

Village Lot number 11, in Block number 1, on which there is a rough-cut cottage and frame barn, with hard and soft water, situated on Church and Maria streets, in the village of Acton. Title indisputable. For terms and particulars apply to W. ALLAN, of Acton.
MARGARET & MINNIE MCKAY.
Acton, Dec. 22, 1875. 27-34

OYSTERS AND FRUIT.

George Stoddard.
Has just fitted up and opened a first-class
Fruit and Oyster Bazar
in the premises on the corner opposite the store of Messrs. Dickson & McNab, on Mill street, where he will keep a good supply of
Fresh Oysters,
Lobsters, Sardines,
Choice New Fruit,
Toiletries, Cigars,
and Confectionary.
Oysters by the can, or served up in any style, and the best attention given to customers.
The patronage of the public is respectfully solicited.
GEO. STODDARD.
Acton, Dec. 15, 1875. 27-34

REMOVAL.

Anthony Stephenson
Begs to announce to his customers and others that he has removed his
Blacksmithing Business
From the old stand to the shop formerly occupied by Mr. Overton, upper end of Main street, where he is prepared to attend to all kinds of
General Blacksmithing, Horse Shoeing, &c.
The patronage of the public, respectfully solicited.
A. STEPHENSON.
Acton, Dec. 15, 1875. 27-34

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.
Call at once and obtain a good and cheap picture, finished in the best style, before prices are again advanced.
N.B.—We were awarded all the first prizes over all competitors at the late County Fair at Milton, Oct. 13th and 14th, 1875.
C. W. HILL, Photo.
Acton, Nov. 25, 1875. 22-3m

DOMINION

HARNESS SHOP.

The subscriber begs to announce to the inhabitants of Acton and vicinity that he has commenced the harness business in the
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
Horse Blankets, Whips, Brushes, Combs, Trunks, &c., &c.
Repairing promptly attended to. Give me a call and be convinced.
J. F. DEMPSEY.
Acton, Nov. 25, 1875.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

To the Electors of the Village of Acton.

A rumor has said it being circulated among the Electors of Acton to the effect that if they supported me as Reeve, I would use my influence with the Council to dispose of the old Methodist Church to the municipality for a Town Hall. In reply to which I beg to say that there is not a word of truth in the rumor. It was never brought up at the Council board nor was it ever brought up in any meeting of the building Committee of the new church, of which I am one of the members. I treat my friends with no greater confidence than I do the public, and I will not create a feeling against me. I may say that I am not in favor of buying or building a Town Hall, unless the ratepayers sanction it by their votes.
Hoping the Electors will show by their votes on Monday next, the confidence they have in me by retaining me as their Reeve.
I remain, gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
N. McGINNIS.

VILLAGE OF ACTON.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION, 1876.

To the Municipal Electors,
Your vote and influence are respectfully solicited for
D. HENDERSON
AS REEVE.
MUNICIPAL ELECTION, 1876.
To the Electors of Acton.
Your vote and influence are respectfully solicited for
D. D. CHRISTIE,
AS COUNCILLOR.
MUNICIPAL ELECTION, 1876.
To the Electors of Acton.
Your vote and influence are respectfully solicited for
JOHN SECORD.
MUNICIPAL ELECTION, 1876.
To the Electors of Acton.
Your vote and influence are respectfully solicited for
C. S. SMITH,
AS COUNCILLOR.

YOUR VOTE AND INFLUENCE

At the coming Election for Councillors, in the Village of Acton, are respectfully solicited for
C. S. SMITH,
AS COUNCILLOR.
Election takes place on Monday, 3rd of January, 1876, at the Temperance Hall.
Acton Free Press
JOSEPH W. HICKING, EDITOR.
THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 30, 1875.

NEW YEAR'S DAY.

The advent of the New Year has been from time immemorial kept as a day of rejoicing. The early Fathers, Christendom, Agostine, and others, directed that the year should be opened with the day of prayer, fasting and humiliation, but the general practice has been to make it one of festivity, with the interchange of visits and mutual good wishes. In many places it is ushered in with ringing of bells at midnight, to celebrate the exit of the old and the advent of the new year. Friendly interchange of visits, congratulations, presentations of gifts, etc., characterize the occasion in all civilized countries. The custom of "New Year Calls" has resolved itself into a generality with Canadians, as well as other nationalities. In this connection it is pleasing to notice the gradual "disinfection" of "wine drinking," and the substitution thereof of a milder beverage, such as coffee, and home-made wines. It is to be hoped the substitution will thoroughly obtain in our locality, next Saturday. Ladies have the prerogative in this matter.
It is customary for country papers to suspend publication entirely during the Christmas week, in order to give the printers a rest from their arduous labors. We trust our readers will accept this half sheet as a sort of compromise between a whole one and none at all.

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NOMINATIONS.

VILLAGE OF ACTON.

FOR REEVE.
D. HENDERSON—Proposed by R. Adams, seconded by W. Masulas.
Dr. McGINNIS—Proposed by W. H. Storey, seconded by John Speight.
FOR COUNCILLORS.
JOHN SPEIGHT—Proposed by E. H. Snyder, seconded by R. B. Cook.
EDWARD NICKLIN—Proposed by A. Grant, seconded by W. H. Storey.
JOHN SECORD—Proposed by R. B. Cook, seconded by W. H. Storey.
CHARLES S. SMITH—Proposed by Horace Hall, seconded by E. Lucas.
D. D. CHRISTIE—Proposed by Duncan Kennedy, seconded by John Speight.
HORACE HALL—Proposed by A. Grant, seconded by W. Masulas.
RAMSON ADAMS—Proposed by W. H. Storey, seconded by John Speight.
THOMAS EBBAGO—Proposed by John Speight, seconded by Malcolm Kennedy.
RICHARD HAMILTON—Proposed by Duncan Kennedy, seconded by Donald Kennedy.
DUNCAN KENNEDY—Proposed by C. S. Smith, seconded by Wm. Stevenson.

Mr. Henderson, being the first named, presumed he would be expected to make the opening speech. He said that having taken a prominent part in procuring the incorporation of the village, and in its municipal affairs generally, a number of his friends had pressed him to accept the nomination for the Reeve'ship. Learning that our late re-election, and the office would necessarily become vacant, he had acceded to the request, and was now in the field. He had nothing to say respecting the acts of the past Council, he believed they had done their duty, and had Mr. Storey been again a candidate he should not think of offering him any opposition. Having taken at all times a deep interest in our municipal affairs, he felt it his duty not to decline the nomination, and if the majority of the electors saw fit to elect him, he would endeavor to serve them to the best of his ability. He returned thanks for the honor, and trusted he would be elected with a good majority. He hoped the election would be conducted with the most personal harmony. His opponent was a gentleman whom he highly esteemed, and hoped there would be no act on either side to create any personal ill-feeling.
Dr. McGinnis said, as the office of Reeve was about to become vacant, he had been solicited to offer himself for the position. He had for many years taken considerable interest in the prosperity of Acton, and was three years ago one of the prime movers in securing its incorporation. The village previously did not get a fair share of the township's funds, and now that we have had control of our own affairs he believed its finances had been satisfactorily administered. He had been two years in the Council, and during the past year chairman of the finance committee. He then gave a brief synopsis of the finances of the past year, up to 20th December, showing a balance on hand on the 1st of January, 1875, of \$798 66
Taxes collected 1545 65
Licenses 150 00
Municipal Loan Fund 191 50
Interest on Loan 75 21
State Aid 86 00
County Reserve Fund 59 25
Government Grant 123 00
Fines 24 75
Total \$2974 02
Cash paid out—
For School purposes \$1676 23
Streets, sidewalks, etc. 635 07
Officers salaries, etc. 127 00
Charities McPhee, Minot 80 80
and others 136 10
Contingencies 136 10
Total \$2576 20
This, he explained, was not an official statement, as the accounts would not be audited until the 31st December, but he believed it to be approximately correct. The amount paid for school purposes appeared to be high, but the Trustees came to the Council and said Council had no objection. Our school was large, we had three teachers, and every department was full; the school has been prosperous, and he believed the ratepayers were satisfied. The probability, however, was that additional school accommodation would have to be furnished before long. With regard to the other funds of the municipality, he mentioned they were economically and judiciously expended. Drains were laid with money granted from the Municipal Loan Fund. Considerable money had been expended in building sidewalks and street repairs, but he did not think any one could find any fault

with what had been done, or with the cost. He had been resident of Acton for 22 years, and the electors knew him pretty well. If they lawfully secured the vote for him and elected him to the honorable position, he would be most happy to serve them to the best of his ability.
Mr. Speight said he had been in the Council the past two years, and had worked for what he considered the best interests of the municipality. Although we had not got everything done that was aimed for, a great deal had been done towards improving the streets and sidewalks—and he believed all money had been expended in the most judicious manner. He would not care a great deal anyway, he would retire to his list. He said he was entirely opposed to the business of saloons, and if elected would go against it in the Council.
Mr. Nicklin said, if the electors were satisfied to again elect him, he would be much obliged; if not, he was quite willing to retire.
Mr. Secord thanked the electors for the honor of receiving a nomination, and if elected would do the best in his power for the interests of the municipality, without fear or favor. He would oppose heavy taxation, and he would do his utmost to prevent the granting of saloons or shop licenses believing such to be extremely demoralizing, as well as an injustice to hotel keepers who were compelled to furnish ample accommodation for the public. He should advocate having the proceedings of the Council printed and distributed among the ratepayers at the end of each year, and would support all just means of advancing the interests of the Village. He had lived in Acton for 12 years, and had been presumed he was well known to all the voters. He trusted they would see fit to give him a large majority of votes.
Mr. Smith offered his thanks for the nomination, and said that he had resided 14 years in Acton, and was well known. He did not think that any one had any serious fault to find with him, and if they thought him worthy of a seat in the Council, he would be happy to receive their votes. He should do his utmost to keep down taxes, and should oppose the granting of saloons and shop licenses.
Mr. Christie was anxious to get his dinner, and should therefore be brief. He rejoiced in much pleasure to see so large a gathering on this occasion, and hoped it augured well for his prospect of being elected to a seat at the Council table. He had taken a deep interest in the prosperity of Acton, both at home and abroad, and had done all in his power to advance its interests. He thought one of the best ways to encourage our manufactures and promote their growth was to speak highly of them, and to scatter the information broadcast that we had in our most favored localities of such excellent character. We should have due regard to economy in the administration of our municipal affairs, and he hoped no dissensions would exist amongst us. If the electors saw fit to give him a majority of their votes, he would do his utmost to retain their confidence, and he trusted he would be able to do his duty as well as the representatives of the Village.
Mr. Hamilton thought one candidate from his section of the village was sufficient, and declined the nomination.
Mr. Adams was not present when called upon, but as he had expressed his intention of declining the nomination, his mover and seconder agreed to withdraw his names, and Mr. Ebbago also declined.
Mr. D. Kennedy said that he was not in the field himself, but as Mr. Hamilton was not present he spoke a few words in his behalf. He thought Mr. Hamilton should be elected. Some good men ought to be in the Council to look after the interests of Main Street better than had been done the past year.
Mr. W. H. Storey, the retiring Reeve took occasion to express his thanks for the many kindnesses manifested towards him during his occupancy of the office. He had endeavored to do his best, but he was not infrequently and whatever fault had been committed was of the head and not of the heart. He mentioned some matters which the future Council should look after, one being the building of a lock-up. He said the County Council had granted \$100 to the Village of Acton for that purpose to be paid when the building is completed. He thought also that some provision should be made against the spreading of fire—that a fire engine of some description ought to be procured. He expressed to the good feeling that existed, and trusted it would continue so during the contest.

ESQUEQUIES TOWNSHIP.

W. Clay, Reeve, re-elected. J. Warren, Deputy Reeve, re-elected. Wm. McENERY, Deputy Reeve, re-elected.
For Councillors—Robert Broedel, Geo. Whigglesworth, Ninian Lindsay, Thos. Hume, C. P. Preston, John S. Frazee.
It will be noticed that the Candidates in Esquequies, nearly all reside in the lower end of the Township, leaving the portion entirely in the hands of Mr. Warren. In order to have each ward represented, the electors would do well to unite on electing Mr. Preston for 1st Ward and Mr. Lindsay for the 3rd Ward. Both are good men.

BRIN TOWNSHIP.

REEVE.—D. McMillan.
DEPUTY REEVE.—J. W. Bart-both returned by acclamation.
Wm. Teeter, the former Deputy Reeve, retired from the field.
FOR COUNCILLORS.—R. A. Reid, Robert Barbour, Henry Smith, D. B. Boomer, Wm. McDowell, John Fletcher, and Morgan Henshaw.
NASSAGAWAYA.
J. Ramsey, elected Reeve, and J. Menzie, Deputy Reeve.
For Councillors, T. B. Winn, D. Hutcheon, R. Akins, G. Norris.
ERAMOSA.
John Roe re-elected Reeve. For Deputy Reeve, Thos. Waters and Michael Cummings. For Councillors, Henry Carter, Adam Ebbage, James Hartop, Strickland Duffield, and Alfred Anstoe.
TRAFALGAR.
The old Council has been re-elected by acclamation, viz: M. Clements, Reeve; H. Robinson and Dr. Buck, Deputies; W. G. Kennedy and E. Bray, Councillors.
GEORGETOWN.—Reeve, J. R. Barber, W. McLeod; Councillors, Dr. Standish, Dr. Freeman, R. D. McManis, D. Reid, E. Soar and W. R. Brown.
GUELPH TOWN.
Mayor.—R. Melvin and F. J. Chadwick; Reeve—Geo. Howard and Geo. Elliott; First Deputy, Reeve, D. McCrae and Chas. David; Second Deputy Reeve, Thos. Heffernan and David Kennedy; Third Deputy Reeve, Adam Ebbage, Thos. Sayers, R. O'Connor, D. Krebs, Jas. Innes, J. B. Armstrong, A. H. McDonald, A. B. Petri-Geo. Sleeman, J. T. Cunningham, A. R. Davis, Geo. Balkwill, F. Stupp, P. McMillan, R. McEague; Wm. Hart, Geo. Bruce, J. E. Chubb, Henry Hatch, T. Gowdy, J. C. M. Lagan, Jas. Schofield, Wm. Mitchell, Jos. Heffernan; Dr. Horod, W. H. Mills, Caleb Chase, Rich. Mitchell, Wm. Stevenson, Wm. Hearn, and Adam Robertson.

To the Editor of the Free Press.
DEAR SIR:—During election times it is common for designing persons to circulate reports with a view to damage certain persons who may be candidates for municipal honors. I regret that the present municipal election is not going to prove the exception, for "The Log of War" hath again been let loose. This time Gossip says, that should Dr. McGavin be elected Reeve he will endeavor to get the Council to buy the old Methodist Church for a Town Hall. Now, as the above rumor is calculated to damage not only the Doctor, but also other Candidates whose crime seems to consist in being Methodists, I take leave to say from my position as Secretary of the Church Building Committee, that the idea of selling the old Church to the municipality has never been thought of, and surely if the old Council, four-fifths of whom were Methodists, had had any such desire, what would have prevented them from taking action in the matter. The fact is the subject was never even spoken of and would not have been entertained if it had. I can assure those of political Scandalmongers that if they hope to damage the Doctor's chance of election, by resorting to such contemptible means, their hopes will be frustrated. The introducing of secular or religious matters into an election contest is disgraceful in the extreme. Such actions have ever brought obliquy and disgrace on their author, and are despised by all good and true men. Permit me to say, in conclusion, that the old Church of which so much has been said, will, in all probability, be sold and transferred to another religious body; at any rate, I will undertake to guarantee that no offer of it will be made to the municipality by the Methodists of Acton, either in or out of Council. Yours truly,
W. H. STONEY.
Acton, Dec. 29th, 1875.

To the Editor of the Free Press.
For the past year, and especially during the last election contest, for the Local Legislature, the School question was the great question of the day, with many of our wise men. They would overturn the Government, and they would ease aside our School Inspector, and would give no countenance to any candidate who would not promise to amend the School Law to their fancy. Now, sir, we have our Parliament sitting for more than a month, and yet we do not hear a word from these declaimers of improvement, they would have made in the School Law, excepting that indeed I see that there was a foolish resolution passed in the last meeting of our County Council appointing three gentlemen to go and wait on the Government in reference to the programme of Education. In this wonderful resolution we know not what instructions this Committee has had, and we are very much mistaken if there are not many more things in the School Law to complain of as much as the programme of Education. Where are those who complained of the urgency of the School Law, for insisting upon the enlargement of their School Houses unnecessary, in their estimation, and who complained so much for being requested to enlarge their playground, and for providing and maintaining an additional teacher beyond their estimated need? Is our Parliament to be allowed to perjure without syllable or position from these grumblers, and have another year's war with the Inspector of Schools for doing his duty?

KATEFAYER.
Nassagawaya, Dec. 27, 1875.
The jury in the \$100,000 libel suit brought by Henry C. Bowen against the Brooklyn Eagle have returned a verdict for plaintiffs, and fixed the damages at \$1,000.
In the Public Accounts Committee another bill against Mr. Speaker was investigated. It was for a silk robe, two hats, a coat and a waistcoat. We suppose the bill for his underclothing and indispensable will come in next.
The petition against the return of Mr. Dawson, M. P. for Algona, has been dismissed with costs against the petitioners, who failed to make the necessary deposit as security. Mr. Dawson is a staunch supporter of the Government, though originally chained as Independent.
Now comes the time of year when the heartless man will leave his tenacious and hungry on the street in the snow, rain, and wind, while he sits by the stove in the store or grocery, telling stories or drinking hot stuff. If the poor dumb brutes could speak, what tons of it would tell of human brutes, of careless, heartless men.
Some time ago the Oka Indians, a small tribe living on the Upper Ottawa, forsake the Catholic church and were converted to Methodism. A missionary took up his residence among them, and a little church was erected on land which is now claimed by the Seminary of St. Pauline. A few days ago, the church was surrounded by a howling mob, who tore it down and offered violence to the Missionary. The mob proceeding was most disgraceful, and that it took place under the religious sign makes it the worse. Indignation meetings have been held in Montreal, and a committee was appointed to lay the matter before the Dominion Government to obtain some redress for the unfortunate red-men.
There appears to have been a good deal of nonsense in the demonstration on Friday of the unemployed in Montreal. It is reported that the crowd stopped a baker's wagon and took therefrom ten or twelve loaves of bread, which they threw playfully from one to another. Surviving men don't throw loaves of bread around as sport. That there is much distress in Montreal, and that among men who would gladly work if they had it to do, is beyond doubt, but it is equally evident that out of the two thousands who engaged in Friday's demonstration there were many who could not have been suffering very severely.

TOO MANY HUSBANDS.—A queerly mixed case of bigamy came before the Police Magistrate at Stratford on Tuesday. It appears that a German named Nafe, some years ago became acquainted with Johanna Fink, and shortly afterwards, according to Nafe's story, they were married at Elmira, N.Y., by a Justice of the Peace. They lived together for a number of years, having several children. At last a shadow and a substantial one, in the shape of a man, named Charles Seaman, came between them and their happiness, something over a month ago, the wife deserted her home and fled to Tavistock where her father lived, accompanied by Seaman. On the 29th ult., they came to Stratford, and tried to procure a license to be married. In order to obtain this necessary document, Seaman had to swear that he was "not just cause for imprisonment" by the proposed marriage. This he did through an interpreter, and they were united. A few days ago, Nafe learnt the whereabouts of his recent spouse, and came after her. Her story is that she was never married to Nafe at all, although she lived with him, and that lately his son had become so inebriated that she had to lead "a wretched traffic" with a man she liked better. The charge against her was bigamy, and that against Seaman perjury in obtaining a license. Both were remanded to go to a further hearing—
Stratford Beacon.