

W.M. FOREMAN & CO.,  
IMPORTERS OF HIGH GRADE LINENS.

## Announcement.

### WE HOLD OUR Third Annual Display LINEN

Tuesday, Feb. 16th,  
and Following Days

WE have the use of our Millinery Show Rooms for displaying this immense stock of High Grade Linens. We would like you to SEE OUR LINENS while they may be seen to the best advantage. We have been gathering this stock for months past and they have been collected from the stocks of the best makers of Linens in Ireland, Scotland, Germany and Austria. New patterns in high grade linen get their first showing in this Western Peninsula at this store on TUESDAY NEXT. You are cordially invited to this display whether you need linens or not, we wish to introduce more of you to this Linen stock, and we have put forth our best efforts to have this display surpass its predecessors.

Wm. Foreman & Co.

### MCKAY'S RESTAURANT AND LUNCH ROOMS.

OPEN DAY AND NIGHT

With all the delicacies of the season.  
It is need of an appetizer give us  
a call. A full line of

Confectionery and Home  
Bakery in Connection  
Oysters in Any Style.

Lunches, put up at short notice  
and delivered within reasonable  
distance.

Willard McKay,  
KING ST.  
GARNER HOUSE BLOCK.

### Stocktaking BARGAIN LINES.

Ladies' Felt Shoes, fur  
topped, very warm and  
comfortable, in sizes 5, 6,  
7, reg. \$2.00, now \$1.00.

Ladies' Overshoes in  
sizes 2, 2½, 3, 4, reg.  
\$2.00, now \$1.00.

Men's Felt Shoes, reg.  
\$3.00, now \$2.00.

AT THE SIGN OF  
THE BIG CLOCK.

A. A. JORDAN

### Sure Sign of Spring.

People are beginning to leave  
their orders for papering and  
painting now. So be wise and  
don't wait until the rush is on.  
Come now and pick your  
papers and set the date for your  
work, and we will do the rest.

TILT'S ART STORE.

### A CHAT WITH A POET

THE STORY OF AN INTERESTING  
EVENING WITH LONGFELLOW.

How "Excelsior," the "Wreck of the  
Hesperus" and the "Old Clock on  
the Stair" came to be written.  
"The Bridge" was born of sorrow.

I once wrote to the poet Longfellow  
asking him to give me some account of  
the circumstances under which he  
wrote "The Bridge"—"I stood on the  
bridge at midnight"—a poem which an  
eminent English critic has called "the  
most sympathetic in this language."  
I received in return a cordial note from  
the poet in which he said, "If you will  
come over and pass an evening with  
me it will give me pleasure to tell you  
the history of the poem and also of any  
of my poems that may interest you."

A few evenings later found me at the  
poet's door at his Cambridge home. He  
was then verging on seventy years, his  
features of his experience and the  
richness of his fame. I was shown in  
to a long, hall-like room, dimly lighted,  
in which were a broad table, antique  
furniture and a tall colonial clock. The  
poet was there alone. He arose to  
meet me and formed a striking and  
statuesque figure, with his kindly smile  
and long white hair and beard.

"And so you would like to know  
something about the inspiration of  
some of my poems?" he said when we were  
seated. "Well, you are very kind."

"I will tell you first how I came to  
write the 'Psalm of Life.' I was a  
young man then. I can recall the  
time. It was a bright day, and the  
trees were blooming, and I felt an im-  
pulse to write out my aim and purpose  
in the world. I wrote it for myself.  
I did not intend it for publication.  
Some months afterward I was asked  
for a poem by a popular magazine. I  
recalled my 'Psalm of Life.' I copied  
it and sent it to the periodical. It saw  
the light, took wings and flew over the  
world. There you may see it written  
on a Japanese screen."

He pointed to a high, richly orna-  
mented screen which stood before a  
great fireplace. He added an anecdote  
which I have always regarded as a  
true picture of his soul:

"When I was in England I was hon-  
ored by receiving an invitation from  
the queen. As I was leaving the pal-  
ace, my carriage was hindered by  
the crowd of vehicles. There came to  
the door of the coach a noble-looking  
English workman."

"Are you Professor Longfellow?" he  
said.

"I bowed."

"May I ask, sir, if you wrote the  
'Psalm of Life'?"

"I answered that I did."

"Would you be willing, sir, to take  
a workman by the hand to him?"

"I extended my hand to him. He  
clasped it, and never in my life have I  
received a compliment which gave me  
so much satisfaction."

"I wrote 'Excelsior,' he continued,  
after receiving a letter full of lofty  
sentiments from Charles Sumner at  
Washington. In one of the sentences  
occurred the word 'excelsior.' As I  
dropped the letter that word again  
caught my eye. I turned over the let-  
ter and wrote my poem. I wrote the  
'Wreck of the Hesperus' because, after  
reading an account of the loss of a part  
of the Gloucester fishing fleet in an  
autumn storm, I met the words 'Nor-  
man's woe.' I retired for the night af-  
ter reading the report of the disaster,  
but the scene haunted me. I arose to  
write, and the poem came to me in  
whole stanzas."

"The clock in the corner of the room,"  
he went on, "is not the one to which I  
refer in my 'Old Clock on the Stair.'  
That clock stood in the country house  
of my father-in-law at Pittsfield, among  
the Berkshire hills."

"The great clock in the room was beat-  
ing the air in the shadows as he spoke.  
I could seem to hear it say:

"Toujours-jamais!  
Jamais-toujours!"

It was these words by a French au-  
thor that had suggested to him the  
solemn refrain:

"Forever-never!  
Never-forever!"

"Excelsior" had been set to popular  
music by the Hutchinsons when the  
poet met one evening the minstrel fam-  
ily after a concert in Boston Musi-  
cal hall. "I have," he said, "another poem  
which I will send to you." He did so.  
It was the first copy of the "Old Clock  
on the Stair." One of the family set  
the words to music.

"My poem entitled 'The Bridge,' he  
said in effect, "was written in sorrow,  
which made me feel for the loneliness  
of others. I was a widower at the  
time, and I used to sometimes go over  
the bridge to Boston evenings to meet  
friends and to return near midnight by  
the same way. The way was silent  
here and there a belated footstep. The  
sea rose and fell among the wood-  
en piers, and there was a great furnace  
on the Brighton hills whose red light  
was reflected by the waves. It was on  
half of Dover to attend to the mat-  
ter of running the free ferry over  
the river Thames for 1904. Carried."

Moved by Mr. Lewis, seconded by  
Mr. Boyer, that the collector's time  
be extended till next meeting.—Carried.

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### DISTRICT DOINGS.

#### WALLACEBURG

Feb. 10.—Mr. J. W. Plowes, principal of the Central School, Chatham, and Mr. Smith and Mr. Tackaberry, were in Wallaceburg on Monday, in the interests of B. B. Hood Co. There will be a special train on Friday night and a large number will no doubt be present from this place.

Miss Leah Taylor entertained a number of friends last evening to a progressive Euchre party.

Rev. J. N. Nichol occupied the pulpit at Dover Centre, where anniversary services were held, on Sunday evening last. Rev. Mr. Clark, of the above church, filled the pulpit here very acceptably.

Mrs. J. B. Kelly, who has been ill for a few weeks, is again able to attend to her work at the telephone office.

Miss Terhune, of Listowel, is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. D. Hickey, of Wallaceburg.

Miss Maggie Stewart will leave tomorrow to attend the millinery openings at Toronto.

Miss Carrie Hannon has been spending a few days at Port Lambton, where she attended the funeral of her grandmother, Mrs. Down.

#### SOUTH BUXTON.

After the recent heavy rains we have it cold again, and this country is flooded with water.

James Ross and John McGregor, of Tilbury, cattle buyers, were prospecting through Raleigh some days ago. They are well met and favorably known in these parts.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Ross, of Farmington, Mich., are visiting here.

There have been made valuable horses lost recently. D. Hickey has a valuable mare suddenly. It was worth \$150. B. H. Dillon lost a valuable colt, which was hurt in the barn yard. James Irving lost a valuable mare; it broke its leg. Robert McKay lost a horse from natural causes.

Mrs. M. Goodison, who has been quite ill, is no better.

J. M. Garel is sick with la grippe, but hopes to recover soon.

#### TUPPERVILLE.

A very pleasant time was spent on Friday evening last at the home of Mrs. William Brown, where about 70 guests were present to congratulate his son, W. A. Brown on his safe return from South Africa, where he served a term of three years as a mounted policeman. William is very popular, and after the absence of five years his friends are pleased to have him again in their midst. After partaking of oysters and other refreshments, the evening was spent in music and games.

#### WABASH.

The dance at George Liberty's on Friday evening, was largely attended. There were about 70 present. Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, of London, and Mr. and Mrs. Minter, from the Northwest.

Miss Johnston, of Dover, is the guest of Mrs. Fred Kelly.

Mrs. Wallace Burwell spent a few days last week at Croton, the guest of Mrs. John Ross.

There was quarterly meeting here in the Methodist Church on Sunday. A large number attended. Debate at Thorncliffe on Friday evening.

#### DOVER.

The annual meetings of the Dover, Chatham and St. Andrew's congregations of the Presbyterian church were held during the month of January. The pastor, Rev. A. E. Neilly, B. A., presided and the various reports presented were very encouraging. There were thirty new names added to the church roll during the year. A few brick churches, that stood at Richmond's, now known as new St. Andrew's. The Dover congregation made extensive repairs on the manse, making it a comfortable and up-to-date building. A substantial increase was made in the pastor's salary at Chatham's and there is \$150 on hand. In fact unusual progress is being made in all three charges and Mr. Neilly should be congratulated on his good work.

#### CHARING CROSS.

The recent thaw has caused quite a lot of anxiety here to the farmers, the water being so high as to be in stables and yards. Old settlers here say they have never seen such a flood before.

Archie Meloche has returned home after spending a month with friends and relatives in Montreal and other points east.

Mr. Robert Haskel, of Leamington, spent Sunday with his uncle, Mr. A. Wright, of the tenth con.

Wm. Meloche left last week for Niagara Falls, where he has secured a position as lineman for the G. N. W. Telegraph Co.

We are sorry to report that Mrs. N. E. Robinson is confined to her home through a serious illness.

While returning from a party the other night Mr. Frank Hunter had the misfortune to run into a snow bank, the horse throwing himself. It broke the harness so that through the aid of a few pieces of binder twine and a couple of handkerchiefs Mr. Hunter was able to drive home none worse for his night's pleasure.

On Wednesday evening last the choir of the Methodist church here spent a very pleasant evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Jenner, on the 14th concession, when they presented Mrs. Jenner with a beautiful set of dishes, with a shofar address for her kindness shown them. Mrs. Jenner was until about a month ago the organist for the church. They also presented their past leader with a beautiful cabinet, and their all returned to their homes well satisfied with their evening's enjoyment and the kindness of their host and hostess.

D. McEachran has been appointed school janitor for the coming year.

There was no church here Sunday owing to their being so much water on the basement that they were unable to build any fire in the furnace.

Miss Bessie O'Rourke has returned home after spending a few days with the Misses Meloche.

#### S. S. NO. 6, CHATHAM T.P.

The following is the report of the standing of the pupils of S. S. No. 6, North, Chatham T.P., for Jan. 1904. The average daily marks are given.

Class V.—A. M. Cotton 150, R. S. Cumming 155, A. Peters 132, K. N. Cumming 69.

Class IV, Sr.—H. Wilson 171, B. McNaughton 169, R. Peters 140, F. Brookbank 79, M. Peters 77, G. Solomon 49, E. Broadbent 32.

Class IV, Jr.—A. L. Cotton 136, N. Dodman 122, H. Peters 127, A. Vincent 116, B. Lamb 100, R. Peters 89.

Class III.—L. Cumming 132, C. M. Vandusen 131, G. Wilson 116, O. Vandusen 113, K. Vincent 111, E. Vincent and G. McDonald 110, B. Bissell 109, Wilson 108, E. Cumming 106, A. Sol.

Class II.—J. Richardson 96, E. Cumming 48, B. Broadbent 39.

Part I, Sr.—H. Wilson 49, M. Cumming 41, R. Thompson 40, D. Solomon 34, C. Thompson 27, H. Cumming 19, E. Axford 10.

Part I, Jr.—C. Vincent, R. Robinson, I. Simpson.  
Average attendance 39.  
M. E. BOWE, Teacher.

Some people regard their friends simply as something to blame things on.

#### NORTHWOOD.

James Best, of Saginaw, is visiting friends and relatives in this vicinity.

R. M. Mills, of Winnipeg, who has been visiting relatives here, leaves today for Lyons, Ont.

The Rev. Gordon Eke just closed a series of successful evangelistic meetings.

A large crowd attended the re-opening of the Methodist Church Sunday, also on Monday night, when a hot supper and good program was provided.

The snow, which has so long covered the ground, has almost disappeared, and we will soon have the good old summer time again.

The saw mills have the largest supply of logs in their yards that there has been for a long time. A busy season will be the result.

J. G. Osterhout is slowly recovering from an attack of bronchitis.

#### JEANNETTE'S CREEK.

At St. Peter's church on Monday, Miss Lash, daughter of Joseph Lash, Sr., was united in marriage to Mr. Anteau. They left on the mail train for Detroit. On their return they will reside on a farm in Dover.

W. Venning, of Dresden, was a guest of his brother here a few days this week.

W. Rath, who was a student in the O. R. office here a few years ago, has returned from the Canadian N. W. and is night operator at the diamond.

The Misses Howe entertained a number of their friends on Friday evening. Honors—B. Bowers.

W. Fullerton is in Chatham this week attending the funeral of his brother.

Mr. McFagan, of Quinn, took the services in the Methodist church here on Sunday.

Miss Hamilton returned home on Saturday from a six months' visit with relatives in Toronto and Midland.

Several from here were in Chatham Friday evening to attend King Henry VIII. in the Opera House.

#### SCHOOL REPORT.

The following is a report of the standing of the pupils of S. S. No. 6, South, Chatham Township, for Jan. In order of merit and attendance.

Class V.—John Stark, Rob. Henry, Rob. Bowers, Margaret Henry, Leapha Green, Janet B. Bowers.

Class IV.—R. Nichols, John Colman, Barwell Colman, Claud Colman, Donald Henry, Tom, Ite, Evelyn Stark, Carl Dawson, Myron Moore, Fred. Bowers, Eddie Dorcy, Miss See, Corrie Dorcy, Rhoda Wicks. Honor—T. Ite.

Class III.—Ella Oliver, Hazel Colman, Harold See, Leslie Nichols, Lillie Edwards, Nita Moore, Myrtle David, Honor—H. See.

Sr. II.—Eddie Bowers, Bert. Eddie, Forest Wicks, John Yott, Josie Yott, Harry Colman, Honor—E. Bowers.

Jr. II.—Oliver Yott, Bertie Moore, Daisy McFagan, W. Annie See, Kirk Milban, Honor—W. See.

Part II.—Alvah Duddy, Alan Duddy, Class I.—Willie Nichols, Albert Edwards, Stanley Duddy, Clarence Branton, Harold Nichols. Honor—S. Duddy.

C. M. BOWE, Teacher.

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