

THIS ACTON FREE PRESS

Published Every Thursday Morning. J. H. HACKING, Proprietor.

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Acton Free Press

JOS. H. HACKING, EDITOR.

THURSDAY MORNING, JAN. 11, 1877.

Careless Book-keeping and Long Credits.

Merchants and other business men of correct habits invariably keep their books in such a shape that they can tell exactly how they stand at the end of the year. They know how much they owe and how much is owing to them—the precise sum of their profits and losses, and their position for the operations of the coming year. But there is unfortunately another class of business men, who constantly have their affairs in such a modified state as to render it almost impossible to make a satisfactory statement of their liabilities or assets. They seldom know their financial position, and are almost always slack in their settlements. How much more pleasant it is to do business with men of the former stamp, who are always ready to balance up accounts promptly at the end of every half year, and thus enable you to keep your books in good order.

It is an excellent rule for a business man to have his affairs at all times in such a shape that if his death should suddenly occur, his estate could be settled without difficulty. With the long-credit system which so largely prevails, and a loose, haphazard style of keeping accounts, one is exceedingly apt to find himself coming out at the little end of the horn, after years of toil. A large proportion of the cases of insolvency is brought about through negligence in keeping the account books regularly balanced. And this brings us to consider whether it would not be far better for all concerned if the long-credit system were entirely abandoned. We are gradually coming to it, and many of our best store-keepers are rigidly adhering to the system of ready payments. Long credits are growing more and more unpopular with all classes except those shiftless individuals who are always behindhand. He who buys on long credit, invariably buys what he really does not need, and at a much higher price than if bought for cash. There are, of course, times and circumstances when it is absolutely necessary to buy on credit, but with the exercise of a little care and economy in living, there are few persons but can just as well pay for their goods in a few weeks or months as they can in a year or two years. Wholesale dealers usually sell to the retailer at three or four months credit, with a liberal percentage off for prompt cash. The retailer who gives a year's credit must necessarily add considerably to the price of his goods beyond the legitimate profit to cover both the risk and the interest on his capital. Those who pay the ready money reap the benefit of lower prices, and their custom is regarded with much more favor by business men, provided they are not over-zealous in securing close bargains. The merchant who does business largely on the ready pay system can buy to much better advantage than he who is compelled to discount the future and look twelve months ahead for his pay.

If all concerned would look at the matter in the light of profit and loss, there can be little doubt but all would be materially benefited and alike satisfied. During the past year several of our leading business men in Acton adopted the ready pay system and at the present time we believe all our tradesmen have almost entirely stopped giving credit to long-winded customers. They express themselves highly gratified with the effect of the new system, and are convinced that it has not been the means of decreasing the volume of their business one iota.

G. T. R. STRIKE.—The arrangements between the Grand Trunk Company and the engine-drivers has been concluded upon the basis of the agreement of 1875, and it is further provided that all the drivers who joined the strike shall be taken against all warrants issued for the arrest of strikers shall be withdrawn. The rate of wages is also to remain unchanged. In a word, the strikers have wrung an unconditional surrender from the company.

Bellevue Publications

The reading public should be all they can to encourage the laudable efforts shown by the Messrs Belford Bros. of Toronto, Canada, establishing a publishing house in Canada really worthy the name. For the past several months, a new book of recognized merit has been issued from their house nearly every week, so that quite a large number of the bookstores mark their juppint. The firm also mark their business ability by the liberality shown in mailing copies of each publication to the various newspapers throughout the country, thus securing candid reviews and widespread notice. We have already noticed several of the publications, and we now take pleasure in commending the following copies of which we have recently received:

Footprints of the Master.—By Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe. This is an elegantly bound volume of 308 pages, from the pen of the above-named well known author. It is "got up" in handsome style, the typographical excellence being worthy of the contents which comprise a volume devoted to earnest Christian thoughts, reflections, lessons, and aspirations, in the exquisite and eloquent language of the gifted lady from whose authorship this work proceeds. It is a work which ought to be found in every Christian household, containing as it does many sound orthodox truths, put with a sympathy and pathos that touch the best feelings of human nature deeply. The book is particularly applicable for reading at this season of the year.

Justice.—By Augusta J. Evans, author of "Beulah," "St. Elmo," &c. This is a nicely printed volume of 423 pages, and is an exceedingly interesting contribution to current fiction literature. Like all the works written by the same novelist, "Justice" is crisp, sparkling and readable from beginning to end, with a strong tendency to fasten itself on the sympathy and imagination of the reader.

The Fairy Forest, and other Fairy Tales.—By Bridget and Julia Kavanaugh. An attractive book of 245 pages, besides 12 full page illustrations by J. Moyle Smith. To those fond of purely imaginative writing, of the fairy order, this book cannot fail to be interesting as well as amusing. The illustrations are very fine, but supremely fantastic, exhibiting the Fairy Queen and her retinue in most ludicrous attitudes. It is attractive from its oddity which will no doubt secure for it a very large sale.

MADONNA.—THE MERMAID. By F. A. D. Published by Bell & Bruns. This is a pleasant little play for young people, comprising 42 pages, nicely printed. The dialogue is sparkling and genial, while the cast of character cannot fail to be appreciated by both old and young. It has already been produced at the Government House, Ottawa, by members of the Governor General's household.

Any of the above works can be had at the bookstores or direct from the publishers. Very little of an exciting nature has transpired in connection with the Eastern question, during the past week. The reports have taken a peaceful aspect one day and a warlike one the next—in the fluctuating fashion which has been prevalent for some time. The suspense is likely to be ended in a day or two, as the representatives of the great powers have presented what may be termed an ultimatum to the Porte, and on his answer will depend peace or war. Meanwhile both Turkey and Russia are busily concentrating their forces.

The Dominion revenue for December, from all sources is \$1,447,998, and the expenditure \$2,025,247. It is reported that Vanderbilt's will is to be contested by those of the relations who received small bequests, unless the late Commodore's son William H. consent to divide the estate with them.

In the Ontario Legislature on Friday, Mr. Lauder presented a petition from the Credit Valley Railway Company, asking for an extension of the time for completing the line. The net expenditure of the Province for 1875 was \$2,118,230.64, and the net income \$2,507,808.49, leaving a surplus for the year of \$388,577.85. The total balance standing at the credit of the Province is \$5,643,556.16. The public accounts of Ontario, in complete form, for 1875, have been received. The Dunkin Bill was defeated in Kingston by only 106 votes. A Grand Trunk Committee is obnoxious to Canada from England to look into the road's affairs. The Dunkin act will not be laid before Wellington County Council again till June. The three richest men in the United States—Astor, Stewart, and Vanderbilt—have died within fifteen months.

The Georgetown Herald and the Elections

To the Editor of the Free Press: Sir,—Our attention has been called to an article which appeared in the Georgetown Herald of the 23rd Dec., headed "The Nominations," in which the Editor manifests a deal of spleen and spite, against one of the candidates for the first Deputy Kuvovalin, and also reveals some of the leading features of his journalistic clanging, to wit: Ignorance, impudence, and inconsistency. In the first place, he passes judgment on candidate Warren on the ground of his own evil disposition toward Warren. He says, "We feel disposed to rate the abilities of the three named candidates at a discount of 10%," and the only reason given for being so disposed, is that Warren did use his influence to have the Township printing transferred from the Herald to the Free Press. We at once freely confess that we did use our influence, and did succeed in getting at least a part of the township printing transferred to Acton, and that we got what the Herald is "disposed" to call a "fat contract," given to friends, close cheaper, and far superior to what we got the same work done at the Herald office in previous years, notwithstanding that the Herald had a still fatter contract of the work referred to. And while we know of no reason why exclusive preference should be given to the Georgetown Herald, yet our reason for using our influence to have the work transferred, was the very inferior manner in which it was done, and we regret to have to say that the Minutes of 1876, lately printed at that office, is no exception to the rule.

Hear him again. Because Warren had been elected by acclamation last year, (he might have added the previous year also), and that after having served the Township as Councilor for several years, he says he has no "foundation on which to frame any estimate of his general popularity among the people," and also to base an estimate on the foundation of his own faint and dispirited. But he goes on, "If this be the spirit of men who seek the suffrages of the people of this township, then we don't think much of the intelligence of the electors who support such men." In other words, we, of the Georgetown Herald, make proclamation that we have the support of the electors of Esquevasing shall give their support to such man as would dare to use their influence to transfer the jobs of which we have so long fattened to another office, we feel disposed to pronounce them unintelligent electors.

Oh! Electors of Esquevasing, you have done the deed; you have again elected the same man, in opposition to the temperance editor's model candidate, and the sentence is passed, "The editor don't think much of your intelligence." That is all.

If this is not arrogance and impudence, perched on the pinnacle of vanity, we would like to know what it is. Just to think of it! The editor of a 10th class paper attempting to dictate to the intelligent electors of Esquevasing who they shall, and shall not, elect to fill their places of trust. Come out of your nut-shell, Mr. Editor, and allow the light of an intelligent community to dispell your darkness so as to enable you to see men and things in their true colors, and not as they appear through the mazes of a prejudiced mind and an evil disposition.

JOHN WARREN. Esquevasing, Jan. 10, 1877. Our Beef in England. England looks to Canada for a supply of good beef, and the farmers of this country will be wise to preserve their best young cattle, instead of knocking calves on the head to get rid of them. The London papers speak enthusiastically of the reports that herds are being fattened in this country for transport alive to Liverpool, and the Daily Telegraph has the following with reference to the Christmas supply. Beef will be a fine emigration agent yet.

"The herd of 60 Canadian cattle, landed at Liverpool on Tuesday from the Dominion steamer Dominion, were inspected to-day by a large number of persons interested in the cattle trade, and were pronounced to be the finest specimen of Christmas beef ever shown by a vendor. A pair of steers were purchased by a leading Scotch salesman for £100 for show."

Charles Tate, a temperance hotel keeper, in the Township of East Guelph, has been committed to the Guelph goal for 30 days with hard labour for selling liquor without a license. There's a row about turkey—in Trafalgar. A man in that township accused a neighbor of stealing his Christmas turkey and the neighbor has entered an action against him. The new Central School in Guelph will be formally opened on Monday next. The Adventurers voted to the Stratford & Huron Railway—\$30,000 from the County of Perth, \$40,000 from Mornington, \$30,000 from Stratford, and \$15,000 from Listowel—\$165,000 in all—were handed over to the trustees, last week.

ACTON MARKET.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes White Wheat, Spring Wheat, Red Clover, Barley, Potatoes, Apples, Onions, Butter, Eggs, Dressed Hogs, Cattle, and Ducks.

Wm. E. COOK.—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 the most select cereal, Mr. Epps 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 attack of Bile and Humors. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal ailment by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and properly nourished frame.—Civil Service Office, London. Sold only in packets labeled "Wm. E. COOK'S PATENT."—JAMES EPPS & CO., Homoeopathic Chemist, 48, Threadneedle Street, and 170, Piccadilly, London.

A Splendid Hair Dressing and Restorer Combined. Wood's Improved Hair Restorative is unlike any other, and has no equal. The Improved has new vegetable tonic properties; restores gray hair to a healthy natural color; restores faded, dry, barren and falling hair; restores, dresses, gives vigor to the hair; restores hair to premature baldness; removes dandruff, humors, scalp eruptions; removes irritation, itching and redness. No article produces such wonderful effects. It is called Wood's Improved Hair Restorative, and does not put off with any other article. Sold by a Druggist in this place and elsewhere every-where. Trade supplied at wholesale prices by C. A. COOK & CO., Wholesale Agents for the United States and Canada, and by LYMAN STARR, a Co., Toronto.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

STRAYED. Came on the premises of the subscribers in October last a Red Heifer, over one year old. The owner is requested to prove property, pay expenses and take her away. GED. NORRISH, Lot 21, 2nd con. Naasagaweya, Jan. 1, 1877.

TO BREEDERS. The young Berkshire Boar "Wellington Chief," bred by Geo. Rudd, of Guelph, has been prepared for sale, and will be kept for service on my premises adjoining this village. This animal is from imported stock, with first-class pedigree. Terms \$1.00, to be paid at time of service. C. S. SMITH, 25-41 Acton, Dec. 18, 1876.

TOYS

AND Fancy Goods. Selling off at Auction Prices. CHEAP BOOKS. ANDERSON'S CHEAP BOOKSTORE. On the East side of Wyndham Street, GUELPH. SPEYSIDE Shingle, Stave AND HEADING MILLS. Any parties wanting Shingles would do well to give us a call. We will always have on hand a good supply of No. 1 and No. 2 Shingles. Best quality No. 1 Shingles \$1.75 per square. No. 2, 70 cents per square. P. & H. SAYERS, Speyside, Dec. 13, 1876. 24-6m

DAY'S BOOK STORE, GUELPH.

A large stock of FANCY GOODS, TOYS, &c. Day's Bookstore.

STARTLING BARGAINS.

GREAT SEMI-ANNUAL CLEARING OUT SALE

Now going on at

McLEOD, ANDERSON & CO'S

GEORGETOWN.

Now is the time for Bargains.

The public fairly started and astonished at the startling cheap goods now being sold at the

MAMMOTH HOUSE,

Farmers, Mechanics, Laborers, Housekeepers, young and old, rich and poor, if you want to buy cheap goods, at the very

Lowest Hard Time Prices.

Now is your opportunity. We have marked down the balance of our extensive stock, and are determined to clear it all out before spring. We are bound to make this the most extensive Clearing Sale we have ever attempted. Don't neglect the opportunity of getting the largest lot of goods for the least money, you ever saw in your lifetime.

REMEMBER THIS SALE IS FOR CASH.

We must have the money, therefore you can buy goods very cheap. Don't forget the spot.

McLEOD, ANDERSON & Co.,

MAMMOTH HOUSE, GEORGETOWN

SHINGLES

Lath, Lumber, 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, at SECORD BROS.' Store.

Best quality No. 1 Shingles only \$1.70; best quality No. 2 only 70 cents. Any of the above will be delivered when required.

Any quantity of oats taken in exchange for any of the above delivered at the mill between Acton and Milton, on Lot No. 8, 2nd con. Esquevasing. Orders by mail address to Acton or Milton P.O. R. O. MILLER, Esquevasing, Jan. 3, 1877. 27-3m

PORK! PORK!!

Charles Cameron. In preparation to pay the Highest Market Price for 50 tons of Good Pork. Call and see him at the Old Stand on Main Street. Acton, Nov. 30th, 1876. 22-3m

HURRAH! HURRAH!

FOR THE BEST PHOTOGRAPHS in the County, at The Ontario Photograph Gallery. For Beauty of Finish and Brilliance in Tone, they cannot be surpassed.

COPIING & ENLARGING. In all its branches, in the best style of the art, done on the shortest notice and at reasonable rates. Also a splendid stock of Mouldings and Picture Frames kept on hand and made to order. A call is solicited and you will be convinced that this is the place to get photographs. Yours respectfully, C. W. HILL, Acton, Dec. 5, 1876.

VICK'S FLOWER AND VEG. ESTABLE GARDEN.

Is the most beautiful work of the kind in the world. It contains nearly 150 pages, hundreds of fine illustrations, and six chromo plates of flowers, beautifully drawn and colored from nature. Price 50 cents in paper covers, \$1.00 in elegant cloth. Printed in German and English. Vick's Floral Guide, Quarterly, 25 cents a year. Vick's Catalogue—30 Illustrations, only 2 cents. Address JAMES VICK, Rochester, N. Y.

VICK'S FLOWER AND VEG. ESTABLE GARDEN.

Are planted by millions of people in America. Price 50 cents. Vick's Catalogue—30 Illustrations, only 2 cents. Vick's Floral Guide, Quarterly, 25 cents a year. Vick's Floral and Vegetable Garden, 50 cents. With 100 colored cloth covers \$1. All our publications are printed in German and English. Address, JAMES VICK, Rochester, N. Y.

CEDAR POSTS AND POSTS FOR SALE.

A large quantity on hand, on my premises, Lot No. 32, 1st line Esquevasing. JOSEPH FEARNLEY, Esquevasing, Dec. 23, 1876. 26-4t

SPECIAL BENEFIT

THE LION

during the past year we have done a larger business than has ever been done by a Dry Goods House in Guelph, and in return for this large patronage we have decided to offer our customers a SPECIAL BENEFIT.

Our stock is the heaviest ever held in Guelph, amounting to over \$100,000, the whole of which we will offer at cost.

If this will not do, we shall have to give the goods away, for we are determined to reduce our immense stock to \$50,000 by the last of March. Our new Spring goods will then be coming to hand, and we must make room. Our buyer, Mr. W. McLachlin, of Montreal, has been in the British Markets for two months past, (we do not risk of those places, and we shall have the best selected and cheapest stock ever offered. Prices at home are low, and we secure great bargains by paying cash. This will be found to be the greatest chance for buying Cheap Dry Goods ever known in the ANNALS of Guelph. The Lion has already the greatest reputation for selling cheap of all the stores in the Province, but this time we will surpass all previous offers, and beat the world. The enormous Bankrupt Stock we bought in the summer enables us to put every other store in the shade. The bulk of it is gone, but it is a big lot of winter goods, such as Blankets, Flannels, and Woollen goods generally, which we will also offer at cost, or at 50 cents on the dollar of the wholesale cost. We guarantee them all perfect, and the price cannot be touched. We count it a pleasure to show our goods to the general public. It is impossible for us to mention all the bargains we are offering. We should need every column of the Free Press to do so, but we will name a few leading lines. Our customers must remember, however, that the Reduction is general throughout our Stock! Everything to be rushed off at cost. No one should lose this big chance.

DRESS GOODS

45 Pieces, reduced from 30 cents to 20 cents. 36 " " " 25 " 15 " " 24 " " " 19 " 12 " " 80 " " " 22 " 15 " " " These are the very latest styles and colors, and no one should buy a dress without first making an inspection of these goods.

Fancy and Plain Silks at Extraordinary Figures. Special drives in Clouds, Fur Shawls, Wool Shirts and Drawers, Flannels, Blankets, Quilts, Horse Blankets, and Winter Shirts.

WINCEYS! WINCEYS! WINCEYS!

420 Pieces put down from 12 1/2 to 10 cents. 235 " " " 17 " 12 " " 140 " " " 20 " 13 " " Lower priced Lines put down to 7 cents a yard—great value.

SPECIAL ATTENTION.

Our Ready-made Clothing and Millinery and Mantle Branch, deserve special notice. These goods we will run out at any price, and any one needing these goods should come to us at once for they will never have a better chance to secure a bargain.

FIFTY BUFFALO ROBES STILL LEFT.

The season is advanced and we will refuse no decent offer for them. A fine assortment of Tweeds all marked down to cost. Full Cloth 30 Cents.

Why is it?

The question often asked is, Why is it that in a few years we have been able to increase the small business formerly done at the Lion, to its present enormous size, (the largest outside of Toronto)? The true answer is that we do the best we possibly can for our customers. We buy at the lowest figures; we sell at the same and we treat our friends so that they always come back to us. Honesty is the best policy, and honesty and courtesy are the ruling principles at the Lion.

J. D. WILLIAMSON & CO. Guelph, Jan. 8, 1877.

THE PHILANTHROPIST.

Who is the true Philanthropist? The merchant who provides the best goods at the cheapest value for his customers.

GEORGE YEMEN

Begets leave to inform the public generally that he is prepared during THE HOLIDAYS to make great sacrifices for cash on all kinds of goods. My stock is now complete in toys for the little folks, and also a beautiful assortment of goods, useful as well as ornamental, suitable for

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

For both old and young, but their greatest beauty is their cheapness.

GROCERIES.

In this line my customers may rely on getting their goods fresh and good, as I have purchased them all within the past two weeks, and am selling them at prices that would have to be paid for goods that have been in stock for several months.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE

During the Holidays I will sell goods in this line at prices that are below competition. My present large stock must be cleared out by the closing of the New Year to make room for a new stock.

SPECIALTIES.

Fresh Oysters, Finnan Haddies, Pork and Bologna Sausage, Yams, Blotters, &c., always on hand.

Call and examine the goods and prices before purchasing elsewhere. Please note the address.

CEO. YEMEN,

Post Office Store, December 19, 1876.