

# The Chatham Daily Planet.

(MAGAZINE AND EDITORIAL SECTION.)

CHATHAM ONT., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1903.

(PAGES NINE TO TWELVE)

## A Thriving Colony

Some interesting facts concerning the settlers around Buxton—Mr. Shadd takes exception to an article in the Toronto World.

To the Editor of The Planet:

Dear Sir,—I have read with certain interest this would-be history, but rather opinion of a southern traveller—concerning the King settlement—who it is said visited these parts some months ago as staff correspondent of a Toronto paper, but more properly a southern democratic agent who very wisely picks his subjects and formulates ideas to suit his own purposes.

Now, Sir, I do not wish to occupy too much of your valuable paper, and while I feel very keenly my inability to grapple properly with the subject, yet I would forever brand myself a coward to remain silent when I see a race attacked in this manner with which by the natural course of events I am identified. I am pleased to note that this article is simply copied without comment, and that your heading discredits its genuine historical prominence by styling it "Alleged History" that the subject is of no importance to Canadians generally, living as we do in a land where there is plenty of room for all good citizens and plenty of good British law for bad ones.

Now, just where this so-called colony began and where it ended it is hard to say, in fact, to the most casual observer a handful of people of any race poured down in these counties of Kent and Essex over fifty years ago are very hard to trace, and but for the complexion of these people would be indeed hard to trace. This writer would infer that these people were planted here like trees with every surrounding heart could wish, the facts were just the reverse, but since early life in this country has been told at every fireside, I do not deem it necessary to repeat, in fact early life in any country demands the stoutest hearts

and the most determined endurance to succeed, as is evidenced by the number of early white settlers to be found here.

"They had practical experience in farming." Indeed they were trained under the last of their masters for generations and hadn't even the right to govern their own children; what could such know of farming in a land with climate as different as this is from the South? and to where they fled for refuge. I personally have heard several of these old people say they only stayed because they were too poor to get away. It is unsuited then that as conditions changed, their sons spread out over this vast country and sought other occupations. How many thousands of white residents of this country do we find scattered all over the world? and especially in urban life. Why does the Hon. Mr. Harcourt in his address at the Chatham library opening refer to the disposition to go to the cities as something that circumstances alone can alter. I ask do all or any considerable proportion of any people—especially among the illiterate, to which class these ex-slaves must be almost wholly allotted—do just what is best for them? This writer is forced to admit that there were ex-slaves whose descendants had succeeded as farmers. I add there were many others who would have done so had they had the ability to count their earnings and that management of their affairs which comes of freedom and cannot be attached to serfdom. McCaulay says that after slavery had been abolished in England a hundred years without bloodshed there was no trace of it in the land, yet this southern gentleman expects these people whose faces point them out to succeed as a whole in fifty years this principle of working while the master governs drilled in on the back of savagery for nearly four hundred years with no chance of mental or moral improvement save the licentious character of the master must

work out in fifty years. Why did not he note the difference between families of ex-slaves who came to this country and families of free men who came here voluntarily? The answer is because he was interested in having this a different kind of people from any other. Why does he apply the term negro in a general way when in reality there are many negroes in this country, and to the majority of whom the term comes about as near as the term Irish would to a French-Canadian who might have Irish blood but no member of whose family had seen Ireland for ten generations. I suppose he just adopts the term like the Yankee who adopts the term American to himself for want of a better one. And if this Michigan Central foreman whom he styles a "student

## SATCHEL— —OF THE— —SATELLITE

The Planet wins.

If this page were only large enough I would print a picture of my chest since the trial.

I don't see why they call them law suits because there is always somebody dissatisfied.

may stop over in Chatham for a time on their way to St. Thomas, says the Walkerville Herald. You don't know Chatham, Herald, old boy. They would get stuck on the place and stay here.

After Mr. Mabce, K. C., had spent fifteen minutes explaining a bit of wisdom from the Satellite column, His Lordship couldn't see that it meant anything. I gave up trying to find any meaning in Satellites some two years ago.

White—They tell me that Silver has traded off his country property for a suit of clothes?

Black—Yes.

White—What did he do that for?

Black—I suppose he thought that he had good grounds for a suit.



The new shapes from Paris are very different from those that have preceded them. In this large hat the underbrim is frequently the point selected for the most trimming. The shapes flare well off the face with a deeper bandeau to give them an upward tilt, while the back sets close to the hair, which is dressed low and drawn into a smart 'fair' net. The new toques and turbans are much smaller, velvet is the preferred material and wings and bird and catfish tips show that this will be a feather season.

## The Days of Auld Lang Syne

Interesting Events of Ye Olden Times Gathered from The Planet's Issues of Half a Century Ago.

From The Planet files, Jan. 5, 1857, to Jan. 9, 1857.

January fifth was the date of the municipal elections in Chatham.

The public character of Dr. Cross, of this city, is being slandered by the Globe and our local contemporary.

Joseph S. Lee, founder and President of the Montreal Shakespeare Club, delivered a lecture in the town hall on Tuesday, January sixth, in aid of the Mechanics' Institute. Mr. Lee's address was "The Illustration of the Poetic Genius of the late Thomas Hood."

The Council for '56 holds its last meeting.

Two tenders were received for the fire engine houses, one from Thomas Summerville for \$1,500, and the other from Allan Couits for \$2,200.

Mr. McKellar moved, seconded by Mr. Northwood, that in consideration of the loss recently sustained by Mr. Slagg by fire, that that gentleman be remitted the sum of \$615, that being the amount of his assessment. The motion carried.

Neither tender was accepted for the fire engine houses, but Engineer Kirk was instructed to get out new plans.

Jacob Dolsen died in Raleigh at the age of 68 years.

The death is recorded of Alexander McCrae, father of Walter McCrae, of this town. The deceased had been speaking at a public meeting and just

after sitting down had died from a broken blood vessel. He was well-known in Chatham.

Mrs. Joseph Russell died on Sunday, January 4th, at the age of 22 years.

The result of the municipal elections was as follows:—

**EBERTS' WARD.**

Askin .....	117
Ireland .....	102
Keating .....	100
Cross .....	51
Holmes .....	28

**NORTHWOOD'S WARD.**

Charteris .....	90
Smith .....	75
Burns .....	68
Duff .....	67

**CHRYSLER WARD.**

McCrae .....	75
McKellar .....	70
Tilt .....	52
Knapp .....	37
Miller .....	34
Winter .....	5

By Rev. N. F. English, on the 31st December, at the Eldorado House, North Chatham, Dan. J. Van Velsom married to Miss Mary E. Wallace, of Chatham township. Also Robert Dormer to Miss Jane Cavanagh. Also Geo. H. Rice to Miss Sarah Ann Brown, both of Harwich. Also Michael Field to Miss Jane Smith, both of Chatham township.

Schiller's concert drew a crowd of 400 people. It was a grand success.

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of the situation" did say "they want someone to direct them," it is no more than I might observe of any gang of men he might happen to have working under him and can have no reference to the race as a whole. His reference to Mr. King is quite flattering, but since I have no intention of stirring up old things, shall not criticize, but having been born and raised here have heard quite a few things about Mr. King and his slaves.

In conclusion, he says some of their descendants have gone into professional life and that their morals are good as compared with those of the South, which I hold both, in spite of his opinions, to be good evidence of up building. In summing up I wish to say that this subject arises out of southern lynch law forcing it into United States politics that we have no interest in it except from a spectator's standpoint. Yet there is an element in this country of either southerners or their sympathizers who uphold this principle of pointing out persons in whom they can detect signs of negro blood as some animal to be avoided and acting to the great disadvantage of the black man in every way possible, but this element is happily small enough and far enough away from true British and loyal Canadian principles and so thoroughly within the pale of British law as to cause no alarm. That we have some blacks and some whites who are drunken, disorderly, dissolute fellows I do not deny, but we have plenty of good up-to-date thrifty citizens of all classes who regard these rough people as a common element among mankind. A fool to shrink from honest criticism, a coward not to defend, above a saint not to have enemies, and un-British not to fight them whenever they appear.

Trusting I have not trespassed too far on your valuable space to do half justice to the subject, I remain, Yours, etc., W. A. SHADD.

Mrs. A. Tyhurst, of Dresden, and Miss Mary Rowburgh, of Chatham, are visiting friends in Blenheim, Rondeau and Guilds—Blenheim Tribune.

## DESHANE—SOMERS.

The residence of County Commissioner S. Somers, east Wallaceburg, was the scene of a quiet wedding on Wednesday afternoon, when his daughter Ella was united in marriage to James Deshane, by the Rev. James Nicol. Only the immediate friends and relatives of the bride and groom were present, but many beautiful presents attested the esteem in which the bride and groom are held. The happy young couple left on the evening train for Marshall, Mich., where they will visit the groom's brother. On their return they will take up their residence in Wallaceburg—Wallaceburg Herald-Record.

Men of affairs like to talk to women about the vast amount of work they do which does not belong to them.

A libel suit is a bad thing to fool with. It goes in the "didn't know it was loaded" class.

Although up to full strength, that Hamilton Highlander Regiment will be a bare Regiment.

I wonder if the Hamilton Spectator will get the soldiers for the Highland Regiment from off the mountain.

Always expect 13 to mean bad luck for the other fellow and you'll not be bothered with superstition.

Between you and me, I think the Judge rather enjoyed that bit of wisdom from the Satellite column.

The city sports went snooting on Thursday but I didn't notice any of them sporting game on their return.

Was it Sam Jones who perpetrated the following condensation of sagacity, "Don't monkey with a buzz saw when it's busy." Sam was right.

No, I don't think that it was the wisdom from the Satellite that won the suit altogether. O. L. Lewis, W. R. Riddell and about 15 or 20 leading citizens helped.

I just want to point out that what this G. H. J. has long claimed, has been proven in the High Court, i. e., that Planet reports are accurate and correct.

It looks like business now on the streets that are being paved. There is now hopes that some of the streets will be finished by Christmas and others by next fall.

Read the wisdom in this column carefully. You don't know what paragraph a judge, jury and two lawyers will attempt to solve and I want your opinion, too.

If it took J. T. Mabce, K. C., of Stratford, fifteen minutes to analyse four lines of Satellite seriousness, how long would it take the learned lawyer to cover a column?

I always knew that the 13th day of the month was unlucky, and when the libel suit against this G. H. J. began on Tuesday, 13th of Oct., I just knew something would happen. It did.

I had read the article on which the alleged libel suit was founded, and couldn't see any grounds for the suit. I was glad to see twelve other intelligent men arrive at the same conclusion.

Yes, dear gentle reader, The Planet won. No, I don't want all the credit. I'm perfectly willing to let the other gentlemen have a little. What's that? Leave out the "other." All right, just as you like.

The L. E. & D. R. Railway car shops

The Board of Education will, of course, give the school children a holiday on Thursday, Oct. 15, to see the road race—Hamilton Spectator. That is rather an unusual thing for a road to do, but the children might also take advantage of the holiday to see the cowslip through the fence, the horsefly on the wall, the dew drop on the leaves, the tree bark, the cigar box, the sky light, and the banana skin around the corner.

## GETTING FAMOUS.

Browning has only had ordinary mortals trying to discover a meaning in what he wrote but the Satellite had a Chief Justice of Ontario and a jury of twelve men pondering upon his.

## SHARTS--DAGNEAU

A pleasing event occurred Thursday morning at St. Joseph's church at 6.30 a. m., when Miss Ida Dagneau, daughter of Henry Dagneau, of this city, and Harvey A. Sharts, foreman of the Dowsley works, were united in marriage. Miss Ethylene Baughman, of this city, acted as bridesmaid, while M. H. Serson, also of the Maple City, was best man.

The happy couple are quite popular Chathamites and their many friends will join in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Sharts every happiness in life. They left on a short honeymoon trip and on their return will take up their residence in the Maple City.

The employees of the Dowsley works presented Mr. Sharts with two very handsome chairs and the following address read by Albert Foy. Joshua Stephens made the presentation. The address:

Mr. Harvey A. Sharts, It is our pleasant duty, on behalf of the employees of the Dowsley Spring & Axle Works, to present to you these gifts as a token of our sincere esteem for you. We, one and all, extend to you our sincere wishes and heartfelt congratulations on this happy occasion, and we hope and trust that your journey through life may be long and happy—and never disturbed not even by as much as a shadow of dissent.

May these modest gifts, which we beg you to kindly accept, be a constant reminder of our good will and wishes toward you. May they at all times be silent witnesses of a home replete with joy, happiness and prosperity. We beg to remain, Yours faithfully,

THE EMPLOYEES.

Some people kick at everything they don't understand.

The attention paid to inconsequential things causes us to overlook many that are great.



## A Dainty Negligee.

Slender with bandings of Crapone's lace, relieved by deep tucks running and skirt at intervals, is one of the latest designs. The throat is with a ribbon choker, while the long sleeves are banded into a

Long cravat ends, starting from the square collar and edged with a handmade crochet edge are the distinguishing features of the white Wooltex suit. The coat is a short, loose, box shape, and the full sleeves are banded into a tight cuff. The sun-plaited skirt is on trains and the hem is, of course, protected with a binding.