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Black Dress Goods

Judge this store by our Black Dress Goods. This is mid-winter but nevertheless this Black Dress Goods stock is complete even between seasons.

Black Cheviots

54 inch wide
\$1.25 and \$1.38

Black Cashmere

40 inch to 48 inch wide from 50c to \$1.25
\$1.25

Black Broadcloths

\$1.00 to \$2.00

Black Prunella Cloths

45 inch to 52 inch wide
\$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50 and \$1.75

Black Poplins

45 inch
75c and \$1.25

Black Serges and Cheviot Serges

Black and Colored Dress Remnants

At 20 to 30 per cent off. Half price. One less than half price.

Wm. Foreman & Co.

APPEARANCES

IF YOU WANT to make a presentable appearance at home or abroad you need the services of a good reliable tailor. Every man has a peculiarity of his own which, unless taken into consideration, his clothes cannot possibly fit him.

MORLEY & CO. - The Leading Tailors

WANTED.

WANTED—Messenger boy. Apply to Atkinson & Rispin. 10c
FOR SALE—Cutting box, new, in exchange for wood. Apply at The Planet office. 1c

WANTED—A medium sized house, with all modern improvements, centrally located. Box 137 Planet. 4c

WANTED—Bookkeeper for the Tupperville Milling and Elevator Company; apply, stating salary, all applications must be in by the 31st of January. Address Tupperville Milling and Elevator Company, Tupperville. 10c

WANTED—A young lady of limited means is very anxious to secure an education and would be willing to give her services in the line of general housework or care of children before and after school hours, in exchange for her board. Address N. T. care of Planet Office.
FOR SALE OR TO RENT.

SEVEN LOTS FOR SALE—One on Victoria avenue, and six on Maple street. For full particulars apply to S. Stephenson, Planet Office. 4c

LOTS FOR SALE—One and one-half acres at the head of Victoria Ave., and six lots on Maple St. Apply to Mrs. T. T. Tupper, Victoria Block, or The Planet. 4c

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE—Stock boots, shoes and groceries, also two brick stores and other desirable town property. Apply Box 144, Dresden, Ont. 10c

WARM FOR SALE—100 acres of the best land in Camden township, for sale cheap, and on easy terms of payment. Well improved, and in good location. Address S. N., care of Planet, Chatham. 4c

FOR SALE—Seven young short horn bulls and one grand stock bull, 3 years old. All bred from the first prize herd of East and West Kent. Jas. and Ed. Chinnick, Locust Hedge Farm, Chatham Township, Chatham Box 425. 4c

HOUSE AND LOT FOR SALE—125 Wellington St. West; lot 56 x 208; house in good repair; brick foundation; 7 rooms, closets, pantries, bath room, etc. Leaving the city; will sell cheap. For full particulars apply to Jno. A. Tilt. 4c

WARM FOR SALE—Northwest half Lot 1, 4th Con. Township of Harwich, over 100 acres, fronting on Gravel Road, three-quarters of a mile from the city. Is one of the best farms in the vicinity of Chatham. Also his residence 'Pk Lots 11 and 12, east side of Queen street, south of fair grounds. For particulars apply to G. W. KELLY, Queen St., South, Box 606. 1m Chatham.

FOR SALE

Two houses with large lots, directly opposite C. P. R. Station, on King street. Apply at (Box 445) Chatham, Ont. 2p-10c

KENT COUNTY PARLIAMENT

Proceedings at the Opening Session of Kent's Commissioners.

Much Business Being Accomplished—Plans for the Year's Work.

The County Council resumed at two o'clock with the warden in their chair, Mr. John Campbell and John McKay were present and explained the registry office hearing trouble as far as they knew it.

Mr. McKay stated that the hot water boiler would require no more coal than was now burned.

Mr. Johns said that it would be a good idea to put the coil in.

Mr. Reycraft said that it took 12 tons of coal to run the furnace, while a hot water furnace would only burn six tons. He thought that it would be a good idea to throw the present furnace out.

Mr. Somers agreed with Mr. Johns and was pleased that ex-Warden Von-Gunten had been completely exonerated.

Mr. Von-Gunten said that it was a pleasure to have his colleagues exonerate him, although he had known all along that he was blameless. He objected to the Council adopting a measure that the Registrar had tried to force on the Council.

The secretary of the Howard Branch Agricultural Society, wrote thanking the Council for their grant, and asked for a continuation of the same—Referred to Agricultural Committee.

Inspector of the House of Refuge reported that there were 39 inmates on December 31, 1901; admitted during 1901, 21; discharged, 3; absconded 13, left by consent, 6; deaths, 3; now in the house, 35. During the year \$14,550 had been spent on the House of Refuge. Assets, June 1st, live stock, implements, etc., \$2,680.33, produce \$650.

The report was adopted on motion of Mr. Vester. Mr. White addressed the assembly and the council re the maintenance of the Chatham College Institute.

The council then went into committee of the whole, Geo. Johns in the chair, to consider the resolution moved by Mr. Morrison, seconded by Mr. Somers, that the building of a steel bridge over the River Thames between Raleigh and Dover was a necessity.

Mr. Morrison spoke in support of the resolution. He said that 390 cars of grain had been shipped from Prairie Siding last year. Raleigh and Dover had paid largely for the bridge at Kent Bridge but they had never got any return.

Mr. Ross said that Mr. Morrison had gone over the ground thoroughly and made out a very bad case. The diversions of the river, the bridge, and the Raleigh and Dover bridge, had no need of the road. There was no need of putting a bridge at Prairie Siding. I have no objection to giving to the municipality of Dover every dollar that belonged to it.

Warden Frank Rankin supported the motion.

Mr. Vester opposed it. He said that the traffic there wouldn't warrant the expenditure.

The council resumed and chairman Somers reported progress with permission to sit again.

On motion of Mr. McCoy, seconded by Mr. Von-Gunten, the report of the committee of the whole was adopted by Finance.

FRIDAY MORNING. The County Council met this morning, with the Warden in the chair. The proceedings of the Public and High School Trustees' Department, Ontario Educational Association for 1901—Referred to Education Department.

Mr. French said that the treasurer of the township of Camden had sent the county grant to the treasurer before the interest was added, on the first of January. The treasurer had sent the money back to the treasurer of Camden, for him to forward to the Bank of Commerce. The money had arrived at the bank late.

On motion of Sifton and Johns, the refund of the \$2 interest that had been added, was granted. The treasurer of Bothwell had made the same mistake, and on motion of Mr. French, seconded by Mr. Ross, the refund of the interest was granted to Bothwell. The treasurers of these two municipalities had followed the statute in forwarding the money, not concluded on Page 5.

"Heaven Bless The Originator of MALT BREAKFAST FOOD."

A prominent Montreal grocer said the other day: "Our lady customers are as capricious about the use of cereal foods in their homes as they are in the selection of a new hat or bonnet. However, since we have introduced Malt Breakfast Food to them they seem to like it and stick to it."

And in Halifax, N. S., writing to the manufacturers of Malt Breakfast Food, says: "I have given your famous food a trial, and pleased to say it is the only cereal food that I have been able to use regularly from day to day. It agrees with my rather weak digestion, and is giving me a steady increase in weight. Heaven bless the originator of Malt Breakfast Food; it is a boon to my family." Grocers everywhere.

MAGNIFICENT PRODUCTION

Brilliant and Successful Presentation of the Opera "Little Tycoon."

An Enterprise of Which This City is Proud—Splendid Scenic Effects.

Chatham fashionable, Chatham critical and Chatham universal had the opportunity last evening of seeing the first production in this city of The Little Tycoon.

It is safe to say that all Chatham was well represented in the audience that crowded the Grand Opera House.

The opera was splendidly presented by local talent—a company of amateurs, and not one of the company, even a member of the chorus, has reason to feel anything but proud at the excellent manner in which the piece was presented. There were, it is true, occasional touches of crudeness and, at times, the action lacked freedom, but this is anticipated and excusable in all amateur productions, and it must be remembered that the opera Little Tycoon was not presented by professionals, the opera was prepared and mastered by the members of the company during their spare hours, and that it was after months of arduous practice that the members of the cast satisfied themselves of sufficient proficiency to make a public appearance. But it may be truthfully said that never were amateur defects less noticeable than in the presentation of The Little Tycoon by the Maple City Choral Society.

It may as well be noted right here that there is no intention to compare the two operas, Said Pasha and The Little Tycoon, both of which have been presented by Maple City singers during this month. Comparisons are as bad as you make them and these operas—the one the reproduction of Oriental existence, the other the presentation of a bright glimpse of American life—are both so much dissimilar that comparison must be largely faulty and impossible. No more should one be arraigned in contrast-distinction to the other than a contralto soloist should be compared with a high soprano. You who have been foolish enough to weigh the one opera against the other, just because your friends were in the one or the other, know this without being told.

Let us turn for a moment to the question of how to criticize the production. "Why don't you criticize the opera as it would be criticized in New York," asked one of the lady principals. "The newspapers will just say 'all did well.' Why don't you pass artistic judgment upon the acts?"

That lady, although perhaps she little realized it, touched upon a vital point in the matter of discussing the productions of local talent.

It would be impossible for us to write an exact criticism of the opera. The moment we began to point out what appeared to us as possible weaknesses of the actors or flaws in a production, we would meet censure, and justly, too, for it would be manifestly unfair to judge the work of amateurs who had devoted time and energy to please, by the harsh standard of a critic.

One might elevate his criticism, and the effort will be made to criticize faithfully yet mildly, and, if blame results, it must fall upon the one who requested it, not the writer. And know that all remarks are made good-naturedly, honestly and impartially.

Mrs. John Cooper and W. H. Brackin had the leading roles in The Little Tycoon. The musical ability of these two vocalists is recognized. They have been leaders in the Maple City musical world for some time and still enjoy their popularity.

Over 70 persons in all took part in The Little Tycoon, all more or less known to musical circles. Some of these have before appeared in public, but for the majority this was the first appearance on the stage.

The story of The Little Tycoon is founded on the usual unquenchable love of two young people, separated by a stern parent. Of course it all comes right in the end. The tale runs something like this:

Alvin Barry (W. H. Brackin) falls in love with Violet (Mrs. Cooper), daughter of General Knickerbocker (Ivor E. Brock). The General wants his daughter to marry Lord Dolphin (Duncan Robertson). Then scene opens on the deck of a trans-Atlantic liner, where the principals and a large party of tourists returning from the continent are revealed to the audience. Violet attempts to elope when the boat lands, but is frustrated by the customs officer (Dr. R. V. Bray). On land, as at sea, the tourists and young ladies, chaperoned by Miss Hurricane (Mrs. R. V. Bray) assist Violet to secure the man of her choice. This is finally accomplished in the second act by all the young people impersonating Alvin Barry as the Great Tycoon. General Knickerbocker is deceived, and, believing that a Tycoon is a greater man than a General, gives his consent to Violet marrying the Japanese potentate. Then the supposed Tycoon reveals himself as Barry. The General holds to his agreement, however, and the two lovers become one—at least we are led to believe so. Dolly Dimple (Miss Gertrude Somerville) and Rufus Ready (R. L. Brackin) manage to wedge in a beautiful little love story. Miss Somerville was charming.

Although the chorus and soloists were excellent, still great credit for the success of the production must be given to the brilliant staging of the piece. An amateur opera with professional stage setting, it has well been

Straight Clearance Prices

Some choice items in men's furnishings are on the bargain list just now.

The wanted shirt or necktie is not less desirable because we have too few or too many like it. Just as good a berry whether you pick from a big cluster or a little one. But in either case it's easier to pick.

How about looking through the wardrobe for little wants that ought to be filled now. It's the economy month.

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stayed. The realistic shipboard scene in the first act, showing the main deck of the SS. "Maple City," the passing of other boats and the lighthouse beam, a realism to the peace that was wonderful.

If you have read the foregoing paragraph carefully, you will see in it nothing but well-deserved praise for E. Brock, who, in addition to taking an arduous part with consummate skill, also directed the staging of the opera. It was Mr. Brock's ideas, and his genius, that contributed so largely to the successful presentation of the opera, The Little Tycoon.

It has been said of Mr. Brock, that had he a special purpose in life that would induce him to direct his talents to any one thing, he would become famous. His preparation of suitable surroundings for the production of the piece was the work of a genius and few professional companies could boast of a better. Mr. Brock was ably assisted in producing the electrical effects by electrician Bert Jones.

To Mrs. Cooper and W. H. Brackin, both collectively and individually, great honor is due. They have spent many weary weeks in drilling the choruses and the principals and their hours of toil bore much fruit last night. The choruses, too, did not disgrace their instructors. On the contrary, they advertised the musical possibilities of well trained singers. All the songs of the rank and file, with the exception of two, were sung in harmony and every musician knows what it is to train a chorus to sing such. It takes much acumen for the selection of the singers and still greater care in instruction.

Musical director Harry C. Philp also comes in for a lion's share of credit. He took the responsibilities and arduous duties of conducting the whole performance and acquitted himself with all honor.

Miss Kemp, too, deserves her mead of praise. She it was who trained the girls in blue and white who danced so prettily and executed such charming swaying movements. Miss Kemp also trained the Japanese girls, who added a fascinating feature to the last act.

The music of the opera is light and the action of the piece offers abundant scope for participants to display their histrionic powers. The heavy work of the opera fell on Mrs. Cooper and W. H. Brackin. The latter was a little stiff at his initial entrance, but he acquired ease as the play progressed and was soon wrapped up in his part. Mr. Brackin's excellent voice and his more than ordinary ability as an actor were material features in adding strength to the production. A little more ardor in his love-making would have been effective.

Mrs. John Cooper, as Violet, daughter of General Knickerbocker, had a difficult part, but she played the sad maiden, separated from her lover by a cruel parent, with perfect understanding. Mrs. Cooper's stage appearance was splendid. She carried herself with exceeding grace and her work was characterized by delightful confidence and precision. Her costumes were exceptionally pleasing. Her voice was at its best and blended with surprising flexibility with the robust tenor of W. H. Brackin.

Dolly Dimple looked the part she played so well. She lacked the usual nervousness of the amateur, enunciated distinctly and has a good strong and sweet singing voice. Miss Somerville took her part with exceeding skill but, had she not been afraid to smile, at the audience, Dolly would have won more applause. The applause anyway was too stinted.

Mrs. (Dr) Bray, as Miss Hurricane, interpreted the part almost perfectly. Mrs. Bray had the air and bearing of a professional. Like General Knickerbocker, Mrs. Bray was not strong in her singing, but in her libretto work she stood out prominently and, perhaps, distinctly. The same can be said of Mr. Brock. His make up was perfect and he impersonated General Knickerbocker with an excellence only secured by careful study.

Rufus Ready (R. L. Brackin) too, has praise coming his way. His voice lacked a little in power. This occurred chiefly in the second act, in the

trio, where his voice contrasted with that of his brother and Mrs. Cooper. In his libretto work, he was exceptionally good, and delighted even those who had witnessed the work at the rehearsals of the previous night. He spoke just a little too rapidly.

Duncan Robinson, as Lord Dolphin, had a difficult part, but he took it with the easy grace of a foolish nobleman. His contributions lay all in his actions and he did splendidly.

Arthur Larmour, as Teddy, was a feature of the production. He was really funny, and his song and dance, done with some skill proved effective, as did his work throughout. The part where Teddy acknowledges that he has "sworn off" brought down the house.

Dot, impersonated by Miss Verna Heyward, proved an entertaining part of the play. She didn't have a great deal to do, but did what she had to do well. The little sprit flirted with the Captain of the Maple City and step-danced very cleverly. "Dot" was dressed for the part and her attire showed that good judgment had been exercised in its preparation. Dot was a dainty bit of chicness.

The two butlers, P. Cornfield and Will Jardine had little to do but did that little well.

Dr. R. V. Bray as the customs officer, filled the bill with voice, and figure. He was just the man for the position.

During the evening beautiful bouquets were presented to Mrs. John Cooper, Mrs. Dr. Bray, and Miss Gertrude Somerville.

Lieut.-Col. J. B. Rankin, K. C., introduced a specialty between the acts.

At the conclusion of the performance, cheers were given for Mrs. John Cooper, W. H. Brackin, E. Brock, Harry C. Philp, Fred. Brisco, Bert Jones, and A. L. Eberts.

Mr. Eberts has invited the chorus and principals to dine at the Hotel Garner after the performance to-night.

One distinctive feature of the opera was the orchestra, under the direction of H. C. Philp. Well and carefully trained, their music blended in charming harmony with voices of the chorus and the chorus was strong enough not to be drowned by the music.

Between acts Roger Philp rendered a trombone solo, which was received with the applause that it merited.

The costumes were done by the Baines Sisters, Woodward Ave., Detroit. The attiring of this opera was not an easy matter, but it was done by the Baines Sisters with consummate skill and a just appreciation of what the characters in the opera required. Albert Trato painted the scenery in the first act, which attracted so much favorable comment.

Miss Mary Brackin presided at the piano. Miss Brackin has played for all the rehearsals and she is deserving of much commendation for the excellence of the performance last evening. Her duties have been arduous but have been fulfilled with diligence, care and good-nature.

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Every day in the year. The Chicago, Union Pacific and North-Western Lines run through first-class Pullman and Tourist Sleeping Cars to points in California and Oregon daily. Personally conducted excursions from Chatham go to San Francisco, Los Angeles and Portland, leaving Chatham on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Lowest rates. Shortest time on the road. Finest scenery. Inquire of your nearest ticket agent, or write B. H. Bennett, 2 East King St., Toronto.

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