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JOS. H. HACKING, EDITOR.

THURSDAY MORNING, NOV. 30, 1876.

The Georgetown Herald man, after racking his powerful brain and searching amongst dusty documents for a suitable rejoinder to our "basely insinuating article," has pronounced upon something which he feels sure is of itself a perfect clincher. In the estimation of his boy, he cries out "Eureka!—I have found it," and straightway seizes upon a section of an old township by-law and flings it at us with an air of defiance that makes one stand aghast at our seeming presumption and ignorance. While we feel a sense of gratitude to our esteemed cotenants for their kindness in thus furnishing us with information, so very valuable, we trust we will pardon us for assuming him that the provisions of the quoted by-law are neither new nor novel. We presume the same in substance may be found amongst the by-laws of every township in Canada, and with which nearly all intelligent rate-payers are familiar. But wherein lies the reply to our "basely insinuating article," we are unable to discover. Perhaps it is because our literary penetration is not sufficiently acute. We do think, however, ever that our friend's talents demand some recognition at the hands of the Council, and that he has fairly earned the appointment of path-master. In consideration of his kindness to us, we would be happy to urge his claims to a position the duties of which we feel assured he would be able to fill with honor and credit to himself and all concerned. Under his valuable superintendence, we could all rest easy in the assurance that our township roads would be raised to the highest standard of excellence without our having to appeal to that august body the Municipal Council.

The Eastern Question.

The Eastern problem is still in the hands of diplomatists, and its solution is consequently involved in as much uncertainty as ever. Out of the masses of rumors and telegrams and despatches, and conjectures it is possible, however, to gather a few hard facts which tend to simplify the problem. The difficulties of the whole case are reducible to two circumstances. The first is that the lot of the Greek Christians of Turkey has been rendered insupportable by the misgovernment and oppression of their Turkish rulers. The second is that Russia seeks to improve their condition, and it is the same time to better her own, by getting rid of the irksome bonds of the Treaty of Paris. These two facts we say lie at the bottom of the trouble, but they are not all the facts that have a very important bearing in the case. Of the double purpose of Russia it is sufficient to observe that she is sincere in striving for the improvement of the condition of the Greek Christians, but still more deeply in earnest about her own aggrandizement.

England is heartily with Russia in the first part of the programme, but fully determined to oppose her in carrying out the second. The mistress of India cannot allow her great Asiatic rival to command the direct line of communications with the East, and if Russia is determined to risk the chances of war for the accomplishment of that object, Great Britain, through the Prime Minister, has clearly stated that she will accept the challenge and fight out the little or that line. It would be almost suicidal to do anything else.

Both England and Russia profess, and doubtless sincerely, their desires for peace. The Czar pledges his sacred word of honor that he does not desire conquest, does not design attacking Constantinople, and hopes for a peaceful solution of the whole matter. Yet he says that the position of Turkish Christians is so intolerable that he must interfere in their behalf, and he thinks it may be necessary, in order to make the reforms he proposes really efficient, for him to occupy Bulgaria. "This is the old 'material guarantee' of Nicholas over again. He is massing troops on the Turkish frontier, raising loans wherever he can, but with indifferent success, and making prepara-

tions for a gigantic conflict with all speed. Under these circumstances, it is not wonderful that quiet speculators interpret the designs of Russia by a surer standard than the words of the Czar, sincere and earnest though they be. The policy of Russia is to secure, first the command of the Danube, thus shutting off Austria and Germany on the South east. Second, the command of the strait between the Black Sea and the Mediterranean, thus imperiling the communication of England and placing her naval supremacy in imminent danger. This is the fixed policy of Russia, and she turns not from it, neither to the right hand nor the left.

The Berlin correspondent of the Times, in a despatch to that paper, after an elaborate estimate of the force which Russia is capable of bringing into the field, concludes as follows:—"Russia may defeat Turkey, but she has no chance of crushing her by overwhelming strength. After allowing for the force which will be necessary to defend the Black Sea coast, and for the fact that the Turks have a sufficient force to hold Servia and Rumania in check, and that any assistance Greece might offer could be neutralized by the Turkish fleet, it appears that the brunt of the war in Europe must be borne by 50,000 Russians, to confront whom the Turks have at least an equal force, protected by the River Danube and the Balkan mountains and fortresses."

The Wheat Market.

The following, from the New York Tribune, contains some valuable information respecting the grain trade:—"Ordinarily this is the dull season of the year in the grain trade. Through November and December dealers and shippers are accustomed to cheer themselves with the assurance that with the new year trade will revive. Sometimes this is the case, but more frequently the revival is postponed until February or March. This season has proved exceptional, and within a comparatively short period the demand for wheat has greatly increased at an advance in price of from five to ten cents per bushel. This is attributed to two causes—the war rumors from Europe and a short American supply. As is usual when the market is affected by two or more influences, working in the same direction, it is difficult to estimate their several effects. On Saturday a Tribune reporter conversed on the subject with many of the leading merchants and exporters, all of whom gave their opinion freely, agreeing as to the condition of the market, but differing somewhat as to the relative influence of war rumors and the short crop. There was an average yield of winter wheat, but the spring wheat crop was one-quarter to one-third short. This was caused by the drought, which prevented the full development of the kernel, and caused it to ripen prematurely. As a result the crop was never gathered in a better condition; it is perfectly dry, and will keep in all weathers. The shortness of the crop did not influence prices until war rumors from Europe opened a prospect of increased demand. Dealers had been content to carry light stocks; and exporters filled their foreign orders at their leisure. When an increased foreign demand seemed probable, larger stocks were laid in, and haste was made in filling orders. This tended to stiffen prices, and maintain the advance which had been caused by the first warlike despatches. It was estimated by an exporter who had a branch house in Liverpool that there were not less than 2,000,000 quarters of wheat (16,000,000 bushels) now afloat, on the way from America to European ports; a large part of which, was from California and Oregon. Many gentlemen with whom the reporter talked were of the opinion that, though the advance was the direct result of war rumors, it was not of a speculative nature, but that the rumors had simply hastened the natural process; that the price of wheat was not above its intrinsic value, nor greater than it would have been in a few months without the aid of war rumors. Others took a different view. What could not be exported, they said, at present prices, without a loss of several cents per bushel, and whenever that was the case the price was speculative. It was the opinion of these gentlemen that reports of well-secured peace prospects would send prices down very materially, though the advance had not been so great as to create any danger of a panic.

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Apples sell in Winnipeg for nine dollars per barrel.

The herring fishing in Newfoundland has proved a failure.

The sum of \$380,000 has been expended in building operations in Ottawa this season.

Bainford and Bleville have given notice of application for incorporation as cities.

Hon. David Laird, Lieut. Governor of the North-west Territory, was sworn in on Monday last.

A full engineering staff is surveying the right of way between Georgetown and Barrie, for the Hamilton and North Western Railway.

The clothing store of W. H. Denton, Post Dalhousie, was broken into on Friday night, and about \$150 or \$200 worth of cloth and clothing stolen.

It is said that Capt. Allan Young, commander of the Pandora on her recent Arctic trip, will make another exploratory voyage next spring in the same vessel.

It is reported in Montreal that a further reduction of ten per cent. is to be made in pay of all Grand Trunk Railway employees, commencing on the 1st December.

The aggregate force of the American army, according to Gen. Sherman's last report, consists of 25,321 men, all of whom are as actively employed as though war existed.

A travelling missionary of the Mormon faith was ejected from a prominent dry goods store in London, on Friday evening, for preaching his doctrines to the ladies assembled.

Accounts from the famine-stricken districts of India are gloomier, especially from the Presidency of Bombay, where the rain-fall this year has been only one-third of the average.

Thomas Carlyle writes to a friend on the Eastern Question, endorsing the fullest extent the recommendations in Mr. Gladstone's pamphlet for the expulsion of the Turkish governing classes from Europe.

The total loss by fire in the town of Lough during the past six months, or from the 1st of May to the first instant, were only \$3,215. This in a town of nearly 10,000 inhabitants, is indicative of the exercise of great care in the handling of fire.

The writ for Carlwell has been issued, the nomination is fixed for the 7th December, and the polling on the 14th. It is said the Conservatives will hold a meeting on Friday 1st, for the purpose of choosing a candidate. Up to the present time we are all in the dark as to who is really to be chosen.

At the session of the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars in Ottawa, a motion by the Past worthy Grand Chief Templar commendatory of the secession of certain lodges, and sustaining the action of the R. W. G. Lodge at the session in Blooming Twp, was carried by 164 to 55 votes.

A report comes from Bainford that the Grand Trunk car shops are to be moved from that town to the site of a few years ago the town of Brantford, and a large portion to the railway company to get the works established, and we fail to see how they can be taken away without a breach of contract.

The two Waterloo village by-laws granting a bonus of \$15,000 to the Grand Trunk Railway to build and extend to Waterloo from Berlin, and also \$3,000 to Hoffman, Wegemist & Co, furniture manufacturers, were carried on Monday. The opposition was light, but little interest being taken for or against.

Mr. Vennor forecasts the weather for December as follows:—"There is every prospect of its being a very stormy and wintry month, and a particularly blustery one. Last year we had no sleighing during the month. This year we will have sleighing throughout. He expects a great deal of snow and a severe run of cold.

The Markdale Express reports that Mr. John Buchanan, a quiet, respectable farmer of Glenora, became crazy through atmospheric revival meetings and attempted to kill his wife and son. Both were badly cut with a butcher's knife. Buchanan, whose intellect was rather weak before, has been sent to Owen sound gaol.

The beautiful new Congregational Church just completed at Listowel, was opened for divine worship on Sunday. The Rev. J. F. Stevenson, of Montreal, preached morning and evening, and the Rev. John Wood, of Toronto, in the afternoon. The congregations were very large on all three occasions, and the collections liberal. The new edifice is of brick, 40 by 60 feet.

One day last week a remarkably sudden death took place at Huffman's Corners, in the Township of Brantford. Out two brothers, Alexander and John Gibbons, had filled their pipes and lighted matches to take a smoke. The probability is that John Gibbons, the deceased, inhaled the fumes of the burning match, as he seemed to be struggling and making a violent effort to cough, on which blood gushed from his mouth, and in three minutes he was a corpse.

At the meeting of the County Council of Peel last week, a petition signed by 312 electors, was presented in favor of the Dunkin Act.

The petition was headed by Judge Scott, and a large number of judges attended the Council meeting to urge the submission of the bill. The Council by law will be voted upon in Peel on the 18th of December.

The superiority of the Canadian cheese over all the others in this basin out by a letter from one of the jurors on dairy products at the Centennial:—"The finest U. S. cheese did not come up to the best Canadian. The best cheese in the States was graded at 95 per cent of perfection, while three Canadian exhibits were graded at 100. The Heckinger and Durick County cheese was very fine, but did not have the clean and nutty flavor of the best Canadian."

A correspondent in a Detroit paper says: "Canada and the Eastern States are sending their unemployed 'West,' under the idea that work is to be found in that country. We may expect a tide of unfortunate immigrants who will be doomed to disappointment. We have hundreds of strong able-bodied men and women of our own who are able and willing to work and cannot get it."

Doss Tweed's Holiday has not been of much advantage to him. He has lost greatly in weight, and is dejected and miserable. Great care of him is now being taken, and he will not escape so easily again. Suits for forgery will be pressed against him, and altogether there is a very blue look-out for him. Tweed is not the only successful swindler by a very great many, and those who are at present in what is ordinarily styled the enjoyment of great dishonest gains will, we hope, consider him and his reward diligently. If there is such a thing as enjoyment of wealth so obtained, it will certainly be greatly lessened by thoughts of the uncertainty of retaining it and the disgrace and punishment which is the due and may be the reward of the means used in getting it.

On Monday, Mr. Dalton McCarthy, Q. C., applied to the Court of Queen's Bench on behalf of the defendant in the case of the Queen v. Wilkinson for a rule calling on the plaintiff to show cause why a writ of habeas corpus should not issue against him as publisher of The Globe for an article which appeared in that paper on the 8th July last, reflecting on the judgment given by Mr. Justice Wilson on the application of the Hon. John Simpson for a criminal information for libel against Mr. Wilkinson published in the Daily Nation.

The Court granted a rule nisi.

SCHOOL CASE.—A few days ago an interesting case was tried before a bench of magistrates in Wawanosh. John Marwood, of lot 30, con. 7, East Wawanosh, in 1875, failed to send his children to school for 12, 10 and 8 years, as required by four months of the year as the law prescribes. He further refused to pay the fine which the trustees are empowered to impose, and which was in this instance fixed at 40 cents per month of absence. The trustees of S. S. No. 7 thereupon cited him before the court for default and having contended to call the fine in the case of the younger child, Mr. Marwood was ordered to pay the 80 cents fine. The fine and costs amounted to \$3.80.

IMPORTANT LIQUOR CASE.—Mr. G. Lount, a druggist in Norwich, was a few weeks ago convicted before a Bench of Magistrates in Ingersoll, for selling liquor without a license. The facts of the case are that a Dr. Paffield had given an order to an old man, a prescription for a pint of brandy twice a week. This was ordered to be continued. Gamble was an object of charity, and being old and feeble, he had ordered the liquor as a stimulant. From the conviction Mr. Lount appealed, and the appeal was argued before His Honor Judge McQueen. It was contended by Mr. Ball, on the part of the prosecution, that a certificate must be issued in each case of supplying liquor, that the verbal continuation could have no effect, and that consequently all subsequent sales were illegal; that the liquor was supplied more because it was a customary and usual drink with Gamble than as a medicine; that a written certificate was required by law for the supply of over twelve ounces. In defence Mr. Beard contended that a certificate need not be in writing; that the act does not say so; that a supply may be given under a certificate as often as the Doctor directed; that Mr. Lount being a registered medical practitioner, could sell liquor on his own certificate, and that without a certificate his honor has since given judgment, holding that the defendant's contention was supported, and so quashed the conviction with costs.

At a young ladies' seminary, during an examination in history, one of the most promising pupils was interrogated:—"Mary, did Martin Luther die a natural death?" "No," he was excommunicated by a bull."

BEEF CATTLE.—It is to be regretted that our farmers do not seem to recognize the constant demand which really exists for first class beef.

The extra expense would not be grudged which would yield to the feeder \$1 to \$4.50, where now he gets \$3 to \$3.75. More care in housing and feeding would do much to improve the quality of beef, and a short experience of the better prices possible to be had would pave the way for the improvement in the breed of cattle which is very much to be desired. The present open season is perhaps rather a disadvantage to those who desire really succulent beef. In former seasons the cattle have been forced indoors earlier and have had a long period of stall feeding which produces a better fibre than the happy-go-lucky sort of grazing or foraging, by which the cattle are ordinarily left to supply themselves with food in the late fall months.

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Pork Wanted.—5000 Dressed Hogs wanted weekly for which the Highest Cash Price will be paid. From \$2,000 to \$5,000 in cash to be paid out to farmers for Pork every week during December, as follows:—(SECOND) BROS.' Store.

MUFFLER LOST.—Lost between Acton and Silver Creek, on Thursday evening, 9th inst., a large Brown Muffler. Any person returning it to the Free Press office will be suitably rewarded. Acton, Nov. 14, 1876.

BERKSHIRE BOAR.—The pure bred Berkshire Boar, "Acton Prince," will be kept for service on the premises of the undersigned, adjoining this village. Terms \$1.00, to be paid at time of service. U. S. SMITH. Acton, Nov. 15, 1876.

Having determined to sell out their Canadian business previous to their opening a Jobbing House in England, have instructed their agent,

G. D. PRINGLE, OF GUELPH.

To offer for sale the whole of the stock of RUSSELL

Watches, Clocks and Jewelry

At a special discount of 25 per cent, commencing on

Monday November 27th.

And continue until the whole stock is sold.

An Auction will be held every Saturday Evening.

G. D. PRINGLE

Will continue business and the repairing of Watches and Clocks will be as usual. But the present stock must be sold within three months.

No Reasonable Offer Refused.

This is a bona-fide cheap sale.

G. D. PRINGLE, Guelph, Nov. 20, 1876.

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An extra copy of either the Magazine, Weekly or Bazar will be supplied gratis for every club of Five Subscribers at \$4.00 each, or Six Copies for \$20.00, without extra copy; Postage Free.

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Earliest Political Intelligence. Latest Telegraphic News. Choice Readable Articles.

Parties desiring a newspaper from the United States and a Lively, Interesting Home Journal, will take the DAILY FREE PRESS.

A Beautiful Oil Chromo, called to every Subscriber of the WEEKLY FREE PRESS.

G. W. MITCHELL, Proprietor, Ottawa, Nov. 27th, 1876.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING

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AND

SECOND BROS.

Have laid in a mammoth Stock of everything Rich, Rare, Useful and Beautiful, in

GROCERIES, CHINA,

Glassware, Hardware, &c.

CHINA DEPARTMENT.

Gents' Mottled Mustache Cups and Saucers, Ladies' Mottled Cups and Saucers, Children's Mottled Cups and Saucers, Glass and China Mugs, mottled all colors, Flower Vases, Glass Pitchers, Preserve Dishes, Celery Glasses, Goblets, Tumblers, Pickle Jars, Wine Glasses, Glass Sets, Sick Cups and Feeders, Lamps, Lanterns, Everything in Granite Ware, Everything beautiful in endless variety.

GROCERIES.

Canned Peaches, Plums, Gooseberries, Blackberries, Cherries, Peary, Preserves, Jams, Jellies, Pickles, Lobsters, Salmon, Sardines, Clams, Oysters, Fruits, Raisins, Currants, Figs, Nuts, Biscuits, Confectionery and Honey.

The Largest and Cheapest Stock of Teas ever brought into Acton.

Tobacco, Rice, Barley, Corn Starch, Rice Flour, Soap, &c. Hardware, Cutlery, Spoons, Paints, Oils, &c.

It is worth any person's while

when in Guelph to call and see the Immense Stock of

OVERCOATS!

For Men and Boys, all colors and prices, at Rutherford's Clothing Establishment, SIGN OF THE ELEPHANT, No. 31 Lower Wyndham Street, Guelph.

Noted for having the best assortment west of Toronto, and at prices that defy competition. Come and see.

WM. RUTHERFORD & CO,

Guelph, Nov. 20, 1876.

GRAVE TRAINS... Morning Express... Night Express... Now a ride... And boldly... With all... And nothing... That will... Village... Equates... To-morrow... Ladies at Dick... This is... The Society... and festive... Method... niversary will... day, December... can will be... few days... Social a... Mr. Chapman... 6th December... stional Church... will doubtless... and we feel... Carleton will... the evening's e... ly enjoyable o... Green... wanted at Sec... Go to... Acton, for ab... insures, etc... One th... Dickson & M... clothes to sel... sell ready-mad... The ste... Post Office... he could get... more satisfac... many young... against the co... little of the... consumers... their hint, and... get annoyed w... One of... pring mercer... business men... Everything he... tried out in a... ntr. Last We... student goinf... friends to cel... friend-in-law... willows the Ha... goods adapted... Women... Last Month... nearly meet... the following... fees for the... Heat, W. M... Alex. E. Wri... John Ross, S... Tyler... A siren... Don't fail to... An egot... rights in the... A. Eastman... having secured... dating edition... a medium for... apolectic effe... work's issue in... the editor of T... in which we... the nearest o... carries our i... publish the com... fal & Expositio... tion—concern... We certainly l... and what's mor... of having to un... other tab from... Like Machett's... with weighted... things, for doe... open, several... be that he... strait desire... he circumpec... Eastman; yes... plans and jet... print all its... little darling!... A. Eastman W... live, fresh bl... youth, who we... nation of his... To be the high... who made seri... of hard work... the school of a... "Wouldn't... be invent... out there, and... inquire into... board is wishi... has either a... the village or... and who detest... who we detest... a high o... friends, we sh... who we detest... of your want... clear of temp... should it ac... would do it... would do it... suitable in a... be partially a...