

THE ACTON FREE PRESS Published every Thursday Morning For the Editor in Advance

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THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 11, 1878.

A Tax Question.

In the British House of Commons a debate recently took place on the income tax, in which many strong arguments were advanced against the plan of collecting revenue. It was argued that while theoretically some such tax was necessary to reach a class who would otherwise contribute nothing, yet it is a theory which is universally felt to be totally discredited in practice. As it is practically impossible to ascertain any man's income except through his own admissions, the inquiry offers a premium on lying. This honest man pays the tax, where the other had mere numerous not pay or not as they please, or at least pay less than they would if the truth were known. Thus the law is most unjust and unequal in its operation, and hence becomes repugnant to every man who believes in fair play. While the object of the law is stated to be to reach the very rich, in practice it fails to do so to any extent, but falls instead on the few who have moderate and fixed incomes. Most people are willing to pay their fair share of public taxation if they are quite sure their neighbors all do the same; but where, as in the case of the income tax, the law is notoriously evaded in so many cases, a sense of injustice is created which has a demoralizing influence and begets a widespread and constantly increasing effort to defeat the work of the assessor. The ground was taken that real estate is the only true basis for taxation; and there is a good deal to be said in favor of that view.

Editorial Notes.

Affairs in the East during the past week have been of a conciliatory nature.

It is believed in Ottawa that this season the *Huron* will be published and no official report of the debates be made. The chief reason for this is understood to be that the Toronto papers have suffered since the official reporting was introduced.

The number of convicts in the five Dominion Penitentiaries, on the 31st December, 1876, was 1,048, and on the 30th June, 1877, 1,931; a total increase of 33. This steady addition to the convict population is attributed, by the warden, to the financial depression for some years prevailing, and to the consequent difficulty of obtaining employment.

It has been disputed whether the name of our Prairie Province should be pronounced Man-i-to-ba or Man-i-to-ah. Now the Hon. Mr. Norquay, of that country, is credited with having declared that the proper pronunciation in Man-i-to-ah. Either those folks up there do not know how to pronounce their own name, or else they don't know how to spell it.

The Free Trade Club of New York challenges contradiction when it asserts that the American people in the last twelve years have paid the enormous sum of seven hundred and twenty million dollars, or three times their national debt, to foster industries which are now in a more distressed condition than ever. Not one cent of all this has passed into the United States Treasury.

We learn from Washington that fifteen hundred distinct petitions have been forwarded thither, signed by master printers in all parts of the Union, praying for the total abolition of the tax upon type. The attempt to impose additional duty on imported type in the interest of twelve firms may end in the proprietors of the twenty thousand printing offices in the United States securing free trade in this branch of industry.

It is said that the Oka Indians have refused to accept the \$20,000 compensation offered them by the Seminary for vacating their lands. They are willing, however, to treat with the Seminary, and it is expected an arrangement will be entered into.

With reference to the departure of Lord Dufferin, it may be stated it is well known that before Lord Carnarvon resigned his portfolio as Colonial Minister, he wrote to Lord Dufferin and offered him his choice of all the Honorships in his gift. His Lordship declined the offer, saying that it was his intention to spend some years at home, for the sake of his family. He also expressed his intention to take his seat again in the House of Lords, where he will do yeoman's service for Canada when required. In connection with this it is said he will spend another Canadian summer with us, and will pass a considerable portion of his time in fishing on the Saguenay and its tributaries and the sea side. While thus enjoying himself he will also be paying a compliment to the Province of Quebec, which he is zealous of being before he leaves, and will reside at its capital.

On Wednesday evening 3rd inst., a deputation waited on the Hon. Messrs. Mackenzie and Mowat, in the House of Commons on behalf of the unemployed of the city. They wanted the Government to send a number of them either to Manitoba or Muskoka, to give them a free grant of land, farming implements and provisions for one year, to be paid for in four annual instalments. Both Premiers held that it would be impossible to comply with the request, because if the Ottawa unemployed were assisted the same privilege would be claimed by thousands of others in every part of the Dominion, and to do this it would cost several millions of dollars. Both fully sympathized with the unemployed laborers, but the Governments could not undertake to assist them in the way proposed. Hon. Mr. Mowat, however, mentioned that there was a demand for farm laborers in the west, and if they desired to go there he thought they would experience little difficulty in getting a low rate. It was suggested that the Provincial Government might employ some of the men on the Colonization Road in Muskoka, and in this way enable them to commence.

Listowel brass band, has received a grant of \$100 from the Council Board.

F. Sturdy's residence and lot in Guelph has been purchased by Mr. Barber, butcher, for \$1,450.

It is expected that Messrs. Haskell and Hurd, temperance lecturers, will again visit Guelph shortly.

F. W. A. Osborne, Manager of the Dominion Type Founding Co., Montreal and Toronto, has been arrested for embezzlement.

A young German in the neighborhood of Haysville, named George, 18 years of age, stands six feet, five inches in his socks.

George Baker, the man who criminally assaulted Miss Penny, received his first flogging of twenty lashes in the London jail yard on Monday.

Several claims have been presented to the Toronto Council for damage done on the night of the O'Donovan Rossa riots. One from Owen Cosgrove amounts to \$300.

For allowing less than three pints of liquor to be sold on his premises, Mr. E. O'Donnell, Guelph, was fined \$20 and costs by the Police Magistrate on Monday morning.

The expense of running League Clubs, including salaries to players, travelling, advertising, ground rent, uniforms, etc., averages between \$25,000 and \$30,000 per annum to each club.

A man named Archibald McPhail, from Cullross, who was confined in the Walkerton jail, on a charge of dangerous lunacy, committed suicide last week, by hanging himself to the bars of his cell door.

On Saturday, 6th inst., the steam saw mill of Mr. Joshua House, of Minto, was totally destroyed by fire together with about five hundred thousand feet of lumber. The loss is about \$7,000; no insurance. The origin of this fire is unknown.

MILINERY SHOW ROOM.—Our Milinery Show Room is filled with all the latest novelties from Europe and this continent. There are in this Show Room likewise Shawls, Mantles, Coats, Wrappers, Parasols, Carpets, Children's Cloaks, Dresses, etc. Give us a call and see our magnificent stock. McCleod, Anderson & Co., Georgetown.

U. C. BIBLE SOCIETY.

ANNUAL MEETING. The annual meeting of the Acton Branch of the Upper Canada Bible Society was held in the Presbyterian Church, Acton, on Monday evening, the 8th inst.

The President, A. Campbell, Esq., occupied the chair, and opened the meeting by reading a portion of Scripture. Rev. Mr. Williamson followed with prayer.

The President then delivered his annual address, as follows: CHRISTIAN FRIENDS.—In meeting together tonight to celebrate another of the anniversaries of the Upper Canada Bible Society, it becomes us to take a retrospect view of the past year, and review the many tokens of Divine favor bestowed upon us.

We have enjoyed a comparatively beautiful harvest, by which is left to us abundance both for man and for beast, and to spare. And should we be less grateful for the early promising spring, which has dawned upon our land? And how much more should we rejoice that peace and quietness reign in our land and in the empire to which we belong. We have never been visited by war or famine, while other nations of the earth have been sorely visited by both, with all their accompanying calamities.

And should it not be the earnest prayer of each one of us that God in his mercy may overrule the negotiations which are now pending between the several nations of Europe in order that peace and quietness may be the issue thereof, and that a wider door may be opened for the reception of the Gospel in those kingdoms who have been engaged in the fearful civil war, and who are, while enjoying peace and quietness under the most free and happy sovereignty upon which the nations with our Bibles in our hands, in which we have revealed to us that marvellous scheme of redemption through the obedience and suffering of a crucified Saviour, set with folded arms and say: "Am I my brother's keeper?" I say, dear friends, we are our brother's keeper. The light and knowledge of the Gospel has not been given to us to be put under a bushel, but to be put upon a candlestick, that it may give light to all. May we not well view ourselves in the position of servants of that certain wise man, who went into all the country to receive into himself a kingdom, and said unto them, "Occupy till I come."

Let us, then, dear friends, arise with renewed vigor to a sense of our responsibilities, and consider it as a high honor and privilege to be the Acton Branch of the Bible Society to be asked, yes, permitted, to add its mite and lend a helping hand to the diffusion of christian knowledge, to the spread of the Bible through all lands, until all the nations of the earth shall see and know the salvation of our God.

The Secretary read the report of the Committee, as follows: Report of the Committee of the Acton Branch U. C. Bible Society, for the year 1878.

Your Committee, since last report, have held two meetings. On the 13th April of last year they made the following apportionment of the collections in accordance with the recommendations contained in last year's report, and approved of by the annual meeting, viz: Free to U. C. Bible Society, \$15 00 Free to B. and F. D. Society, 15 00 Montreal Auxiliary, 15 00 Bible distribution among French Canadians in Lower Canada, 40 00 On purchase account, 31 79

Total, \$101 79 The second meeting held by the Committee was on the 1st March inst., for the purpose of appointing collectors and fixing time for annual meeting, which they decided to hold on 18th March, but owing to the almost impossible condition of the roads, the President deemed it advisable to defer the meeting until this date. In accordance with the feeling of the annual meeting last year, the Committee have again dispensed with the services of a paid agent, relying on the assistance of resident ministers to address the meeting; but the Directors of the U. C. Bible Society having expressed the wish that each Branch should be visited at least once in three years by an agent of the Society, the Committee recommended that the next annual meeting avail itself of the fuller information which the agents would be expected to give regarding the operations of the Parent Society.

Respectfully submitted, D. HENDERSON, Sec. Acton, April 8th, 1878.

The Depositor's report was then presented, which showed the amount of stock on hand to be \$32.32, and amount of sales during past year \$18.95.

The Treasurer's financial statement was then submitted, which, including the collection taken up at the meeting, is as follows:

Collected by Miss Christie and Miss McCracken, \$13 50 Miss Stool and Miss Cameron, 12 58 D. Henderson and Peter Mann, 3 66 A. Campbell and D. Kennedy, 4 20 D. D. Christie and John Warren, 5 40 R. Campbell and James McDonald, 7 25 A. Kennedy and A. Lesby, 1 25 P. S. Armstrong and C. Swackhammer, 3 80 John Mann and Wm. Brown, 7 00 Collected at meeting, 4 18 Sale of Scriptures, 18 95 Total, \$81 85

The several reports having been adopted, the following officers were appointed for the ensuing year: PRESIDENT.—A. Campbell, Esq. VICE PRESIDENTS.—All resident ministers.

SECRETARIES.—D. Henderson. DEPOSITOR.—D. D. Christie. COMMITTEE.—Peter Mann, Robt. Warren, Ann Hall, John Speight, P. S. Armstrong, R. Little, Alex. Kennedy, James Matthews, Duncan Kennedy and Wm. Brown.

Also all others who have subscribed one dollar and upwards. The meeting was then addressed by the Rev. Mr. Williamson, Rev. Mr. Cook, Rev. Mr. Davis and Rev. D. B. Cameron, who gave interesting accounts of the origin, objects and operations of the Bible Society. The Rev. Mr. Hobbs was unavoidably prevented for being present.

The benediction was pronounced, after which the meeting adjourned.

Private Theatricals at Rideau Hall.

On Friday evening last the curtain of the theatre at Rideau Hall rose on the last of those charming performances which have so frequently delighted the society of Ottawa, during the residence of their Excellency the Governor-General and the Countess of Dufferin in Ottawa. At the conclusion of the second piece the curtain fell, and when it rose again, in response to the prolonged applause of the spectators, Her Excellency spoke an epilogue with a power which held the whole audience spell bound. The ease and grace of gesture, and the perfect modulation of Her Excellency's voice, left nothing to be desired to give the greatest effect to the stately and beautiful lines. The following farwell lines, which closed the poem, written by Lord Dufferin, are interesting:—

If words could thank you for your generous thoughts should be to see you And ah! believe as long as life endures, The warm affections of my heart are yours. And now, one last farewell—a rerun And we depart your loved Canadian Never again to hear your plaintive, Nor watch the ready laughter in your gleam out responsive to our mirth's wit. For now you're back toward your year In homage to our stimulated wit, We cannot like these can never wholly into Oblivion's melancholy shade; And of us, some, when Christmas drear, Our wishes thoughts instinctively will turn To bid you fair city with her crown of towers.

And of the joys of friends that once were ours, And of the smiling fancy fill Honourable DONALD ALEXANDER MACDONALD, ALD. LEGISLATIVE GOVERNOR OF OUR PROVINCE OF ONTARIO, in our Government House, in our City of Toronto, in our said Province, this TWENTY THIRD DAY OF MARCH, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight, and in the Forty-first year of Our Reign.

By Command, ARTHUR S. HARDY, Secretary.

ACTON MONTHLY SALE.

The Acton monthly sale will be held at Agnew's Hotel, on Fair Day, Thursday, May 2nd.

All kinds of Stock, Implements, &c. will be sold by paying 50 cts. a piece. Sale at 12 o'clock. Terms.—Ten months' credit on approved joint notes.

All entries must be made to Mr. Jas. Ryder, Sec. Wm. HEMSTREET, Auctioneer. 25-47

DYE STUFFS

All Colors.

ANILINE DYES

All Shades, at

J. E. MCGARVIN'S

DRUG STORE.

BIRTHS. In Lindsay, on the 6th inst., the wife of Mr. John Moore, of twins—two boys.

MARRIED. In Erin, on the 9th inst., at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. R. Hobbs, Mr. Wm. Mackay of Newmarket, to Kate, daughter of Mr. McKeown, of Erin.

ACTON MARKETS. Flour, per 100 lbs. \$2 50 to 3 00 Fall Wheat, 1 15 to 1 20 Spring Wheat, 0 75 to 1 05

Woolens: WEAVING! All orders in the Weaving line promptly attended to. Special attention paid to Carpet Weaving. MRS. H. McLOUGHLIN, near CULROSS, ONTARIO.

D. A. MACDONALD, CANADA. PROVINCE OF ONTARIO. VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, QUEEN, Defender of the Faith, &c., &c.

PROCLAMATION. O. Mowat, WHEREAS the sixth day of October, 1877, by virtue of the authority vested in Us by an Act passed in the Session of the Parliament of Canada, (held in the Fortieth year of Our Reign, intituled "An Act to provide for the safe custody of prisoners in places where the Common Goals become temporarily insecure," we proclaimed and declared the Common Goal of the County of Halton to be in force, and that the County of Halton to which offenders within the said County of Halton were, from and after the seventeenth day of October, inclusive, to be committed and sentenced until We made further order:

And whereas the County Goal of the County of Halton has since been made fit for the safe keeping of prisoners: NOW KNOW YE, that We do hereby, and by virtue of the authority vested in Us by the said Act, and otherwise howsoever, proclaim and declare that from and after the Third day of April next, the Proclamation aforesaid shall cease to have effect, and that thenceforth offenders within the said County of Halton shall be committed and sentenced to the Common Goal of the said County of Halton, in the same manner as if Our said Proclamation had not issued.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent, and the Great Seal of Our said Province of Ontario to be hereunto affixed: WITNES, THE HONORABLE DONALD ALEXANDER MACDONALD, ALD. LEGISLATIVE GOVERNOR OF OUR PROVINCE OF ONTARIO, in our Government House, in our City of Toronto, in our said Province, this TWENTY THIRD DAY OF MARCH, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight, and in the Forty-first year of Our Reign.

By Command, ARTHUR S. HARDY, Secretary.

W. STEWART & CO. Invite attention and inspection to special lot of

5,000 YARDS

OF NEW AND FASHIONABLE

DRESS GOODS

Purchased at a Discount of 33 per cent.

The lot was detained in transit by cable hence the large sacrifice.

These goods are cheaper than have been offered for years, and could not be replaced.

NO FAMILY SHOULD BEYOND

Winter DRY GOODS

before they see our immense stock of New and Fashionable Goods

W. Stewart & Co.,

GUELPH, March 12, 1878.

J. E. MCGARVIN'S

DRUG STORE.

James Ryder

Wishes to thank the public for the patronage they have conferred upon him heretofore.

As his books and notes were destroyed by fire, he would be thankful if those who have his books and notes would give him the price and amount of them, and also if those whose accounts have been rendered would bring them forward and settle. He would also say that he is indebted to the public for the patronage they have conferred upon him heretofore.

STILL CARRYING ON BUSINESS at the old stand, where he will be glad to see his old customers, and as time goes by, he has made the price to suit them.

Material and Workmanship Guaranteed. Jobbing as follows: HORSE-SHOING A SPECIALTY. Near Short, &c. Getting Shoes, 10c. Putting Shoes, 25c. For new shoes, 50c. Laying shoes, 10c. to \$1.00. Further particulars on application. All other jobbing in proportion.

These prices are for Cash only. All work charged the old rates. Further particulars on application. Yours truly, JAMES RYDER.

LOOK!

T. Stewart & Co

Having purchased the Tinsmith business from Mr. Robert Fisher, would respectfully solicit the continuance of the patronage heretofore extended to him, together with as much more as the public of Acton and vicinity shall be pleased to extend.

All work entrusted to our Mr. Stewart will receive prompt and careful attention. Our prices are now well warranted and shall be enlarged as soon as possible.

TRY US,

and be convinced that this is the place to get the best value for your money.

125 Stand—Next door to the Methodist Church.

41-3m T. STEWART & CO.

NEW

SPRING GOODS

THE GOLDEN LION

GUELPH,

Ahead as usual.

SPECIAL LOTS

AND PRICES

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W. Stewart & Co.,

GUELPH, March 12, 1878.

J. E. MCGARVIN'S

DRUG STORE.

THE POST OFFICE

Cash Store

ACTON.

JAMES MATTHEWS, Acton, Feb. 14, 1878.

Grand Opening

OF OUR Millinery and Mantle

SHOW ROOMS On Friday next, 12th inst.

A. O. BUCHAN

Intimates to the ladies of Acton and surrounding country that he will open his Millinery and Mantle Show Rooms for the season, on Friday next, the 12th inst., on which occasion he will produce correct representations of the

Very Latest Styles in English, French and American Millinery. Also one case Paris Pattern Silk Mantles. An unusually fine display of Real Laces, Lace Sets, etc. A recent advantageous purchase of 60-80 Parasols and Sunshades. The ladies of Acton are cordially invited to call and examine styles, engage prices, etc.

Particulate West Hill Drive, Millinery and Mantle Establishment. Guelph, Ont. 11th Inst.

TRY US,

and be convinced that this is the place to get the best value for your money.

125 Stand—Next door to the Methodist Church.

41-3m T. STEWART & CO.

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