

THE ACTON FREE PRESS. Published every Thursday Morning, \$1 Per Annum in Advance.

THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 6, 1877.

SALUTATORY.

By Mr. Hacking's valuetory, which appeared in last week's issue of the Free Press, our readers will have seen that the management of the Free Press has passed into new hands.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the past history of the paper, nor the course it has pursued. Mr. Hacking, we are sure, tried to do his duty, and act in an impartial manner to both political parties. What man could do more? But wherever credit is due for services rendered by the Free Press in time past that credit is due to Mr. Hacking.

We are responsible for the future alone. What this future will be remains yet to be seen. We dislike making promises, and will, therefore, not make them. But if practical energy, careful business management, pluck, and perseverance will make it the best paper in the county, it will be so.

We do not intend to make it a political paper—to take either Grit or Tory side of the fence—but wish to make it a good family newspaper. As it has been in the past, so shall it be in the future. Independent in politics. Particular attention will be given to local affairs connected with the village and county, and the local columns will contain readable and correct accounts of anything of local importance which may transpire.

Having fairly embarked in this undertaking, we are determined that ere long the Free Press will be second to none in the county for life, energy and editorial ability.

We have just added to the mechanical department of the establishment a card press and other requisites to a well conducted printing office, and, being both practical printers, we are prepared to turn out work equal (if not better) to any other office in the County.

In a word, to be brief, our aim will be to make the Free Press a welcome visitor to every intelligent and well-ordered home throughout this section of the country, and, with the good will and assistance of our friends, we have no fears of our efforts being misdirected.

The Dunkin Act in Wellington.

Voting on the Dunkin Act commenced in Wellington County on Tuesday last week, and ended on Thursday—the Anti Dunkinists coming out ahead by 2145 of a majority. On the evening of Thursday those opposed to the Act, from all parts of the County congregated in Guelph to celebrate their victory. As soon as daylight disappeared the various hotels were illuminated with candles, and Chinese lanterns. A procession, containing three bands of music, was formed and paraded the principal streets. On coming opposite the Herald (anti-Dunkin Organ) the procession halted and gave three cheers, and on coming opposite the Mercury (Dunkin Organ) gave three groans. The Herald building was brilliantly illuminated. The procession disbanded at the Market Square and the anti-Dunkin speakers and others repaired to the balcony of the Royal Hotel, where speeches were delivered by Messrs. Dodds, Faley and others.

Although the procession and illuminations were magnificent, one had feared in the procession was the bands playing several Sabbath School hymns, such as "Hold the Fort," etc., and we think it would have pleased some of the anti-Dunkinists better had those tunes been discarded from the programme.

To New-Subscribers. Now is the time to send in subscriptions for the coming year. New subscribers, who pay in advance, will receive the paper from the present date to the 1st Jan. 1878. Only \$1.00 a year.

We purpose introducing into the next volume several new and interesting features, and confidently rely upon all the old friends of the Free Press, and expect many new ones to support us in our endeavours to furnish a good and reliable local paper.

To the Municipal Electors of the Township of Esquesing.

GENTLEMEN.—I hereby give notice that it is not my intention to be a candidate for a place in the council at the approaching election, and, in doing so, permit me to tender to you my sincere thanks for the expressions of confidence I have had of your confidence during the year in which it was my privilege to serve you in the council, and also for the very generous manner in which you overlooked any errors or shortcomings into which I may have fallen. Certainly in this respect my course in the council has been a pleasant one. And now I call upon the electors of Ward No. 4 to choose a man to represent them in the council for the ensuing year, and upon whom ever that choice may fall I hope and trust the "intelligent" electors of the Township of Esquesing will continue to him the same generous support which was always accorded to your retiring humble servant, JOHN W. RICHMOND, Esquesing, 4th Dec. 1877.

JOURNALISTIC.—Mr. J. H. Hacking announces in the last issue of the ACTON FREE PRESS that he has disposed of the plant and goodwill of that paper to Messrs. Moore & Galbraith, and that in future he will confine himself to his business in Guelph. We bespeak for the new firm a prosperous career. Both are young men of intelligence, thoroughly practical, and possessed of that energy which commands success. Mr. S. W. Galbraith served his time as printer in the Esquesing office, and he at all times was faithful and reliable in all matters with which he was entrusted. Mr. Moore we understand has during the past year managed Mr. Hacking's business in Guelph. His long-continued experience in newspaper life will serve him well in the responsibilities he has taken on himself.—Guelp Mercury, Thanks.

Vagrants are employed to break stones in Windsor.

—One distillery firm at Windsor will fatten 2,000 cattle this winter.

—\$64,000 worth of canned lobsters were shipped on Tuesday from Halifax for London, Eng.

—Upwards of \$200 worth of the counterfeit \$10 Ontario Bank bills have been passed in Montreal.

—Galloway's superior bread tells every one, and is sought after by every one of good taste, both far and near.

SCULPTURE.—Mr. Wilkins, sculptor of London, is engaged upon a bust of Rev. Dr. Fyle, Principal of the Canada Literary Institute, Woodstock.

The U. S. Customs officers at Detroit have instituted a vigorous crusade against smuggling from Windsor, and several ladies have been searched and detected in trying to evade the payment of customs dues.

The true receipt for getting rich is by laying out your money judiciously. That can be done by ordering and purchasing your clothing, your shoes, your boots, your neckties, your gloves, etc., at McCleod, Anderson & Co.'s, Esquesing.

SENTENCE COMMUTED.—George W. Johnson, who was convicted of murder at Windsor, in 1867, and whose sentence of death was commuted to imprisonment for life in the penitentiary, has had his sentence commuted, and will be released in January next, on the completion of ten years' servitude. The extenuating facts connected with the crime, the youth of the prisoner when it was committed, and his excellent conduct while undergoing sentence, have induced the Minister of Justice to favorably entertain the numerous petitions that have recently been forwarded in his behalf. Johnson, who is a negro, entered the penitentiary at seventeen years of age.

SAVED BY A TRAMP.—It is not often that a tramp has been found to do any person an actual service. It has lately happened. One of those itinerant recently asked for a lodging at a farm house in Chinguacousy, and was given a quilt and allowed to sleep in the barn. During the night he was awakened by some parties who were filling bags with grain. Supposing these were connected with the farm, he did not pay any particular attention to them till they had filled the bags, when one of them remarked, "I wish some fellow was here to help us to throw these into the wagon." The tramp jumped up and said, "I'll help you," and the thieves immediately vanished, leaving a wagon and span of horses, which are now in the possession of the farmer.

THE WESTON MURDER.

EXECUTION OF WILLIAMS. HIS CONFESSION.

(From the Guelp Mercury.)

John Williams, who murdered his wife at Weston on the night of the 21st of September last, suffered the extreme penalty of the law at the gallows on Friday morning. Since his sentence on the 22nd of October, the condemned man has passed his time in a most exemplary manner.

Brayed up by the jury's recommendation, the Governor, for some weeks that the death sentence would not be carried out, and even stated to the Governor of the goal that something told him he was not to die. The Governor endeavored to dissuade the jury from their verdict, but they were firm. The prisoner never lost hope till Saturday, when the Sheriff visited the goal and informed Mr. Green, the Governor, that he had received a telegram from Ottawa to the effect that the law must take its course. Mr. Green conveyed this information to the condemned man, who said, on hearing it, "My God, is all hope gone?" After this he gave up all thought of a reprieve, and showed by his demeanor that he was trying to fix his thoughts on something higher and nobler than life in this world. His daughters, four in number, visited the goal, and on Tuesday, for the purpose of wishing the unhappy father a last farewell. The interview, which lasted about an hour, was a most affecting one. The women hung about the unfortunate man, displaying the most poignant grief and uttering lamentations painful to hear. The prisoner, though much affected and nearly broken down under the stress laid upon his feelings, managed to repeat to himself with the remarkable fortitude that has marked his life since the condemnation, amid his tears which fell fast. He counselled them to lead good and virtuous lives, and if they did not meet with a reward in this world, they surely would be acceptable in the eyes of their Maker. The young women reluctantly left, having the commiseration of all the officials of the goal. The Governor elicited from them a promise that they would visit the institute on the day of their father's death.

On the Wednesday following the prisoner's son visited, and by informing him of the position that had been taken by his request, in favor, again raised hopes of a reprieve in his father's death. He again commenced to tell of the world he would lead in the penitentiary, under the kind guidance of the Rev. Mr. Johnston, of Weston, who attended him in his cell. The prisoner's thoughts were again brought to bear on the awful ordeal through which he was about to pass. The prisoner, whose public opinion has pronounced a most hardened man, is said to have been a most tender and kind man at all times when his spiritual comfort was consulted with him, displayed great contrition for the deed done, and sought to make all the preparation in his power. Last night the Rev. Mr. Johnston stayed in the prisoner's cell, and the condemned man ate his supper with evident relish and then engaged in religious conversation. At midnight he wrote a letter, of which the following is a copy:—

IN THE GAOL, TORONTO, Nov. 29, 1877, Midnight.

To my Children and Friends.—

You will want to know how I feel with my mind clear, and I will try and tell you. I have dropped into a trap which has ended in opening my eyes and letting me see I have done wrong, and I think many of you are perhaps, without thinking of me, I did not see how I had wronged you, and I ran away from them; I have never seen them since. From that time on I neglected God too, and worse the luck. Now I have darkened a church door, and never inquired of any one how I might be happy in the next world; and I regret it never came into my head that I should want it. Oh, how different I feel now, I wish had done better, and beyond everything, I wish I had attended my church, for then I would have known something about God, before whom I must stand in a few hours more. When I think how the church was open close beside me, Sunday after Sunday, and I know all were invited, and yet how I neglected it, I did not want to break the Sabbath, but just idled my time away, I see now that I am a sinner, and I know there was a God over my head, but neither served nor loved him, and oh! what would I not give to be in the next world, and I could. Oh! I dear children and friends, hear and believe me, a dying man, beseeching of you to attend your church, beyond make it a custom, go there wet or dry. Something seems now to say to me, God is apart from you, and I know it, and it weighs terribly on my mind. There are many among my friends who mean no more to me than I did, but this is not enough. If I had tried to serve God he would not have this most awful severe way to teach me. Oh, why did you not learn while I could, and oh, do you try now and do as you will wish you had done when you come to the end, and may you never be caught in the trap I am caught in. Oh, that I could only be let to make you hear and believe me. Never forget to honor and serve God; go to your church and try to do your best, and He will never forsake you, or let you go to the bad as I have done.

MIXING THE HANGMAN.—On Friday forenoon at England, the man who hanged Williams was met by four rough looking men, who made for him and threatened to "do for him."

VERTIGOS IS COMING.—George Jones, of Centreville, had a portion of his head kicked off by a horse one morning lately. Dr. McCusland, his medical attendant, doubts his recovery.

HORRIBLE ACCIDENT.—George Jones, of Centreville, had a portion of his head kicked off by a horse one morning lately. Dr. McCusland, his medical attendant, doubts his recovery.

—Economy is the leading feature of the day, and is the only way to bring the good times back again, and it can be attained by visiting and purchasing at McCleod, Anderson & Co.'s, Georgetown, their extremely cheap clothing, millinery, mantles, dress goods, silks, satins, blankets, flannels, furs, buffalo robes, carpets, hats and shoes.

—WIFE IS SHOT.—The Police Magistrate at Hamilton, sentenced a man to imprisonment for beating his wife, said that if the same fellow beat his wife again, he would be sentenced to a flogging.

DUNKIN BILL.—It is the intention of the temperance people of Norfolk at its next meeting to submit the Dunkin Bill to the ratepayers. The petition will have about three thousand names attached.—Norwich Gazette.

—Important to all. Where can the best value be got for the money? Why at McCleod, Anderson & Co.'s, Georgetown. I got flannels, linens, dress goods, cottons, hats, set of furs, mantles, at half the old prices. Go there and make money.

Nassauwaga Council.

The Council met, pursuant to adjournment, on Monday the 26th day of November. Members all present, the Reeve in the chair.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. Menzies moved, seconded by Mr. Norrish, that the account of Dr. Winn, amounting to \$30, for setting a broken leg, and twenty additional visits to Gilbert Reid, be paid.—Carried. Total amount paid during this year \$160.89.

Mr. Hutcheon moved, seconded by Mr. McPhail, that the account of Messrs. Gargill & Wheelighan, amounting to \$40.87, for timber furnished for bridges, as per account rendered, be paid.—Carried.

Mr. Hutcheon moved, seconded by Mr. McPhail, for leave to introduce a By-law granting certain sums of money for repairing roads and bridges, and that the sun be set on the Council.

Mr. Hutcheon moved, seconded by Mr. McPhail, for leave to introduce a By-law making provisions for the nomination and election of Township Councilors for the ensuing year, and that the same be read a first time.—Carried.

By-law read the first time.

Mr. Hutcheon moved, seconded by Mr. McPhail, that the account of Panton & Rixon, for printing Voters List, and advertising the same, amounting to \$21.18, be paid.—Carried.

Mr. Hutcheon moved, seconded by Mr. Menzies, that the following amount be paid to the parties herein named, viz: Mr. Jonathan Tasker \$24.08, for plank furnished R. Division 53 and \$1.44 for plank for Div. 45; J. Easterbrook \$3.69, for plank, and that Daniel McCarroll; T. J. Day \$3.75, for Voters list and collector's receipts; W. Patterson \$9, for work done on road; A. McAlpine \$6, for furnishing gravel to Road Div. No. 29; J. M. Taylor \$5, for work done on the Guelp road.—Carried. Total amount paid during this year \$160.89.

Mr. Norrish moved, seconded by Mr. Menzies, that T. Lockner and Mrs. Wright be refunded \$1 each each, and that Daniel McCarroll, J. Easterbrook \$9.87, for 2 do; J. Little \$15.23, for 4 do; J. Smith \$2.83, for 2 do; W. Thomas \$15.33, for 4 do; J. Moffat \$4.05, for 2 do; J. A. Kitching \$1.10, for 1 do; and M. Thomas \$14.25, for 3 do.—Carried.

Mr. Hutcheon moved, seconded by Mr. McPhail, that the By-law appointing money for the repairs of roads and bridges, be now read the second and third time and passed.—Carried.

By-law read the second and third time and passed, and, being signed, the Corporation seal attached thereto.

A discussion took place in Council in regard to passing a By-law prohibiting persons leaving obstructions on the highways, and also to enforce the removal of present obstructions.

The Council respectfully solicited the opinion of the ratepayers thereon at the approaching Municipal Election.

Mr. Hutcheon moved, seconded by Mr. McPhail, that the By-law providing for the election of the Municipal Council for the ensuing year, be now read the second and third time and passed.—Carried.

By-law read the second and third time and passed, and, being signed, the Corporation Seal was attached thereto.

Mr. Menzies moved, seconded by Mr. Hutcheon, that the thanks of this Council be given, and are hereby tendered, to John Ramsey, Esq., Reeve, for the very able and courteous manner with which he has presided over the deliberations of this Board during the past year.

Carried. The Reeve replied in a suitable way, and, there being no more official business to transact, the Council adjourned.

JOHN EASTERBROOK, T'p Clerk.

The Pope is reported to be dying.

A Musical Union has been formed by the musicians of Guelp.

The Pianos and Organs manufactured by Daniel P. Beatty, of Washington, D. C., have become so well and favorably known that anything we may add will only increase the number of thousands by one. All know these instruments and all praise them, but all do not know the very low prices at which they can be bought compared with the prices charged for inferior makes. We advise all who contemplate buying a Piano or Organ to write to Mr. Beatty for his illustrated catalogue of prices.

WINNIEP GENERAL HOSPITAL.

The ladies in Winnipeg have set to work and collected funds in aid of the General Hospital of that place. They raised the magnificent sum of \$1,075.43, and that with-out any particular exertion.

Pringle's Jewellery Store, Guelp.

TO FARMERS AND EVERYBODY ELSE.

Why is Pringle's Jewellery store in Guelp the best place to deal at? Because all the watch, clock and jewellery repairing is either done by himself, or under his personal supervision. He being a first-class workman in all the branches, and having the greatest interest in keeping his customers, it follows that all the work will be done well. Every job which comes into the shop is examined by him before it is taken away.

You can buy watches and clocks cheaper there than anywhere else, because Pringle having bought from Thos. Russell & Son for cash the whole of their stock in Guelp, and got it cheap, he can afford to sell cheap. All stock bought by him in future will be bought for cash.

Merchants and traders know that this is a great advantage. Pringle has no connection with the firm of Russell & Son, any more than he is still their authorized agent for the Russell watch, which is acknowledged to be the best watch made. G. D. Pringle has also purchased an agent for the Waltham and Elgin American watches, and a full line of them, from the lightest to the heavy six-ounce case, will be kept on hand. Remember that all these watches are now bought entirely for cash, and therefore can and will be sold by him cheaper than they can be got anywhere else. Beautiful Christmas goods coming in every day. Gold chains, gold rings, lockets, brooches, etc.

ONE WHO KNOWS.

FLANNELS.—At this season of the year the most desirable article for children's clothing is a nice warm Flannel. You can get beautiful check flannel just suitable for their purpose for only 25 cents per yard, at Christie, Henderson & Co.'s, Acton.

In Acton, on the 1st inst, the wife of Mr. J. S. Butler, of a daughter.

In Acton, on the 20th ult, the wife of Mr. John Maney, of a son.

In Acton, on the 29th ult, the wife of Mr. J. P. Allen, of a daughter.

In Acton, on the 30th ult, the wife of Dr. W. H. Lowry, of a son.

ACTON MARKET.

Flour \$2.50 to 3.00
Fall Wheat 1.16 to 1.18
Spring Wheat 1.00 to 1.05
Spirited Spring Wheat 0.75 to 0.85
Barley 0.50 to 0.60
Oats 0.34 to 0.30
Rato 0.60 to 0.65
Hog 0.17 to 0.18
Eggs 0.18 to 0.20
Potatoes, 48, Thrushville Street, 0.50 to 0.70
Apples, early, per bag 0.50 to 0.70
Hay, per ton 10.00 to 14.20

EPH'S CORN.—GRIEVED AND COMFORTED.—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 corn, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a deliciously flavored beverage which may 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 poisons are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape them by a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame.—"Epps' Corn." Sold only in packets labeled—JAMES C. EPPS & CO., Homeopathic Chemist, 48, Thrushville Street, and 170, Piccadilly, London.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

POSITIVELY LAST NOTICE.

All parties indebted to B. & E. Nicklin, are requested to call and settle the 15th December. All accounts not paid at that date will positively be handed in to the clerk of the court for collection. B. & E. NICKLIN. 22-23

BERKSHIRE BOAR.

The undersigned has still the Berkshire Boar, "Wellington," bred by Mr. Geo. Rood, of Guelp, which will be kept for service, at the farm joining the Grand Trunk Station. Price \$20.00, Cash. C. S. SMITH. 22-24

TENDERS FOR WOOD.

Tenders will be received by the undersigned up to the 24th of Dec. 1877 for 30 cords of wood, cut sawed long, and from good hemlock and spruce timber, to be all split and no rough knots pieces in the same. Wood to be delivered in the month of January, 1878. ELI SNYDER, JOSEPH LASBY. 22-25

AUCTION SALE!

FARM STOCK AND IMPLEMENTS.

The undersigned has been instructed, by Mr. W. E. BROWN, to sell by public auction, on the premises, Lot 27, 4th con. Esquesing, On Friday, Dec. 14 At 1 o'clock, p. m., the following Farm Stock and Implements: 4 Cows, 2 year old Heifer, 2 Steers, Yearling Calf, 20 well bred and useful 12 Lambs, 1 Ram, Lumber Wagon, Bob-sleigh, Buggy, Cutter, Iron Plough, Gang Plough, Fanning Mill, Set single Harrows. The implements are all new. As the proprietor is giving up farming, the above must be sold. TERMS—20 per cent cash, over that amount 12 months' credit on approved notes, 20 per cent discount for cash. WM. HEMSTREET, Auctioneer. Acton, Dec. 5th, 1877. 22-1

A CROWDED STORE.

Immense Sales of SILKS AND DRESS GOODS AT THE FASHIONABLE WEST END, GUELPH.

300 to 700 Yards SELLING DAILY.

We are showing, without exception, the Largest, Most Attractive and Cheapest.

Mark the word Cheapest.

STOCK of SILKS AND DRESS GOODS Ever known in this town.

Ladies visiting Guelp and buying Dress Goods, Silks, Velvets, Mantles, Millinery, Furs, etc., without first seeing our immense and beautiful stock, do themselves a great injustice. We esteem it a pleasure to show our goods.

Ladies, come direct to the Fashionable West End, the leading house for Silks, Dress Goods, Mantles and Millinery. Full stock of fashionable Trimmings, Buttons, Fringes, etc., to match all our material.

A. O. BUCHAM, Fashionable West End Dress, Millinery and Mantle Establishment, Guelp, Oct. 21, 1877.

SPECIAL DRY GOODS ANNOUNCEMENT.

CHRISTIE, HENDERSON & CO ACTON

Take pleasure in assuring their many customers that the share of business accorded them during the Fall Season has been unusually large, notwithstanding the depressed state of trade generally, and that during the remainder of the season no pains will be spared to retain the confidence reposed in them. By regularly assorting their stock they hope to be able to fill all orders with the utmost promptness, and at the very closest prices. In all lines of seasonable goods their stock will be found complete.

Millinery and Mantle Room

Is in charge of experienced hands; only, and is regularly supplied with all the newest designs, so that satisfaction can be guaranteed. No fancy prices charged for Millinery as is usual in large towns and cities. A fact which the Ladies should remember.

READY-MADE OVERCOATS.

In great variety and cheap from \$5.00 up. RUBBERS, OVERSHOES, LADIES' GENTS' & Childrens' Felt Shoes—Just opened. Special drives in Dress Goods. Full Stock of Black Lustres and Mourning Goods.—The Famous Tigre Brand Black Lustres is unsurpassed.

THEIR FAMOUS 50c TEA

Is too well known to need further mention, only to assure all lovers of a good sweet cup of tea at a very reasonable price, that this line will be kept up to the full standard. In 5 lb lots put up in a neat caddy at 45c, and money refunded if not satisfactory.

COAL OIL

By the gallon, 5-gallons, or Barrel—Special price for large purchasers. Good Goods, Low Prices, and Square Dealing are among the inducements offered. No Threads put in for the purpose of extorting one or two cents more per yard. CALL AND SEE US. CHRISTIE, HENDERSON & CO. Acton, Dec. 5, 1877.