

THE ACTON FREE PRESS

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Acton Free Press

J. H. HACKING, Editor

THURSDAY MORNING, OCT. 26, 1876.

No further developments of importance respecting the Eastern question have transpired since our last issue. Our day's news has an extremely warlike aspect, while on the following day we are almost led to believe that the elements of danger have been nearly wiped out by a peaceful solution of the difficulties. And so it goes, from day to day.

Another Word about our Station and its Approaches

First impressions of persons and places are generally permanent. Be they favorable or unfavorable is of considerable importance. A stranger on first setting foot in a village or town, usually makes a mental estimate of its inhabitants from the surroundings. If things appear neat and tidy with evidence of thrift and prosperity, his first impressions are favorable, and he is more than likely to estimate accordingly. But, if, on the other hand, he finds obstacles in the shape of bad roads, filthy streets, ill kept walks, and a general appearance of slovenliness, he is at once thrown into bad humor and becomes deeply impressed with the conviction that the people are not of a very desirable class to come in contact with. This observation may serve as a preface to a few words we have to say, in addition to what we said last week, concerning our railway station and its approaches.

A stranger alighting at our station, is struck with the miserable lack of accommodation afforded by the mean little building, and then looking around to find his way down to the cars, he is made diligent search before he can find an outlet through the labyrinth of obstructions. If he goes down the track he does so at the risk of being run over by a train, or of falling into a cattle guard, or of being scalded by the escaping steam of an engine, or of getting drenched by bank drippings, or of having to climb over or crawl under a freight train, before he is able to reach the village sidewalk. But if he jumps off at the end of the station platform and passes through the narrow passage between the new tank and the water closet, he may have to stumble over a pile of wood or sticks of timber, cling to an overhanging stone standing on the switch, wade through several hundred yards of mud, wade under through a series of wood piles, and cross an open culvert, before reaching the sidewalk. By this time his impressions are formed, and it is scarcely to be presumed they are very flattering ones. The beauty of our village is dimmed by the ugliness which meets his vision at first sight. Our authorities are most likely to be blamed, while they are really powerless to remedy the matter, owing to the neglect or carelessness on the part of the railway managers, who own the property complained of. When the difficulties are so great in broad daylight, how much more so must they be in a dark night. Frequent accidents have happened, and it is a wonder that they have not been much more frequent, and of a much more serious nature. We again make it earnest appeal to the railway managers to let us have a radical improvement in the means of getting to and from their station in this village; and if they cannot afford to build a new station, at least let us have the old one enlarged and remodeled. We trust the appeal will not be in vain. If so, why then we suggest a monster petition in behalf of this long-suffering community.

The Governor General's Return. His Excellency the Governor-General returned to Ottawa on Monday. There was a large crowd at the station. Alderman Lessner, on behalf of the Corporation, read an address, testifying to the great pleasure the people of Ottawa felt at His Excellency's return. His Excellency immediately replied in his usual happy style. He thanked the citizens of Ottawa very heartily for the enthusiastic reception they had given, and for the kindly terms in which they had spoken in their address of him and Lady Dufferin. He referred to his visit to British Columbia and to the incidents of his sojourn at the Pacific, and expressed the hope that his expedition would not be without effect in ameliorating the feelings that had unfortunately arisen in that section of the Dominion in connection with the Pacific Railway. His Excellency then referred to his visit to the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia, and expressed his high admiration at what he had seen of it. He spoke warmly of the success that had been achieved by Canada and other colonies as well as by the manufacturers of Great Britain and Ireland, in their competition with other countries.

HALTON COUNTY COUNCIL.

The County Council met on Thursday, 12th inst. Present: Messrs. Barber, Clay, Clements, McHenry, McGavin, Young, Robinson, Menzies, Foster, Warren, Buck, Menzies, Warden in the chair. Minutes of last meeting read.

The first matter under consideration was the bill of expenses in the suit against the H. & N. W. R., amounting in all to \$370. Referred to finance committee.

The next matter was the C.V.R. debentures. The Warden read correspondence which had passed between himself and the officers of the board, concerning the \$75,000 worth of debentures granted by the county as a bonus to the Credit Valley Railway. He had received from the chairman of the Trust Fund a statement to the effect that the debentures realized \$38,404, and that the whole of that amount had been paid out on the certificates of the engineers and expended within the County of Halton.

THE GAOL.

The Warden laid before the Council his report of Mr. Langmuir, Inspector of Asylums and Gaols, which we published last week. He also submitted the following letter received since, from the same gentleman:

Toronto, Oct. 9th, 1876. Sir,—Referring to previous communications I find that pressing engagements will prevent my being present at the County Council on the 12th inst. For the information and guidance of the Council, I beg, however, to submit my views upon the matter in question as follows:—

1st. The narrowness and faulty internal arrangements of the present structure renders reconstruction undesirable if not impossible in compliance with the requirements of this Inspection Act. In addition, the character of the structure prevents classification of the prisoners, the separation of the sexes, and affords means for communicating with each other.

2d. Only one yard is enclosed, and that is so irregular in shape as to be unsafe, and it is, beside, too small for anything but an airing yard for female prisoners.

Under these circumstances, it seems to me that it would be a waste of money to attempt to reconstruct the present building, as it cannot be made, without radical changes, to comply with the law. I therefore recommend that a new gaol be erected providing the following accommodations:—

1st. A two-story stone building, with corridors running lengthwise, the cells being back to back—not less than 20 cells.

2d. A working yard for the male prisoners, and an airing yard for female prisoners, to be enclosed with a stone wall not less than 10 feet high, with a ditch on the outside.

The old building could be used for county offices, goler's and turnkey's rooms, and a prison kitchen and store room.

As soon as a special committee is appointed, I shall be prepared to confer with them as to the details of this plan.

I have the honor, etc., F. W. LANGMUIR, Inspector.

Col. Clay thought the time had now arrived when a new jail was necessary. It need not be an expensive one. It would be advisable to appoint a committee to confer with Mr. Langmuir and settle upon some plan upon which it should be constructed. This committee should always have a high character for morality and the little crime that was committed in it. There was no doubt the railway in course of construction would make a difference in this respect, and the Council would have to be governed by that fact.

Mr. Barber did not see how the Council could enter a defence and still side with the plaintiffs. By permission, Mr. Applebe addressed the Council in explanation of the action taken by the petitioners, stating that the petitioners had no desire to place the Council in opposition to themselves. After considerable further discussion, Mr. Young moved, seconded by Mr. Foster, that the Warden take such legal advice as may be deemed necessary to protect the interests of the county in the suit of W. Y. Pettit et al. vs. H. & N. W. Railway Company.

to comply with the statute. The best course would be to nominate a committee to confer with Mr. Langmuir, and present a report, which the Council was not bound to accept. This was a small county and did not need a large gaol. A gaol suitable for all the purposes required could be built for \$8,000. The accommodation provided now was altogether too good. The gaol was not a terror to evil-doers.

Mr. Young thought the cost would be large. It would have to be built according to government plans, or the council would lose government aid. If the Council would be willing to remove the county seat to the town of Oakville, that municipality was prepared to build a gaol and court house according to government plans, and buy the site not present to the whole to the county free of charge.

The amendment of Mr. Warren was then put and carried, and the further consideration of the matter postponed to next meeting of Council.

TEACHERS' CONVENTION.

Mr. Little, by permission, addressed the Council, and invited members to be present at a meeting of the Teachers' Association on the 28th inst., when the hon. the Minister of Education will be present.

The Warden gave details of the suit of Wm. Y. Pettit and others vs. Corporation of the County of Halton and the H. & N. W. R. Co., in which the plea of the plaintiffs is that the H. & N. W. R. is not now the road that the bonus was granted to—that its consolidation with the H. & L. E. R. annulled the by-law giving the bonus. The question to be considered was, whether the council should defend the suit or not.

Mr. Foster could not see what the parties to the suit had to gain by making the council defendants. As they had been dragged in, he thought the council ought to defend itself.

Mr. Ramsay said the council had always taken the position that the debentures were to be given up when the road was made and ought to be ready to fulfill their agreement; but the object of the parties who brought forward this suit was to escape payment altogether. The question of costs ought to be considered before it was decided to rush into law.

Mr. Warren thought the plaintiffs had a good ground of complaint. The issue raised by them was that the company had broken faith with the people by amalgamating with another company. They were in the right, and the council ought to do nothing to prejudice the case against them.

The Warden said notice had been served upon him calling upon the council, as one of the defendants, to appear, and the question was if this order was not complied with would the county have to pay costs?

Mr. Clay said that at the court which the council would have to attend on the 24th, he believed the plaintiffs would not be able to show any reason for having served their document on the Warden, which they have done. He had no hesitation in stating that when the road was completed to Georgetown the council would have to deliver the debentures, but he would oppose the delivery of all that time. He also said that if the plaintiffs succeeded in relieving the county from their obligations to pay the bonus, he would not throw cold water on their efforts.

Mr. Young thought the council must necessarily become defendants. He also approved of the action taken by W. Y. Pettit et al., and thought the Council should assist them.

Mr. Barber did not see how the Council could enter a defence and still side with the plaintiffs. By permission, Mr. Applebe addressed the Council in explanation of the action taken by the petitioners, stating that the petitioners had no desire to place the Council in opposition to themselves.

After considerable further discussion, Mr. Young moved, seconded by Mr. Foster, that the Warden take such legal advice as may be deemed necessary to protect the interests of the county in the suit of W. Y. Pettit et al. vs. H. & N. W. Railway Company.

Mr. Walde strongly objected to taking the responsibility of such a proceeding. Dr. Buck opposed the motion, and the matter was postponed till the evening session.

On motion of Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. Robinson, it was resolved that the county grant to the Oakville High School be supplemented by such additional sum as will make the whole amount \$500 for the current year. The Finance Committee presented their report, recommending the payment of sundry accounts, totaling \$285.24, which was adopted.

After discussion in committee, Mr. Clements moved, seconded by Dr. McGavin, that Messrs. Warren, Ramsay, Young, Dr. McGavin, and the mover, be a committee to consider the objections to the working of the public school system, and that they report to this council to-morrow morning.

Oct. 13th, 1876. Council resumed, at nine o'clock, a. m. The Warden in the chair. Members present, Messrs. Buck, Clay, Clements, Foster, Menzies, McGavin, Ramsay, Robinson, Warren, Watson, and Young.

Mr. Warren, chairman of the special committee appointed to consider the objections to the working of the public school sections, presented his report, which was read, as follows:

We, your committee, to whom was referred a report presented to the Council, on Education, beg leave to report: 1st.—That the stringency of the programme of studies be relaxed, as far as possible, for the first year of the age of fourteen years, to take up a course of studies suitable to the circumstances. The decision in such cases to be left with the trustees of each school section.

2d.—That the standard of qualifications of third class teachers be made uniform throughout the province, and that such teachers be not compelled to take up second class certificates. Your committee arrive at this opinion on the fact that many good teachers who are well qualified to perform all the duties required of them, and have given satisfactory testimonials, rather than apply for second class certificates, choose to abandon the profession of teaching altogether, thus causing a constant depopulation of the ranks of teachers, and a continued exodus of good teachers, to the great injury of the cause of education.

3d.—That the trustees to employ approved monitors to take charge of certain classes in separate compartments of the school, under the supervision of the teachers in charge.

4th.—That the regulations enforcing school accommodation be enforced, and that the school be regulated by the total number of pupils resident in such sections, be fixed by the highest attendance on any single day in the previous year.

All of which is respectfully submitted. J. WARREN, J. RAMSAY, M. CLEMENTS.

Mr. Warren moved, seconded by Mr. Ramsay, that the report of the Education committee be adopted. —Yes, Messrs. Clements, Ramsay, Watson, Robinson, Foster, Menzies, McGavin, Young, Clay and Buck.—4. The Warden declared the motion carried.

Mr. Clements moved, seconded by Mr. Clay, that it be necessary to provide thirty cords of good, sound hardwood, for the use of the Court House and offices connected therewith, F. McCallum and Joshua Van Allen be authorized to advertise for tenders for the same.—Carried.

Mr. Young moved, seconded by Mr. Foster, that when this council adjourns, it do stand adjourned on Tuesday, the 12th day of December next.—Carried.

Mr. Warren moved, seconded by Mr. Menzies, that the clerk forward a copy of the report of the Special Committee on Education, adopted by this council, to the Minister of Education.—Carried. On motion, council adjourned.

Our School Inspector's recent Visit to the North. We have received a copy of the *Algonia Pioneer* of the 23rd ult., in which we find a leading article on the excellency of the public school system of Canada, referring more particularly to the special efforts that have been made to establish schools in that District, and the growing benefits arising therefrom. Speaking of the recent visits of Mr. Little, of Acton, the *Pioneer* says:—

"Owing in some measure to the wide extent of country embraced in this District, and its scattered population, we have been to the present time without a resident school inspector; and beyond this fact, we have no cause of complaint, as the duties of that office have been faithfully performed by Mr. Little, acting Public School Inspector for the County of Halton, Patry Sound District, and Algoma District, who is now making his second annual official visit to this District. We can only speak in terms of praise of his efficiency and energy, in his desire to make himself fully acquainted with the wants of the people in this direction, and also his anxiety to grant every possible assistance to the feeblest effort put forth in any place by any of our people. With every settlement he appears to be fully acquainted, and if a nucleus for new ones has been formed in any direction, his first effort is to obtain all the information possible connected with it, and at the earliest possible opportunity to visit the locality personally, and thus supply himself with all the facts connected with each separate school section, which can only be done by a personal visit. He speaks very encouragingly of the educational progress of this District, and the reader will be able to draw his own conclusions after reading a record of the school sections formed in the District in another column. From information given us by the Public School Inspector, we find that we have as many legally established schools in operation as the District of Patry Sound, and but for an error on the

part of the people in forming a new section we should have one more than that District. Patry Sound has twenty-four school sections, and Algoma has twenty-five, but one of these was incorrectly formed, and although a teacher had been employed since June last up to the present time, for the above reason it cannot be counted as a legally established school. Efforts are being made at several points to considerably increase the number, and by the Inspector's next visit we hope to be able to report double the number of the present year.

Public School Inspector's Report. The Public School Inspector, R. Little Esq., has kindly furnished us with the following particulars upon this important subject. The attendance of public schools during the present year, is double that of any previous year. The number of School Sections formed and in operation, is likewise double that of last year. On that occasion it was 12 and at the present it is 24. Manitoulin Island, St. Joseph's Island, and the Townships near Sault Ste. Marie, appear particularly active in obtaining proper school accommodation.

Takumah, Shegungwa, and Howland townships, on Manitoulin Island are very anxious and working hard in the matter. Several new Sections have been formed, and others are contemplated as an early date. Killarney has also made a movement in the direction, and has provided a new School House. Largest attendance at schools on Manitoulin Island is in Assiniquage; 2nd Howland; 3rd Shigungwa; 4th Tekumah. Largest attendance in the District, Bruce Mines, (100 daily) 3d largest Shuniah, Thunder Bay; and 3rd Sault Ste. Marie.

It is interestingly hoped that the Teachers, and School Trustees throughout the District, will heartily co-operate with the Inspector, and infuse life and energy into their efforts so that next year may be still more encouraging.—*Algonia Pioneer*.

It is announced that in future the English mail will close on Thursday at 10 p. m., instead of on Friday.

A convulse of Cardinals is expected to be held at Rome within a few days, for the discussion of important questions to be offered by the Congregations.

Burglars have been at work in Wingham, but have met with indifferent success. Seventy-five cents cash is the price of wheat at Wingham.

An old man named Mr. Reid was injured so seriously at Orangeville last week, by runaway horses, that his life is despaired of.

Annual athletic games of Toronto Lacrosse Club take place on Saturday next.

Over twenty thousand names are registered at the Canadian headquarters in Philadelphia, and it is estimated that forty-eight thousand have visited the Centennial Exposition.

The Oakville lock-up and council chamber were burned to the ground on Thursday morning. Set on fire by vagrants.

A farmer named Abel Walper, of Zurich, lately lost \$360 by having it stolen out of the pocket of his coat which he left hanging on a fence near where he was working.

The Police have warned keepers of gambling halls, in Toronto, that they must shut down, or they will be liable to arrest. Most of them have acted on the hint and moved to new quarters.

Mr. John Black, one of the pioneers of Puslinch, died on Friday morning at the age of 77. The deceased gentleman, who was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, emigrated to Canada in 1832, and settled in Puslinch, where he took up land, which he has farmed ever since. He was a stonemason by trade he worked at it for some years, setting in this place and doing very well as the Messrs. Allan's foreman in the erection of the Guelph Court House and other buildings. His sterling character and kind disposition won him a large circle of friends.

Eff's Cocoa.—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. Eff's has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavored beverage which will 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 blood and a properly nourished frame.—*Eff's Cocoa*. Sold only in packets labeled—*JAMES EFF & Co., Homoeopathic Chemist, 48, Threadneedle Street, and 170, Piccadilly, London.*

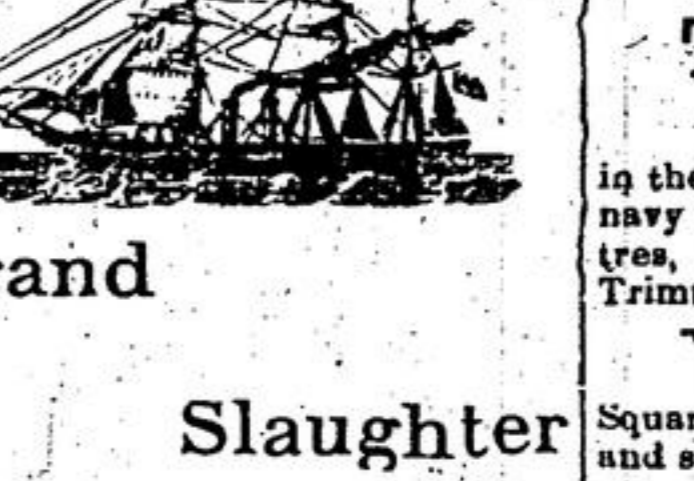
NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. LINCOLN AND LEICESTER SHEEP FOR SALE. The undersigned has several Shearling Rams and Lambs for sale, on his premises at Acton. Some of them have taken prizes at the Exhibitions. Acton, Oct. 16, 1876. C. S. SMITH.

STRAW AND FELT HATS. And made up in the latest style. All orders promptly attended to and satisfaction given in all cases. Residence on Main Street, opposite the Presbyterian Church. MRS. S. L. PETER. Acton, Oct. 11, 1876. 15-5c.

WALKER LODGE No. 321. The Regular Meeting of the above Lodge will be held in the Masonic Hall, Acton, on Monday, Oct. 30th, at 7:30 P.M. JOHN ROSS, Sec.

SUGAR FOUND. On the York Road near Rockwood, recently, a bag containing a quantity of refined sugar, has been discovered on application to the undersigned by proving property and paying charges. WM. GORDON, near Acton. October 25, 1876. 17-3c.

TWO BREEDERS. The pure bred Berkshire Boar "Black Bolt" will be kept for service on the premises of the subscriber, during the season. Terms for the season \$1, strictly cash at the time of service. Black Bolt took a prize at the Guelph Central Exhibition this year. He was bred by Royal Briton, imported by John Snell. A young Boar from the Model Farm, will also be kept for service. ROBERT SIMS, Lot No. 30, 2d con. Esplanade, Acton, Oct. 23, 1876. 17-2m.



Grand Slaughter AND Tumbling Down IN PRICES OF NEW Fall and Winter DRY GOODS

MILLINERY D. McNAIR'S. Terrible Sacrifice. GOODS SOLD AT ANY PRICE. Must be Cleared Out.

Call and See our Goods and Prices. FOR SALE A DESIRABLE PROPERTY IN THE VILLAGE OF ACTON.

THE executors of the estate of the late Samuel Warden, offer for sale that desirable property situated on the corner of Agnes and John streets, consisting of two lots, one of which there is a good frame house and barn, also some fruit trees. For terms apply to JOHN SHAW, JOHN WARREN, Executors. Acton, Sept. 27, 1876. 13-4c.

A CARD.—To all suffering from the effects of colds, coughs, and bronchitis, I would advise you to use my cough lozenges, which will cure you. Price of each box, 25c. Sold by all druggists in South America. Send a self-addressed envelope to J. H. WARDEN, 10, Biltmore House, New York City.

Many Years of Careful Research has produced it. Wood's Improved Hair Restorative is unlike any other, and has no equal. The improved has new vegetable tonic properties, restores faded, dry, harsh and falling hair; restores, dresses, gives vigor to the hair; restores hair to its natural color; removes dandruff, itching, itching and early dandruff. No article produces such wonderful effects. It is the best hair restorative in the world. Sold by all druggists and chemists. Prepared by J. C. COOK & Co., Sole Agents for the United States and Canada, and by LITMAN, BROS. & Co., Toronto.

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. Eff's has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavored beverage which will 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 blood and a properly nourished frame.—*Eff's Cocoa*. Sold only in packets labeled—*JAMES EFF & Co., Homoeopathic Chemist, 48, Threadneedle Street, and 170, Piccadilly, London.*

DISSOLUTION of PARTNERSHIP. The partnership hitherto existing between the undersigned jewellers, in the village of Acton, has this day been dissolved by mutual consent. All liabilities of the firm to be discharged by Geo. Hynds, Jr., to whom all payments of outstanding accounts are to be made. CHARLES HYNDS, GEORGE HYNDS, JR. Witnesses—Geo. Hynds, Secy. Dated, Acton, Oct. 25th, 1876.

In reference to the above, the undersigned while returning thanks for the liberal patronage received by the late firm, would state that he will continue to carry on the Jewelry Business in the same stand. Being a practical watchmaker he hopes to merit the continued favors of the public. A good stock of Watches, Clocks and Jewelry always on hand. GEORGE HYNDS, JR.

GRAND MAMMOTH DISPLAY OF NEW FALL AND WINTER DRY GOODS.

Our magnificent stock of new goods now to hand, comprising all the new styles and Most Fashionable Assortment of Goods in Western Canada.

We have been very successful in buying and getting opened out, which upon inspection, will be, as is sure, The Cheapest Lot of Dry Goods in Canada.

To the Ladies. We will show the largest, finest, and most extensive stock of DRESS GOODS.

Woolen Goods. Squares, Polka Jackets, Hosiery, Gloves, &c., in all the fashionable colors and styles.

Millinery, Mantles & Shawls. This department is far ahead of all competition. We have this season secured the services of a first-class milliner from New York. Ladies who should not fail to see our millinery: Be sure and call before you buy. Our Mantles and Shawls we have imported direct from the head centers of fashion, viz., London, Paris and New York. Novelties in Flowers, Feathers, Wings, Velvets, Silks, &c.

Ladies' and Children's Furs. No where in the country is such a display of Furs, in sable, seal, mink, otter, lynx and beaver skins. Fur Jackets and Fur Caps in great variety. Men's Fur Caps, Fur Mitts, Sleigh Rugs, Buffalo Robes, &c. cheaper than the cheapest.

Ordered Clothing. We do the largest trade in Ordered Clothing, keep the best cutter and turn out the most stylish and best fitting suits in this part of the Dominion. We have just received a splendid lot of extra fine Tweeds, which we are prepared to sell at rock bottom prices. Call and see our stock. It will pay you to do so. No trouble to show our goods. Ready-made Clothing, Men's and Boys' Overcoats, Ulsters, Hudson Bay Overcoats, Boys' Outfits and Men's Suits, warranted the largest variety and cheapest stock in Canada.

Our Staple Department complete with extra good, cheap goods in Cottons, both white and grey, Whites, Fancy and Grey Flannels, Blankets, Table Linens, Towellings, &c.

Carpets, Floor Oil Cloths, Rugs, Mats and Matting, at extra low prices. Boots & Shoes. A large assortment and very cheap. We would ask a continuance of the patronage so liberally bestowed upon us, and in return we guarantee to sell goods cheaper than ever.

McLEOD, ANDERSON & Co., MAMMOTH HOUSE, GEORGETOWN. Oct. 3, 1876.

HURRAH FOR BARGAINS. STILL AHEAD. CHEAPER THAN EVER. G. M. SCOTT'S. NEW FANCY DRESS GOODS Stylish and Cheap. NEW BLACK LUSTRES, Extra value. NEW FINEST, 25 per cent less than last year's prices. White, Scarlet, Grey and Fancy FLANNELS. Coarse TWEEDS and STOFFS. Hollands, Table Linens, Towels, Towelling. Factory and Bleached COTTONS. Hosiery, Gloves, Crochets and Knitting Cotton. Ladies' and Gent's Collars and Neck-Laces, Edgings, Ribbons, &c., &c.

A Fine Stock of Hats and Caps. In all the Latest English and American Styles. Also a very good Stock of General Groceries, Crockery & Glassware. If you wish to Save Money, don't fail to call at G. M. SCOTT'S. Next door to Galloway Bros' Bakery, Mill Street, Acton, Sept. 25th, 1876.