

INTECH (1984) associates

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THIS ORIGINAL DOCUMENT IS IN VERY POOR CONDITION

says that along and throughout several counties a reign of terror prevails. The freedmen become desperate awaiting the distribution of farms, and now seek revenge by house-burning, cattle-slaying, and other outrages. Murder and arson are of nightly occurrence, and a war of races seems inevitable. The civil authorities are powerless to protect, and military posts are so remote that the whites have determined to defend themselves in different ways, but their resolution is, "Death before negro supremacy." The forty acres and two mules promised the negroes at Christmas not being forthcoming, has caused this terrible state of affairs.

Guelph Evening Mercury
OFFICE:.....MACDONNELL STREET
SATURDAY EV'NG, DECEMBER 28.

Provisions of the Postal Bill.
This much debated Bill, passed the several branches of the Legislature at the late session, and comes into force on the 1st of April 1868. The first draft of the Bill underwent some modifications in order to render it more acceptable to the public, who were by no means satisfied with the enactments it proposed. Even yet it is not universally pleasing, since it has disappointed the hope very generally cherished, that any fresh legislation to which newspaper postage might be subjected would result in its total abolition. Sir J. A. Macdonald gave the reason of the government for still persisting in levying a tax upon all newspapers to be, that they wished to make the Post Office Department self-sustaining if possible. A very worthy aspiration certainly, and much more commendable if it were not so exclusive; and if the same keen desire were evinced with regard to every other department nobody would grumble about paying twenty cents a year as postage on a weekly newspaper. After all, the new law is in some respects better than the old one, therefore if we have not got all we asked, let us be thankful for even small favors, and like honest Sancho say, God bless the givers.

In the matter of registration of letters there has been a change made so that officers of the Post Offices "have power to register letters unquestionably containing money or other valuable enclosures when posted without registration by the senders of the same, and to impose a registration charge upon such letters, of two cts." It will be a difficult matter perhaps for postmasters to tell whether letters "unquestionably" contain money or not, but as the registration fee will add nothing to their income probably but few of them will stop to make enquiries with regard to the contents of an envelope which has not been announced as containing something valuable. After the first of April next letters not exceeding half an ounce in weight will be charged three cents each, when paid at the time of posting, but if not so paid the giver will be charged five cents. Letters delivered at the same office where they are posted will be charged one cent without regard to weight. The postage on newspapers has been somewhat reduced as may be seen by the following quotation. "The rate of postage upon newspapers printed and published in Canada, and issued not less frequently than once a week from a known office of publication, and sent to regular subscribers in Canada by mail, shall be as follows:—Upon each such newspaper, when issued once a week, the rate for each quarter of a year, commencing on the first of January, first of April, first of July, or first of October of each year, shall be five cents, when issued twice a week ten cents, when issued three times a week fifteen cents, when issued six times a week thirty cents, and in that proportion, adding one rate of five cents for each issue more than once a week; and such postage may be prepaid in advance from the first day of the quarter from which the payment commences, for a term of not less than a quarter of a year; and such prepayment may be made at either the office mailing or delivery: provided, nevertheless, that *Exchange Papers*, addressed by one editor or publisher of a newspaper to another editor or publisher, may be sent by post free of charge." But on all newspapers by post in Canada "except in the cases hereinbefore expressly provided for, there shall be payable a rate of not exceeding two cents each." It rests with the Governor in Council, or Postmaster General to say whether this rate, or the present shall be valid. Printer's copy, books, pamphlets, and various other articles may after the date we have mentioned be transmitted by post at the rate of one cent per ounce. There are various other provisions to which we may at another time refer, as also to the Savings Bank which has been instituted in connection with the Post Office.

Member Horsman's Store open each evening until 7 o'clock on Saturday until 9 o'clock on Oil, Lamps, Chimney Glass, etc.

Opening of the Ontario Legislature.

(Special Correspondence of the Mercury.)
TORONTO, Dec. 27, 1867.

The first Parliament of the Province of Ontario was opened to-day at 3 o'clock. As may be supposed, the event was looked forward to with much interest, not only by the citizens of Toronto, but by every individual throughout the Province. Consequently the opening ceremonies attracted a large number of people to the city, and in order to give fitting eclat to the proceedings, the Torontonians had voted themselves a half holiday. A more unpropitious or unfavorable day, as far as the weather was concerned, could not have been chosen. The dull leaden fog of the morning changed during the forenoon to a steady, and often, heavy down pour of rain. Strangers were glad to get under a roof—citizens who were obliged to go out, hurried along at a break-neck pace, and the Volunteers who were called out to form a guard of honor to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, looked, as they hurried through the streets to their rendezvous, more like half-drowned rats than valiant soldiers. Toronto looked sombre indeed, but after noon the weather brightened a little, and before 3 o'clock the rain had ceased altogether.

Meanwhile, during the forenoon, the Queen's Hotel and Rossin House, where most of the members of the Government and Legislature were staying, became the great centres of attraction for town and country politicians, who went to gain tickets of admission to the gallery, glean all information they could about the proceedings, see the members from their particular localities, or through them scrape acquaintance with those from other constituencies. About two o'clock things began to assume a lively appearance about the Parliament Buildings, and also in-doors, and by three o'clock quite a large number of spectators were collected about the main door and approaches to the House. In the interim the Commissioners were busy swearing in members at the Clerk's table. Representatives in former Parliaments, as they met, greeted one another with a hearty hand shake. Some of the defeated candidates at last election were also present as spectators, and although no doubt they regretted that they were not in a position to take seats inside the bar, still they put on the best possible appearance, and chatted quite gaily with old Parliamentary chums. One by one the members of the Government made their appearance. The Premier looked as jovial as of old, and wore his blandest smile as he passed from one member to another and gave them a cordial greeting.

Very little alteration has been made in the Legislative Council. Members' seats are arranged as they were during the former Parliament, the ministerial benches being to the right of the Speaker's chair, and those occupied by the Opposition on the left. The side gallery has been taken out, and the end gallery enlarged. The walls have been plainly though neatly papered, and a plain carpet covers the floor. In the committee rooms and other offices the work of renovation has hardly been completed. On the whole the interior arrangements seem to be excellent, and the alterations have been done with a due regard to economy, without, however, sacrificing appearance or comfort.

By three o'clock all the members present were sworn in. We saw only three seats empty—one of which is ticketed for your member Mr. Gow, who we are sorry to learn was too unwell to be present on the first day. He and Mr. McKim, from the North Riding, sit beside each other. Mr. Ferrier sits near the lower end of the third row of benches on the ministerial side of the House. Judging from the appearance of the members, our first Parliament is composed of a highly intelligent and respectable class of men, who will do honor to their position and secure the respect of the Province.

Shortly before three o'clock two detachments of the Queen's Own and Tenth Royals were drawn up in front of the Building as a guard of honour. They were accompanied by the battalion bands. A salute was fired by the Volunteer Artillery as soon as General Stisted left his residence. He arrived in a carriage drawn by four horses, and was accompanied by his aides de camp and other staff officers.

Everything passed off well. It is true the officials are new to their work, and required a little prompting, but an occasional hint from the Premier put them all right. General Stisted himself seemed to be as innocent of Parliamentary practice as the merest tyro. After Mr. Cameron had spoken, His Excellency still, evidently not knowing what was next on the programme. The Premier nodded and winked to him to leave, but he kept his seat till John Sandfield told one of the *Aides de camp* that it was time for them to retire. The members were then

Opening of the Quebec Legislature.

The opening of the first Quebec Parliament took place at 8 o'clock on Friday last. Nothing that could give grandeur to the scene was wanting. The Quebec Hussars escorted His Excellency, Volunteers lined the streets, and a guard of honour of the 30th Regiment, with their band was drawn up in front of the Parliament House. Within the Council Chamber had assembled the elite of the city, and as the clocks tolled the hour of three in the afternoon the heavy guns of the grand battery thundered forth the announcement of the arrival of the Lieutenant Governor and his staff. The members of the Lower House having arrived, the Hon. Speaker informed them that when they should have elected a Speaker His Excellency would inform them of the reasons for which he had convened the Legislature, and that His Excellency would meet them to-morrow for that purpose. The members of the Assembly then retired, and the Lieutenant Governor, accompanied by his staff, returned to the Government House.

In the Assembly on the return of the members from the Council Chamber, J. G. Blanchet, Esq., member for Levis, was proposed by Hon. Mr. Chaveau for the Speakership, and the motion was seconded by Mr. Dunkin, and carried unanimously. The newly elected Speaker having been conducted to the chair by his nominator and seconder, and having briefly returned thanks for the honour conferred on him, the House adjourned.

For pure Coffees in Mocha, Java, Jamaica, Rio and Laguayra, ground fresh on receipt of orders, go to Geo. Wilkinson's. The run made on Mr. Horsman's pure White Coffee, at 15c., is so great that he will in future keep open till 7 o'clock each evening, and on Saturday till 9 o'clock.

Best Pale Ale and Guinness' Dublin Porter in pints and quarts at Geo. Wilkinson's. Scotch Whiskey, Malt Whiskey, Old Rye Whiskey, Cobourg Whiskey, at John A. Wood's.

New Advertisements.

TAKE NOTICE.
ALL parties indebted to the undersigned will please call and settle the same on or before the 1st of JANUARY NEXT, otherwise accounts will be handed over for collection. Call and SAVE COSTS.
JOHN TYSON,
Butcher. Stall No. 2, Guelph.
Guelph, Dec. 28, 1867. dw

Auction Sale!

CASTLE GARDEN SALOON!
MARKET SQUARE, GUELPH, ONT.

W. S. G. KNOWLES is instructed to sell by public auction,
On Thursday, 2nd Jan, 1868,
and following days, until the whole is disposed of, all the valuable

Household Furniture

Effects and Stock-in-Trade of the Castle Garden Saloon, Market Square, Guelph, comprising Centre, Dining, Breakfast and Toilet Tables, Hair-seated and Damask-seated Chairs and Sofas, Carpets, Mirrors, Damask Curtains, Bedsteads and Bedding in great variety, Washstands, Toilet Sets, Cutlery, Glassware, China, Electro-plated Ware, Engravings and Oil Paintings, Coal Stoves, Wood Stoves, Cooking Stoves, Bar-room Furniture, Kitchen Furniture, together with all the unsold

WINE AND LIQUORS,

which are of the very best description.

Terms Cash. — No Reserve.
Sale to commence each day at 11 o'clock.

W. S. G. KNOWLES, Auctioneer.
Guelph, 28th Dec., 1867. dtd

PHOTOGRAPHS!

W. MARSHALL

HAS no time to write a long advertisement yet, but has succeeded in securing
A FIRST-CLASS ASSISTANT

Operator and Positionist

from some of the best rooms in the Dominion, and I think shall be able to give good satisfaction to all who want good likenesses. Every style of work done at Marshall's.

Large Photographs!

Small Photographs, Carte de Visites, Imperial Cards, Pictures on Porcelain, Copying, Vases, &c.
WM. MARSHALL,
Artist, Day's Block
Guelph, 28th Dec., 1867.

Division Court Sittings.

COUNTY OF WELLINGTON.

THE Division Courts for the County of Wellington, will be held as follows:
Orangeville..... Feb. 4, April 14, June 30, 1868
Erin..... 5 15 July 1 "
Guelph..... 7 17 3 "
Elora..... 18 28 3 "
Arthur..... 19 29 23 "
Mount Forest..... 20 30 23 "
Drayton..... 21 May 1 24 "
Rockwood..... 25 12 Aug. 4 "
Puncheon..... 26 13 5 "
Harriston..... March 3 26 18 "
Harriston..... 4 27 19 "
Glennallen..... 5 28 20 "

By order,
Guelph, 28th Dec., 1867. Clerk No. 1.

NEW

Oyster Rooms

Valentine Wald

BEGS to announce to the public that he has fitted up Oyster Rooms in connection with his Hotel, on

MACDONNELL STREET.

The very best of Liquors, and choicest Cigars will always be kept.
The Rooms are under the superintendence of Mr. R. McCrude, whose courteous attention, as well as his thorough knowledge of the business, will insure satisfaction in all cases.

The very Best of Oysters

always on hand, and served up in all styles at TON and JERRY's, and all kinds of Fancy Drinks prepared in the most approved

New Advertisements.

GREAT SALE

BY AUCTION.

GREAT SALE BY AUCTION OF THE

GROCERIES!

Saved from the Fire at the Alma Block, on

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY,

The 27th and 28th Instant.

All to be Sold in Lots to suit Purchasers, Without Reserve.

ON FRIDAY—THE UNBROKEN PACKAGES will be offered to the Trade, together with all the Goods bought at the time of the fire and in transit. TERMS LIBERAL.

ON SATURDAY—The balance will be PUT UP IN LOTS FOR FAMILY USE.

The Goods can be seen during the week at the Warehouse of Messrs. ROBINS & TOLTON, near the Grand Trunk Passenger Station.

J. MASSIE & CO.

Guelph 16th Dec. 1867. daw

CHRISTMAS.

THE subscriber, though unfortunately left to battle alone with the trade of Upper Wyndham Street, begs to assure the public that he is determined not to surrender, but will, as usual, top a full supply of

GENERAL GROCERIES!

Wines and Liquors, Crockery, China and Glassware,

which he will sell as cheap as any house in the town.

Teas, Coffees, Sugars, Tobaccos.

Good Green and Black Teas from 50c. per lb., Green and Ground Coffees. SUGARS—Mascovada, Loaf, Ground and Crushed. First class Chewing and Smoking Tobaccos.

Fruits and Sauces for Christmas & New Year

ALL TO GO OFF CHEAP.

WINES AND LIQUORS

will be sold as low as the Tariff and Excise Laws of the Dominion will permit. Always good value for your money on Upper Wyndham Street.

JAMES MURPHY.

Guelph, 21st December, 1867. dw

CHRISTMAS BOXES.

WE WOULD INVITE THOSE ABOUT TO PURCHASE

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

to stop in and examine our stock, as it is larger and more varied than ever.

D. SAVAGE.

Guelph, December 14, 1867. dw

New Saddlery Shop

Do you want a set of Harness, double or single, light or heavy, call at the new shop, next door to Coffee's Hotel.
Do you want a good Saddle? We can supply you cheaper than ever, 15 yards from O'Connor's Wellington Hotel.

Everybody in want of a good Trunk, Valise, or Travelling Bag, can be supplied at the new shop, two doors from the Post Office

WHIPS, Horse Covers, Sleigh Bells

A very large and well-assorted stock of Whips will be sold at 25c. on the dollar of our former low prices, 50 yards north of St. George's Church.

We have a few pairs of imported made up Horse Covers, made to order, also a nice lot of common blankets.

What is more cheering than the merry Sleigh Bells? We can supply you. Call at the new shop, next door to Mr. Hoover's Livery Office.

We have on hand all kinds of articles, and will make up on the shortest notice anything you want in the Saddlery line, a few doors South of the Registry Office.

Brushes, Combs, Spurs, Bits, in endless variety. REPAIRING done as usual.

In consequence of the present premises being too small for our large stock, we will for a short time have to sell at a reduced price, to keep our present staff of workmen.

SMITH & METCALF,

Late occupants of the premises destroyed by fire adjoining the Alma Block.
Guelph, 28th December, 1867. dw

Queen's Book

85 Cents.

NEW supply of the Queen's Book. Price 85c.

At DAY'S BOOKSTORE,

Opposite the Market. dw

STORE TO LET.

A STORE to let on Wyndham Street. Apply to

No. 2,

Day's Block, . . Guelph.

12 lbs.

PRIME VALENTIA

RAISINS

FOR ONE DOLLAR.

All other FRUITS equally low.

E. CARROLL & CO.,

Guelph, 23rd Dec, 1867. dw

BOUQUETS

OF

Everlasting Flowers,

SUITABLE FOR

Christmas Decorations!

At C. & A. SHARPE'S,
Market Square, Guelph.
Guelph, 23rd December, 1867. dw

An Apprentice

WANTED at this Office about 15 or 16 y. old English education. None other possessing the qualifications mentioned. Apply at the Mercury Office.

G. A. D. C.

FIRST APPEARANCE

OF THE

Guelph Amateur

DRAMATIC CLUB!

THE above Club will make their first appearance in the

TOWN HALL,

ON

Monday Evening, Dec. 30th.

On which occasion will be produced for the first time here George Alma's celebrated Drama, in two acts, entitled

"The Charcoal Burner,"

or "The Dropping Well of Knareborough."

To conclude with an amusing afterpiece by all the members of the Club. For particulars see programme. Admission 25 cents; Reserved seats 50 cents. For sale at the Book and Drug Stores, and also by the Members of the Club.

MR. VALE, MORRIS ARMOUR,
Leader of Orchestra. Manager.

Guelph, 14th December, 1867. dtd

MEDICAL HALL,

GUELPH.

ESSENCE OF

RONDELETIA!

AN ELEGANT PERFUME

for the Handkerchief and Toilet.

Prepared by Breidenbach,

Perfumer and Distiller of Flowers to Her Majesty.

N. HIGINBOTHAM.

Guelph, 24th Dec, 1867. dw

HENRY MULHOLLAND!

THE OFFICE

of Henry Mulholland is removed temporarily to the

READING ROOM OF

ELLIS' HOTEL.

Nearly Opposite the Old Stand.

Guelph, 17th December, 1867. dw

Santa Claus'

HEADQUARTERS.

IF YOU WANT TO BUY

Christmas Presents,

And New Year's Gifts,

that will be appreciated, you should call and see my Stock, which is the largest and most varied ever opened out in Guelph, including a large assortment of splendid

FRENCH GOODS

DIRECT FROM PARIS.

I don't intend advertising my CAKES and CONFECTIONERY as from the rapid manner in which they are moving off I find they are very extensively known without it.

Flat & Co's celebrated Oysters arriving daily. Oysters in Shell and Count Oysters shortly expected.

H. BERRY.
Guelph, 20th December, 1867. dw

ROCKWOOD

Commercial, Mathematical,

and Classical

ACADEMY.

THE THIRTY-FIFTH SEMI-ANNUAL SESSION COMMENCES ON THE SIXTH JANUARY, 1868.

THIS long established and popular Institution offers special advantages to old and young. Its rural situation affords a degree of freedom from temptation seldom attained without undue restraint, while the comprehensiveness of the curriculum meets the wants of all classes of advanced students, comprising a classical course for those preparing for the University or the professions. A thorough English and Mathematical Course, specially adapted to the wants of first-class teachers and the general student. A complete Commercial Course, including not only those branches requisite to the mere accountant, but also others indispensable to the intelligent and business man.

Regular instructions in Plain and Ornamental Penmanship and Vocal Music.

Terms in advance—\$30 per quarter of 24 months; Classics, \$10 per annum extra; Reading Room and incidentals, \$1 per quarter.

The most respectable references given if required. Send for a circular.

McCAIG & McILLAN,

Rockwood, 27th Dec, 1867. dw

THE RED MILL.

THE subscriber having put a steam engine in his Mill, farmers bringing in their Grists can rely on having them ground the same day.

Chopping done every day.

FLOUR AND FEED

FOR SALE AT THE MILL.

GROUND PLASTER for sale at the Mill, and also at his Old Stand, near the Railway Crossing.

GEORGE BALKWILL.

Guelph 19th December, 1867. dw

Private Boarding.

Excellent accommodation and comfortable boarding can be had for five or six gentlemen. The house is only three minutes' walk from the House. Apply to

WM. HIGGINBOTHAM.