

THE FREE PRESS, ACTON, HALTON COUNTY, ONT., FEBRUARY 1, 1877.

THE ACTON FREE PRESS
Published Every Thursday Morning.
J. H. HACKING, Proprietor.
\$1 Per Annum in Advance.

Action Free Press
JOHN H. HACKING, EDITOR.

TUESDAY MORNING, Feb. 1, 1877.

ACTON.

Its Manufacturing and Mercantile Interests, etc.
GLIMPSES OF EARLY HISTORY
AND OTHER MATTERS.

We have been engaged the past few days in procuring information and writing up full and interesting details of the various industrial establishments in Acton. The whole will occupy several columns in next week's Free Press, and will comprise interesting reminiscences of the early history of the village. Persons wishing to procure extra copies of the paper, to send to their friends, will please leave their orders as soon as possible, so that we may know how many to print beyond the regular edition.

Look to the Rolls.

A great deal of future trouble and expense could be avoided, now that the assessors have commenced their labours, if all who are entitled to vote would see for themselves that their names are properly inserted on the roll. It takes a certain amount of time and attention to rectify mistakes and omissions, and a great many are so negligent of their rights, or so careless in regard to them, that they seldom take the pains to see that errors affecting them are corrected. It is only when called upon to exercise their right to vote, that they feel the consequences of their negligence. It is really the best way to make it a point to set for yourself that the assessors do their duty fairly and correctly in each case. Now is the time to attend to it.

School Trustees Elections.

Mr. Ross, the member for West Huron, in the Legislature, has introduced a Bill this session to provide for the election of the nomination and election of Public School Trustees shall be held at the same time and place and by the same returning officer, and conducted in the same manner—voting by ballot—as nominations and elections for councillors; and that the qualifications of voters for school trustees shall be the same as for Councillors. The Bill provides further that a separate set of ballot papers shall be prepared for all the wards or electoral divisions; containing the names of the candidates nominated for school trustees. To distinguish between the supporters of separate schools and those who support the public schools, the Bill makes it imperative on the Clerk of the Municipality to place opposite the names of voters on the roll delivered to the returning officer who supports separate schools, the letters "S. S." and the returning officer is instructed not to deliver to any voter whose name is so marked, a ballot paper for school trustees. There are two excellent points in the Bill prepared by Mr. Ross, namely, the application of the ballot and the furnishing of a properly marked voters' list to the returning officer.

VENNER'S LATEST.—Mr. Venner publishes a fresh batch of probabilities on Saturday, as follows: "A mild spell and a partial thaw between the present date and the end of January. For the first week in February a heavy snow storm and very cold dip. A second heavy snow storm with a great deal of snow in proximity to the 15th of the month, with a second very cold dip, which will continue through the greater portion of the remaining part of February."

HOW LAW SUITS COST.—The papers tell of a law suit being tried at the Westmoreland Circuit Court, Savage vs. Stock, an action for trespass on land and person. The land in dispute was worth \$20. The trial occupied the Court for eight days. The cost to the county is over \$150. The whole expenses of the suit footed up to \$1,500. The jury returned a verdict for the defendant on the question of the land, and for the plaintiff on the trespass, awarding \$10 damages.

President Grant is reported as expressing his belief that the time has arrived for the resumption of specific payments, and that the present congress cannot do better than take legislative action with that object.

The following is an analysis of the Ontario Legislature: 22 members, 15 agriculturists, 18 lawyers, 10 doctors, 2 lumbermen, 3 journalists, 4 day-laborers, 4 millers, 2 painters, and 1 blacksmith.

A meeting of the Reform Association for the County of Peel was held at Brampton for the purpose of reorganizing, and for the election of officers. All parts of the county were well represented by prominent members of the party.

Halton County Council.

The County Council met at Milton on Tuesday, 23rd inst. The Chair.

The following gentlemen filed certificates of election and qualification and took their seats, viz.:—Esquering—Reeve, Wm. Clay; Dept. Rivers, John Warren and J. S. Frazer.

Trafalgar—Reeve, Matthew Clements; Dept. Reeve, Henry Robinson and A. Buck, M.D.

Nelson—Reeve, Henry Foster; Dept. Reeve, Thos. Watson.

Nassagawaya—Reeve, John Ramsey; Dept. Reeve, Jas. Monks.

Milton—Reeve, Duncan Dewart.

Oakville—Reeve, W. H. Young.

Georgetown—Reeve, Daniel M. Kuzie.

Acton—Reeve, N. McGarvin.

Burlington—Reeve, Jas. Walde.

Dr. Buck moved, seconded by Mr. Ramsey, that Matthew Clements, Esq., Reeve of Trafalgar, be Warden of the County of Halton for 1877.—Carried.

The Warden made the necessary declaration of office before Wm. Clay, Esq. J. P., and took the chair.

Mr. Walde moved, seconded by Mr. Watson, that Messrs. Clay, Foster, Ramsey, Buck, and the mover be a committee to strike the returning committees for the year.—Carried.

After a brief adjournment, the Council resumed, and Mr. Clay reported having formed the following committee. On motion the report was adopted.

Finance—Messrs. Walde, Clay, Foster and Buck.

County Buildings—Messrs. Dewar, Warren and J. S. Frazer.

Education—Messrs. McGarvin, Wm. Young and J. P. Watson.

Organization of Dr. Buck, seconded by Mr. Warren, to appoint auditors for the present year was introduced and read a first time. Said Dr. Buck was duly passed with the blank filled up with the name of Francis Baker as auditor. The Warden appointed Peter McLean as the other auditor.

Mr. Clay moved, secy. by Dr. Buck, that the petition of G. C. Crawford and others be received, read and referred to the committee on education.—Carried.

The petition was received, read, and so referred.

Mr. Young moved, secy. by Dr. Buck, that John Barclay, Esq., be re-elected trustee of the Oakville High School.—Carried.

Mr. Foster moved, secy. by Mr. Clay, that the usual sum of \$100 be granted to the County of Halton Agricultural Society.—Carried.

The clock and the parchment of the Grand Jury at the Fall Assizes, dated Dec. 13th, 1876, and a letter from the Treasurer regarding the account for legal advice of Messrs. Bethune, Old & Moss.

He also read a copy of a resolution passed by the Oakville Board of Education on Jan. 19th, disapproving of the petitions praying for the dismissal of the County Public School Inspector.

Mr. Walde moved, seconded by Dr. Buck, that the following petitions he received and read, viz:

No. 1 from John Wilson and 33 others. "Char. H. Smith" "12."

No. 4 " E. Bray " "6."

No. 5 " T. Atkinson " "32."

No. 6 " T. Brook " "20."

No. 8 " A. Bell " "20."

No. 9 " T. W. Beatty " "8."

No. 10 " J. Cavaghan " "14."

No. 11 " D. McGregor " "15."

No. 12 " J. McLean " "15."

No. 13 " And. Elliott " "27."

Total number of names—249.

The petitions were received and read.

Mr. Young moved, seconded by Dr. Buck, that the consideration of the petitions presented to this Council in reference to Mr. R. Little, School Inspector, be referred to a committee of the Council forthwith.—Carried.

Council in Committee of the whole; Mr. Clay in the chair.

The following is a copy of the petition:

To the Warden and Members of the County Council for the County of Halton, in Council assembled.

GENTLEMEN.—We, the undersigned ratepayers of the County of Halton, for the typhus fever, small pox, and Schools for this County, in now requesting the wisdom of the Trustees and Ratepayers of the County of Halton, that the present School Act into consideration, and having viewed with considerable interest the arbitrary manner in which trustees have attempted to help assist teachers, and to provide school accommodation, when such teachers and such accommodations were unnecessary, pray that the said Inspector of Schools, and another appointed to carry out the spirit of this Council, Director of the Credit Valley Railway Board, Carried.

Mr. Young moved, seconded by Mr. Robinson, that the following gentlemen be hereby appointed the Board of Examiners for the current year, viz.—R. Little, P. A. Switzer and C. A. Lusk, M. D.—Carried.

Mr. Walde moved, seconded by Mr. Warren, that this Council, sit adjourned, do stand adjourned until Tuesday, the 20th February, 1877.—Carried.

Council adjourned.

\$3,120,000 is the modest sum demanded from the Ontario Government for the Toronto and Ottawa Railway.

Mr. Sargent, of the Grand Trunk Railway, has issued a circular to the station agents, in which he states that he proposes to foster local traffic more than has been done in the past.

The H. & N. W. station building in Milton is nearly ready for the plasterers and painters.

In several places the feeling exists that if the present state of affairs were not altered and remedied soon, the claim to the school advantages it would be abandoned, and the people would run their schools independently to their own satisfaction.

Mr. Little replied to the charges laid against him in writing.

He said that no one could rightly charge him with any ungentlemanly actions or language, and he had always striven to do his duty in accordance with the rules and regulations required of him by law, as a Public School Inspector.

He challenged any one to cite one instance in which he had exceeded his duties. He had always endeavored to pursue as lenient a course as was possible, at the same time discharge his duties conscientiously. He did not care whether other Inspectors, as had been stated, pursued a different course, but his own concessions were not in his keeping.

Mr. Little, however, had recently been engaged by the Wardens of the District of Muskoka to inspect the schools in that district.

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