

## THE ALVINSTON NEWS.

The representative journal of Brook Township and East Riding of Lambton County, Ontario.

IS PUBLISHED

Every Wednesday Morning,

AT THE

NEWS BLOC, RIVER STREET, ALVINSTON

Devoted especially to the interests of Alvinston, Township of Brook, and a surrounding Township, it aims to furnish a larger amount of local news and editorials concerning such interests than can be found in any other journal.

It is an advocate for social reform and moral elevation. On political issues it maintains a strict independence, unbiased by political creed or party.

Our plan of issuing an extra edition of 1000 copies every three months, commencing October, 1878, in addition to our regular circulation, is to be mailed to every non-subscriber in the County of Lambton, cannot fail to be of benefit to our advertisers, to whom no extra charge is made for such editions. Their various arrangements being brought to the notice of the public during the year, to the notice of

Nearly 150,000 Readers.

Advertisements should be sent in not later than Tuesday morning, and all changes not later than Monday of each week. Transient advertisements charged for by the line. All communications intended for publication, must reach this office by Monday of each week, and in all cases the name of the writer must be made known to us as a guarantee of good faith on their part.

Subscription, \$1.00 per year; and no name will be entered on the list unless this amount accompanies the same. Advertising rates, made known on application.

JAMES C. TYE, Proprietor.  
WILL E. JOHNSON, General Advertiser.  
Editor, Business Manager.

## The News.

ALVINSTON, WEDNESDAY OCT., 23RD.

Two hundred and thirty-three Canadian exhibitors, at the Paris Exposition, received silver or bronze medals or honorable mention. This speaks well for the enterprising skill of Canadian manufacturers, who have of late years taken an advanced position among the great nations of the world.

A TELEGRAPH from New Zealand, states that there is no truth in the report that five missionaries had been eaten by the natives. For the credit of the natives we are glad to hear it. Most any sensible cannibal would prefer a plump little baby or half grown child, but when it comes to a poor half-bred missionary, we are certain he'd hesitate about tackling him.

The corn crop in the United States aggregates a total of thirteen hundred million bushels, while the wheat crop according to present indications will exceed four hundred million bushels. The yield of oats is said to be very large and in excess of the fine crop of 1877. The amount of labor required to prepare the land, sow or plant the seed, and harvest such enormous crops, is difficult to conceive of, but labor-saving machines account for the fact that it can be done, spite of the million or so of lazy, able-bodied tramps, who permeate the States and territories, and who are gradually changing their line of travel so as to take in Canada also.

Advocates of total abstinence, or prohibition, will have another argument in their favor, taken from the criminal statistics of England for the year 1877. During that year there were 77,980 arrests made in the city of London alone; in 25,000 cases, drunkenness was the sole offence, and the accompanying offence in a number of others. Considering the population of that densely peopled city, over four millions of inhabitants, the percentage of arrests does not seem very large, but that one-third of these arrests was for drunkenness, indicates an amount of indulgence in intoxicants, that the most gloomy minded advocate of prohibition will hardly say is in the future of this country.

The body of McCannay, who was at the time of his death, Grand Chaplain of the Orange Young Britons, and who mysteriously disappeared from Ottawa, October 1st, has been found in the river a few miles below the city. A bullet wound in the right temple told the story and the corpse taken by the ball indicates that he had been shot by some villain who skulked up behind him. After robbing him of a gold watch and chain, and other valuables, the murderer threw the body into the river. McCannay was keeping company with a very estimable young lady, whom he visited the evening of October first, and left for the railway station to go on duty, having five minutes to spare. That was the last seen of him alive. He was but thirty-five years of age and had resided in Ottawa for a number of years.

Following close upon the terrible famine in India, the suffering for the necessities of life in portions of the great Empire of China, comes the sad story of like suffering, this year, in the

kingdom of Morocco. The crops proved a total failure, the farmers in the interior were unable to pay their taxes, their cattle and little property was confiscated by local authorities and the poor wretches, in a starving condition sought the seaports, many dying on the road. In the city of Magador relief has been given daily for many weeks to over two thousand people. There is no grass in the land, cattle and sheep are dying by hundreds, having only scrubby brushwood and dry plants to feed upon. We cannot be too thankful that such a visitation is not liable to come among this country, where a beneficent climate almost precludes the possibility.

A COMPANY has just been formed in New York City with a capital of \$300,000 for the purpose of bringing into practical use the electric light as an illuminator for public and private buildings, stores and factories. It is also applicable and will undoubtedly be used on ship-board and light-houses on the coast. While this is not a direct invention of that most wonderful of all inventors, Professor Edison, it is owing to his inventive skill that improvements have been made whereby its common use is eventually assured as an illuminating medium in private dwellings. How little did our forefathers in the good old days of tallow candles, sperm oil, or that explosive fluid known as camphine, look forward to the use of coal gas, much less coal oil pumped like water from the depths of the earth, as the common medium for giving light to their children while they sat at an evening around the family table, perusing the Bible or reading THE ALVINSTON NEWS. And we ourselves have been just about as unimaginative. Thirty years ago, a man who pointed to the lightning flashing through the sky, and asserted that in his generation the electric current would encircle the earth, and ultimately supersede the use of other illuminating agencies in large cities, would be a maudering dreamer or a mild sort of lunatic. It requires a very credulous mind to believe that old King Solomon was absolutely correct, when he said, there is nothing new under the sun.

Chief among the influences operating to produce financial instability and consequent business failures, is the credit system. Many a merchant has found this out to his sorrow; yet spite of the many examples to guide him, in nine cases out of ten, the credit system is interwoven with the cash plan of even those dealers who profess to sell for cash only. But it is not so much to dilate upon the effects in the long run, of the credit system to the dealers, bank account, that this is written, as to direct attention to one of the principal causes that have brought about the present lack of honor and integrity of character so observable in the States and yearly becoming more prominent in our own country. The readiness with which credit is given, the ease with which it is obtained has resulted in habits of extravagance, quite impossible if the cash system was more generally in vogue. Any employee will bear witness to the assertion that he will buy more recklessly if he is paid in an order on a storekeeper for goods or groceries, than if he has the cash in hand to buy where he pleases. A housekeeper who has a book account with the store, orders more freely than if for every purchase, the cash was requisite. Of course where the account has to be settled weekly or monthly it is really the same as cash, but when the money is paid for goods on each purchase it seems of more consequence to the buyer. If a law was passed making all debts non-collectable, while the machinery of a law would be looked for some time, it would result in a radical change that in the opinion of many persons would be beneficial to the country at large.

### THE CANADA SOUTHERN.

Outsiders will be surprised to learn, that spite of the amount of business, freighting, and so forth, done by Alvinston with the Canada Southern Railway, there is no waiting room for passengers at the passenger station here. In fact there is no station at all, as the word is generally understood, but merely a short platform at the foot of a very inconvenient stairway, the top step being about twenty inches high. When the weather is pleasant no special inconvenience is experienced by those waiting to take the train, but in stormy or windy weather it is far from agreeable to stand unsheltered until the train comes in sight and then cautiously descend the far apart steps with not even a hand rail to hold by. It is a wonder no one has fallen and been seriously injured or killed as this a result that would doubtless entail damages against the Company.

The road officials, probably think that the sitting room of the Commercial House, directly adjoining, is still used as a waiting room, but since the pro-

prietor has been obliged to run a temporary house, he does not feel inclined to open the room as a mere accommodation, to those from whom he can derive no benefit as his hotel is at present conducted.

It would not involve a cost of more than one hundred dollars, perhaps not so much, to roof in the stairway and build a waiting-room at the top landing. This would answer temporarily and would prove a great boon to the travelling public. The attention of the Company is respectfully requested to this subject.

### BAD SIDEWALKS.

One of the advantages to be gained by incorporation would be continuous sidewalks and suitable crosswalks on all the village streets; a by-law ordering this would then no doubt be passed. The effect upon the prosperity of the place would be noticeable at once. Business, so far as village custom is concerned would be better. Many a housekeeper postpones sending or going to the store, because the walking is muddy, and when the walks have been hardened by the sun or wind the little delicacy or luxury she intended to purchase is often forgotten or undelivered.

Even on River street, our main thoroughfare, there are several sidewalks in a very bad condition, and when a private driveway runs at the side of a building the intervening space of mud is as bad as the middle of the street. Near River street bridge the sidewalk is run with provoking exactness to the line of the Railroad Company's property. There it stops short, and before the bridge can be reached, one must needs walk through mud and slush, or pick their steps over narrow, warped and water soaked boards. These muddy breaks occur at three of the four hotels, as well as between a few stores.

Now it is unreasonable to expect or ask the owners of real estate to lay a crosswalk on their premises, or a sidewalk either. Any benefit it might be to them or their property, is as nothing compared with the advantage and convenience it is to store and housekeepers generally; yet, as a rule, wherever there is a council with power to act, an assessment is levied only upon the property holders on the street where such public improvement is made.

We believe a more acceptable plan would be, to impose a certain percentage tax on every ratepayer in the village proper, to pay for all public improvements made in front of, or on each building lot, providing there was a store or dwelling house on it; in the case of vacant lots or unimproved property the owner should himself pay for such improvements to his property.

### THE HOUSEWIFE.

It is customary to look to the wife and mothers to make home happy and comfortable for the weary husband when his days labor is done, and for children who gather around the table with provoking promptness whether the meal be as promptly ready or not. And thus it happens that the truth of the old saying

Man works 'til set of sun  
But woman's work is never done,  
becomes manifest.

With all the multitudinous cares upon her hands, the cooking, baking, washing, sewing, mending and churning, besides the care of the children—and if they are properly cared for it is as much as any one woman ought to do—besides all these cares it does seem unreasonable that she should be expected to chop kindling wood, light the fire, milk, (often in a wet, nasty barn-yard), feed the pigs and do many other little chores that should properly be done by the farmer and his hired man. And there are hundreds of farms in Western Ontario where the housewife has all these things to do. In fact we have heard the "hard-fisted sons of toil" boast of the abilities of their wives as tireless workmen, and it is not unusual for a young farmer thinking of settling down in life, to announce his intention of marrying a girl who can do all her own work and save expense; in other words, one who is perfectly willing to make a slave of herself for him, in return for an occasional point dress or a pair of stogies, for the privilege of having a roof over her head, even if it is a leaky one, and the doubtful pleasure of bearing him children to grow up and become little slaves to her lord and master. Three-fourths of farmer's wives live just such a life as this, and yet they are the ones with whom fault is found, because they do not make home happy. Poor things! How can they?

To make home happy requires an earnest effort on the husband's part and the co-operation of the wife and children; but the husband must take the lead. Let him commence by putting up a wood-shed, no matter how rough in appearance it be, and then seeing that it is kept well filled with good dry wood. Let him provide the con-

veniences demanded by the requirements of decency and the laws of health. Let him, or one of the boys, if they are old enough, get up and build the fire; then while the wife is getting breakfast, do the chores, and if the weather be cold and stormy, include milking also. There is not a farmer in the country but could do all these things if he chose to do so; the poor excuse that such work is a woman's work and unmanly for a man to bother with, is either the excuse of laziness or ignorance, or both combined.

Any of our farmer readers, who would for their own, the wife's or the children's sake, desire home to be more attractive, more pleasant than it now is, will be surprised at the radical change they can make in a very short time, by following these suggestions. The plea that he has all that he can attend to, taking care of the farm, rarely has any foundation in fact; it is a sort of inherited excuse handed down by his ancestors who quite likely buried their patient wives long before the shadow of old age had fallen upon them, and then married some young woman, between whom and the elderly farmer it was a close race as to who died first, after all.

It is no reckless assertion, that of all men who have to work for their livelihood, (and who does not, if he is honest), the farmer has, taking the year round, more leisure than any other class of men. Of course, judging by their own complaining, they are the hardest worked men in the world. Well, they are hard enough workers, there is no doubt of that, yet very few of them but could find time to do many little odd jobs calculated to add to the comfort and ultimate happiness of the home and family.

## THE DOMINION GROCERY.

EAST SIDE, RIVER STREET,  
Alvinston, Ontario.

The subscriber begs to intimate to the inhabitants of Alvinston and vicinity that he has opened out in the premises recently occupied by P. E. Howe with the

Largest and Best  
selected Stock of  
CHOICE FAMILY

Groceries and Provisions

Ever shown in the place, and is determined by close attention to the wants of his customers, and by the adoption of the motto:

Live AND Let Live,

In the strictest sense of the term, to merit a full share of public patronage.

THE STOCK IS

FRESH & NEW!

And having been

Bought for Cash

Will be

SOLD CHEAP

FARM PRODUCE

Of all kinds taken

IN EXCHANGE FOR GOODS!

A delivery wagon is kept in connection with the store and all parcels will be delivered within the limits of the Village

FREE OF CHARGE.

Please call and examine the Stock and Prices at the

Dominion Grocery

Before purchasing elsewhere.

JOHN MARLATT,

PROPRIETOR.

October 16th, 1878. 1-yr

J. C. G. LAMONT,

Alvinston, Ontario.

Manufacturer and dealer in

Harness, Saddles,

Whips, Trunks,

Valises, Brushes,

Horse Clothing,

Harness Oil,

Combs &c.

SCOTCH COLLARS A SPECIALTY.

Repairing Neatly Done at Short Notice.

October 16th, 1878. 1-yr.

## E. & N. BOWLEY.

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in  
HARDWARE!

The cheapest place west of Hamilton to buy Carpenters Tools, Axes, Saws, Cutlery, Glass, Paints, and Oils.

No. 1 COAL OIL

a specialty, and cheaper than at any place in town.

CLOCKS, WATCHES, JEWELRY.

Kept constantly on hand. Repairing of all kinds promptly attended to. River Street, opposite Benners Hotel, Alvinston.

October 16th, 1878. 3m.

ALVINSTON

FOUNDRY,

JAS PANNEL, PROPRIETOR.

All kinds of

CASTINGS

Made on short notice. Having the services of a first-class Moulder I am prepared to make to order anything in

Agricultural Implements,

Repairs Promptly Executed.

October 16th, 1878. 1-yr

CLARKE & ARCHER

Cabinet Makers,

AND

UNDERTAKERS.

Having lately removed to more commodious quarters we keep all kinds of furniture on sale or made to order and Furniture repaired. A fine assortment of

PICTURE FRAMES,

Of latest styles in stock.

A First-Class hearse kept on hand.

UNDERTAKING.

In all its details promptly attended to. Please call and examine stock before purchasing elsewhere. Opposite Ray Brothers Hardware store.

October 16th, 1878. 1-yr

ALVINSTON

Steam Flouring Mill.

This is one of the largest flouring mills in Lambton County; it is fitted up with new and improved machinery and in every way merits its claim as

AN A 1 MILL.

Customer's grists attended to with Expedition and Satisfaction!

Flour, Meal, Bran, Shorts, Etc.,

For sale by the hundred, or less, for cash, and delivered in any part of Alvinston free of charge.

PINCOMBE & MARTYN, Proprietors.

October 16th, 1878. 1-yr

Clarke's Saw Mills.

I am now running two heavy teams for the purpose of hauling in a large stock of lumber suitable for

BOARD FENCING

and will be in a position to furnish any quantity of such lumber to farmers and others. My mill being situated by railroad side I have unvalued facilities for freighting.

Lumber Shipped

To any point via Canada Southern. During the winter I will be prepared to do

CUSTOM WORK

With prompt dispatch for patrons. Correspondence solicited.

ADAM CLARKE, Proprietor.

October 16th, 1878. 1-yr

ELLIS & MCINTYRE

Wagon and Carriage Makers.

Blacksmithing in all its Branches.

Plough repairing and Horse Shoeing a Specialty.

All Work Guaranteed.

Come and give us a call. Center street, east of River street, Alvinston.

October 16th, 1878. 1-yr.

Lands for Sale.

1,900 ACRES in the Townships of Brook and Euphemia.

IMPROVED AND WILD LANDS

at from \$8 to \$40 per acre.

Parties intending to purchase will do well to call at my office and see description of properties.

Lands Sold on Commission.

And advertised by me. No commission charged unless a sale is effected.

Alex. Lucas,

Real Estate Agent, 1-yr

FAWCETT'S BANK

ALVINSTON,

Does a general banking business.

ISSUES DRAFTS PAYABLE AT PAR ON THE

Bank of Montreal,

And all its Agencies.

In the United States

GOLD AND CURRENCY DRAFTS

on Southern & Western New York agents

Bank of Montreal.

HIGHEST PRICE PAID ON DEPOSITS.

INTEREST PAID ON SAVINGS AND

Deposits. Money to loan on real estate at 8 per cent.

ALEX. LUCAS, Manager.

Alvinston, October 16th, 1878. 1-yr

## CASH

And

PRODUCE STORE!

John A. McKenzie,

PROPRIETOR.

Groceries,

Crockery,

Dry Goods,

Boots and

Shoes Clothing, Etc.

Unexcelled for cheapness and quality by any store in town.

Everything First-Class,

Examine his fine line

Hand Sewed Boots,

For men and boys, before purchasing elsewhere.

River Street, North, Alvinston.

October 16th, 1878. 1-yr

J. W. BRANAN

PROPRIETOR OF THE

GLENELG

FLOURING MILL.

This mill being run by either steam or water power, no derangement of power is likely to occur to prevent its continuous operation.

GRISTS

PROMPTLY GRIND!

Flour, Corn-Meal,

and Mill Feed, Etc.,

Sold in quantities to suit, at lowest market price for cash.

Grain Bought at Good Prices.

Having lately erected a brick block on River Street, the chief business thoroughfare, I have for rent a commodious store, also a spacious hall on second floor, 40 x 50, for entertainments, lectures, etc.

J. W. BRANAN.

October 16th, 1878. 1-yr

THE

Medical Hall,

ALVINSTON.

PURE

DRUGS,

PERFUMERY.

Toilet Articles

AND

PATENT

MEDICINES

ALWAYS IN STOCK.

Also a Large Stock of,

Wall Paper,

Stationery,

School and Account Books,

AND FANCY GOODS.

P. A. McDiarmid, Chemist, &c.

Agent for Montreal Telegraph Co.

October 16th, 1878. 3-m

R. G. MORRISH,

Calls the attention of intending purchasers to his large and complete stock of

Dry Goods.

Groceries,

Millinery Goods,

Boots & Shoes, etc., etc.,

WHICH HE SELLS AT VERY LOW PRICES.

Millinery a Specialty.

a competent Milliner in charge of this department.

A SPECIAL RUN ON

MENS CALF BOOTS

AT \$4 PER PAIR.

CLOTHING DEPARTMENT.

Gentlemen's Suits made to Order in Latest Styles, Ten per cent. below City Prices, and FIT GUARANTEED.

I WILL NOT BE UNDERSOLD.

B. G. MORRISH,

River Street, Alvinston.

October 16th, 1878. 3m.

WATFORD ADVERTISEMENTS.

## NEW MARBLE