

TO THOSE IN ARREARS.

All Parties who have had Accounts rendered them, for Job Printing or Advertising, or whose Subscriptions to THE MERCURY are due, are requested to call at the Office at once, and settle the same.

MR THOMAS HUGHES ON THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.

The New York Tribune of Tuesday contains a very able and candid letter from the pen of Mr. Thomas Hughes, on the extravagant claims to be preferred by the United States Government before the Court of Arbitration, to meet in Geneva in June next. This letter, coming from one who is held in great esteem by the Americans, who has ever been their true friend, must have considerable weight with the sensible and reflecting portion of them, and especially with those who have experience of public affairs. It also serves to show the feeling in Britain in regard to the Alabama claims among men of culture and standing, whose opinions are not swayed by political considerations, but who while they are willing to make every honourable concession to the Americans for real or imaginary wrongs inflicted by subjects of Great Britain are, nevertheless, determined to uphold the dignity and honour of their own country in refusing to make concessions which are unjust and excessive.

Mr. Hughes refers to Mr. Sumner's speech, delivered in Congress last year, and the impossibility of arriving at any amicable settlement on the basis laid down by him, and reiterates the opinion expressed by every jurist, with one exception, that the claims for constructive damages, raised by Mr. Sumner, could not be entertained. He then goes on to say that the question with the Americans was not so much one of pecuniary damages, as of outraged sentiment, and that an admission of regret by England for the escape of the Alabama would do more than any payment toward bringing about a healthier state of feeling, and an amicable settlement of all points at issue. But while this was understood or expressed it was just as clearly understood that the Americans would insist upon their claims for losses arising from the actual destruction of vessels and their cargoes by the Alabama and other cruisers.

Having thus firmly established his ground, Mr. Hughes goes on to speak of the Joint Commission, and the Treaty, which was the fruit of its deliberations. It recited that differences had arisen "growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels which have given rise to the claims generally known as the Alabama claims," and that "Her Majesty had authorized her High Commissioners to express in a friendly spirit the regret felt by the Government for the escape, under whatever circumstances, of the Alabama and other vessels from British ports, and for the deprivations committed by those vessels." "Here," he says, "at first sight was an entire confirmation of our views. England expressed her regret, and America thereupon limited her claims to the acts committed by the several vessels which had escaped from our ports. But, of course, recitals may be modified by the operative part of any document, so we had to look further to see what was the net result of the Treaty. Then we find in the enacting part that 'the high contracting parties agree that all the said claims growing out of acts committed by the aforesaid vessels shall be referred to a Tribunal of Arbitration,' and there the matter ends. There is not, in the whole treaty, a word to show that any other claims than those for direct losses are to be referred to the Arbitrators." This language is explicit enough, but Mr. Hughes does not rest his case on this alone. He goes on to furnish additional proof that the idea of constructive damages was not entertained by any member of the Joint Commission. In the Protocol of the Conference, now published, the American Commissioners, after referring to all the heads of constructive damage marshalled by Mr. Sumner, state "that in the hope of an amicable settlement, no estimate was made of the indirect losses, without prejudice, however, to the right of indemnification on their account in the event of no such settlement being made." He goes on to show that every one of the old claims have been revived in the face of the regret, expressed in the first place, and in the second in the face of the statement made by the Joint Commissioners that the indirect losses would not be taken into account. He adds: "We never consented to the reference of these issues to the Tribunal, and there are the Protocol and the Treaty to show that we did not. If the Court should be against us I can see no alternative but our withdrawal from the arbitration, which would be, to my mind, the most deplorable political event of this untoward time. Both nations have made great sacrifices, of prejudice on one side and pride on the other, to reach this point, and the great result is now at hazard, by what I cannot help calling the reckless pleading on your side."

The calm and temperate manner in which the question is discussed, the clear and convincing way in which it is shown that the Americans agreed to drop their claims for indirect losses, and then revived them, is to our mind unanswerable, and cannot fail to have great weight with every thinking American. Whatever may be the result we can only hope with Mr. Hughes, "that the same calm and temperate manner will help both

nations through this most provoking difficulty, and that, in the meantime, neither side may be hounded back by anonymous writers or reckless public men, into the dreary swamp and desert from which we have so recently escaped."

A Plea for the Narrow Gauge.

To the Editor of the Mercury. Sir,—In looking over the newspapers for last week, I cannot but remark the feelings displayed by many writers against the Narrow Gauge Railroad. Formerly it used to be the Grand Trunk that fault-finders complained of, but now attention is in some measure diverted from it, and its suckling comes in for a large share of abuse. My sympathies are aroused, and I must say that many expressions used against it are exceedingly uncharitable, and savour strongly of the desire to kick an opponent when he is down. That the object of their attacks is down in the public estimation there is no denying, but then editors and others ought to have a little of the milk of human kindness left to extend to the weak and erring. My remarks apply especially to the Editor of the Hamilton Spectator. It is unreasonable for him to expect this young thing, with its slight and tender frame, and short legs, to make its way through deep snow, and it is exceedingly unkind of him in his Saturday's issue to call it a butter and egg Railway, and then to close his remarks by saying "that it cannot go the whole hog." Does he forget the dimensions of some of its advocates? Does he insinuate anything? Or does he desire to administer some more of his "Donnybrook pyhls?" He has a way of dealing out his physic that makes it very unpalatable. Since his own scheme has been such a success, and been such a benefit to Clifford and other points along its route, he ought to be magnanimous enough to let his opponent have his butter and eggs, without grudging him a small hog for a change.

Then "N. G." and others at Charleston, whose forbearance has ceased to be a virtue, complains about his letters, and that he is only four days without his mail. That is bad, but then he ought to be thankful that he has not to get his wood from Mr. Luke, of Arthur, who complains that for 25 days his one car load of wood remained at the station; and even then had not left. But fortunately Charleston has not to depend on Arthur for its cordwood, only it seems too bad that after paying \$45,000 for this railway it should be worse off than in the old days of mail coaches.

And then Mr. Forest joins the wail after its spent money. No mails, and still worse, no market. It must be trying indeed, to see ungrateful farmers driving their produce to the markets on the W. G. & B. R., thus showing that their unnatural propensity for selling their products at the highest price, exceeds their patriotism for the railway, the promoters of which did and do promise everything, though I must admit, as yet, it has accomplished nothing, except at long intervals struggling through the deep snow at the rate of a mile per hour.

But what adjectives shall I use to express the spirit manifested by the inhabitants of Durham, who not only drive their produce 40 miles past the terminus of this T. G. & B. R., but whose teamsters actually run weekly races with it; (that is when it does run,) and who boast that after feeding their horses two hours on the way, they often beat the way between Arthur and Mt. Forest. Such conduct is highly improper. Were not railways invented to supersede horseflesh in the carrying of mails, cordwood and even hogs? Would it not be more courteous on the part of the Spectator, "N. G." and others, instead of complaining of its inefficiency and weakness, to recommend that it be properly cared for, and supported till it reaches the maturity and full growth of 4 feet, 8 inches, with corresponding weight, to enable it to cope with its difficulties? OXLOOKER, Holstein, Feb. 13, 1872.

COAL OIL AT WHOLESALE Splendid Quality and Cheap

AT JOHN HORSMAN'S Country Merchants

Would study their own interest to purchase of **JOHN HORSMAN**

BERKSHIRE BOAR "JOHN A." The Subscriber begs to notify the breeders of Swine that he has purchased the above Boar, imported from England by Geo. Roach, Esq., of Hamilton, which will serve those this season. Terms \$4 cash. Pedigree—John A. was bred by Sampson out of Swinton I. by 2nd Duke of Glosier; dam Sniper I. out of Hobtail I. by Tim Whiffler. W. A. BOOKLESS, Royal Hotel, Guelph, Dec. 8, 1871. Proprietor.

A gentleman in Detroit had a baby left on his doorstep one night last week. He took it in, cared for it tenderly, and next day swapped it off for a terrier pup. A shawl manufacturer in Philadelphia has spun a thread twenty-seven miles long from one pound of American wool. It is one of the greatest yarns on record.

New Advertisements.

Wellington, Grey & Bruce Railway

SOUTHERN EXTENSION Notice to Contractors

TENDERS are invited for the construction of the Southern Extension of the Wellington, Grey and Bruce Railway

FROM LISTOWEL In the Township of Wallace,

TO LUCKNOW in the township of Kilmos—a distance of 42 miles.

Plans and Specifications may be seen at the Offices of the Company, Canada Life Assurance Buildings, James street, Hamilton, on and after the 27th inst.

Tenders marked "Tenders for Construction of Southern Extension," addressed to the Secretary, will be received up to noon of

Friday, 16th February, 1872

W. McCULLOUGH, Secretary, Hamilton, Jan. 29, 1872. W. MCGIVERN, President, do.

R. CRAWFORD, MANUFACTURER

WATCHMAKER & JEWELLER, Next the Post Office.

Having resolved to go into the manufacture of

WATCHES AND JEWELLERY

Exclusively, I will sell on cash the present stock of Watches, Clocks, Jewellery, &c.

BARGAINS WILL BE GIVEN Until the whole stock is sold off.

The Jobbing Business will be carried on to a fuller extent than ever.

Observe the address—

NEXT THE POST OFFICE, GUELPH, ONT.

Guelph, Feb. 12, 1872 dw

AUCTION SALE OF FARM STOCK and Implements.—W. S. G. KNOWLES is instructed to sell by Public Auction, on the farm occupied by Mr. John Hassan, lot 17, 5th concession, Eramosa, on Tuesday, 20th of March, 1872, at 12 o'clock, the following property: 1 aged horse, 1 mare iron grey, very fine animal, in foal to Mr. Buckland's Breton colt rising two years, 3 cows in calf to a thoroughbred bull, 1 farrow cow giving milk in splendid milk, also a splendid grade cow out of the Wingham descendants with heifer calf at her feet, 2 fat steers rising two years old, 5 spring calves, 6 well-bred ewes in lamb to a pure Berkshire. Implements—Patent iron-axle wagon (new), pair of bob-sleighs, new plough, set of seed harrows, new fanning mill, turnip drill, horse rake, hay rake, grain cradle, grain rack, forks, shovels, cattle chains, wheelbarrow, stone-mat, grindstone, neck-yoke, doubletree and whippies, set of team harness, nearly new set of plough harness, &c. Terms—\$5 and under cash, over that amount 10 months credit will be given on approved joint notes. For the fat cattle, cash. Feb 15—w3

AUCTION SALE OF FARM STOCK and Implements.—The undersigned is instructed by G. H. Carter, to sell by Auction at his residence, George Farm, York Road, 2 1/2 miles East of Guelph, on WEDNESDAY, 23rd FEBRUARY, the whole of his Stock and Implements, the farm being rented, viz.: Two excellent horses, 5 years old, one fine horse, one old Lowry, one eight years old, seven good cows, in calf to a thoroughbred bull, mostly young and some of the best bred here, one mare, one yearling and eight calves, 2 fat cattle (which will be sold for cash), 13 sheep, one Cotswold ram, one brooding sow, one yearling pig, one yearling pig, one pair of bob-sleighs, one long sleigh, one good horse-rake, turnip cutter, whippies, neck yokes, two sets of long top harness, iron chains, cattle chains, trace chains, hay mucks, bars shovels, hay knife, forks, &c. also a Good horse-power cutting Box and Thrasher. Terms—All sums of \$10 and under cash; over that amount, twelve months credit on approved notes. Sale to commence at 10 o'clock. W. S. G. KNOWLES, Auctioneer. Guelph, Feb. 14th, 1872.

CLEARING SALE OF FARM STOCK, IMPLEMENTS, AND HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE.—JOHN KIRKLAND, being about to leave Canada, has instructed W. S. G. Knowles to sell by public auction, on the premises, lot 26, Division one mile from G. W. Station, ON FRIDAY, 23rd FEBRUARY, the whole of his valuable Farm Stock and Implements:—One splendid Mare, in foal to Buckland's Imported Coach Horse; two Horses; two Geldings, rising 3 years old, three cows, in calf; one Heifer and two Steers, 2 years old; one Buckeye Reaper and Mower; two Lumber Wagons, one sawmill, iron ax, one Buggy; two Cutters; two Sleighs; 3 Flourish; one Cultivator; Roller; Scuffer; Turnip Drill; Turnip Cutter; Fanning Mill; Cider Mill; Furnace; Hay Fork, with grapple and pulley; two sets of Harness; one set of Carriage do.; one set Single do.; 30 bushels of Surprise Oats, for seed; a quantity of "Early Rose" and "Goodrich" Potatoes, &c. Table, Chairs, Washstands, Carpets, a collection of Pictures, a quantity of sugar-corn, Ham and Bacon, and other articles too numerous to mention. Terms—Ten dollars and under cash; over that amount, 12 months credit on approved notes. Sale to commence at 10 o'clock. W. S. G. KNOWLES, Auctioneer. Guelph, Feb. 14, 1872.

AUCTION SALE OF Farm Stock, Implements, &c.—The undersigned is instructed by Mr. Thos. Lush, to sell by auction on his premises, Lot 26, Con. 5, Eramosa, on Friday, 23rd February, at 12 o'clock, the following property: horse 11 years old, 1 aged mare, span of well matched mares (1 in foal) 7 and 2 years old, mare 4 years old (in foal), 3 year old colt (large), 2 year old colt and yearling filly, 8 milch cows in calf, farrow cow, well-bred bull 3 years old, 3 steers 2 years old, 2 heifers 2 years old, 3 yearlings, 7 sheep, 2 wagons, pair trucks, 3 sleighs, double pleasure sleigh, single buggy, combined reaper and mower, 2 cultivators, 2 pair harrows, turnip drill horse-fanning mill, 2 sugar kettles, chains, forks, rakes, spades, new grain cradle, 3 sets of double harness, set of single harness, 50 new sap pails, 2 iron ploughs, horse hay rake, &c. The whole will be disposed of without reserve, and the proprietor is about leaving the premises. Terms of sale: Sums of \$5 and under cash, over that amount 10 months credit on approved notes. (7-w3) E. B. TEEVIN, Auctioneer. Guelph, Feb. 14, 1872.

STRAYED STEER.—Came on the premises of the Undersigned, about the 1st of October, last. The owner is requested to prove property, pay expenses, and take him away. SAMUEL GRAHAM, Erin. Feb. 12th, 1872 3w

DURHAM STOCK FOR SALE.—The subscriber offers for sale three thoroughbred Bull calves, one yearling bull, all the above stock are registered, and have first-class pedigrees, without star or any other flaw. Con. 8, Div. C, Guelph, 25-11

New Advertisements.

REMNANTS, REMNANTS

CLEARING SALE OF REMNANTS

COMMENCING TO-MORROW.

Remnants of Dress Goods of all kinds
Remnants of Silks, black and colored
Remnants of French Merinoes
Remnants of Lustres, black and colored
Remnants of Wool Plaids
Remnants of Flannels
Remnants of Hollands
Remnants of Towellings
Remnants of Shirtings
Remnants of Prints
Remnants of Tweeds and Filled Cloths
Remnants of Overcoatings, &c.

NOW IS THE TIME, LADIES! Every Remnant in the Store must be cleared out previous to stock-taking at the end of the month.

Come direct to the Alma Block. Come early.

A. O. BUCHAM, Fashionable West End Dry Goods Store.

Guelph, 9th February.

THE STOCK OF

PRESERVES, JELLIES,

—AND—

CANNED FRUITS,

Generally runs low in every household at this season of the year.

JOHN A. WOOD

Is prepared to supply the deficiency, having in stock the largest and best assortment ever shown in Guelph.

CANNED GOODS

JAMS

Strawberries
Raspberries
Blackberries
White Cherries
Red Cherries
Pears
Plums
Peaches
Pine Apples
Quinces
Rhubarb
Pippins
String Beans
Sweet Corn
Tomatoes
Green Peas

Green Gage
Apricot
Strawberry
Raspberry
Red Currant
Black Currant
Damson
Gooseberry
Orange Marmalade
Lemon do

JELLIES

Red Currant
Black "
Calves "
Lemon and Orange

AT JOHN A. WOOD'S

GREAT CLEARING SALE

BOOTS AND SHOES

—OF—

Boots and Shoes at Cost Price!

The Great Sale will commence on THURSDAY, the 8th of FEBRUARY, and

CONTINUE FOR 30 DAYS

During which time the whole of his stock which comprises a good assortment of New and Fresh Goods, will be offered at actual cost price for cash, and cash only. This is a Genuine Clearing Sale, and the public may depend upon getting

FIRST-CLASS BARGAINS!

N. B.—All parties indebted to the Subscriber, either by Note or Book Account, are respectfully requested to settle them at once, as after the 20th inst., all accounts unsettled will be placed in the hands of A. A. Baker, Esq., for collection.

Guelph, Feb. 7, 1872. dwim

F. PREST,

West side Wyndham Street.

ASH WEDNESDAY!

FRESH HADDOCK

FRESH CODFISH

FRESH FLOUNDERS

FRESH SEA HERRINGS

FRESH LAKE HERRINGS

FRESH SALMON TROUT

FRESH WHITE FISH

FRESH PERCH

OYSTERS---XXX, J. C. L'S, AND SELECTS.

FINNAN HADDIES.

HUGH WALKER, Wyndham-st.

Fire, Marine and Life

INSURANCE

Provincial, Lancashire and Phoenix.

Canada Landed Credit Com'ry

Lower rates than any Loan Co. in Ontario.

JOHN McCREA, Agent. 251-2 over Bank of Commerce Buildings, Guelph, Guelph, Nov 23th, 1871 4w6m

THE Lancashire

Insurance Company

Capital £2,000,000 Sterling

Head office for Ontario

Northwest Corner of King and Church Streets, Toronto.

General Agents, S. C. DUGAN, CLARK & Co.

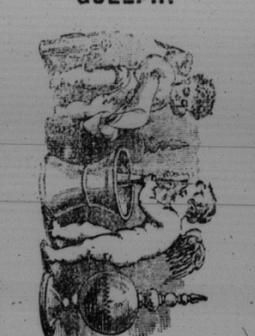
Manager, WM CAMPBELL

Agent at Guelph, 6ndw JOHN McCREA

Nov 27th, 1871

THE MEDICAL HALL

CUELPH.



JUST RECEIVED at the Medical Hall another lot of

Simpson's

Cattle

Spice

SIMPSON'S SPICE

Makes Monster Calves

SIMPSON'S SPICE

Makes Monster Cattle

SIMPSON'S SPICE

Makes Monster Sheep

SIMPSON'S SPICE

Makes Splendid Horses

SIMPSON'S SPICE

The Farmer's Friend.

FARMERS

That have used it say it's the best thing they have ever used for their Cattle.

E. Harvey & Co

Sole Agents Co. Wellington

Guelph, Feb. 9, 1872. dw

LEAP YEAR!

1872

VALENTINES

AT ANDERSON'S

Cheap Book, Stationery, and News Depot, Opposite the Market,

GUELPH

HEATHER'S

Stove and Plough Depot

The subscriber would call the attention of the public to Kinney's Patent Improvement in Stove Furniture, by which pots, kettles, frying pans, &c., are so constructed that all smoke, smell and steam from frying meat or other cooking are conducted up the chimney as perfectly as in the old fashioned fire-places. Ladies, give them a trial.

Sole agent for Guelph. A good assortment of STOVES, TINWARE and PLOUGHS always on hand, and at the lowest prices.

WM. HEATHER, Corner Woolwich-st. and Eramosa Road.

Guelph, 22nd August, 1871. dw

VALENTINES

A CHOICE ASSORTMENT

AT DAY'S BOOKSTORE.

ONTARIO COAL YARDS.

MURTON & REID

Have received and are receiving a large stock of Delaware, Lackawanna and Western R. R. Co's COAL of all sizes.

EGG, STOVE AND CHESS FIRST-RATE CONDITION, CLEAN AND DRY.

This Coal, for general use, is the best article in the market—low for cash.

All other Coals, such as Briar Hill, Mount Morris, Lehigh and Blossburg, in large quantities. Order early and secure your stock at present prices.

Office—James Street, one door south of the Canada Life Assurance Co., Hamilton, dw

GEO. MURTON, Agent at Guelph