

business to get into the hands of the Railway Company, in the present state of the road.

On motion of Dr. Beck, seconded by Mr. Robinson, the petition of W. Pettit and 230 other rate-payers of the County of Halton, praying this Council to retain the 11 & N. W. Railway, deponents, be received, read, and referred to a committee of the whole.

The Petition was received and read. Council went into committee of the whole.

Mr. Young believed the prayer of the petition was reasonable. He said there was serious cause for doubt as to the ability of the company to construct the railway; and when the petitioners asked the Council to withhold the deponents till their doubts were solved, they asked nothing more than was right and just. The petition was worthy of and would doubtless receive the consideration it merited. It was said the line would be completed to Georgetown by next September.

In his opinion this was a physical impossibility. He doubted whether that section of the charter requiring that the sum of \$600,000 capital stock be subscribed had been complied with. The Council had no evidence of the fact. The company was composed of responsible men, yet the Council was told that unless the bonus of \$35,000 from Halton was placed in the bank, the contractors would not go on with the work. If the contractors would not trust them, it is a wonder that the people of Halton hesitated to repose full confidence in them!

Judging from the various acts of deception by which the company had succeeded in obtaining the passage of the law, they were not entitled to unlimited confidence. "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." The Credit Valley line ought to be a warning against placing implicit faith in any projectors of railways. The Hamilton & Northwestern Company had not kept faith with the people of the county. It was not time enough to give up the deponents when the work is in progress; or when good security was given that it would be done. The Council would betray the trust reposed in it, if it did not resist all demands for the surrender of the deponents, until matters looked more promising than they did at present. He felt it to be his duty to support the prayer of the petition.

Mr. John White, by permission, addressed the Council. He had carefully considered the present position of the company, and had arrived at the conclusion that the time had arrived when the railway would be built. The directors meant business. He thought the question as to the delivery of the deponents would be perfectly safe in the hands of the Warden.

Col. Clay objected to the Warden being placed in such a position. The wishes of the Council had always guided, and always ought to guide, the action of that gentleman. He would betray the trust reposed in him, and be unworthy of the confidence of the Council if he acted otherwise. Mr. Williams said that the Council of the County of Peel had been granted a rebate of interest on its deponents. He could not see why the company should not grant similar terms to Halton.

Mr. White took it for granted that the Trustees would guard equally the interests of Halton and Hamilton. They were all honorable and respectable men, and he could not believe that they would do anything that was not strictly just to the county. It was no wonder the Council was careful, when it had before it an example of what the county had got for \$105,000 given to another company.

Col. Gray said that when the right of way was bought, and tangible evidence was before them that the railway would be built, the Council would hand over the deponents. He hoped the gentlemen from Hamilton would go back to Hamilton with no hard feelings against the people of Halton. If so disposed, he might urge with justice that the company had broken its charter, but he would waive that point. He assured them that the Council had every disposition to do what was strictly just, both to the company and the people.

Mr. Clements referring to the proposition to purchase the H. & N. W. deponents with money in the hands of municipalities collected to meet their obligations to the Credit Valley Company, said that money was realized by the municipalities ought to be credited to that fund. An opinion in which the Council generally concurred.

Dr. Beck thought that as the Council had held the deponents for two years, although the law said they should be placed in the hands of the Trustees within six weeks after the passage of the law, they should be no longer in holding them a little longer. With the Credit Valley monument of folly before their eyes, it would be supremely foolish to take any other course. He was as much opposed to the principle of bonus as he ever was, but that fact did not affect the course he intended to pursue as regards the question at issue. The circumstances might in the future be such that they would render it impossible to build the road; it would be an everlasting disaster, to every

number of the Council were they to hand over the deponents and not get the road after all. He had every confidence in his old friend Switzer, but he had really no control over the deponents when in the hands of the Trustees. Mr. S. had only one vote against the two Hamilton Trustees, and consequently, could do overruled. It was very gratifying to him to see gentlemen from other parts of the county coming forward and standing by those who had always taken the ground that he and others had from the first maintained.

Mr. Warren had no confidence in the company nor in any company that depended upon straining a point of law to perpetrate an act of gross injustice to gain its objects. He did not think the Council could be compelled to surrender the deponents, even by an action at law, unless tangible evidence was forthcoming that the road would be constructed. He advocated the retention of the deponents until they would be justified by accomplished facts in giving them up.

The Warden said this was an exceptional case, and we were dealing with it under exceptional circumstances. He reviewed the history of the company, and pointed out that by amendments to the act of incorporation, the Directors were eligible to become contractors. This was done in principle and greatly weakened the hands of the friends of the road. Then again there was the amalgamation with the Lake Erie road. The Directors had incurred personal obligations and thus became creditors to the Company. So that now the same persons were at one and the same time Directors, contractors and creditors of the company. He had no hostility to the road, but he had a determined hostility to jeopardizing the county bond. He was anxious that the road should be built, and he was anxious that the interests of the ratepayers should be protected. He would never have supported the scheme had it been presented in its present shape. He had a proposal to make to the gentlemen from Hamilton. The terms of the \$100,000 bonus recently granted by the city of Hamilton were such that the money would not be paid until the road was finished to Georgetown. Why not place the County of Halton in a similar position. Instead of the money being paid out by the Trustees, let it be paid by the County Council. If this suggestion was acceptable, a by-law would be prepared and the arrangement faithfully carried out. The money was just as safe and would be paid to the Company as if it was in the Bank of Hamilton.

Mr. Dayfoot said he was not in a position either to accept or reject the proposal of the Warden, but he was of the opinion that it would not be accepted. The Company was prepared to go on with the road, and would insist that the County of Halton kept to the terms of the by-law and the company's charter.

Col. Gray said he would take no steps towards surrendering the deponents without the sanction of the Council.

The Council agreed that if it should become necessary by reason of the course taken by the company, a special meeting should be called by the Warden.

The Finance Committee reported sundry accounts which were ordered to be paid.

NOTICE OF MOTION. Dr. McFarvin gave notice of motion, as follows: "I hereby give notice that I will at the next meeting of this Council move for a grant from the funds of this municipality of one hundred dollars, to be applied in aiding common school libraries in this County, one-half to be appropriated for the establishment of a library where none now exists, the other half to the best common school library in the County."

On motion, the Council adjourned to the first Tuesday in June.

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THE ACTON FREE PRESS

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THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 16, 1876.

The Protectionists and the Free Trade

Every other day for the last three weeks, and it is hard to say which party has gained advantage in the debate. There is a great deal to be said on both sides of the question, and every member who has been able to formulate an idea on the subject, has not neglected the opportunity to express it. Manufacturers who were so clamorous to secure a protective tariff have settled down to the conviction that it is useless to look to the government to satisfy their demands; neither do the leaders of the Opposition show a disposition to come to the rescue. The committee who were some time since appointed to inquire into the cause of the present business depression, have not yet reported, though they have been busily engaged the past three or four weeks in procuring evidence from leading mercantile men and manufacturers throughout the Dominion. We doubt very much if they will, after all, be able to report much more than is already well known by almost every one.

The Centennial year so far promises to be disgraced by the revelations of the most stupendous corruption that has yet been unearthed in the United States. In addition to Minister Schenck's connection with the Emma Mine scandal, and Secretary Belknap's sale of Government privileges, it is now stated on undoubted authority that Congress is in possession of evidence of a most disgusting character respecting the administration of the departments of Justice, War, Post Office, and the Interior. Immediate investigations will take place.

Execution of McConnell. HE MAKES A SHORT SPEECH PROFESSING HIS INNOCENCE.

Michael McConnell, murderer of the late Nelson Mills, suffered the extreme penalty of the law, at Hamilton jail, at 9 o'clock Tuesday morning. The prisoner walked up to the gallows with a firm step, looking calm and collected. He was asked if he had anything to say, and he replied that he had not intended to say anything on the occasion, but seeing so many people present he thought he would say something.

He then in a clear and firm voice said: "That he was innocent of the crime of murder; that he did not intend to kill Mr. Mills when he left his shop, but that he was provoked to attack him over a dispute of \$14, and that Mr. Mills had acted in a tyrannical manner towards him. At the close of his remarks he was led to the drop, where he knelt. After the black cap was put over his face, his courage gave way, and he then prayed fervently for salvation, and that though he was about to die, supplied the Lord to take him to his bosom, because he was innocent of the crime of murder. Rev. Mr. Smith then offered a fervent prayer and just before he concluded the Lord's prayer, the bolt was drawn and the unfortunate culprit dropped. He died instantaneously. The only perceptible appearance of animation was two or three twitches of the legs.

STORAGE OF GRAIN.—There is at present stored in the different elevators in city of Toronto nearly one million two hundred thousand bushels of grain, occupying all the large room that can be got; and it is said that one railroad company, at their own expense, are moving a large quantity of grain to Collingwood, where it is being stored, owing to the lack of accommodation there.

THE JOSEPH HALL WORKS SOLD.—The estate of the Joseph Hall Manufacturing Co. was sold on Tuesday by the creditors to Dr. William H. Briggs, one of the shareholders, upon a tender supported by Dr. McGill, Mr. Glen and others. The competing tender was from Whitley, Fussler & Kelly, Springfield, Ohio, and was actively supported by Mr. T. N. Gibbs. The vote stood for Briggs, 160 creditors, amounting to \$161,000; for Whitley, sixteen creditors, amounting to \$33,500. The successful tender gives the unsecured creditors fifty-one and a half per cent. Nominally the tenders offered the same per centage, but the conditions of Dr. Briggs' tender were regarded as the most favorable. A grand torchlight procession was held that evening, over one thousand people congregating on the streets.

GENERAL NEWS.

Hotel licenses in Milton cost \$120 this year. —If you want cheap Goods, go to G. M. Scott's, Acton. —Bellville had a \$4,700 fire on Saturday. —It is expected that the House of Commons will be prorogued by Easter. —When fortune wants to let a fellow-being fall the hardest she lifts him up the highest. —Eight houses have been buried and twenty-six persons killed by a land slip in Germany. —Money saved by buying at G. M. Scott's, Acton. —R. W. Whitley's carriage shop in Goderich, was damaged to the extent of \$1,000 by fire on Friday night. —The Montreal Warehousing Company are about to erect a mammoth warehouse, estimated to cost \$275,000. —The collieries of Pennsylvania, which have been shut down for some time, are preparing to resume work. —Dr. Orton's Agricultural Committee has issued a circular to the farmers, who are asked to answer certain questions. —Ladies, if you want a cheap Dress, go to G. M. Scott's, Acton. —A verdict for over six and a half millions of dollars has been returned in the case of the people of New York against W. M. Tweed. —A Mrs. George Clark hanged herself on a tree at Woodville on Saturday, in consequence of disagreements with her husband. —Fourteen persons between sixty and seventy years of age were burned in the Alms House at Norwich, Conn., on Sunday night. —In Esqueving township, tavern licenses will cost \$65 this year, and shop licenses \$200. The number of taverns is thirteen, same as last year. —Gents' white dress shirt for \$1.00 up, at G. M. Scott's, Acton. —Messrs. Krammer & Sons, of Preston, have been working for several months past at a piece of furniture to be exhibited at the Centennial. —At Prince Arthur's Landing the snow is now from six to eight feet on the ground, and the thermometer registers from 35 to 40 degrees below zero. —Victor Hugo intends proposing in the French Senate that an amnesty be granted to political prisoners since 1870. This would include the Communists. —The Georgetown Herald learns of the appointment of Mr. John Hayes, constable, of that village, to the office of bailiff for the County of Halton, in the place of Mr. Fraser, resigned. —Gents! if you want a stylish hat, go to G. M. Scott's, Acton. —A walking match has been arranged at Detroit between Miss Clara H. Hubert, champion of America, and Miss Anna Mattice, the Canadian champion, (who is she?) It will last six days. —A revival is going on in Montreal. On Sunday night the Theatre Royal was crowded, and a large number of persons went to Cote St. Church, where 40 enquirers remained at the close of the meeting. —A clever but intemperate sculptor died in Montreal last week, owing three months' board. The painter in a laudable manner, towards repaying himself, sold the body to a dissecting room for \$25. —A splendid stock of General Groceries at G. M. Scott's, Acton. —Further troubles is reported between the Protestant Indians of Oka and the French Canadians. A number of Protestant gentlemen have left Montreal, armed, to protect the Indians. —Revival meetings are being held at St. Michael's Cathedral, Toronto, by the Rev. Mr. King, assisted by Bishops Jauner and Welsh; 393 people, mostly young men, went to the Communion last Sunday. —The Port Hope Guide gives an interesting account of the opening of the new Methodist Church in that town. At the opening services, which commenced on Thursday evening last week, the very handsome sum of \$27,000 was subscribed, being \$5,000 more than sufficient to meet the balance remaining due on the church. This costly and beautiful edifice, therefore, worth some \$50,000, will not be burdened with a debt. The first sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Ives, of Auburn, N. Y., and it was through his persuasive powers, in the subsequent services that the satisfactory result of providing for the debt was secured. —On Wednesday an ice jam was found at the bridge in front of Mr. J. Martin's grist mill, Milton, damming the creek to such an extent that it overflowed its banks, and converted most of the flat from the creek to Main street into a pond. The cellars of the Town Hall, Mr. Jackson's Hotel, and other buildings were filled with water. Through the united efforts of a number of citizens the jam was cleared away in the afternoon. Just after it was cleared, a jam which had been formed at the C. V. R. Bridge on Mr. Dempsey's flats, broke away. Had this happened a little sooner it would undoubtedly have carried off the Mill.

Erin Council.

This Council met on the 28th ult. Members all present. The Revue in the chair. On motion of Mr. Burt, seconded by Mr. Reid, a by-law was introduced and read a first and second time for granting certificates of license. On motion, the Tavern Inspector's report was received and adopted. The substance of the report is—that John Clinke, James Crozier, Thos Garvin and John Linford, of Erin Village, John Kirk, J. W. Dwyer and John Auldhouse, of Hillsburg, W. Willis of Brisbane, and Mrs. B. Fielding and John Anderson, of Osnaburg, be recommended to receive certificates for extension of license until the first day of May, each having his house in good trim and meeting the requirements of the law. The Council formed in committee of the whole on by-law granting certificates of license. Blanks were filled and the by-law finally passed. Payment of \$4 was ordered to David Kennedy for repairing a bill on 5th line. The Auditor's report was received and adopted, and the clerk directed to get 100 copies printed. Moved by Mr. Burt, seconded by Mr. McDowell, that the Receiver order that John Campbell be paid \$12.50 for a job of bridging done on the town line between Erin and Osnaburg, advised. On motion of Mr. Reid, seconded by Mr. Barbour, the bill presented by Archibald McEachern was laid on the table or laid over. Moved by Mr. Burt, seconded by Mr. Barbour, that a By-law be introduced, limiting and regulating shop license, and that it be read a first and second time. On motion by Mr. Barbour, seconded by Mr. Burt, a By-law was introduced for the purpose of appointing pathmasters, fenceviewers and poundkeepers, which received a first and second reading. On motion by Mr. Reid, seconded by Mr. Barbour, the Council formed a committee of the whole on By-law No. 5, limiting shops, etc. Mr. McDowell in the chair. By-law being filled up, fixing the rate at \$200, the committee rose and the Council resumed business. It was moved by Mr. Reid, seconded by Mr. Burt, that By-law No. 5 be read a third time and passed. Moved in amendment by Mr. McDowell, seconded by Mr. Barbour, that all that portion of By-law No. 5 after the words "limited to one shop" be struck out and that \$100 be the shop license fee. The Receiver, after a few remarks in reference to the petitions presented by the Justices, proposed a resolution to the effect that he would not grant the petition to pass the By-law in its present form without granting the amendment, and that he would therefore support the motion that By-law No. 5 be now read a third time and passed. It was read and passed. Moved by Mr. Reid, seconded by Mr. Barbour, that leave be granted to bring in a By-law granting the removal of Lot No. 56, east and west in the 3rd con. from School Section No. 14. Carried. Moved by Mr. Barbour, seconded by Mr. Reid, that the third con. of Lot No. 56 be divided into two lots, for the purpose of appointing pathmasters, poundkeepers, and fenceviewers, and other business. Wm. TYLEN, P. Clerk.

Esqueving Council.

The Council met at Stewarttown on the 28th ult. all the members being present. The minutes of last meeting were then read and confirmed; also a circular from the Treasurer of Ontario relating to the Tavern Licenses, and also a letter from Mr. S. H. McNaughton declining to serve as Assessor for Divisions 1, 3 and 4, of Esqueving, owing to ill health. Moved by Mr. McEnery, seconded by Mr. Wrigglesworth, that the following sums be paid by the Treasurer to the undersigned parties for losses sustained in their monthly meetings, to-wit: Mrs. Bauger, one sheep killed, \$5.00; Neil Keith, \$5.33; J. McPherson, \$4.05. Moved by Mr. Warren, seconded by Mr. Lindsay, that leave be granted to introduce a By-law to limit the number of Tavern and Shop Licenses to be granted in this Municipality, and that said By-law be read the first time. Carried. Moved by Mr. McEnery, seconded by Mr. Lindsay, that four dollars and fifty cents be paid by the Treasurer to Richard Britton for stonework and culverts to Wm. Pepton, Pathmaster. Carried. Moved by Mr. Lindsay, seconded by Mr. Warren, that there shall be more than two shop licenses in this Municipality, and that the sum to be paid for a Shop License shall be two hundred dollars, and that the holder of such License shall not be allowed to carry on any other business, trade, or calling on the premises for which such License may be granted. Carried. Moved by Mr. Wrigglesworth, seconded by Mr. McEnery, that the By-law to limit the number of Tavern Licenses in Esqueving be 13, and that the sum to be paid be at the rate of \$60 up to the 1st of May 1877, and that the By-law be read the second and third times and passed.—Lost. Moved in amendment by Mr.

Warren, seconded by Mr. Lindsay, that the sum to be paid for a Tavern License in the Municipality of Esqueving for the year commencing the first of May next, shall be \$65, and that the By-law be filled up accordingly.—Carried. On motion of Mr. McEnery, seconded by Mr. Warren, leave was granted to introduce a By-law to amend By-law No. 277 appointing two Assessors for the Township. Said By-law was duly read and passed. Moved by Mr. Lindsay, seconded by Mr. Wrigglesworth, that the accounts of the Municipality for the year 1876 be audited by passed by this Council, and that 250 copies be printed for distribution.—Carried. Moved by Mr. Warren, seconded by Mr. Wrigglesworth, that the accounts of the Municipality for the year 1876 be audited by passed by this Council, and that 250 copies be printed for distribution.—Carried. Moved by Mr. Warren, seconded by Mr. Wrigglesworth, that the Treasurer be authorized to pay Mr. Jernamial Kentner \$3 for work in keeping open the town line between Erin and Osnaburg, on the condition that the Township of Erin pay an equal amount.—Carried. The Council then adjourned till Friday, 14th April. J. McRARRY, Clerk.

Thirty-five members of the Ontario Bar have been appointed Queen's Council, and those who were appointed some years ago by the Dominion Government have now received from the Lieutenant Governor the same rank in Provincial Courts. Daniel Drew of New York has suspended payment. His liabilities exceed \$1,500,000. He lately endowed two colleges to the extent of \$350,000, but this money has not been secured to them. G. M. Scott keeps a splendid stock of Green, Black and Japan Tea. A little daughter of Mr. Chas. Arkell, one of the proprietors of Arkell's woollen factory, in Puffin, when she by accident fell against and was caught in the machinery. Her injuries were principally confined to the right arm, which was so crushed that it had to be amputated. Since the operation the child, who is only about five years old, has been progressing favorably. It is believed that Hon. W. Macdougall, who has been at Ottawa for nearly two weeks, is looking after his "claim" of \$2,500 or \$3,000 or so, for his "efforts" in Scandinavia and elsewhere on behalf of immigration to this country. He has not yet got the money.

DEATHS. In Nassauway, on the 13th inst., the wife of Henry Carrill, of a daughter. MARRIED. On Wednesday, the 15th inst., at Maple Ridge, Acton, by Rev. W. Caldwell, Mr. John D. Kirkwood, of Erin, to Miss Anne, daughter of Duncan McDonald, Esq., of Esqueving. On Thursday, the 16th inst., at Erin, by Rev. L. B. Howard, Mr. George William Minto, of Esqueving, to Miss Margaret Stuart, of same place. DIED. At Acton, March 11th, of heart disease, Mary Marinda, aged 77 years 11 months and 22 days, daughter of David and Phoebe Ryder. As a child from its bowler, as a rainbow from its cloud, she has passed away. Spring will call back its little minstrels and the Summer Sun raise its airy arch, but she will come back no more. Her lips are sealed in silence and the Shadow of Death is on her eye-lids. Leaves have their time to fall, and flowers to wither at the north wind's breath, but she is laid to rest, but all. Thou hast all seasons for thine own, O Death.

EPH'S COCA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicate, flavored beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us, ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure and healthful food and drink. Sold only in packets labeled "JAMES EPPS & CO., Homoeopathic Chemist, 48, Threadneedle Street, and 170, Piccadilly, London."

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NEW BUTCHER SHOP. S. ZIMMERMAN. Would inform the people of Acton and vicinity that he has again commenced the Butchering Business. In this village, and from his long experience in this line he will be able to furnish fresh meats of all kinds of the best quality, nicely and cleanly dressed. Meat delivered at the houses Tuesdays and Saturdays, and a ways on hand at the shop. The patronage of the public is respectfully solicited. S. ZIMMERMAN. Acton, March 15th 1876.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. NEW MEAT SHOP. The undersigned has commenced the Butchering Business. Opposite Alford's Livery Stable, and will keep constantly on hand Fresh and Salt Meats, Fish, Fowls and Vegetables, at all seasons of the year. The support of the public is most respectfully solicited. CHEAP FOR CASE. the best plan—so say you all. EDWARD MATTHEWS. Acton, March 15, 1876. 33-34. CHEAP BREAD FOR THE MILLION. B. & E. NICKLIN. Beg to announce that they have secured the services of a First-Class Baker, and that their Baking business is now in full operation, in the premises owned by Mrs. Hanna. Bread will be delivered daily at the houses in the village and vicinity. Wedding Cakes, Tea Cakes, Pastry, Buns, &c., made in the very best manner, and kept always on hand, good and fresh. Also all kinds of Confectionery, Biscuits, Cakes, &c. The patronage of the public is respectfully solicited. B. & E. NICKLIN. Acton, Feb. 29, 1876. SPECTACLES of the best quality at 50 Cents, 75 Cents, \$1.00, \$2.50, \$3.50. Received at PRINCIPLE'S Jewelry Store Guelph, Feb. 27, 1876.

NEW SPRING GOODS.

RECEIVED THIS WEEK AT G. M. SCOTT'S STORE, ACTON. The Largest, Choicest and Cheapest Stock of PRINTS, DRESS GOODS, Cottonados, Plain and Checked Ducks, Cotton Shirtings, Gents' White Dress Shirts, Corsets, Knitting and Crochet Cotton, Fancy Goods, Trimmings, &c.

These Goods were bought with great care in the best markets for Cash, and owing to the stringency in the money market, AT AN UNUSUALLY LOW FIGURE. They will be sold at from 5 to 10 per cent less than Guelph prices. Call and inspect Goods and Prices before going elsewhere. Don't forget the place—Middely's Old Stand, opposite Agnew's Hotel, Main Street, Acton. G. M. SCOTT. Acton, March 14, 1876.

NEW SPRING TWEEDS.

JUST ARRIVED A FINE LOT OF Spring and Summer Suitings, which will be sold Cheap, especially to Cash Buyers. We are noted for Fashionable and Durable Goods.

DICKSON & McNAB. Acton, March 15, 1876.

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