

COMPULSORY SCHOOL LAW.

The Act making attendance at school for eighty days in every year by all children between seven and twelve years compulsory is just now being seriously discussed throughout the province. Last Monday night the Act was adopted in Wolfville? That this law is a good one in many places is without a doubt but we question the advisability of it in places like Wolfville. As far as we can find out all the children who can possibly attend school do so. For the rest nearly or quite all find it all they can do to get enough to eat, let alone clothing fit to go to school and books to carry on their studies with. We would like to ask how this is to be arranged. If the section will undertake to clothe these children and provide them with books the matter will be easily settled. But no provision is made for this and we do not well see how they can be compelled to go to school half clothed. Then supposing they do not go, what will be the advantage of fining their parents? We do not for a moment imagine they stay home from choice but of necessity. Their parents cannot pay their taxes in many instances and we do not see any possibility of collecting a fine. For our part we see no feasible solution to the difficulty and feel confident that this like many other laws adopted without due consideration will be found impossible to carry out.

*Whenever two thirds of the qualified voters present shall have voted in favor etc. Sec. 76 Cap. 28 Revised Statutes, 5th Series.

In addition to the objections referred to there are some others affecting those who now consider they are paying enough tax s. The trustees must do a lot of additional work and keep themselves thoroughly posted as to the whereabouts of every child in the section. As soon as a delinquent is found they must first enquire why that child is absent and then proceed against the parent if necessary. Now then you understand how they are to do their duty. Do not our trustees do enough when they carry out their present duties and you expect them to devote all their time for nothing? Certainly not. Well then, what provision have you made for this expense? Simply none, and your law cannot therefore be carried out. Such a muddle is the result of having a measure of which the ratepayers know little or nothing, crowded upon them without any notice and then rushed through before it has been half discussed or they know what they are taking on themselves. We wouldn't blame the trustees a bit if they carried out the law this year and charged the expenses to the section. If this is done no doubt many of the favorable voters of Monday evening would be on the other side of the fence at next school-meeting.

It would be perhaps hard to find among our professional sinners at Dorchester or Kingston three convicts who could aggregate a greater number of crimes than is the three principal candidates for the Presidency in the United States, Blaine, Cleveland, and Butler. To judge from the American papers there is little choice as to whom the honor of being the greatest villain should be awarded, yet in all probability one of these men will be elected to rule over fifty millions of people, most of whom are presumably christians, and all are supported by clergyman and their supposed conservators of morals. We are to look upon any of these men as representing the moral tone of the nation, and would lead all good christians to pray for deliverance from an ant- migration to the United States as from a shipwreck and fire and sudden death.

Kittie King is on the rampage again. We should think our people would have taken care of for shame. Her society for the prevention of cruelty would not allow a dog to go the way she does. Cornwallis or ton, we do not know which, is ac-

most unchristian like and disgracefully in permitting this poor unfortunate woman to roam at large in such filth and wretchedness.

We wonder if the boys have got spunk enough to start a fire department. It looks to us just now as if the boys were not much smarter than the old men in this town, and as for the old men, most of them are too slow to catch a cold.

SCHOOL MEETING.

The annual School Meeting of Wolfville School Section No. 66 was held in the School House on the evening of the 25th of September. Professor Higgins was appointed chairman and Professor A. E. Caldwell secretary. The minutes of the last regular meeting and subsequent special meetings were read, and the meeting then proceeded to the election of a new trustee to fill the vacancy caused by the retiring trustee, J. B. Davison, Esq. Burpee Witter, A. E. Caldwell and the retiring trustee were nominated; Mr. Witter and the retiring trustee both declined the nomination and Mr. Caldwell was elected to the position. The trustees then submitted the following report:

"To the Ratepayers of Wolfville School Section, No. 66.

The trustees in presenting their annual report and accompanying financial statement, notice with great pleasure the efficiency of the teaching departments. The attendance of the children during the year just ending has been good, (above the average) and in their deportment the pupils have been orderly and attentive.

At the end of the winter term, Mr. A. J. Pineo, having been solicited to accept the management of a new county paper about starting in Wolfville, requested to be relieved of his duties as teacher. His resignation was accepted and Mr. Judah L. Bishop appointed to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Pineo's retirement. The trustees have reason to believe that the appointment has afforded universal satisfaction; and congratulate "this section" in having at the head of its school a teacher so capable and painstaking.

The female teachers are also doing good work and sparing no efforts to make their several departments successful. The trustees regret exceedingly that owing to a want of necessary funds they have been unable to provide suitably for the comforts of the pupils especially the young ones.

Miss McKeen has seventy-seven pupils on her roll; while the seating accommodation in her room is insufficient for fifty. The seats are also limited in Miss Parson's room; and the interiors of all the rooms are shabby in the extreme.

The total number of pupils at present in attendance is one hundred and seventy-five, but the seats provided for this large number are quite too few, and the children, especially the smaller ones, lack comfort. The time is not far distant when there will be presented for your favorable consideration some plans for a better method of heating the building. The present mode of warming the separate rooms by means of three stoves, with long pipes which are continually out of repair, and which ever and anon fill the rooms with smoke and coal dust, is, to say the least, unsatisfactory and expensive. A list of old rates will be submitted which the trustees consider worthless. These amount to \$121.70, some of the amounts reaching back to the time of the secretaryship of Mr. Jas. S. McDonald. It might be deemed advisable to appoint a small committee, who co-operating with the trustees, shall be empowered to drop from the tax list such names as may be deemed lost to the section.

Carrying such names year after year is an injury to the ratepayers, and is one means of creating a deficit at each annual meeting. The financial statement will be presented by the Secretary.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Which after some discussion was adapted, first, clause by clause and then as a whole. The estimate expenditure for the ensuing school year amounted to the sum of \$960 which amount included the sum of \$145 shortage in

receipts of the present year this amount being caused by expenses of shingling roof of school house, not taken into consideration at last annual meeting, and some \$120 of bad rates which the trustees recommended to be struck off the list. A verbal report was received from Mr. A. S. Murray, chairman of the auditing committee, stating that the books and accounts of the secretary were found to be in a most satisfactory and praiseworthy condition. The ratepayers, with their usual liberality, voted \$1100, being a larger sum than asked by the trustees.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Editorial Blunders.

It is said that "we must go home to hear the news." In the *Morning Herald* of the 27th inst. appeared the following item of information:

"The Wolfville Star is doing well. The editor and proprietor is making it larger every few months. Another enlargement will make it the size of the average local journal, but it is not probable that the *Star* will stop at that."

Now we in Wolfville were not aware that there had been any such development in the case of the *Star*, as that recorded. That paper, so far from exhibiting the stellar changes assigned to it, has steadily kept to the proportions in which it first arose upon a benighted world, to illumine and vivify the race.

But although history has proved unreliable, prophecy may turn out to have been more worthy of confidence, and the *Star* may yet increase its dimensions, if not its brilliancy, which would be a more difficult matter.

If however that usually accurate journal, the *Herald*, had used the words, "the ACADIAN," instead of "the Star," its account would have been more correct; for the ACADIAN, which made its advent into the world a modest little sheet, has by several successive steps of advancement, attained to very respectable proportions, and, what is still better, its several enlargements have not been accompanied, as is frequently the case with newspapers, by deterioration in respect to the matter contained in it, but has rather improved in that most important of all particulars. This however the readers of the paper know of themselves.

That so intelligent a sheet as the *Herald* is should have made so great a mistake as that regarded is very remarkable; but it shows if proof was needed, that editors are only men and that therefore they may err. It is hoped that the ACADIAN will learn the lesson, and never assign to a contemporary qualities of growth or otherwise to which it is not entitled, however much it may be pleased with such signs of prosperity and advancement.

P. S. Since writing the above I have noticed an attempt of correction in the *Herald* of the error adverted to; but the correction itself is guilty of an error for it credits the *Star* with having made one advance in size. Whereas that luminary is exactly of the same dimensions as it was at its birth.

To the Editor of the Acadian.

MR. EDITOR.—Would you be good enough to tell me, through the columns of your manly little paper, the meaning and derivation of the word *aboiteau*? I cannot find the word in any dictionary. As there is a boom in the *aboiteau* stock at present, I would like to know.

Perhaps some of the wise ones of this classic town would step to the front and explain for TYRO.

NOTE.—The word *aboiteau* is not to be found in any available dictionary or encyclopaedia, French or English. It is probably a corruption of one of the French words, *abattu* felled trees, or *abature*, grass beat down—from those portions of dykes that cross rivers or creeks, being constructed by felled trees with their limbs left on, and sod, with the grass, beaten or trampled down. *Abattis*, which comes from the same word, means a species of intrenchment, consisting of trees felled and laid side by side with their branches directed toward the enemy, the softer twigs being cut off. *Aboteau* is merely local, being still further corrupted to *bite* in the Counties of Cumberland and Westmoreland.

Interesting to Fruit Growers.

Any one who is skeptical about planting dwarf pear trees ought to visit the orchard of A. D. DeWolf, of Wolfville. He purchased of J. F. Rupert, three years ago, fifty dwarf pear trees, and now the little trees are fairly breaking down with the load of ripe precious fruit. The varieties are Bartlett and Beurre Clairgeau.

L. W. KIMBALL.

Kentville, Oct. '84.

LOST!

Strayed from the premises of the subscriber, on Saturday 20th ult., a 2 year old dark red steer. Ear mark, half crop on under side of right ear, and square crop and slit in the left.

Any information will be thankfully received.
Jas. Reid.
Oct. 1st. White Rock.

ATTENTION!

S. R. SLEEP,

Desires to call the attention of the people of King's to the fact that he is selling off a large stock of

STOVES,

the remnant of stock manufactured by

THE ACADIA IRON FOUNDRY,

at exceeding low prices. Parties wishing to purchase will do well to call and inspect as the stock must be sold even at a sacrifice.

S. R. SLEEP.

Wolfville Oct 1st, 1884.

LIGHT BRAMAS!

Carefully bred from FIRST CLASS STOCK. Trios, Pairs, and Single Birds for sale. A. deW. BARSS.
Wolfville, Oct. 1st, '84

William Wallace,

TAILOR,
Corner Earl and Water Streets,
WOLFVILLE.

The subscriber would like to say right out loud to the public that he is selling the CELEBRATED ACADIA COAL very cheap. Also that he is taking orders for HARD COAL, which he will supply at hard pan prices.

D. NUMFORD,

W. & A. Ry Depot, Wolfville, N. S.

CAUTION!

All persons are cautioned against trading or bartering with my sons or paying them money for the products of my farm, as I will not ratify any bargains made by them and will collect the pay for anything sold from off my premises.

REBECCA FARRELL.

Etna, Sept. 20th.

G. A. PATRIQUIN,
HARNESS MAKER.

Carriage, Cart, and Team Harnesses Made to order and kept in stock

ALL ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO

None but first-class workmen employed and all work guaranteed.

Opposite People's Bank, Wolfville.

CARRIAGES

of all kinds Made At Shortest Notice.

—ALSO—

PAINTING

Neatly done, at

A. B. ROOD'S.

Repairing promptly attended to

Death-blow TO LARGE PROFITS



Jas. McLeod, PRACTICAL WATCH & CLOCK MAKER.

(FROM LONDON, ENGLAND) Opposite the store of Caldwell & Murray.

Respectfully informs the public of Wolfville, Kentville, and the surrounding districts, that he has for sale a good selection of WALTHAM WATCHES, JEWELLERY, SILVERWARE & CLOCKS. Just received—A New assortment of Silver Ware, consisting of Cake Baskets, Card Baskets, Castors, Pickle Dishes, Sugar Bowls, Cream Pitchers, Pie Knives, Butter Knives, Dinner Knives and Forks, Dinner and Dessert Spoons, Tea Spoons, Napkin Rings, Butter Coolers, etc., etc.

CLOCKS! CLOCKS!

Manufactured by French, Canadian, and American makers, the best selection out of Halifax, French Gilt Clocks under glass shades, Full finished Canadian Clocks in polished walnut, American Clocks in Veneered cases.

CATHEDRAL CONG! Eight day Clocks with Cathedral gong, strikes hours and half hours. Constructed expressly for the Wolfville Jewellery Store.

The above goods are of a superior quality to what are generally sold by travelling mountebanks.

J. McLeod's Price List of WATCH REPAIRS.

Cleaning Watch 50c. (usual price 75c. to \$1.00)

New Main Spring 50c. (usual price 75c. to \$1.00)

New Jewel from 25—50c. (Usual price 75c. to \$1.00)

New Balance Spring, commonly called Hair Spring 50c. (usual price 75c. to \$1.00)

Watch Crystals 10c. (usual price 20c.)

Watch Hand 10 to 15c. (usual price 20 to 25c.)

P. S.—All other repairs at a reduced rate.

Watch Work guaranteed 12 months.

COAL COAL!

In Store and for sale at lowest possible rates, a good supply constantly, from all the best mines. Good facilities for loading cars to go by rail. All orders promptly attended to.

Price-list on application.

W. J. HIGGINS.

Wolfville, Aug. 22d.

Burpee Witter

IS OFFERING

Special Bargains

English, Scotch and Canadian TWEEDS, Grey Flannels

AND

READY-MADE CLOTHING.

Some of the above lines are being sold BELOW COST.

All persons indebted to the subscriber are hereby notified to settle their accounts within THIRTY DAYS from this date.

Burpee Witter.

Wolfville, Aug. 1st. 1884.