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a Quantity of Second-hand  
**Brevier and Bourgeois**  
IN GOOD ORDER.

To be sold Cheap. Apply at once, at the Office.

**Evening Mercury**

MONDAY EVENING, JAN. 8, 1872

### THE PAST AND PRESENT.

At the nomination for this Riding last week, among the many youthful Reformers who are now vigorously fighting the battles of their party, we noticed not a few grey-haired men—veterans in the good cause—who through the growing infirmities of age have been obliged to resign the heavier share of the work to their younger associates, but who are yet as keenly alive, and as zealous for the success of the party as they were when they stood the brunt of the battle. It was extremely interesting to hear those aged Reformers recall the political reminiscences of the past, and hear them contrast the experiences of Reformers in the present day with those of twenty-five or thirty years ago. Now it is all plain sailing. We have been accustomed for years to look upon this Riding of South Wellington as the very stronghold of Reform. Our contests—when we have any—are comparatively easy—our triumphs are sure and decisive. But it was otherwise in days gone by. Those were the days that tried men's souls—at least Reformers. These were the times when the old hated Family Compact was tyrannous and strong—when intimidation, bribery and corruption were openly practiced with the most unblushing effrontery, when Toryism was fashionable and basked in the sunshine of official favour, when a Reformer was a synonym for all that was vile and low, when women were brought up in open daylight by high officials to vote for the Tory candidate, when it was counted a commendable feat to break up a Reform meeting with organized bands of rowdies, and when to rotten egg a poor Reformer was as sweet incense in the nostrils of those who upheld the powers that be. To be a Reformer in those days required no small amount of courage, steadfastness and faith in the future. The handful of them that thirty years ago—and less—fought and worked and even suffered for their principles have dwindled down to a few, but they have lived to see their fondest hopes realized. From a small minority they have seen the Reform party grow to an overwhelming majority. They have lived to see a strong and able Reform Government formed. They have lived to see a member of that Government returned by acclamation. They have lived to see the day when the Reform party has gained a complete ascendancy and when Reform principles are to be fully carried into effect.

We are too apt in this busy age—when men often manage their politics as well as their business at fever heat—to forget the veterans of bygone days, to ignore the men who have been the main-stay of the party in former years, and who have zealously worked and anxiously watched and waited for its ultimate success. We are satisfied it is not because we do not appreciate their labours, but because in the rapid rush of events these labours and the men who performed them have been pushed out of sight. It is well, however, to recall the past occasionally, and it is a duty the younger Reformers of this Riding owe to their aged associates to recognize their services, and in the hour of victory to hail them as brave soldiers, who bravely faced the enemy in their youth, and though oft repulsed, never threw down their arms, or turned their back on the foe. All honour say we to our grey-haired Reformers. Let them have the chief place at our meetings, the seat of honour at our festive gatherings, that their presence and example may incite their younger comrades to uphold the standard of Reform as valiantly as they did, and that their experience and wisdom may guide their counsels in the future.

**Mr. McKellar Elected by Acclamation.**  
Over three hundred electors, from all parts of the County, were present at the nomination for the County of Bothwell, which took place on Saturday, and the greatest enthusiasm was manifested by the electors in greeting the Hon. A. McKellar, who has the entire confidence of his constituents. Mr. McKellar was the only one nominated, and after waiting the usual time, he was declared elected by acclamation.

Angus Nicholson, of Toronto, special emigrant agent to the Highlands of Scotland, for the Dominion, is about to leave for the old country.

### McDougall's Speculation and what Became of It.

The St. Catharines Times is responsible for the following:—  
Just a few days before the downfall of Sandfield & Co. Mr. McDougall in the name of his son-in-law, Captain Seymour, made application for a Crown Patent conveying to the said son-in-law a tract of land covering the Silver Islet mines—worth at least a million dollars. The price to be paid by McDougall & Co. was merely nominal. Sandfield affirmed the swindle and on the very day that he sent in his resignation the papers were being made out by the Department Clerks. Fortunately a gentleman who had an interest in the present Mining Company then got wind of it and informed Mr. Blake of the affair. The new Premier at once countermanded the order and saved the country from one of the hugest swindles ever perpetrated by a corrupt set of rulers. Poor McDougall for some days after the inauguration of the new order of things looked the sickest man in Toronto and tried in every possible way to lobby his "little matter" through, but it was no go. The job was buried and the C. B. is now no doubt bemoaning the uncertainty of putting his trust in a corrupt Patent Combination Government.

**CAN'T DO IT.**—The friends of the late Patent Combination are attempting to raise a cry against the appointment of Mr. Scott to the Crown Lands, by saying that Mr. Galbraith, who has been a staunch Reformer, has been passed over in favor of Mr. Scott, who heretofore was associated with Sandfield's Government, but the attempt to raise bad feelings is a dead failure.

**THE HOUSE OF LORDS.**—Leading English journals, on both sides of politics, are preparing the public mind for the next great Reform, viz:—A reform of the House of Lords. It seems already conceded that the principal change to be introduced will be the creation of life peers. But a few years ago this was violently opposed by the defenders of ancient privileges, and the "strong Government" of the day had to give way to the pressure, in the case of Lord Wensleydale. The times are somewhat changed now, however, and it is admitted that the constitutional objections formerly taken are not likely to be insisted on with much effect.

### BIRTHS.

McGILL—In East Garsfrax, on the 29th ult. the wife of Mr. Arch. McGill, of a daughter, named Mary.

WALKER—In Nichol, on the 29th ult. the wife of Mr. Arthur Walker, of a son.

McARTHUR—In Bramosa, on the 29th ult. the wife of Mr. Nathan McArthur, of a son.

SMALL—At Glenallan, on the 29th ult. the wife of Mr. Geo. Small, of a son.

### MARRIED.

WALKER—MATHEWS—At Harrison, on the 29th ult. by the Rev. G. McLennan, Mr. J. M. Walker, of Maryboro, to Miss Annie Jane Mathews, of Howick.

GORDON—MCKENZIE—At Harrison, on the 29th ult. by the Rev. G. McLennan, Mr. A. Gordon, teacher, Erin, to Miss Jane McKenzie, of Kinross.

BLACKWELL—MCKENZIE—At Harrison, Mr. F. E. Blackwell, carpenter, to Miss Mary McKenzie, both of Harrison.

BOOTH—McNAMARA—In Arthur, on the 29th ult. by the father of the bride, Mr. Robt. S. Booth of Dublin, Ireland, to Elizabeth Victoria, eldest daughter of the Rev. J. McNamara, of Arthur.

REYNOLDS—FISHER—At Salem, on the 26th ult. by the Rev. G. Gerrie, Mr. Chas. Reynolds, of Guelph, to Miss Henrietta Field, of Salem.

DICKSON—SMITH—In Vergas, on the 1st inst. by the Rev. Geo. Smellie, Mr. Chas. F. Dickson, of Waterloo, to Belle, second daughter of the late S. R. Smith, Esq.

### DIED.

McDOUGALL—At Minto, on the 18th ult. Mrs. Alison McDougall, aged 72 years.

### New Advertisements.

#### Mechanics' Institute.

THE Annual Meeting of the Guelph Mechanics' Institute will be held in the Town Hall on TUESDAY EVENING, the 9th inst. at half past seven o'clock, for the election of officers, &c. A full meeting is requested.  
CHARLES WALKER, Sec.

#### Guelph Gas Light Company.

THE Annual Meeting of Shareholders of the above Company will be held in the TOWN HALL, Guelph, on FRIDAY, the 19th JANUARY, 1872, at 4 o'clock, p.m.  
J. C. McLENNAN, Sec.  
D. GUTHRIE, Pres.  
Guelph, Jan 8, 1872 d2aw-w2t

### WANTED.

WANTED, a comfortable Bed-room within ten minutes walk of the Court House. State Terms. Address J. W. W. at J. Horsman's Wyndham St.

### House Wanted.

A SMALL DWELLING HOUSE, within ten minutes walk of the Town Hall, wanted by the 1st of April. Address Drawer 29, Guelph P.O.

**Wanted to Purchase.**  
FROM 2 to 10 acres of Land, in the immediate neighborhood of Guelph; if with house and buildings, preferred. Address, with full particulars to Box F, Guelph P.O.

### Vick's Floral Guide for 1872

THE First Edition of Two Hundred Thousand Copies just published. It is elegantly printed on finished paper, in two colors, and illustrated with over THREE HUNDRED ENGRAVINGS of Flowers and Vegetables, and

### Two Colored Plates.

The most beautiful and instructive Catalogue and Floral Guide in the world—112 pages, giving thorough directions for the culture of Flowers and Vegetables, ornamenting grounds, making walks, &c.

A Christmas present for my customers, but forwarded to anyone who applies by mail, for Ten Cents, only one-quarter the cost.  
Address JAMES VICK, Rochester.

### WEEK OF PRAYER

UNITED Services in observance of the Week of Prayer, as invited by the Evangelical Alliance, will (D.V.) be held in the Town of Guelph, as follows:  
Monday Evening, Jan 8, Knox Church;  
Tuesday Evening, Jan 9, Congregational Church;  
Wednesday Eve., Jan 10, St. Andrew's Church;  
Thursday Eve., Jan 11, Chalmers' Church;  
Friday Evening, Jan 12, Wesleyan Meth. Church;  
Saturday Eve., Jan 13, Baptist Church.  
The meeting on Thursday Evening will be the Annual Meeting of the Guelph Branch Bible Society. Services to commence at 7.30. Collection on Friday Evening to defray expenses.  
WM. F. CLARKE, Sec. Min. Ass.  
Guelph, Jan 6, 1872

### Money! Money! Money!

TO LEND, at reasonable rates, on security of real property, in sums to suit borrowers. Apply to  
GUTHRIE, WATT & CUTTEN  
Guelph Dec 27, 1871

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