

THE ACTON FREE PRESS Published Every Thursday Morning. \$1 Per Annum in Advance.

Acton Free Press JOS. H. WATKINS, EDITOR.

THURSDAY MORNING, FEB. 17, 1876.

A Chat about Our Roads.

At an after-dinner chat by the members of the Esqueving Council, the other day, the question of our roads came up. It was clearly demonstrated that we had no leading-line in the township upon which the people of the different sections could agree to have a large sum of money expended. The several villages are so situated that no single road could possibly meet the requirements of all. The consequence is that but a very limited number of the ratepayers would submit to having the township funds expended in any large sum on any one of two roads.

The Revere suggested that the practice of doling out small amounts here and there, each year, should be done away with to a great extent, and also that a radical change should be made in the state labor system. His suggestion as we understood it, was, briefly, that the principal travelled roads in each ward should be taken charge of by the Council for such ward respectively, and that the ratepayers therein specially interested instead of doing statute-labor work, should allow the value of their labor to be put in a general fund, and have this fund supplemented by a liberal grant from the council; that the whole sum so expended should be an amount sufficient each year to put a certain portion of each road in thoroughly good order. In this way a few miles of first-class road might be constructed every year, in each ward, without creating but little, if any, additional taxation. In order that every farmer might have the opportunity of reaping the benefit of a portion of the outlay, it was suggested that short contracts be let for different sections of the work, and that the whole should be under the general supervision of a practical superintendent. These views strike us as being both sensible and practicable, and we would be pleased to hear the opinions of others interested. We feel convinced that the ratepayers of Acton would willingly contribute a reasonable sum to the improvement of the roads in this vicinity, if a proper system were once inaugurated.

About Advertisements. Some of our subscribers have been complaining of the space occupied by advertisements in our paper, and to these we have a word to say. It is as much the business of a newspaper to publish advertisements as items of news; for without a liberal advertising patronage no country paper could exist; and the man who complains of the space in a newspaper, being taken up with advertisements, is as unphilosophical as he who complains of warm weather in summer and cold in winter. Take our word for it, that the man who advertises is wide-awake, and prepared to deal liberally. He is always up to the times, and never has stock two or three years old, for he can always dispose of all his goods in season. He invariably does a large business, therefore he can afford to sell at a smaller profit than the slow-going fogg. Read our advertisements, and you can buy a suit of clothes at least two dollars cheaper and one dollar better than you can elsewhere, and at one purchase you make three dollars profit, and thus pay for your paper for three years by merely reading our advertisements.

Another reason: Persons visiting some distance from the village and constantly seeing the paper and the announcements made from week to week in its advertising columns, are soon constrained to pay the place a visit; and when they find our advertising friends are prepared to deal goods at reasonable prices, they deal with them. No quack advertisements find a place in our paper, and our advertising columns are but a reflex of the business of the place. As the village thrives, the tributary country prospers and all are benefited. Think of these facts, and grumble no more about the space occupied by advertisements.

Put It Back. From one end of the Province to the other rises a vigorous protest from the press of both parties against the Salary Grab. The members of the House are stigmatized as public robbers, and the Assembly proclaimed no better than a den of thieves. It is pointed out that if the members of the Legislature which existed during Sandfield Macdonald's time could work along on \$400 a year, the members of the present Legislature should be able to subsist on \$600. The hardness of the times, when everything and everybody is scamped to the last degree, is also made a reason of objection to an increase. Nothing, in fact, that has transpired in a legislative character either in the House or out of it has created such a general feeling of disgust all over the Province. This being the case, the members who accept the additional allowance do so in open opposition to the expressed sentiment of the country, and expose themselves to a charge of robbing the treasury in bold defiance of the wishes of the people. The additional allowance to the members takes from the people's pockets \$17,600 for this one session alone more than for any previous session, and with this additional salary voted to Ministers reduces the country at one grab to \$21,300. The country can't afford this. It protests against it. The members must either put the money back or sneak home to their constituents like so many self-conscious pig-pockets, who were only free from arrest because they have committed their offence in brigades and not singly. The men who take from the treasury one dollar more than he agreed to accept when he took his seat will be pointed out on every street in every town, village, hamlet, township, county, highway, and byway in the Province with derisive cries of "There goes a Salary Grabber." Put back the money!—Nationalist.

Mr. James Young, M. P. for South Waterloo, has given notice that he will move for a statement showing the value of goods imported into Canada during the last five years from the United States, in order to ascertain to what extent this country has been made a slaughter market for American productions during 1874 and 1875.

ments, but learn that it is to the interest of every farmer in this section to advertise their products, and by advertising establishments, for from such they are sure to get the fullest value for their money.

The Centennial Exhibition.

The Secretary of the Canadian Department of the American Centennial Exhibition is in Ottawa, and a meeting of the Commissioners is being held. It is reported that the response of the people of the Dominion to the exhibition has exceeded all expectations. Canada will be well represented in every department of her various industries, and every foot of her space at the Exhibition will be occupied. In the main building Canada will cover an area of 24,000 square feet. For machinery in motion, to which another building is devoted, the space allotted is 4,500 feet. In the Art Gallery Canada will occupy 2,400 square feet, with an additional 2,000 feet for a photographic exhibition. The agricultural buildings will accommodate in a space of 10,000 feet the products of the forest, the farm, and the garden, including fruits which are to be sent in as they come in season. In this department will also be found stuffed specimens of poultry, fish, and birds generally, as well as farming implements, of which the show, especially from Ontario, will be splendid. The cattle show is to take place in the fall. In the horticultural department flowers are to be exhibited as they came into bloom. A space of 4,000 feet will be appropriated for carriages of Canadian manufacture. All articles for the Exhibition have to be at their respective stations by the third week in March. Special trains will be made up, one from Ontario and one from Quebec, and proceed direct, without delay or detention, to Philadelphia. Everything must be in Philadelphia by the 1st of April, and arranged by the first of May. The Exhibition opens on the 10th of May.

The Monetary Times, speaking of the Government measure to aid railways, says:—The principles laid down by the Treasurer in his speech on the subject are no doubt correct. The Government cannot afford to subsidize railways which would be a mere loss to the public. And they cannot aid lines which would naturally destroy another. Canada, like England, has had more than enough of this. The Government must look at the public interest alone, and it is not wise to see that its money is not sunk in more preliminary works. Each section should be finished before the money is paid over. All these are sound ideas, and on the whole they have been fairly applied.

ESQUEVING COUNCIL.

Council met at Stewarttown, January 28th, with all members present. On motion of Mr. Warren, was granted to Mr. Wigglesworth, \$8 being two thirds of two sheep killed by dogs. On motion of Mr. Wigglesworth, seconded by Mr. McEnery, the By-law to appoint an Inspector of Licenses, up to 1st of May, was read second and third time, the blank being filled with the name of David Cook. Edward Nixon was appointed to enforce the law to said date. Mr. Warren, moved, seconded by Mr. Lindsay, that the blank for Inspector be filled with the name of George Blake, which was lost.

The Clerk was instructed to notify the Inspector of Licenses to perfect his return to report at next meeting of Council. Moved by Mr. Lindsay, seconded by Mr. Wigglesworth, that leave be granted to introduce a By-law at the next meeting of the Council, limiting the number of certificates to be issued for Tavern Licenses in the municipality for the current year.

On motion of Mr. Lindsay, ten dollars was granted for the benefit of George Lane, who is in indigent circumstances and ill health, the sum to be payable to the order of Mr. T. Lane. Council adjourned till Friday 11th inst.

COMPLIMENTARY SUPPER.

According to an announcement in last week's Free Press, a complimentary supper was tendered by the citizens of Acton last Thursday evening, to W. H. Storey, Esq., ex-Reeve, and ex-Councillors Hill, Nicklin and Speight. The committee who had undertaken the management spared no pains to have everything prepared in a creditable manner, and we believe we but express the feeling manifested by those present, when we say they succeeded admirably. The novel features of the entertainment were the presence of a large number of ladies and the entire absence of intoxicating liquors. Shortly after eight o'clock, the chair was taken by Dr. McGarvin, Reeve, who was supported on the right and left by the guests of the evening. The vice-chairmen were Col. Clay, of Norval, Dr. Robertson, of Milton, Messrs. D. Hemerson and Geo. Tolton, of Acton. Two tables running nearly the length of the Hall, were filled with ladies and gentlemen, principally residents of Acton. After the clatter of spoons and forks had subsided, and the oysters and things had ceased to flow, the chairman announced that he was prepared to proceed with toasts and sentiments.

The usual loyal toasts were responded to by all joining in singing a patriotic song. The chairman then gave "The Ontario Legislature," coupled with the name of Col. Clay, who responded in a felicitous manner. He joyfully alluded to his having been recently defeated in this county when he wanted to become a member of the Legislature, and thought it scarcely fair that he should be called upon to respond to this toast. The ladies have certainly lost something, for, he said, if he had had a seat in the Legislature he should have voted for the bill to allow the ladies to vote on municipal by-laws, which was only lost by a majority of two. He paid a warm tribute to Mr. Storey, a gentleman with whom he had had much pleasant intercourse in the County Council. Had never met one more courteous, or with better business habits; wondered at the people of Acton for allowing him to retire from the position he so admirably filled. The chairman then gave "Our Guests," referring briefly to the valuable services rendered by our late Reeve, and the retiring members of the Council.

Mr. Storey responded in a manner full of genial eloquence. In thanking the present for the mark of their esteem, he said he needed not this evidence of the kindness of the people of Acton, amongst whom he had lived for past twenty years, for he had ever found the spirit of kindness and generosity one of their leading characteristics. He was not so vain as to accept this as a purely personal honor to himself and colleagues, presuming the compliment to be mainly intended as a recognition of their past services in the Village and County Councils. As Reeve of this municipality, he had done nothing more than his duty, and he had already felt a degree of pride in doing all that he could to further the interests of the Village. He referred to matters in connection with the incorporation of the village and the difficult work the Council had to undergo the first year; and intercourse with the public men of the County had been of a very pleasant nature. He found the members of the County Council gentlemen of courtesy, with whom it was a pleasure to do business. During the three years since incorporation, our village has made very substantial progress, and he was pleased to be able to remark that while the whole Dominion was in a small way, a number of years ago, as most of our best business men had done, at the bottom of the ladder, and worked gradually upwards, and naturally felt a deep interest in the prosperity of the place. Although he was not now in the Council, he felt that the affairs of the municipality were in good hands, and he believed the public interests would be guarded with the utmost care. He again expressed his heartfelt thanks for the honors thus showered upon him.

Mr. Hill briefly expressed his appreciation of this flattering recognition of his past services in the Council. Mr. Speight made a lengthy speech, touching upon a little of everything. To do it justice would require much more space than we can possibly give. The best we can do is to copy our notes, thus:—"Did not enjoy oysters. Couldn't see why he was entitled to a supper after being kicked out of Council. Had many thoughts. Men don't think as they ought to. Thought because four Methodists—four Romanism men in Council—(No. 4—Theology, anecdote).—In Council till 11 o'clock—License tax By-law in Council—Renewal of

By-law; snow on sidewalk—Went back 30 years—Had to get our letters at Stewarttown—Had not then been a buggy over the roads—Felt rather flat—3 or 4 houses in Acton. Have no reason to complain of people of Acton—though first time had got a supper. Two justices of Peace—put me in Canada took prisoners to my private home—A railroad through Acton—Gathered a meeting of inhabitants—A deputation to go to Toronto—Underground crossing—went to lawyer—made approaches good—Sons of Temperance—First Worthy Patriarch—Perhaps only one in Acton opposed to bonds—Villago out of debt—never be again if bonus is given. Thanks for honor of the supper.

Mr. Nicklin in a few words expressed his thanks for the complimentary supper upon him as a member of the late Council. Dr. Robertson, Mayor of Milton, made a good speech, in which he paid a high compliment to the people of Acton for their enterprise and energy in doing all they could to foster the manufacturing interests of the place. He suggested a little caution in respect to giving bonuses.

The "Manufacturing Interests of Acton," was fully responded to by Mr. W. H. Storey, and the "Mercantile Interests," by Mr. D. Christie, of Acton, and Mr. G. R. Fraser, of Guelph. The "Press," was acknowledged by Messrs. James D. McEnery, Barrows, of the Herald, and Hacking of the Acton Free Press. The King of the Corporation of Acton was given by Mr. Innes and responded to by Dr. McGarvin, after which the health of the ladies brought the formal portion of the meeting to a close. The remainder of the evening being spent in a social chat, and parlor games, &c. The affair passed off in an exceedingly pleasant manner, reflecting great credit on the committee under whose management it was got up.

GENERAL NEWS.

A heavy snow storm visited the eastern part of the Province on Tuesday. Mr. Goldwin Smith has tendered his resignation as a member of senate of Toronto University. The historic elm, over two hundred years of age, on Boston Common was blown down Tuesday night. A breach of promise case, in which three hundred letters are to be produced, is coming up for trial in St. John's, N. B.

The Canada Gazette contains the appointment of J. W. Main to Brampton to be an official assessor for the County of Peel. The Canadian display at the Centennial Exhibition promises to be creditable to the dominion. Every foot of the space allotted to us will be occupied. Right Hon. Hugh C. E. Childers, M. P., President of the Great Western Railway of Canada, arrived from Liverpool in the steamship Parthia, last Saturday.

During the month of January 10,774 Grand Trunk cars crossed the St. Clair River at Sarnia, 6,178 going west, and 4,587 going east. This is a very good show for a dull month of the season. The Reformers of Lincoln have again unanimously chosen Capt. Gordon as their candidate to oppose Mr. Rykert at the coming election in that County for the Local Legislature. A meeting was held in Toronto on Tuesday night and passed resolutions recommending the City Council to subsidize any Company starting iron smelting works in the city.

\$700 worth of silks were stolen from Bailey's dry goods warehouse in Toronto on Friday. The thief was seen jogging away his bundle when chase was given, and he was captured. Sheriff McKellar is making preparations for the execution of Nelson Mills, in Hamilton. It is rumored that there are no hopes of a reprieve. Mr. Robert Laidlaw, of the township of Bentinck, while in his buggy on Saturday last came on a bear's den. He succeeded in killing the old bear and one cub, and captured one alive.

At her late residence, in the Township of Nassagoyaga, on the 16th inst., January, in her 82nd year, Mary Custick, beloved wife of Mr. Christopher Custick, native of Kilkenny, County Down, Ireland. At the residence of her son, Mr. Jacobus Mackay, in Erin, on the 10th inst., Mrs. Catherine Massey, widow of the late Peter Massey, of Nassagoyaga, aged about 75 years.

ACTON MARKETS. White Wheat, 0 95 to 0 98. Red Wheat, 0 90 to 0 93. Spring Wheat, 0 90 to 0 93. Barley, 0 60 to 0 68. Oats, 0 35 to 0 40. Peas, 0 60 to 0 62. Potatoes, per bush, 0 40 to 0 45. Dried Apples, per lb., 0 08 to 0 09. Onions, per bush, 0 20 to 0 25. Butter, 0 18 to 0 20. Dressed Hens, 50c to 75c. Lard, per ton, 15 00 to 16 00. Malt, 50c to 60c. Pelt, 50c to 60c.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. TO BE SOLD OR LET. Part of Lot No. 1, on the 5th concession of Erin, comprising 100 acres. On it is a frame house, 24' x 34', a large barn, and a small log house; good orchard in good bearing; school convenient. Situated 3 miles from Acton and 3 from Hamilton. Good title and immediate possession. Apply to JAMES WATSON, on the premises, or to Thomas Watson, Acton station. 34-2t. CREAM BREED FOR THE MILLION. B. & E. NICKLIN. Beg to announce that they have secured the services of a First-Class Baker, and that they will commence business in the premises owned by Mrs. Hanna, on the 23rd inst. Bread will be delivered daily at the houses in the village and vicinity. The patronage of the public is respectfully solicited. B. & E. NICKLIN. Acton, Feb. 16, 1876. PREEMPTORY NOTICE. There are still a few people who have not paid their taxes for 1875. These must positively be paid by the 20th inst., or go into Court. No further delay. S. ZIMMERMAN, Collector. Acton, Feb. 9, 1876.

Erin Council.

The council met on the 7th inst., the Reeve in the chair; members all present. A deputation consisting of Mr. C. McMillan and Rev. Wm. M. Bielby, waited on the Council and presented a petition from Wm. Tyler, C. McMillan, Revs. J. A. Tompson, Hugh Reid and Wm. M. Bielby, a committee appointed by the temperance association, and 307 others, praying that the shop license should be withheld from all shops within the Townships; also a deputation of ladies consisting of H. G. Milloy, Mrs. Wm. M. Bielby and Miss Ames, waited on the council and presented a similar petition from a committee of ladies, viz: Mrs. De. McElroy, Mrs. H. G. Milloy, Mrs. Wm. Bielby and Miss Ames, Miss McMillan, and 226 others. The Council received the deputation very courteously, and the Reeve assured the ladies that the petitions would receive their most careful consideration, after which the deputation retired. Moved by Mr. McDowell, seconded by Mr. Barbour, that the matter of re-arranging School Sections No. 14 and 9 be laid over until next meeting of the Council. Carried. On motion by Mr. Burt, seconded by Mr. Reid, a By-law was introduced and passed to appoint the following Township officers, namely:—Lachlin Currie, Assessor; Daniel McMillan, Collector; Albert Thompson, Township Inspector; for Erin Village, Bristol and Osprige, and C. J. McMillan for Hillsburg, Mimpa and Anklhouse. On motion the Reeve ordered that Samuel Johnston be paid \$15.75 for nine cords of wood delivered to Mr. McLean, an indigent person; \$7.48 to Trustees of School Section No. 9, taxes due on a non-resident lot; \$2.00 was ordered to be paid to the Guelph General Hospital, and the council accept of one bed for two years in said Hospital. Moved by Mr. Reid, seconded by Mr. Burt, that the petition, praying the Council to withhold all shop licenses from shops within this Township, be granted. Moved by Mr. Burt, seconded by Mr. Reid, that the petition of William Harkness and 32 others, be laid over for further consideration. Moved by Mr. Barbour, seconded by Mr. Reid, that the Council do now adjourn, to meet on the 24th inst., to grant certificates of Tavern License and other business. Wm. Tyler, T. P. Clerk.

CENTRAL EXHIBITION.—A meeting of the Guelph Central Exhibition was held on Friday afternoon, at which the time for holding the Exhibition was fixed for the first week in October. The date for the Easter Fair Cattle Show was fixed for Wednesday April 5th. Fair day.

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Boots and Shoes

AT A GREAT SACRIFICE.

OUR WINTER STOCK OF BOOTS & SHOES

Are now offered at VERY LOW PRICES,

To make room for Spring Stock.

Now is the time to get Bargains. Call Early.

CRABINE & SON.

Acton, Feb. 15, 1876.

CASH SYSTEM.

SELL FOR CASH! BUY FOR CASH!

SAVE MONEY AND BECOME RICH!

The Everywhere Popular CASH SYSTEM

Adopted by CHRISTIE, HENDERSON & CO., ACTON.

Being convinced by observation and experience that the only true principle on which business can be successfully and satisfactorily carried on is the now Popular Cash System, we have determined in all transactions TO BUY AND SELL FOR READY PAY ONLY, commencing on the 31st day of March next, on and after which date we will adhere strictly to the Cash System.

By buying for cash and taking advantage of trade discounts, we will be enabled to sell goods at but a slight advance on importers' and manufacturers' prices, and decidedly lower than can be obtained by Grangers and others from city jobbers. To do this we adopt the Cash Principle, and we feel assured that our numerous customers and the public generally will accord us a hearty support in our effort to advance their interests by supplying them with a good article at a decidedly LOW PRICE.

This change, we feel, whilst resulting largely to the benefit of our patrons, will not in any way result in any material loss to ourselves, as we will effect a great saving in keeping books, collecting accounts, interest on outstanding moneys, &c.

A decided reduction will be made in the price of all goods handled by us, and we trust the difference will be such as will result in a material advantage to all parties, and receive general approval.

In the meantime special inducements will be offered to all CASH BUYERS.

Produce will be taken in exchange at market prices, and when required for the purposes of our trade will be paid for in cash if desired.

In buying Butter we will carefully grade and pay a price according to quality, thereby offering a premium for the best production.

We cordially invite inspection by all, and assure our many friends that in no instance will we allow their interests to suffer by dealing with us.

Our famous 50c TEA will still maintain its reputation as second to none in the Dominion for purity, pungency and flavor.

CHRISTIE, HENDERSON & CO. Acton, Feb. 16, 1876.

N. B.—All overdue accounts and notes of hand must be settled forthwith without fail.

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