

...Mr. McKeen was not present. Turning from politics to music, Toronto has enjoyed a great musical treat during the past week by the production of the Oratorio of "Esther," the various parts in which were ably sustained by amateurs. The "Propheets" was represented by Mrs. Dr. Howitt, formerly of Guelph, and it will excite no surprise amongst those who had the pleasure to hear that lady sing at musical entertainments in your good town, to learn that her vocal powers are unimpaired and showed to much advantage during the "run" of the Oratorio. It is seldom indeed that amateurs can manage to draw such large and enthusiastic audiences as greeted the production of "Esther" during six consecutive nights, and a result that must prove a matter of much hearty rejoicing to those gentlemen who so nobly volunteered to undertake a matter of such magnitude and expense. It is said that the various charitable institutions, or whose account entirely the Oratorio was produced, will benefit to the extent of about \$150 each.

Guelph Evening Mercury

TUESDAY EVENING, FEB. 10, 1874

Public Accounts Committee.

For the past week and more the doings of the Public Accounts Committee have attracted more attention than the debates in the Legislative Assembly. The Opposition have been revelling in what they are pleased to call astounding revelations, on the strength of which some of the more sanguine hoped to turn out the Government and seize the reins of office themselves. They find, however, much to their chagrin, that the Government remains as strong as ever, and that these revelations, when fully explained, are not so formidable after all, though the Opposition leaders, backed by the Opposition press, are daily magnifying them into the largest proportions.

Passing over such contemptible charges as have been brought against the Hon. Mr. McKellar in connection with the purchase of a card table and other equally insignificant transactions, we come to the chief one, which was last week the subject of enquiry before the Committee, namely, the granting of a half holiday to the Government employees at the Central Prison, to attend the nomination in Toronto at the time Mr. Bickford was running against Mr. Moss. It seems from the evidence that Mr. N. Dickey called on the Hon. Mr. McKellar and asked for the half holiday, in support of his plea stating that it was customary for large employers of labour to allow their men to attend on such occasions. Mr. McKellar complied with the request, and at once wrote a note to Mr. Wagner, the Superintendent of the works, authorizing him to give the men the half holiday, and let their wages run on.

Now, the propriety of this course is open to question, and for our part we think it would have been better had it not been done, because we hold that a Government should stand altogether aloof from the slightest semblance of interference in such matters, and should shun even the appearance of evil. But this is all that can reasonably be advanced against the allowance granted, especially when we read carefully the candid and honest statement of Mr. McKellar himself. He stated before the Committee that it was urged that other employees gave their men leave, and added—"I thought if that were the rule—and I knew I had acted on the principle myself when I employed men—that it would be only a fair thing for the Government to give the same indulgence to their men." Further on he says:—"I had no intention of making any distinction between the political parties, and I thought no objection could be raised on party grounds by letting all the men go to the nomination where both candidates and their friends were to discuss the public questions of the day, and where no division or show of hands was to be taken to indicate which party had a majority on the ground. I had no communication, verbal or otherwise, with any of the foremen or men on the works, before or during either of the elections, further than the note I sent to Mr. Wagner, and to which I have already referred. I never, directly or indirectly, asked any man how he intended to vote, or attempted in any way to influence the men to vote for one candidate or the other. I had no knowledge then, nor have I now, of the relative numbers of the Moss and the Bickford men." Mr. McKellar, we think out of sheer good nature, consented, and without considering what a handle the Opposition would make of the concession or what unworthy motives they would impute to him in making it. Not the slightest evidence has yet been adduced that there was any interference with the men whatever—that there was any effort at intimidation, coercion, or bribery—that in fact anything was done beyond the granting of four or five hours' leisure to the men. Had the men all held the same political opinions—had they been all supporters of Mr. Moss—then the objection might have held good that the Government sought to influence the election by their agency. But among them there were the supporters of Mr. Bickford as well as Mr. Moss, and the natural inference is that they were as demonstrative in favor of their candidate as were those who supported Mr. Moss.

Viewed in this light, the matter has no political significance whatever, though the Opposition are making desperate efforts to give it that color. As a business transaction we think a Government should be careful not to give their opponents an opportunity of charging them with

making any concession, or an entail a loss to the country, or trifling or granting any indulgence which may be construed into interference with elections, or attempt to influence in the slightest degree the opinions or actions of those who for the time being are in their employment and receiving their pay. That there was no such interference, or attempt at interference, in this case, has been, to our mind, most satisfactorily established; and we are fully satisfied that Mr. McKellar's motives and intentions were such as he has stated, and we think that every unprejudiced person who has read the evidence will be of the same opinion.

Report of the Provincial Farm Commission.

To the Hon. Provincial Secretary.

24. That the average maximum of daily labour during the year should not exceed seven hours.

25. That during the preparatory term each pupil should enter into an agreement (with the assent of his parents or guardians) of service for one year, subject to the rules of the School, agreeing to give his whole time to the work and studies of the Institution; that such agreements should run from the first day of the month following that in which the pupil commences study; and that the termination of the engagements should be distributed over the year as to prevent the efficiency of the farm staff being at any time seriously affected.

26. That the pupils should provide their own clothing and books.

27. That during the said preparatory term, each pupil should receive instruction as herein defined, lodging, board, washing, and \$50 in money at the end of the year, in the event of his completing it to the satisfaction of the Principal and his colleagues on the Executive Board.

28. That each pupil should have a number assigned to him on his entrance; that a set of tools bearing his special number should be given to him for his exclusive use during his residence in the school; and that he should be held responsible for their proper care and attention.

29. That each pupil should keep a diary of his work on the farm during the year, with a resume of the instruction given daily by the officials.

30. That prayers and a portion of Scripture should be read every morning and evening, and a blessing asked before every meal; that it should be obligatory on all the inmates of the boarding house and attachment, to be regularly present at morning and evening prayers, with the exception of such as on the ground of conscientious scruples formally object to do so; that on Sunday all the pupils should attend service at least once in the church of the denomination with which they may have been severally connected; and that the practice of gambling, and the use of intoxicating liquors, should be strictly prohibited at the institution.

31. That each pupil should be entitled to absence from the Institution for not more than three weeks during the year, at such period of the year as the Executive Board may determine.

32. That Prizes for Proficiency and Good Conduct should be annually awarded and that Certificates of Proficiency and Good Conduct should be given to the deserving pupils on leaving the School.

GOVERNING COUNCIL.

33. That there should be an Honorary Council consisting of eight Members appointed by Government, and the Commissioner of Agriculture as President, who should make By-laws for the internal organization and government of the Institution; and that such By-laws should be approved by Order in Council of Ontario Government, before going to operation.

34. That the members of the Honorary Council should meet at Guelph, on the first Wednesday of January, April, July, and October in each year; that the term of their appointment should be two years, four retiring each year, the four to retire at the end of the first year to be determined by lot; that there should be an Advisory Committee of the said Council, composed of three Members, whose advice the Principal of the School should seek when matters of adequate importance render it expedient; and that the Members of the said Council should have defrayed, from the funds of the Institution, their actual travelling and hotel expenses in attending meetings.

STAFF OF OFFICIALS.

35. That the chief official of the institution should be styled the Principal; that he should be thoroughly versed in the practice and science of agriculture, and should possess large personal experience in practical husbandry. It should be his duty to form the plan of operations for the coming year—after consultation with the Directors of the several departments. His special charge should be the field department, which he should personally direct, being systematically with the pupils in the field, instructing them in their work. He should also devote a daily average of two hours during the year in the class-room to the oral instruction of the pupils in practical husbandry, and in such branches of agricultural science, and to such an extent of these branches, as may enable them to understand the scientific facts and principles on which each field operation is based. It should also be his duty to exercise surveillance over all the operations and transactions of the institution, and to see that the officials, pupils, and employees properly discharge their several duties.

36. That the official second in rank in the Institution should be styled the Horticultural Director; that he should be a gentleman of the highest ability in his profession, practically and scientifically, and possessing a special aptitude for communicating knowledge to his pupils, and interesting them in their work; that he, in like manner with the Chief of the Field Department, should plan and see executed the whole horticultural operations of the year, and be personally in the ground instructing his pupils; and that he should also devote an average of two hours daily during the year to the oral instruction of the pupils in the class room.

Continued.

Mr. ARTHUR McMASTER, Montreal, died suddenly in his pew at the St. James-st. Wesleyan Church, Montreal, on Sunday. He was the brother of Hon. Wm. McMaster, of Toronto.

CONNECTION.—It is stated by the doctors who attended the boy Kenchler, of Paslinch, that the statement of the Gal. Reporter in reference to the cause of his death is erroneous. Injuries whilst wrestling with a schoolmate did not occasion his decease.

NAME BUILDING FOR SALE.

Offers will be received by the undersigned Trustees, up to March the 23rd, for the purchase of the old school house, York Road. A good sound rock-elm frame 22x3 feet, on stone foundation. The building to be removed off the premises within three weeks thereafter.

D. KELEHER,
M. SWERTNAM,
H. SANDERSON,
Trustees School Section No. 1, Guelph T.P.,
March 10th, 1874.

BIRTHS.

COWAN.—In Paisley Block, on the 9th ult., the wife of Mr. W. S. Cowan, carpenter and sign-maker, of a daughter.

MARRIED.

HANS.—HENRY.—At Guelph, on the 4th inst., by the Rev. I. B. Howard, Mr. William Hans, to Miss E. J. Henry, all of Guelph.

DIED.

SMITH.—In Minto, on the 6th inst., Donald Smith, after a short illness, aged 50 years. Deeply regretted by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. A native of Argyllshire, Scotland. His remains were followed to the station at Harrison by a very large number of people. He was buried in Paslinch.

NEW GOODS.

Electro-plated Cruet Stands, elegant patterns.
Ivory-handled Table and Dessert Knives.
Nickel Silver and Electro-plated Forks to suit.
Table, Dessert and Tea Spoons.
Electro-plated Butter Coolers.
Tea and Coffee Pots.
Table Napkin Rings.
Bread Plates and Bread Knives.
Tea Trays and Waiters.
Coal Scuttles.
Vases and Pardonians.
Fire Irons and Stands.
Skates, Boys' and Girls' Sleighs.
Snow Shovels, Sleigh Bells.
Also, a large assortment of Lamp, new patterns very cheap; Lamp Glasses, Globes, Shades, Wicks, Burners, etc. etc., at

JOHN HORSMAN'S,
HARDWARE MERCHANT,
GUELPH.

PRUNES, PRUNES, PRUNES.

Good Stewing Prunes

—AT—
JOHN A. WOOD'S

REAL DUNDEE MARMALADE

30s per lb. at
JOHN A. WOOD'S

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR,

White and Yellow Corn Meal,
Coarse and Fine Hominy at

JOHN A. WOOD'S
Guelph, March 9, 1874

POULTRY SHOW.

OPEN TO THE WORLD.

POULTRY BOOKS

The Illustrated Book of Poultry, by Wright.
The Poultry Book, by Tegetmeier.
Eggs and Poultry as a Source of Wealth.
Domestic Poultry, how to rear and keep them.
The Pet Journal Magazine.
Poultry Books from 15c to \$10.

A LARGE STOCK ON HAND AT

ANDERSON'S

Cheap Bookstore,
East Side Wyndham-st.,
Guelph, Ont.

THE ILLUSTRATED BOOK OF POULTRY

By E. Wright,
With 50 coloured portraits of prize birds,
Price \$9.00.

Tegetmeier Poultry Book

Illustrated by Harrison Weir,
Price \$6.25.

WRIGHT'S SMALL WORK ON POULTRY

Plain Illustrations, \$1; Coloured, \$1.50.
A large stock of other books

Cheap, Cheap, Cheap

AT DAY'S BOOKSTORE.

GREAT CHEAP SALE

At I. & J. Andrews'

FANCY STORE,
OPPOSITE THE MARKET.

CONSISTING OF SLIPPER PATTERNS

Toys, Dolls, and a general stock of

FANCY GOODS.

Berlin Wools in all shades

All of which will be sold at and below cost
Orders received for Hair Jewellery.
I. & J. ANDREWS,
Guelph, Jan. 13th, 1874. dw

TO BUILDERS.

Guelph General Hospital

Parties desirous of tendering for the erection of the Guelph General Hospital may see the plans and specifications, and obtain information at my office. Tenders, either for the whole contract or the separate trades, will be received by me, directed to George Elliott Esq., chairman, up to noon of the 14th inst.

All tenders will be required to be endorsed "Orders for Hospital."

The Board of Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

VICTOR STEWART,
Brownlow Buildings, Guelph,
Guelph, March 2, 1874 dw

New Advertisements.

Co-Operative Store.

ARRIVAL OF NEW GOODS

OUR NEW TWEEDS

Were selected from six different houses, therefore we have a choice lot, to choose from. We employ a Tailor.

NEW COTTONS

Horrockses Bleached Cottons, soft finish; also, Linen finished Cottons, all prices. Dundas and Lybster Cottons in stock.

NEW PRINTS

Hoyle & Ashton's Fancy Prints will be offered at 12c cents per yard.

NEW BOOTS AND SHOES

For style, finish and durability will be found superior to former years. Ladies Prunella Boots 75c per pair.

J. C. MACKLIN & Co.

GUELPH, March 2, 1874 dw

1874 1874

NEW HATS AND CAPS

SHAW & MURTON'S,

GUELPH.

NEW SPRING GOODS

Commencing to Arrive

AT THE FASHIONABLE WEST END.

A. O. BUCHAM,

Fashionable West End Dress, Mantle, and Millinery Establishment.

"Pay as You Go."

Good Doctrine : first rate : Admirable Philosophy : more good sense and economy in these few words than most people are aware of. If you take a paper, pay as you go—your butcher, baker, tailor, shoemaker, pay as you go. It is a philosopher's scene. We wish it was impressed on some people's hearts with a sledge hammer.

WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED

A large lot of Ladies', Misses and Children's Prunellas,

WHICH WILL BE

SOLD AT THE LOWEST CASH PRICE.

Purchasers will do well to call and examine our stock and prices, before purchasing elsewhere.

CUSTOM WORK A SPECIALTY

All work made in the latest styles. A perfect fit guaranteed. Customers can have a last kept specially for themselves. Repairing done as usual.

Remember the House—The Dominion Shoe Store, Day's Block, opposite the Town Hall.

WM. TAWSE & SON.

Guelph, Feb. 9, 1874 dw

Elephant Clothing Store.

C. E. PEIRCE & CO.

Just Received a splendid new stock of

HATS AND CAPS!

C. E. PEIRCE & CO.,

Hepburn's Old Stand, Wyndham-st., Guelph.

Guelph, Mar. 2, 1874 dw

ALL READY

FOR THE

COLD WEATHER

In every Department

AN

Immense Stock

OF

NEW GOODS

AT

WILLIAM STEWART'S

Who is now offering some of

The Cheapest Lines

of Goods ever Offered in this Town.

A fair comparison asked with any House as he feels satisfied that the Goods and prices will well repay the purchaser, as from

10 to 15 Cents can be Saved

On every dollar's worth of Goods bought, all were bought in the Cheapest Markets, and will be sold at the very closest prices.

DRESS GOODS

A SPECIALTY

New Flannels, all qualities;

2500 yards Union Shirting Flannels 25c., worth 35c.

475 Ladies Beaver and Cloth Jackets cheap.

In the Cloth Department

THE NEWES

Coatings, Trousers, and Vestings

and made up to order in the most fashionable styles.

WM. STEWART.

Guelph, Oct. 15, 1873.

PAY UP.

All parties indebted to W. D. HEPBURN & CO. are requested to call at the old stand, and pay their accounts before the 15th of March, or they will be placed in the hands of A. A. Baker, Esq., for collection.

W. D. HEPBURN & Co.

GUELPH, Feb. 17, 1874. dw

NOTICE.

Erb's Celebrated

FALL WHEAT FLOUR

For Bread and Pastry.

ROBERTSON BROS., SOLE AGENTS

Dealers in Goldie's and Armstrong's Flour, Graham Flour, Buckwheat Flour, Corn Flour, Cracked Wheat, Oatmeal, and Feed of all kinds.

Delivered free to any part of the Town.

Do not forget the stand—Red Mill Flour and Feed Store, opposite the Alma Block Wyndham Street, Guelph.

ROBERTSON BROS.,

Guelph, Feb. 19, 1874. dw

J. H. ROMAIN & Co.,

Successors to Nellies, Romain & Co., CANADA HOUSE,

General Commission Merchants.

26, City National Bank Building, Chicago, Ill.

References: Sir John Rose, banker, London, England; F. W. Thomas, Esq., banker, Montreal; The Marine Company of Chicago, bankers; Hon. J. Carling, London, Ont.; Messrs Gault Bros., merchants, Montreal; Senator F. Smith (Frank Smith & Co.), Toronto; J. M. Miller, Esq., Perth, Ont.; late of J. M. Miller & Co., commission merchants Chicago; W. Watson, Esq., banker, New York; D. Butcher, Esq., Montreal; J. Whitehead, Esq., M. P., Clinton, Ont.; C. McGill Esq., M. P. Hamilton, Ont.; T. C. Chisholm Esq., S. B. Foots, Esq., Toronto

DOMINION SALOON

AND RESTAURANT.

Opposite the Market, Guelph. Oysters in their season. First-class accommodation for supper parties.

GEO. BOOLESS, Proprietor, Guelph, Oct. 31, 1873. dw