Local and Provincial.

PARASOLS! PARASOLS!—Newest styles at Falconer & Durning.

THE REV. MR. BISHOP occupied the Baptist pulpit on Sabbath evening.

PLEASE call in the *oldest* inhabitant to find out whether or not this is the finest spring on record.

STRAW GOODS! STRAW GOODS!—A large assortment, New and Cheap, at Falconer & Durning's.

MR. LANGILLE, of North Sydney, has taken the principalship of the Amherst Academy, vacated by the appointment of Mr. Lay to the office of Inspector.

THERE is no mistake about it, you can save 20 per cent. by purchasing your clothing from Falconer & Durning, who are showing the largest stock in town.

LOCOMOTIVE No. 2 has recently been in the Machine Shop getting new tires on, and being otherwise repaired and painted. She looks firm, and works fine, so Aleck says.

SEE THE "Bull's Eye" Show Case at Falconer & Durning's, containing hundreds of useful and fancy articles, of which you can have your choice at 12 cts. and 50 cts. each.

ALEX. URQUHART has arrived from Boston, and returns this week, taking his family along with him. Several also of our young people are going in the same direction. We wish them all *bon voyage*.

SINCE giving the report of Memorial Service, in our last issue, we are happy to learn that the remarks referring to our local temperance speakers had reference to the past and not to the real temperance workers of the present day, of which Acadia Mines can boast of a goodly number.

IN THE Principal's Department a prize was offered for the best essay written on Acadia Mines. There were several competitors, but Earnest Macdonald was the successful one. In another column we give the essay, which doubtless will contain much of interest to many of our readers.

OUR ENTERPRISING merchant, G. R. Smith, Esq., is at work on his new store. It is to be built on a lot at the rear of his present stand, and fronts on the "Circular Road." The building itself will be 65 ft. long, 24 ft. wide, and 22 ft. posts. It will be a commodious building, and we hope that his enterprise and pluck will be duly rewarded.

EXCURSIONS.—The members of the Acadia Mines Brass Band intend having an excursion to DeBert about the 16th of July, of which due notice will be given.

Acadia Lodge, I. O. G. T., intend having an excursion to Halifax in June, instead of their annual picnic, to help pay for an organ which they recently purchased.

THE HEALTH OFFICER is now making his rounds. It is very important that the cleaning up of premises should be carefully attended to at this time of year. Health is of first importance, but we cannot expect to have or retain it very long if surrounded by filth. Citizens, remove it promptly. We wish he were invested with authority to *clean out* a number of the dogs which infest the place and are a perfect nuisance.

E. ROSS, of Truro, has been appointed Provincial Examiner for granting teacher's licenses, in the place of his brother, the late Dr. Ross, of Dalhousie College. Exceptions against this appointment have been urged strongly, on the ground that an experienced teacher or educationist would be better qualified. Without questioning the Rev. gentleman's ability, yet we are of opinion that this appointment should have fallen to some one within the lines of the teaching profession.

WE ARE called upon this week to record the death of John Patrick, whose sudden demise leaves a widow with three children to mourn their loss. Mr. Patrick had been engaged by the Company as engineer for several years, and by his ability and integrity had won the confidence and esteem of his employers. Although not in the best of health for the past three months, and being laid aside from work for a few weeks, yet no one thought him dangerously ill. His disease was of the heart, which developed so rapidly that he only lived a few days after taking his bed, and died on Sabbath, the 18th of April. On Tuesday he was buried with Masonic honors, according to the beautiful service of the Masonic ritual, by the Brethren of North Star Lodge, of which he was a member. A sermon was preached on the occasion by Rev. J. A. Logan to a very large concourse of people.

OUR OBITUARY COLUMN chronicles the death of the beloved wife of Dr. Macdonald, of this place. For several years she has been ailing, and her weak health compelled her to spend the winter of 1884 in the milder climate of North Carolina. The strength which she gained there was only temporary, and since returning, her health slowly and gradually declined, until on the morning of Tuesday the 20th, she peacefully passed away. The funeral was on Thursday, the service being conducted in St. Paul's Church, after which a very long procession followed the remains to their last resting place on Pleasant Hill Cemetery. Very seldom have we seen so large a funeral gathering as on this occasion. Dr. Macdonald and family have the warm sympathy of the entire community in their bereavement. We understand that the Doctor has gone to North Sydney to spend a few days to gather up his strength and energy, which of late has been so severely tried. Dr Pitblado will look after the sick during his absence.

History of the Village of "Siemens," or Acadia Mines, Londonderry, N. S.

A PRIZE ESSAY.

The name of this place, the history of which we are about to sketch, has been the subject of much controversy. It however appears to us that the original name was undoubtedly "Acadian," and if in the Postal Department, and throughout the Province generally, it is known as Acadia Mines, it is an abuse, sanctioned by custom or by common consent. In this condition it may be interesting to note the grounds upon which we base our conclusion concerning its ancient name. While the memory of the oldest inhabitant is not always reliable, yet in looking over the correspondence of gentlemen many of whom are living and are well known and notable in correspondence, viz., Thos. Carswell, C. D. Archibald, Sir Adams Archibald, David Forbes, Dr. Siemens, R. C. Selwyn, Esqs., and in that of the late Robert Forman, Esq., we find Acadian used exclusively. The sign-board on the Company's old office read "Acadian Mines," and by far the greater number of deeds recorded in Truro bear the same name. The original company owning this property was called "The Acadian Iron Mining Association," and with them the name originated. As long ago as the year 1848 Wm. Cairns, C. E., in a printed report always used the name as Acadian and never as now used. In a legal document bearing the date 1851 the old name is used, and the same holds good in a cause tried in a Court of Chancery in 1860. Just how the name degenerated into Acadia, it is impossible to say, but to this day the oldest inhabitants of this community insist upon using the final N, in order, as they say, to prevent it being mistaken for Acadia Coal Mines. Let all this be as it may, in the spring of 1865 at a meeting of the Local Legislature, a bill was introduced and assented to changing the name to Siemens which is now its legal name, and which name is printed on the cards affixed to the cars of freight sent out by the present company.

Acadia Mines is situated on the south side of the Cobequid Mountains, in the County of Colchester. It is distant some 20 miles from Truro the County town, and is about 80 miles from Halifax the capital of the Province of Nova Scotia. A branch line some 22 miles in length, connects the village with the I. C. Railway by which means the adjacent extensive coal fields of Picton, Spring Hill and Maccan are of easy access. Cobequid Bay, an arm of the Bay of Funday, is upon the south side of the village. A distance of six miles intervenes, which up to the year 1845 was an unbroken forest, the road known as the "River Road", connecting the two points, is replete with most beautiful scenic effects, and will amply repay a long journey to witness it.

Two branches of a river, known as Great Village River, divide the town into two sections. The west branch takes its rise in Sutherland's Lake, the east branch at Dach's or Hart's Lake. Upon the east branch is a deep ravine known as the "Hollow," into which, in the year 1844, two men named John Phillips and Chas Vance, now deceased, were rolling logs for the purpose of forming a mill dam, and observed a curious mineral substance dislodged by the logs, which, upon examination, was found to be hematite iron ore, and is assumed to be the first iron ore discovered in this locality. In the year 1845, Dr. Gesner arrived for the purpose of searching for deposits of iron ore, supposed to be located in the Cobequid Mountains, and in the same year Sir William Dawson visited the place for the first time. In the following year Sir William, associated with J. L. Hayes, of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, made a second visit, and upon the strength of a very encouraging report made by them to Mr. C. D. Archibald, a joint stock company, known as the "The Acadian Iron Mining Association," was formed in England, and the development of the place commenced.

A large force of men under C. D. Archibald were at once set to work, principally clearing up brush and timber, and were burning it for charcoal. These were joined, on the 1st of July, 1849, by a party of ten miners from South Wales, under the management of Thomas Butler, Esq., of whom six were married and accompanied by their families. In the winter of this year the company was properly organized upon a sound financial basis. In the spring of 1850, Capt. Blanchard, of New Jersey, and others, commenced burning charcoal, and also began the erection of 4 Catalan forges. These forges were blown in late in the autumn of 1850, worked off and on until the spring of 1851, but proved complete failures, nearly resulting in the abandonment of the works by the company. However, in the fall of 1851, the company re-formed, and sent from England Mr. Thos. Carswell to manage for them. Under his superintendence a small charcoal blast furnace was built, but it was not till after repeated defeats that he was successful in producing pig iron from the soft red clay ores, which formed the out-crop of all these extensive beds. The furnace was now run steadily until 1855, when an additional furnace was built at Nictaux, Annapolis Co. In 1853, the company, after a readjustment, dispatched Mr. Goodall from England as their manager. After some repairs the furnace was again blown in, under the new management, but proved a failure. Hot blast pipes and fire bricks were imported from England, and with them arrived two masons, Mr. Wm. Scurrah and Benjamin York. In February of 1857, a number of Germans arrived from the Crimea, and in this year Mr. Ephraim Jones arrived and took the management into his hands. The year 1857 seems to have been a notable one in the history of this village, for in this year specular ore was discovered by Mr. W. C. Williams, at the West or New Mines. Previous to this all the ore had been obtained in the same mountain where now the ankerite is quarried. In this year Mr. Jones succeeded in blowing in the blast furnace, and was very fortunate in the method of fluxing, and a first-class grade of pig iron was obtained. In the year 1858, financial trouble again overtook the company, and in due course of law the works were seized by the sheriff to satisfy out-standing liabilities. The blast furnace at Nictaux was at this time suffered to be blown out, the pig iron from that locality proving too full of phosphorus to admit of being worked economically. Before dismissing this matter we note that in 1874 these furnaces were in ruins, having been torn down by the inhabitants of that locality for the sake of the bricks. In the spring of 1859 the company again re-formed, under the name of the "Acadian Iron and Charcoal Company," and was represented by Mr. John Levessie, who arrived from England very shortly afterwards. Mr. Levessie paid up all the debts, and in company with Mr. Jones, succeeded in managing the works successfully. In the same years radical change was effected in the method of producing refined iron. Hitherto, as noted above, the process had been by Catalan forges, but while the iron produced of fair was quality, the cost of production was enormous, and in the then depressed state of trade, a more economical process was necessary. At this time there was but several reverberating puddling furnaces worked by draft and using hard wood as fuel, which in the hands of skilled workmen, imported from England, proved eminently satisfactory.

The religious and intellectual education of the inhabitants of any place is so intimately connected with its history that we may well pause at this juncture to note the progress of the several churches and schools. In 1851 a small school house was built, and forms a part of the present building known as the "Old School House." Here Mr. Elliot.

"In his noisy mansion, skilled to rule,
The village schoolmaster taught his little school.
A man severe he was and stern to view.
* * * * * *
Yet he was kind or if severe in aught
The love he bore to learning was in fault."

Mr. Elliot was followed by M. Jefferson, who remained here until he died in 1869. We may state in passing that Mrs. J. W. Betts, now a resident of Providence, R. I., finished his term. So numerous have been Mr. Jefferson's successors and so varying have been their terms of office, that we forbear giving the list; it is sufficient to say that with each succeeding principal of our public schools, a higher grade of education has been demanded, which in itself is a most eloquent tribute to the intellectual advancement of the people.

Rev. Mr. Bayne, a Presbyterian, was the first minister to conduct Divine service in this place. He came once a month, and preached in a house occupied by Mr. John Lee, now deceased. This was in 1851, and in the same year Mr. Lever, an Episcopal minister, held divine service in the then newly erected school house; he also preached once a month. In the limited space at our command it would be impossible to follow each succeeding clergyman, but in due course of time, with the increased people, came an increase of church members, representing different denominations, Roman Catholic, Episcopal, Presbyterian, Baptist and Methodist, each of which own a church, and with the exception of the Baptists, a parsonage and a resident clergyman.

The first store was occupied by Mr. Goudge about the year 1853, was burnt, the following year, rebuilt and sold out about the year 1858 to Mr. Robert. Forman, and in the following year a Post Office was opened, which proved a great boon to the people. At this time also much work was done under the management of Mr. Wilson upon the roads, both public and private, in the immediate vicinity. Previous to this, all the produce of the works had been hauled to Great Village by a road which passed Mr. Beattie's present house, up Delaney's Hill, and over the old Cumberland road to Spencer's Corner, and then over the coach road to Great Village. Now, however, a more direct road was built, following the course of the Great Village River.

We pass over a few years of quiet routine work under the management of Mr. John Levessie, and take up our history at the time of the survey of the Intercolonial Railway in 1864. The nearest shipping was at Great Village, by water, the distance some five miles. The importance of establishing some railway communication was very great, so Mr. Levessie exerted himself to obtain the location of the line as close to the works as possible. Mr. Sanford Fleming, C. E., in his history of the Intercolonial Railway, says: "Mr. Levessie continually urged, both privately and officially, the importance of locating the railway on a route passing in close proximity to the iron works in which he was interested. After numerous surveys of different passes across the Cobequid Mountains, Mr. Fleming favored a route some distance from the works, and in consequence, a very warm discussion was carried on in Nova Scotia. After Confederation, in 1869, the matter was referred to Ottawa, and out of six different routes, a sort of compromise was adopted, which route Mr. Fleming, by letter under date of Nov. 6th, 1868, was instructed to carry out, and hence arose that gigantic sweep or bend in the I. C. R., observed by travellers on the southern slope of the Cobequid Mountains. So marked is the feature, that by common consent it has been termed the "Grecian Bend," by which name it will doubtless go down to posterity.

With the growth of the village, stores began to multiply. A store on the west side of the river was opened by Mr. J. Howe Morrison, popularly known as "Joe Howe," and later on one was built by the company, under Mr. Jones' direction, and was managed by Mr. Robert Chambers, with Mr. John Hattie and Mr. Atkins, the father of our present genial postmaster.

In 1871, Mr. Jones took a contract, No. 7, Section of the I. C. R., and was succeeded by Mr. Brown, who after a lapse of nearly two years died, and was succeeded in turn by Mr. Geo Romans, cashier of the present company. So intimately is the progress of any company, owning this property, connected with the village, that the history of the several companies may be said to be the history of the place. Therefore we have little choice but to continue the relation of current events with which they were connected. To go back for a moment, we note that in 1869 there was another reorganization, and Phœnix-like, the works arose from their funeral pyre, rechristened "The Intercolonial Iron and Steel Co.," which, company was bought in 1873 by a party of English capitalists, incorporated as the "Steel Co. of Canada, Limited," with a working capital of $2,500,000. From a pamphlet report at that time rendered to the purchasing company, we find the value of the works quoted at $108,347.86.

Under the present company a new era dawned upon the village, the works were extended, many new houses built, and every energy expended to make this the greatest industry of the kind in the Dominion. In the spring of 1873, Mr. Richard Harrison arrived, and at once commenced the erection of a new steel works, known as the Siemen-Martin process, and in the year 1874 Mr. McKay arrived. Under him the blast furnaces, coke ovens, rolling mill and other works arose, as we now see and know them. The blast furnace was blown in in the following year, and the rolling mill was started Oct. 23rd, 1876. During Mr. McKay's management, much trouble was occasioned by his insufficient knowledge of blast furnace work. A serious riot, resulting in the death of a workman, shot by accident, closed his career. He was succeeded by Mr. Geo. Jamme, under whose wise and careful management the prosperity and successful operation of the works was brought about. Some definite idea of the magnitude to which these works have grown during the last decade may be gathered from the fact that the value of the property has increased from $100,000, to nearly $2,000,000, exclusive of all private property, and has increased over 130 per cent. in its population.

We fear that we have already exceeded the limit given us in which to write this brief sketch, but with the great amount of information rendered us, it was a task of no small moment to decide what to say and what to leave unsaid. We have purposely devoted the greater portion of our sketch to the early years of the place, feeling sure that it will prove of greater interest than more recent events which are green in the memories of all. And much detail has been omitted on account of the space it would occupy. In closing we beg to thank all those who have so readily replied to our questions concerning matters relating to olden times. We hope to learn in a short time that the difficulties under which the present company are now labouring may be smoothed away, and that they will once more be ploughing the sea of commercial prosperity, wafted on the course by the refreshing breezes of the National Policy.

School Examinations.

The semi-annual examinations of the Acadia Mines Schools took place according to the programme given in a previous issue, and as usual, reflected much credit on teachers and pupils. The attendance in the various departments was somewhat smaller than on former occasions, on account of many leaving the place since the beginning of the term, yet a very respectable number is still left.

Some departments are still crowded. Especially is this the case in the Primary. There was also a falling off in the number of visitors this time, which probably may be accounted for from the fact that no prizes were awarded this spring. The trustees have decided, and we think wisely, that in future prizes will be given but once a year and that at the close of the school year, which occurs in the autumn. This seems to be a step in the right direction. The next step we would like to see taken would be to have examinations annually instead of semi-annually as at present. But this cannot be until our legislators pass a law that there shall be one school term in the year instead of two. We, however, hope the day is not far distant when such a law shall be in force in Nova Scotia. When that happy day arrives, then we will have a school system that will compare favorably with that of any country.

MISS ARCHIBALD'S DEPARTMENT.

At 9 o'clock, a. m., on Tuesday the 28th inst., the work began in this room. About seventy pupils were present, and were examined in reading, spelling, arithmetic, and slate-writing. They all acquitted themselves nobly. They seemed to vie with each other in answering the teacher's questions. Should an incorrect answer be given by one, all the others were eager to correct it. The reading was certainly very good for ones so young, and the rapidity with which some of them would add up columns of figures was surprising. In these particulars, as in all others, it was clearly proved that a good thorough educational foundation is being laid in our primary department. Some choice recitations were rendered by the little ones in good style.

MISS RYAN'S DEPARTMENT.

Immediately after the exercises had closed in the primary department, the work began in Miss Ryan's. The teacher and pupils had the interior of the building so tastefully decorated with pictures and evergreens that one would hardly imagine that it was the old schoolhouse. Rather more children presented themselves than at the last examination of this department. Reading, spelling, arithmetic, geography, grammar and analysis were the subjects on which the children were examined. They showed a complete mastery of the work of the term. They manifested a love for their studies, without which it is difficult to make much progress. Arithmetic formed quite a prominent feature in the work of this room, and a thoroughness in this very important branch of study was evinced. Some recitations of a practical nature were given in a very pleasing manner. This was Miss Ryan's first appearance before the public here, and especially as she is established opinion that she is a valuable acquisition to the teaching staff.

MISS COPP'S DEPARTMENT.

The examination in this room took place in the afternoon. About forty pupils were present, who readily convinced the visitors that they had not been idle since the last examination. The exercises embraced much the same subjects as those of the two former examinations, and the result was quite as good as former efforts in this department. A very interesting spelling match was one of the attractions of the afternoon. It was confined to the pupils of Grade IV. All made a good stand. Millie Cox and Frank Simmonds were the last on the floor. All the work examined by Miss Copp was done in such a manner as to impress all that those committed to her care received careful and thorough training. Rapidity and accurateness characterized the work. Several recitations formed the closing part of the day's work. Among them the "Motto" is worthy of special notice. Nine pupils took part in it, each contributing one letter, which made up the following motto, "God is love."

Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our correspondents.]

To the Editor of the Week's Doings.

MR. EDITOR,—Having heard you and your paper abused for the report which appeared in your last issue of the (so-called) "Memorial Service" in honor of the late John B. Gough, I believe that a good many of the readers of the DOINGS imagine that you were trying to run down the meeting, but any person who was present at that meeting would know that you gave a fair report, and, if anything, faltered the meeting. Of all the reports we hear from other places we learn that the members of all Lodges appeared out in full regalia. Now what was the reason they could not do that in Acadia Mines? It was reported around some time ago that the Lodge was presented with a full set of officer's regalias by the Hon. John B. Finch. If this be true, were they ashamed to wear them or have they not proved them. Now, as far as the meeting being a memorial service is concerned, I would say it was a perfect failure. In the first place the chairman of the meeting did not know his duty, or if he did, he did not attend to it, for if he had he would have had his speakers notified the previous week, and then called on them, thereby avoiding confusion, as there are very few men who can get upon the spur of the moment and give a speech without any preparation. Then I understand that the Grand Worthy Secretary has written a letter to one of the members of Acadia Lodge, saying that you, Mr. Editor, should be cracked over the knuckles, for stating that it was said in that meeting that any of our local speakers drink, while all who were there know as well as I do that one speaker said there are some in this place who will lecture away on Temperance and will drink when they get the chance. Now the man who drinks in this little town and talks temperance has to be very smart, or he will be found out he is *one man in a million*, Dan., who can do it. Now what I want to know is, who most deserves the crack over the knuckles, the man who tells the truth, or the man who rogues, falls up two or three times and pays twenty-five or thirty cents in the dollar, taking good care to fill his own pocket out of other peoples. Well, we should say the latter. In closing, allow me to say that I cannot agree with you in the last clause of the last sentence of your report. You say much good could be obtained there. Now, I defy any person to obtain good where there is wrangling and quarrelling going on, and that in the house of God Thanking you for this, I remain,

Yours,
In Faith Hope and Charity,
TEMPLAR.

THE SCOTT ACT has been again defeated in St. John. This time with a larger majority than before. The wisdom of holding this last election may be seriously questioned: the former defeat of the Act showed that the city was pretty evenly balanced, and where opinion is so equally divided, it would be difficult if not impossible to operate against it. Experience has shown that a law to be of use must have a large majority of the voters to back it up. This is emphatically the case with temperance legislation, and even if the Act had passed by a small majority, it would have remained a dead letter on the Statute Book.

Births.

20th inst., at Folly Mountain, the wife of Alexander Davies, of a daughter.

NOTICE!

THE subscriber offers for sale that centrally situated and most desirable property at Acadia Mines, known as the "STEELE PROPERTY"—the Lot 60 feet front, by 160 feet depth. The House is substantially built and well finished throughout, and has a good frost-proof cellar. There is also a small Barn, and a never failing well—pump—of excellent good water on the premises, and is a very exceptional stand for business.

For further particulars, apply to

A. J. STEELE.

Acadia Mines, Mar. 19, 1886.

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SURGEON DENTIST.

All kinds of Dental operations skilfully performed. Office, Inglis St., Truro, N. S.

Will be at AMERICAN HOUSE, Acadia Mines, on the 16th and 17th of each month.

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New and Well Selected Stock of

DRY GOODS, AT VERY LOW PRICES,
COTTONS, DRESS GOODS, CARPETS, OIL CLOTHS,
PIQUES, SHIRTINGS, GINGHAMS, Etc. Etc.
SPECIAL VALUE IN CARPETINGS.

Our Specialty is CLOTHING, CLOTHS and TRIMMINGS. What we mean by Specialty is a Better Assortment, Larger Sales, and consequently LOWER PRICES than if we sold only a few Suits instead of fifty.

Twenty Suits Opened To-Day, "Custom Fitting Clothing."

HATS IN THE NEWEST STYLES,
BOOTS AND SHOES, At Prices Away Down.

A COMPLETE STOCK OF FURNITURE.
BEDROOM SUITS, CHAIRS, CRIBS, CRADLES, LOUNGES, Etc.

GROCERIES AT BOTTOM PRICES.
Our Stock is complete.

FLOUR, FEED, MEAL, P. E. I. OATS, Etc.

G. R. SMITH.

WANTED.—COUNTRY PRODUCE.

P. S.—See Our $6.50 Plum Suits.

NOW YOU WILL SEE!!

MESSRS. FIFFARD & McDONALD,

AT THE "ACADIAN DRUG STORE," OPPOSITE THE BLAST FURNACE,

Are the Sole Agents for the sale of the above CELEBRATED PEBBLE and other SPECTACLES and EYE GLASSES in this vicinity. They are the very best to be had, and so acknowledged by the best authority, and by every one who have used them. Over 800 pairs were sold every working day in the year 1885, among the different agencies in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the other Provinces. They are endorsed by all the principal medical men in the Dominion and in England.

DR. J. W. MACDONALD, Vice-Pres. Medical Association of Canada, says:—
LOUNSBURG, N. S., September 8th, 1883.

Dear Sir,—Since the introduction of your GLASSES into this Province, I have had many opportunities of judging of their excellent qualities. The rapidity with which they have gained ground is a convincing proof of their superiority, and it affords me great pleasure to recommend them to all who require reliable aids to vision.

J. W. MACDONALD,
Vice-Pres. Canada Medical Association; Medical Officer to Steel Co. of Canada.

An immense number of testimonials from the leading men of the Dominion, can be seen. Call upon our agents here, as above, and get fitted with the best and easiest Spectacles and Eye Glasses in the world.

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Cook Stoves, from $6.00 upwards;
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Stove-Pipe Wholesale and Retail;
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TINWARE in great variety, at Greatly Reduced Prices;
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CHEAPER THAN EVER BEFORE.

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PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA