Acton Free Press
JOS. H. HACKING EDITOR.
THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 24, 1876.

THE WHITESIDE MURDER.

Of all the atrocious murders that have been committed in Canada during the past few months, perhaps the most diabolical of any was that committed in Esquesing, about six miles from Acton, last Sunday night. No words of ours can fitly describe the sickening sight that presented itself early on Monday morning on the farm of Mr. Robt. Whiteside, or the feeling of indignation aroused by the thought of the utter depravity that must have existed in the breast of the cowardly assassin who imbrued his evil hand in the blood of the poor decrepid old man. In looking for a motive for the committal of so villainous a deed, few could entertain the thought that it was from a spirit of revenge. The object was evidently of a much more diabolical character, the perpetrator, whoever he may be, most probably having in view prospective as well as immediate gain from the death of his victim, not being content to wait his removal in the ordinary course of nature, although he had already exceeded by several years the allotted span of three score years and ten. The only circumstance which may render the deed less horrible in the minds of the community is the well-known miserly and otherwise peculiar character of the victim. For fifty years he has resided on the property, on which he met his death. It is a square block of wooded land comprising four hundred acres, being lots 30 and 31 in the 7th concession of Esquesing, which he has long owned free of encumbrance. In a little log cabin, in the midst of the woods—only some ten acres being cleared—he has brought up a family of ten children on the most absolute and barest necessities, at times almost on the verge of starvation. He has perversely refused to allow any but a very small proportion of the property to be cleared and cultivated, being possessed with the insane delusion that it was more profitable to keep the trees standing till they could be sold at a very high price for timber and cordwood. On this subject he became a perfect monomaniac, and was in the constant practice of wandering about in the night-time to see that no one was stealing his precious wood or tanbark. This habit and his extreme penuriousness have no doubt led to his violent death. The work on the farm has always been so trifling that the children gradually fell into idle and careless habits; and not having been brought up to any regular home employment at which they might earn a respectable living, they were no doubt only too glad to leave home as soon as they were able to secure employment elsewhere. A feeling of disrespect for the "old man" seems to have taken possession of the whole family from the oldest to the youngest, although they all appear to be naturally of a cheerful and pleasant disposition. We remarked this, both at the house and during their examination at the inquest. The eldest son left home some years ago, and is believed to be living somewhere in Michigan; the eldest daughter is married to a respectable farmer in the neighborhood; the second daughter Mary, has been out at service most of the time the past few years; and the son Henry who is about 22 years of age, has been "hanging around" various places in the neighborhood, sometimes around home, but generally around Georgetown, having no regular employment; two younger boys aged 15 and 13, have been doing occasional jobs for neighboring farmers. Thus it will be seen that instead of clearing up his farm and having it properly cultivated, and living in contentment and happiness in his old age, he has not only shortened his own life, but has probably been the means of destroying the present happiness and future prosperity of his children.

This lesson might well be taken to heart by a great many of our Canadian farmers. If less attention were given to the hoarding of property to be bequeathed to future generations, and more attention given to cultivating the affections and respect of their children, much greater pleasure would be sure to be realized in their declining years. Old Mr. Whiteside could have had neither present nor prospective pleasure in depriving his children of a respectable living, in order to hoard up money and property for the future. He could only have thus acted to gratify the perversity of his sordid nature, the result of which we now witness in his tragic end.

HORRID MURDER IN ESQUESING.

ROBERT WHITESIDE, A WELL-KNOWN OLD-SETTLER, FOUND DEAD ON HIS OWN FARM.

His Skull Horribly Smashed with an Axe.

THE MIDNIGHT ASSASSIN SUSPECTED, BUT NOT YET CONVICTED.

THE DEED ENSHROUDED IN MYSTERY.

SAD END OF A WEALTHY MISER.

In order to give our readers at a distance a clear idea of the locality of the murder, we may say that the Whiteside property is situated about six miles from Acton, near the north-eastern corner of the township of Esquesing, along the gravel road leading to Erin, and within a short distance of Ballinafad. It comprises 400 acres, nearly all covered with hardwood timber. On arriving in front of the property, we had difficulty in finding the road leading to the house, which is situated near the centre of the block of land. Being directed to what looked like a bypath, we drove through the woods for nearly half a mile before discovering anything resembling a habitation. Hitching our horse to a tree, we went over towards the little log building which had done duty as a family residence for many years. Here we found Coroner Freeman Dr. McGarvin, the editor of the Georgetown *Herald*, and several of the neighbors. The jury had already been sworn in, taken a view of the body, and adjourned till afternoon. Dr. McGarvin was preparing to commence the *post mortem* examination. The body lay stretched on a board under the shade of some trees where it had been carried from the spot on which it was first discovered. The head presented a sickening sight, the top and side being literally mashed to fragments, with the black, clotted blood oozing out through the matted hair. A clearing away of the blood and hair revealed the ugly gashes in all their hideousness. While the operation was going on we took observation of the surroundings. Leading from the house to the wheat field about 150 yards distant, is a well-beaten path through a straggling, badly-neglected orchard and a small barren field. All around is dense woods. Close beside this path, about two-thirds of the distance from the house to the field, the dead body was first discovered by Mrs. Whitesides and one of her younger sons, who had gone out with a lamp a little after midnight, in search of her missing husband. The following diagram will illustrate the position:

THE INQUEST.

At 2 o'clock p.m., the following jurymen assembled at Clark's hotel, Silver Creek, and answered to their names:

David Cook, foreman, Matthew Boomer, David Henderson, John Wright, Albert Appleyard, John Appleyard, Thomas Price, James Clark, Hugh Duff, Joseph Clark, Elias Clark, George Murray, and James Fitts.

The first witness examined was Henry Cole, owner of the farm adjoining the deceased's. He testified that about ten minutes before five o'clock Monday morning he was awakened by a rapping at the door, and Mary Whiteside calling out that her father was dead. Got up and went immediately to Whiteside's, with his eldest boy; George Campbell had arrived there before; went down the path from deceased's house about 120 yards, to where the body lay dead. An axe was lying beside him. Did not disturb anything. Other neighbors arrived shortly after. Mrs. Whiteside told me that she was aroused about the middle of the night by the barking of the dogs; that the deceased got up and went out to see what was the matter, thinking cattle had got into wheat field; that after he went out, she lay down, and dozed off, but shortly after waked up and called to him, but got no answer; went to his bed and not finding him there she felt alarmed and roused the boys; lit a lamp and went down the path with her son Johnny; that they found the deceased lying close to the path with an axe lying beside him; they saw blood around his head and neck, and immediately ran back to the house, crying out that he was dead.

George Campbell, owner of the farm opposite to deceased's, testified that a little after 4 o'clock Monday morning, Mary Whiteside came and rapped at his window. She said her pa was dead. Asked who—she replied Mr. Whitesides. I told her to go and call Mr. Cole. I went over as soon as I got dressed. Mrs. Whiteside with her son William and younger children went down the path to within five or six feet of corpse; saw the axe; said "sure enough its a murder—as his head is split open." Saw no tracks; went back to the house till Mr. Cole came; lifted the axe, but did not examine it carefully; did not touch the body; Mr. Cole laid his hand on hip; heard Henry Whiteside was with Jeremiah Thompson and Robert McLaughlin yesterday evening; recognize axe in court as the same I saw this morning beside the body; saw Mr. Whiteside last alive two weeks ago; first time saw Henry for past two weeks was this morning with Constable Hays; from appearance of wounds on head concluded at once that he was murdered with the axe.

Catherine Whiteside, wife of deceased, who is an intelligent, respectable looking woman of about 60 years of age, gave a very clear and concise statement of the occurrence. Being sworn, she said she was awakened about midnight by the barking of the dogs; raised out of bed and went to the door. One dog barked very wicked, and would run out a piece from the door and back again repeatedly. Thought I saw some one moving about amongst the trees in the orchard. I said "seek him, boy, take hold." After a little I came in and bolted the door. He (Whiteside) said, "doesn't the dog bark wicked! wouldn't it be a terrible thing if the cattle should break in and destroy the grain"; as I laid down he was getting up; I said to him, "you oughtn't to go, I'm afraid somebody is there." As he was going out he said, "Isn't it a poor case that I have neither an ax nor pitchfork to take." To the best of my knowledge, I must have slept after he went out a short time. I rose up and found him not in bed, did not hear him come in; I said to my daughter, "Mary, your father is not in yet." I went to the door again and

CALLED SEVERAL TIMES;

lit the lamp; says to Mary "isn't it strange he stays so long; but it was nothing strange as he often had went before looking after tracks of people stealing wood or bark." Proposed to go out; went to door of shed where boys were sleeping on the hay, rapped, but got no answer. Johnny, Willie and Benny were sleeping there. I returned and sat down on a chair two or three minutes, then went up stairs, to a hole in side of house that goes into shed where boys were sleeping; put my hands through hole and rapped against siding to wake boys, and called "Johnny"—no answer, then called "Willie"—says "don't raise me, call Johnny, for I have to go to Nixon's to-morrow." Johnny got up and came through this hole and came down stairs. Johnny says "I'll call." He called, and then I called him. Took lamp in my hand and we both went out in the direction of the wheat field—went out to the outer edge of orchard. Johnny called again and I called too. Says I'll call as loud as I am able. Deceased was hard of hearing. Started down the path to the wheat field, lamp in hand, Johnny followed, dog a little ahead, wagging his tail. When close to the body, I exclaimed,

"O, LORD HE IS DEAD!"

I saw the axe lying beside him. Thought at the time that the axe was his own. Did not stay a minute—went back screaming towards the house. Met Mary part way to the house. Children had the door bolted as they thought a bear had come at us. After being in the house a short while, Johnny says, "Ma, shall I go for somebody?" We were afraid to allow him to go, as it was dark. Did not know he was murdered. After a while I was anxious to go down to find out if he was murdered, but the boys rebelled against me going, saying "O, ma, don't." Thought we would wait till break of day. Waited about two hours. We have no clock. Told Mary to go to Geo. Campbell's and then to Henry Cole's, and to get Henry Cole's boys to go over to 6th line to tell Peter Coles and Mr. Cook. Geo. Campbell was first to arrive. He and I went down to where the body lay. I said "George, is it murder?" He said it was, as his skull was split open and brains protruding. I went to bed last night, about dark. Think I had been sleeping three or four hours. Heard no other noise except dogs barking; little dog was most wicked, the big dog would not be likely to be very cross with any one with whom he was acquainted, was generally friendly except to strangers. Mrs. Cooper was at our house yesterday evening—left little before dark. Johnny, Willie, Mary, George Thomas, Hannah Jane, Benjamin, myself, and Mr. Whiteside were at home yesterday.

HENRY WAS ALSO AROUND HOME,

but went away about five or six o'clock. Did not come back after that. Don't know where he has been living. He is past 21 years of age. Don't know what he has been doing lately. Did not ask him. Dressed in dark pants, dark coat, drab hat, dark vest. Don't think he had much clothes but what he had on. Has been doing nothing for us this summer. Mr. Whiteside had some money, all in his pants pocket. Best of my opinion ch had between $80 and $100. Do not recognize the old axe as ours. Best of my knowledge don't think it is ours. The other axe might be ours, but would not swear to it. Nothing new for the dogs to bark. Mrs. Cooper had been telling us about the frequent murder, and I was little nervous. Soon as I came to, after sleeping awhile, I felt anxious to know whether he (deceased) had come in. It was usual for him to go out at night, to look after the crop and prevent anybody stealing the timber. The deceased and Henry have not had any dispute lately, to my knowledge. Best of my knowledge, Henry came home on Saturday night and stopped all day Sunday. I remarked to my husband that he better not go out as I thought somebody was outside. He made

NO WILL LATELY THAT I KNOW OF.

Don't think the dogs would bark if Henry came in at night. Henry has one or two flannel shirts and three or four other ones. Have not washed for him for a few weeks. Had on a white and red checked flannel shirt on Sunday. Heard him come in Saturday night when I was in bed; he raised window and pushed back bolt of door. Had on white shirt when he went away last week. Henry took away a note a short time ago, that I was keeping for him; it was against Thos. Ryter, think for $25; three or four weeks ago. Gave him a trifle of money now and again. It was Mr. Whiteside's usual practice to keep his money in his pants pocket—right hand side.

Mary Whiteside, daughter of deceased, a rather pleasant and intelligent looking girl of about 18 years of age, being sworn, said the first thing I heard was my mother up and the dogs barking. Mother told father she thought somebody was there; he said perhaps cattle were getting into the grain; he got up to go out; he told us not to go for fear somebody was there; he generally kept an axe or a pitchfork at his bedside; think it was about one or two o'clock. After father had been out awhile, mother proposed to go out, and I said I would go with her. She said I was not to go, as I was not very strong. She would waken the boys. Father was frequently in the

HABIT OF GOING OUTSIDE AT NIGHT.

Johnny got up and went outside with mother. After they were out a little while I heard them screaming; jumped up and ran out to meet them. Willie and George also went with me. I hollored to ma, "what is the matter?" she answered "pa was dead." Think we waited about two hours till daylight. Mother wanted to go down, but we were afraid to let her out in the dark. Two boys and myself wanted to alarm the neighbors, but ma would not let us. When we saw day breaking, I went over to Mr. Campbell's, and from thence to Mr. Cole's. When I was going back home, saw pa lying dead, Mr. Campbell was then there, and shortly after Mr. Cole and his son Henry. Johnny was sent over to Peter Cole's and Mrs. Cook's, and John Whitesides. Father, mother, John, William, George Thomas, Benjamin, Jennie and myself were in house last night. I was there in the forenoon till about noon; went away and returned about dark. Harry came home Saturday night, and was there on Sunday morning. He went over to John Whitesides before I left. Did not see him again till to-day. Harry had on same clothes as now. I have been at home the past two weeks; do not always live at home. I don't remember of his being at home last week, except on Wednesday. Don't know what he was doing all summer. Don't know how he got his clothes. Has had his present suit since last fall. Think he generally staid at Mr. Cole's, in Georgetown.

HAD SUSPICIONS OF THE MURDERER.

Party suspected was getting gray; don't know his age; a single man. The little dog did all the barking; the large dog generally barks most when strangers are around. Think the person here last night must have been acquainted with the dogs. Father was vexed at the person we have suspicions of. Have always had a bad opinion of this person. Think brother John saw and spoke to this person to-day. Nearly all the neighbors came this morning except this person; he lives about one mile away.

HE DID NOT COME TO OUR HOUSE TO-DAY.

Think he is between 50 and 60 years of age. Some time last May father went to a magistrate to try to get Harry prevented from coming on the premises as he was an annoyance to him. Sometimes they had angry words but never abused each other. The reason the fork was not at the bedside as usual last night, was because Thos. Ryter had borrowed it.

John Whiteside, son of deceased, a bright lad of about 15 years, sworn, said about middle of night I heard dogs barking. After awhile father got up and he went down to see the wheat. While he was out I heard him haloo once, and afterwards heard him call again. Fell asleep again. After awhile, mother called me. I got up and went down with my mother. As we were about half way to where father lay, the big dog took up one path towards the fence and the other dog went towards where my father was lying. Big dog came to the patch and joined the little dog, the two dogs then went on towards the spot, one of them wagging his tail. I didn't go within three feet of the body. Thought it was about one o'clock. We all sat up till daylight. I did not have any suspicion until this morning. The man that lives at John Whiteside's

DID NOT COME OVER.

He generally comes over when Whiteside comes. His name is James Shirkey. When I told John Whiteside that I thought father was murdered, he did not appear astonished. When we were coming over, I said to John Whiteside,

"SURELY HARRY WOULDN'T BE BAD ENOUGH TO DO IT,"

John says, "O, you don't know." This was between four and five o'clock, just break of day. Came home through the bush with John Whiteside. All the strangers there were John Cole and Thos. Cook, when I came back. Sister Mary went over to Mr. Campbell's and Mr. Cole's. My brother Henry went away about dark Sunday evening. He came on Saturday evening, after I was in bed; slept with me. Stayed all day Sunday, except when we went over to Peter Cole's, with Harry, and Peter Cole's son Francis. Henry has not been doing anything lately. I was away all last week, working at Mr. Cook's. Father said on Sunday, to Henry, "Have you come here again?" He did not like Henry

BECAUSE HE DON'T WORK.

Henry had a note against Thomas Ryter for $25, which mother had been keeping for him. He took it away a short time ago—about two weeks ago. Father always carried his money in a bag in his pocket. Thought he had between $80 and $100. Got some not long ago from Mr. Hall, in Acton, for tan bark. We have three axes with handles. The rusty axe present is not ours—am positive. Other axe is ours know it by iron wedge.

HAD SUSPICION OF SHIRKEY,

when I told John Whiteside—from his actions. Also thought John knew something about it. Shirkey had not been at our place to my knowledge since June when he was peeling bark. He cut down a white ash tree, and father scolded him. Shirkey has been working for John Whiteside part of last winter, and all this summer. John Whiteside knew that father had money. Harry said to me this morning, "Didn't some of the Acton folks think it was me did it?" I replied that "I thought they did." He did not tell me what to say to-day, only to tell the truth, and to be very careful. My brother Henry had on a flannel shirt yesterday, with white front over it. Think he has two or three white shirts and a couple of flannel ones. The dogs don't generally follow my father. Don't think they followed him last night.

William Whiteside, brother of last witness, aged about 13 years, being sworn, corroborated his brother's statement in most of the particulars; he further stated that a few weeks ago, Shirkey told me that

HE HAD BEEN SENTENCED TO PENITENTIARY FOR 10 YEARS,

but got off with five years, that he might do something to get in again. Think it was in the States for committing an obscene act. Another cause of suspicion was that the big dog would have bitten a stranger. Harry and my father had not been on good terms lately. Heard Harry speaking of my father making a will. Heard Harry say that it did not cost his father a thought whether he would leave him anything or not. Heard my father say that he would leave $100 a piece to John, myself, Benjamin and Thomas.

James Fraser, photographer, of Georgetown, sworn. Saw Harry Whiteside about 15 minutes past 3 o'clock this morning. Came to Mr. Cole's house and asked to be let in. I got up and let him in. Said he had been sleeping in the photograph gallery for a while but got so cold that he couldn't stand it, and wanted to get to bed. Said he had come down from Silver Creek with parties that were going to thrash. He was dressed in same clothes he has on to-day. Had on a flannel shirt with linen front. Has been accustomed to come in at all hours.

Robert McLachlin sworn. I came down to Silver Creek about 8 o'clock last evening. Jeremiah Thompson was with me. Saw Harry Whiteside here. Stayed till ten or eleven. Had no conversation with Whiteside. Don't know whether he went away before or after we left.

Jeremiah Thompson, sworn, came down to Silver Creek last evening. Met Harry Whiteside here. Had no conversation with him. Don't know whether Harry was here when we left or not.

Adam Cook and David Hill were each examined concerning the losing of an ax. Neither of them could identify the one in court. Had never seen it before to-day.

John Whiteside, about 45 years of age, nephew of the deceased, was sworn. He said, the boy Johnny came to my house about five o'clock Went over with him and saw my uncle dead. Johnny Cole and Tom Cook were there, and the two boys and my aunt. Martha McDade is boarding at my place. James Shirkey has been working for me since Spring—did not give him any wages except board until the harvest commenced; hired him for two months. In July he was peeling bark for my uncle. James Shirkey was asleep on his settle bed on the stoop about 10 o'clock last night. He was up in the morning before me; he might have got up a dozen times through the night without my knowledge. Think he has no money. Age about 60 years. He often told me

HE HAD BEEN IN STATES PRISON.

Had been sentenced for ten years, but got off for five. I don't pay any attention to what he says. Remember one of the boys asking him one day what he was put in for, he said, "for a girl scrape." Heard him once say "Robert Whiteside had a big roll of money, and it would be a good job for somebody to take it from him, and

KNOCK HIM IN THE HEAD."

He said he would make Whiteside pay a quarter for cutting down the white ash tree. I have one ax and Jimmy Shirkey has one. Swore positively he had never seen either axes produced, before. Sometimes got a loan of money from my uncle. Hauled bark for him this summer and he paid me. Shirkey worked all day Saturday getting in peas, and was lying under the appletrees all day Sunday. When I heard of the occurrence this morning, I asked Shirkey to come over, he replied,

"WHAT BUSINESS HAVE I TO GO?"

Uncle and I had a conversation 3 months ago about his making a will. He told me he would divide the property between the four younger boys. Harry never came to my place since last spring.

Henry Whiteside, son of deceased, nearly 22 years of age, sworn, said that the first he heard of his father's death was a little after 8 o'clock this (Monday) morning, in Mr. Cole's house at Georgetown. I was first told of it by Johnny Cole. I replied "Surely not" and was greatly surprised. He said I had better go home and see about it. I went and washed myself, and got dressed, and started towards home; got a ride part of the way with Mr. Sterret. I was at home Saturday night. On Sunday afternoon went down to David Cook's with Mr. Cole's boys and my younger brothers; we went to get some wild plums; got tea about 5 o'clock; after that fooled around with the boys. Mr. Cole's boys hollored after me. Fell in with Thompson and McLaughlin at the old toll house, and rode with them to Silver Creek, where I staid about three hours. Was talking to Richard Hill and Robt. Storey of Acton. Rode to the railway track with a thresher named Murray; went down railway track to Georgetown. Went into Fraser's gallery, took off my coat and boots and laid down on the carpet, about two or three hours; being cold, I got up and went to Cole's house and woke up Jimmy Fraser, who came and opened the door for me. Told him I was cold. We fooled around together in the bedroom, and then went to bed. When I went home this morning my brother said he thought it was no one else than Jimmy Shirkey that committed the murder. Two years ago last winter I cut cordwood for my father, and sometimes split rails. Have not done anything particular at home lately. Odd chores occasionally. Father kept grumbling about scarcity of money, and was continually urging the family to live sparingly, for the money would not last. I have not paid anything for board this summer. Sold a horse to Thos Ryter for $25; got horse for watch and $20 in money. Note was due last fall. Gave note a few weeks ago to James Wetherell as security for a few dollars borrowed.

N. McGarvin, M. D., testified that he had held a post mortem examination of the body of the deceased Robert Whiteside, and found two very large contusions of the skull and several smaller wounds as if produced with the back of an axe or other heavy instrument; the principal fracture was on the back of the skull near the top; sufficient to cause instant death There was no doubt that death was caused by some powerful weapon in the hands of some person or persons other than the deceased.

Robert Webster, sworn, said that on Sunday evening, between 9 and 10 o'clock, he gave Henry Whiteside a ride on his wagon, from Silver Creek tavern to the old toll house near Georgetown.

This concluded the evidence for the present. It being after midnight, Coroner Freeman resolved to adjourn further inquiry till five o'clock Thursday evening. In the meantime the constable was ordered to take charge of Henry Whiteside and keep him under arrest. Bail was refused.

We learn that on Tuesday James Shirkey was also arrested on suspicion.

Sheriff Grange died at his residence in Guelph, last Sunday, at the age of 67 years. He had held the position of Sheriff of Wellington County since July 1840. His funeral on Tuesday was very largely attended. It is rumored that Peter Gow, M. P. is likely to succeed to the Shrievalty.

It is probable that the events of the next few days will determine important matters in connection with the Servian War. The Servians hold a strong position among their native mountains, but are literally beseiged by the armies of the Sultan. Mediation failing, a bloody battle must soon be fought. The position of Russia still seems to cause some uneasiness among the Powers.

A New Hair Tonic Worth Having—It is the Best.

Wood's Improved Hair Restorative is unlike any other, and has no equal. The Improved has new vegetable tonic properties; restores grey hair to a glossy natural color; restores faded, dry, harsh and falling hair; restores, dresses, gives vigor to the hair; restores hair to prematurely bald heads; removes dandruff, humors, scaly eruptions; removes irritation, itching and scaly dryness. No article produces such wonderful effects. Try it, call for Wood's Improved Hair Restorative, and don't be put off with any other article. Sold by all druggists in this place and dealers everywhere. Trade supplied at manufacturers' prices by C. A. Cook & Co., Chicago, Sole Agents for the United States and Canada, and by LYMAN BROS. & Co., Toronto.

The Great Powers are represented to have made proposals of peace to Servia yesterday.

The oil trade of Western Ontario is reported to be improving.

For some time past the average gate receipts of the Centenial Exhibition have been $28,000 daily.

A slight frost was noticed in several places in New York State and Canada on Sunday night.

The British Columbia papers of the latest dates are much taken up with the preparations making for the reception of the Governor-General.

The Listowel Council has decided to submit a by-law to raise $12,000 for the purchase of a market. The site will also be left to the people.

On Sunday night twenty-eight stores and fourteen dwellings were destroyed by fire in the village of Brussels, on the southern extension of the Wellington, Grey and Bruce Railway. Loss $100,000.

The mile race between Wood, of Galt, and Raine, of Ottawa, on Saturday afternoon at Ottawa, was won by Raine in four minutes and thirty-eight seconds.

On Saturday evening in Montreal a Miss Pitts, aged fifteen, while sitting working at a sewing machine, was accidently killed by the discharge of a revolver in the hands of a son of the late Joseph Beaudry.

Mr. Venner predicted that Sunday would be the hottest day of season. It proved the coldest, and overcoats were freely used at night.

A child in Hull, about eighteen months old, while sleeping, on Saturday, with one arm stretched out over the side of the cradle, in which position it became numb, had the flesh of the four fingers and thumb completely eaten off by a rat, leaving the bones bare up to the second joint.

Mr. McMullen of Pacific Scandal fame, has purchased the Chicago *Post* and *Mail*. Mr McMullen becomes the political editor of the paper.

The destruction of property in the Dominion by fire on Tuesday was unusually great. A child was burned in Owen Sound, and a young lady in Arkona died from the effects of a nervous shock, occasioned by a fire in that village.

The *Monetary Times* is informed that travellers on the road are finding buyers exceedingly cautious just now. In some instances especially in the case of Montreal houses, travellers have been recalled rather than have their time wasted in fruitless efforts to make sales.

McNAIR'S

BRICK BLOCK

Is now progressing rapidly, and the

GOODS

In the present store

Must be all cleared out

Within the

NEXT FEW WEEKS

We don't want to

MOVE AWAY

Any of our

Present Stock.

Things must be sold at any price.

NOW FOR BARGAINS

Such as never before heard of.

D. McNAIR.

Acton, Aug. 2, 1876.

ACTON

Fruit Bazaar.

GEO. LEVENS

Begs to announce to the people of Acton that he has opened out in the building lately occupied by Geo. Stoddard, on the corner of Mill and Elgin streets, where will be found at all times all kinds of

Canned Fruits, Candies, Oranges, Lemons, Tobaccos, Cigars, Summer Drinks, etc.

Water and Musk Melons, Tomatoes, etc., on hand.

A BARBER SHOP

In connection, where Shaving, Hair-cutting, Shampooning, etc., can be done in the best style of the tonsorial art.

Acton, July 12, 1876.

C. T. HILL,

Mill Street, ACTON,

DEALER IN

Groceries,
Crockery,
Boots & Shoes,
Wall Paper,
Window Blinds,
Nails, Glass, Putty,
Linseed Oil,
Paints, Turpentine,
Coal Oil, Salt, etc.

All of which will be sold low for cash.

BOOTS and SHOES

Selling off at cost.

Also agent for the

RUBBER PAINT COMPANY

Of Cleveland, Ohio.

Cash for Hides.

Acton, July 18, 1876.

REMOVED!

R. CREECH,

SADDLER & HARNESS-MAKER,

Has removed one door west of his old stand, and is now prepared to turn out work, which for

NEATNESS, CHEAPNESS AND DURABILITY

cannot be surpassed by any house in the county.

Harness of all Kinds

supplied on the shortest possible notice, and warranted to give perfect satisfaction.

As he is doing business principally on the Cash System, he is prepared to sell cheaper than ever.

Give him a call and be convinced that this is the right place.

June 28, 1876. R. CREECH, Acton.

STEAM

Carriage & Wagon

WORKS,

Main Street, - Acton.

MICHAEL SPEIGHT,

General Blacksmith, Carriage and Wagon-maker.

Best Horse-Shoers in the County.

Perfect satisfaction guaranteed or no price charged.

First-Class Plows and Collard's Patent Iron Harrows always on hand.

A good stock of Carriages and Wagons.

Repairing promptly and properly attended to.

Acton, July 18, 1876.

NOTICE TO FARMERS.

Having purchased the threshing and sawing machines lately owned by Messrs. J. & A. Mann, with the understanding that they did not intend carrying on the business, and having got the machines put in good repair, I am prepared to receive orders from farmers for threshing and sawing. I have secured the services of a first-class thresher of seventeen years' experience, and can guarantee satisfaction in all cases. The patronage of the farmers respectfully solicited.

DONALD McDONALD,
Lot No. 30, 4th con. Esquesing
July 19, 1876. 3-4t