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THE ACTON FREE PRESS

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JOSIN HACKLING EDITOR

TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 24, 1877.

THE HALTON COUNTY BUILDINGS—At the meeting of the County Council last week, the contract for the building of the proposed new jail and County offices was not given out, for the reason that some of the tenders received were as low as \$15,000, the estimated cost of the work; the lowest bulk tender being \$17,400. A committee has been appointed to further consider the matter, and to get such changes made in the plans as will reduce the cost of the buildings to something near the estimate of the architect.

On the 10th May, Mr. Middlemore proposed leaving Liverpool with about thirty boys and girls for whom he is anxious to find Christian homes in Canada. The children vary in age from three or four to fourteen. The younger are for adoption; the older will work for wages. Anyone recommended by the clergyman who may wish child should write to Guthrie Home, London, Ontario, and state the particulars of their wants and give the details of their homes.

It is believed, in London that Russia and England have agreed upon localizing the war; also upon the question of the navigation of the Suez Canal.

The Emperor of Russia and Czarwitz start for Plessis on June 1st. Prince Gortschakoff, Count Allerberg, and the Minister of War accompany them. Count Schauvaloff will return to London immediately after the Emperor's departure.

A decree is published in the Russian official journal ordering the formation of two more divisions of Cossacks of the Don to reinforce the operating army.

The Mexican Question is assuming some importance in the United States. Secretary Everts notified the Mexican Government that if they did not put down the rebels who were continually making raids over the border, into the United States, he would be compelled to follow them into Mexican territory. Now an American corvette has left New Orleans for Vera Cruz with instructions orders, understood to be despatches to Diaz, relative to the Mexican boundary matter.

The Famine in India has made a million of people dependent on the Government for relief. Seven hundred thousand of these are employed on relief works, and the others are relieved gratuitously. The question of how India, with its teeming population, is to be secured against famines must become a more important one.

"CANALLES." The Fortunes of a Partisan of '81 is a work published by Belford,づrce & Teller. The author is John Esten Cooke. It is the tale of which is located in the Old Dominion, as Virginia is called, and describes love and war. The hero is of the dash of old, and his exploits are told with a facile pen. "Canalles" will doubtless become popular.

THE APPLE CROP.—This crop is said to be in danger of being a very slight one, from the fact that the trees are covered with caterpillars, which feed on the leaves and blossoms. A good way to get rid of them is to shake the tree in the early morning before the dew is off, and after picking the stragglers off, to wind cotton batting saturated with coal oil round the trunk of the tree about three feet up from the roots. This will prevent them again climbing the tree.

BUTTER.—The price of butter seems to have received a sudden check, owing to the extraordinary growth produced by the recent rains. Present appearances indicate a long continuance of rich, fresh pasture, which will materially increase the quantity of butter offered for sale. The Toronto Globe advises country dealers to be careful not to pay high prices for butter, as it seems to be the general impression that low prices will rule during the coming season.

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War Notes.

No decisive engagement has yet taken place. The greater part of the despatches is devoted to rumors and rumors regarding the neutral Powers. From Paris comes a report that England is to be given sovereign rights over Egypt—the controlling the Suez Canal.

Russia has asserted her independence, and declared war against Turkey. Her military operations will be confined to defence. The Athens Cabinet has demanded from the Porte an amelioration of the condition of the Greek provinces of Turkey. Egypt, on the contrary, has sent 6,000 soldiers, commanded by the son of the Khedive, to Constantinople.

The first for committing horrible atrocities on Christians has again seized the Turks in Bulgaria. The outrages committed at Turtukal, a small Bulgarian town, are equal to those described by Schuyler. Turkish men-of-war are bombarding and burning undefended peaceful villages along the Black Sea.

Accounts from Turkish headquarters give a direct denial to the victory claimed by the Russians at Ardashan. The Turks maintain that the troops of the Czar were beaten and driven from the town.

The London Times Vienna correspondent, discussing a report that England is endeavoring to induce Russia to fix a limit to her military operations, says:—"It is not thought possible that Count Schouvaloff may induce the Russian Government to give such assurance about its ultimate designs as may serve to allay, as much as possible, all apprehensions regarding them that have arisen in England, but it is very much doubted that the way of doing this will be an attempt to fix the line of demarcation to the military operations."

The active work of the war continues to be performed in Asia Minor. The Russians have captured Ardashan, and endeavor to make it appear a very important victory.

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England and the Suez Canal.—The Paris Temps, which has occasional communications from the Russian agency, says:—"Our private information confirms the fact that a note has been communicated to the St. Petersburg Cabinet, by the English Embassy on questions connected with Constantinople and the Suez Canal, now and hereafter. This document is couched in confidential terms. We are assured that an understanding is already arrived at between Russia and England, both in substance and in form as regards the Suez Canal; and in substance as regards Constantinople.

It is stated Paris that England has given notice to Turkey that she will oppose everything which might hamper the passage of merchant ships of men-of-war of neutral Powers through the Suez Canal. In consequence of this a rumour has circulated that in exchange for the capitalization of the Egyptian tribute paid to the Porte the latter is disposed to cede to England its right of sovereignty over Egypt.

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Pen and Scissor Selects.

Don't fail to attend the Entertainment at the Drill Shed this evening.

A grand gathering of Grangers is to take place at Norwich on the 2nd of June.

Godoroh has now a population of 5,003, or less than St. Mary's Woodstock has 5,293 of a population.

Quantities of tools have of late been maliciously destroyed along the Hamilton and North-western line.

Mr. Gladstone threatens to renew his attack on the Government's Eastern policy at Birmingham this week.

A fanatic never comprehends but one phase of a subject; with him there is no possibility of a quiet controversy.

A four-year-old son of Mr. Joseph Wheeler, of Hungford, was shocked to death while eating a carrot the other day.

Warkworth's population is now 25,833, an increase of 300 from 1875. Its total assessment is \$550,000, an increase of over \$100,000.

The "red ribbon" begins to wave over a considerable part of Ontario, giving evidence of a strong and growing temperance sentiment.

The state of the Pope's health is again such as to cause increased disquietude. He has no particular ailment, but is extremely feeble.

On Monday night some persons supposed to be unengaged by jealousy cut the throats of four horses, owned by two stage drivers of Lucas, near London.

This kind of weather leads to the horrifying suspicion that Venetia has entered into a conspiracy with the manufacturers of soda water and ice cream.

Counties of Kent, Hampshire, and Isle of Wight, have issued a circular to all the police forces in the county, warning them to be on the lookout for any man who has been seen to leave a house, and to be particularly watchful.

Mr. Cogwin is a rich banker in Joliet, Ill. Dr. J. R. Casey is a prosperous physician in the same place, and brother of a former lieutenant-governor of Illinois. Mrs. Casey is an active and ostensible member of a church. A few days ago Cogwin and Casey went to an unoccupied room, and soon pistol shots were heard. Casey was found wounded seriously, and a bullet mark in the wall over Cogwin's head showed that he had narrowly escaped. The belief is that they fought a duel, but they refuse to make any explanation. The following is given as a probable reason for the encounter:—On the previous Sunday Mrs. Casey went to church as usual, and in her absence her husband searched the drawers of her bureau. He found a letter to her from Cogwin, and a reply that she had written but had not yet posted.

On Tuesday afternoon, 15th instant, as Mr. Wm. Laird, of Esquerring, was driving out of Mr. Clark's stable with a team of young and spirited horses, they began to act ugly, and he being an old man was utterly unable to control them. They bolted from the doorway into the street, one of the wheels catching the edge of the stable, which threw the old man from the wagon with terrible force. He received a horrible gash under the right eye, almost scooping it out entirely, and a spoke of the broken wheel entered his thigh, inflicting a very ugly wound. He was carried into the stable, where he died.

From the first of April of the present year to the 14th of May, the lumber exports from the United States will be twice as large as for the similar period of last year.

The township of Woolhouse has voted \$20,000 towards the extension of the Hamilton and Northwestern Railway from Jarvis to Port Dover, a distance of seven miles.

Mr. Scott, the Government Architect, was in Guelph on Thursday and inspected the Government Buildings. It is thought probable that the post office building will be made higher than at first intended.

The daily papers have during the past few days been giving graphic accounts of the capture at Oban, Scotland, of the genuine Sea Serpent, which was fully described and named to be 101 feet in length. The story is since reported to be a hoax.

The United States within the last ten years has sold \$43,000,000 worth of arms and ammunition to Europe, and still the demand continues. The Russian forces along the river are variously estimated at 250,000 to 500,000 men. It is said that great difficulty is experienced in provisioning such a host. The Turks confine their operations to strengthening the garrisons along the river. They are said to have 200,000 men north of the Balkans, ready to oppose the advance of the Danube.

The Russian press claim that Russia is as much entitled to the free navigation of the Bosphorus and Dardanelles as England is to the navigation of the Suez Canal.

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