

Births, Marriages and Deaths.

We are in receipt of the third annual report of the Register General of the Province of Ontario, showing the number of births, marriages and deaths in the Province, during the year ending 31st December, 1871. The number of births registered was 24,830; of marriages 9,039; and of deaths 9,182, showing an improvement over the previous year of 5,294 births; 1,271 marriages; 2,277 deaths, an increase on the whole returns of fully twenty-five per cent. In order that our readers may have an idea of the statistics of our own county, we quote:—Births—652 male, 630 female, 1282 in all. Marriages 450. Deaths—Under 3 years 160; 3 to 10, 89; 10 to 21, 39; 21 to 40, 74; 40 to 60, 50; 60 to 70, 34; 70 to 80, 39; 80 to 90, 16; 90 and upwards, 6; number of males 254; of females 257; total 511. The deaths of eighteen centenarians have been returned this present year—just double the number recorded in 1871. The increase of births in 1871 over 1870 is 158; increase of marriages 12; increase of deaths 152. Population of Wellington, by census of 1871, 63,290 Guelph 6,878.

Parents, clergymen and medical men are the classes in the community upon whom chiefly devolve the duty of registration. Among the counties from which the most complete returns have been received stands Wellington. This most certainly speaks well for the intelligence of our people, that the returns should indicate such praiseworthy attention on their part to the requirements of the Act.

The people of Ontario should by this time be fully alive to the great importance of vital statistics. Every effort has been made to render them fully cognizant of the purposes of the Act; and in order that sufficient time should be allowed them to become thoroughly acquainted with the requirements of it, the section there of providing for the imposition of penalties, when these requirements have not been complied with, has so far been treated as little better than a dead letter. If any practical benefit is to be derived from the expenditure made by Ontario in the matter, the time has now come when the regulations of the Act must be stringently enforced.

When once the public are made to understand that they cannot with impunity ignore the Act, the incompleteness of now characterizes the returns will become a thing of the past. It has been suggested that, in a small community, the Division Registrar, who is also the Clerk of the Municipality, would naturally shrink from instituting legal proceedings against his neighbours, and particularly in cases where the offending party happens to be a prominent medical man. The appointment of an Inspector has already been recommended, with power to prosecute all who fail to make the prescribed returns.

Editorial Item.

The Toronto Sun, which leans more to the Opposition than to the Government, thus speaks of the way in which Mr. Cameron and his followers are frittering away the time of the House:—"The need of a strong Opposition was never more plainly manifested than at present. The Ministry are so strong, and their supporters, both in and out of the House, so numerous, that, in the absence of that check which a nearly equally divided House always exercises upon the actions of Administration, there is nothing to prevent flagrant abuses of power. To oppose this compact and solid Ministerial phalanx there is but a disintegrated rabble. Instead of husbanding their strength for a grand onslaught on some leading feature of the Ministerial policy they fritter it away in a series of petty insignificant attacks, which have no appreciable effect either on the House or on outside public opinion." That it is quite true is evident from the fact that on Friday the Government was ready to proceed with the second reading of several measures, the consideration of which was postponed because the Opposition were not ready to proceed.

Mr. Alfred Patrick is gazetted clerk of the House of Commons vice Mr. Lindsay, deceased.

A good deal of uneasiness is felt in England regarding the issue of the controversy between the British Government and that of Russia respecting the latter's policy in the east, and a telegram from India conveys the intelligence of outrages having been already perpetrated on two cities, by parties supposed to be acting as Russian agents.

Lost at Sea.—The account of an appalling suicide at sea, published in another column, will be read with a feeling of disgust. It was indeed a sad case.

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Lost at Sea.

WORKING AN ATLANTIC PASSAGE.

A New York exchange just received has the following:—

"One of the longest and most stormy of the many tempestuous passages which have rendered the present winter a memorable one to the navigators of the Atlantic was made by the City of Washington of the Inman Line. Leaving Liverpool the day after Christmas with 130 stowage and two cabin passengers on board, she touched at Queenstown the following day, and did not arrive in New York until the 14th inst., having occupied a period of twenty-one days on the voyage, including a short detention at Boston, where she was obliged to put in on the 13th inst. to renew her coal. The journal of the voyage, from day to day, is a history of storm and tempest, with occasional accounts of portions of the bulwarks being swept away by the terrific seas which were continually being shipped by the storm-tossed vessel.

"The day after leaving Liverpool an ominous incident occurred which cast a gloom over the passengers, not dispelled throughout the tempestuous voyage which followed. On Christmas Day, as the vessel was lying in the Mersey, preparing for her departure, a man came on board and expressed a desire to work his passage to New York. He gave his name as James Brannagan, but beyond this nothing is known of him. He was not a sailor, and could not, of course, be shipped in that department; but, observing that he was a healthy, muscular man, the engineer, who was somewhat short of hands, agreed to take him in the capacity of coal trimmer; that is, one whose business it is to convey coal from the bunkers to the vicinity of the furnaces, break up the large lumps, and otherwise prepare it for the firemen. In the event of the bunkers getting choked and the coal not running freely, a thing of frequent occurrence, the trimmer is compelled to go in and loosen it. Though requiring little or no experience, their work is far more arduous and exhausting than that of firemen. Brannagan, however, had no idea of the ordeal which he was about to undergo, and joyfully seized upon the opportunity offered him to reach the New World. The following day he was sent down to the stoke room and set to work, and before the vessel had been two hours out he bitterly repented his rashness.

"The steamer arrived in Queenstown about four o'clock on Saturday morning, and Brannagan requested to be sent ashore, saying he was utterly unable to do the work assigned to him. It was too late to draw back, however. His name had been entered on the ship's books, and he was told he must weather it as best he could until he arrived in New York. Two hours afterwards, when the steamer was on the point of leaving, the tender being still alongside, Brannagan was found to have mysteriously disappeared. A hasty search was made, when it became evident that he was not on board. The tender was overhauled, and the poor fellow was found stowed away in the hold, hanging, as a last effort to escape the dreaded voyage, attempted in this way to gain the shore unperceived. He was brought back, and at once sent down to the stoking room, where, it is presumed, his attempt to evade the consequences of his self-imposed act did not serve to lighten his labor. His miseries were increased by the rapidly rising sea, which by this time was so boisterous as to render it difficult for a landsman to keep his feet.

"By 3 o'clock the passengers were nearly all sick, and the proverbial discomfiture attending the commencement of a sea voyage was experienced with more than ordinary force. About this time Brannagan was seen to drag himself up the iron ladder leading from the stoke room, and stagger upon deck in an utterly exhausted and almost fainting condition. He remained leaning against the rail a few moments, and then, as if by magic, he was rapidly rising sea, which by this time was so boisterous as to render it difficult for a landsman to keep his feet. "Well throw yourself overboard," said the fireman, roughly. "You don't expect me to do it for you, do you?" In a moment Brannagan collected all his energies, and with a cry of "here I go, then," he rushed at the rail, and attempted to plunge through it. His shoulder, however, struck the bulwark and he was violently flung back upon the deck. The fireman watched him as he rose to his feet, but did not attempt to interfere, and Brannagan again sprang at the rail. This time he was more successful, and in view of the deck the unfortunate man was precipitated into the boiling waves. In a moment the starting cry of "man overboard" sounded throughout the ship, and the horrified passengers, forgetting their sickness, rushed as one man to the side as rapidly as could be done, the rigging was reversed, and the gun lowered, but the confusion was very great, and it was nearly fifteen minutes before the boat, manned by four men, and in charge of the fourth officer, started in pursuit.

"Brannagan was a strong swimmer, but no man could swim long in such a sea as was then running. He could be seen quite distinctly about a hundred yards astern, keeping himself afloat in the trough of the sea, and then disappearing as a mountainous wave swept over his head, burying him for nearly a minute at a time. The slow progress of the boat was anxiously watched from the deck of the steamer, and the greatest fears were entertained for its safety, and that of its gallant crew. At length the drowning man was reached, and a sailor seized him by the collar and attempted to drag him into the boat. He had almost succeeded when Brannagan slipped from his grasp, and fell back into the water. Leaning over the side, as the man was sinking, the sailor plunged his arm up to the shoulder in the water, and seized him once more by the hair, while the gig careened over until her gunwale was below the surface, and the remaining occupants of the boat threw themselves to the other side, just in time to avoid capsizing. The unfortunate man was then drawn into the boat perfectly unconscious, and with life almost extinct.

"Propelled by the muscular arms of the sailors, the gig was pulled back to the ship as fast as possible, and a rope being lowered, the insensible man was drawn on deck, and committed to the care of the doctor. The operation of hoisting up the gig then commenced. She had been partly raised out of the water when the after lashings gave way and all her crew, including the fourth officer, were precipitated into the sea. In a moment the wildest confusion prevailed on deck, the passengers in their excitement, greatly impeding the officers and men. Life buoys, and indeed everything that came to hand that would float, were flung to the drowning man.

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Lost at Sea.—The account of an appalling suicide at sea, published in another column, will be read with a feeling of disgust. It was indeed a sad case.

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was in a condition to resume duty for some time. The gig was hauled up and baled out, and the steamer resumed her voyage. Meanwhile every effort had been made to resuscitate the poor fellow who had been driven to suicide, but without effect, and an hour and a half after he had been taken from the water the doctor pronounced him dead. The next day was Sunday, and at 8 o'clock in the morning the City of Washington was again hoisted to, and with all the solemnity which accompanies a funeral service at sea, the remains of the unfortunate man, whose real name will probably never be known, were committed to the deep."

MEASURES, NOT MEN.—The Mitchell Advocate, an out-and-out Conservative journal, is becoming independent in its views. The editor, in the last issue, assures his readers that he is in favor of the Ballot system. He says: "Out of all our exchanges, and they are numerous, we have not noticed that a single Conservative journalist, save ourselves, has ventured to say a word in favor of what must inevitably, sooner or later, become the law of the land. We should unite, Conservatives and Reformers, in helping the Government to pass through the House a measure which we at least believe will conduce to the purity of our elections. The present deplorable state of things demands that something must be done, and that right soon, else we will have 'rings' in our Local and Dominion Parliaments, equal to those which for such a length of time disgraced the city of New York. If men spend \$20,000 or \$30,000 in securing their election, it is not natural to expect that they will exert themselves to make good their loss when they get into Parliament. We care not, therefore, what party brings forward a remedy for this evil, they will also receive the zealous support of the Advocate. Measures, not men, shall be our motto.

The remarks of our contemporary are gritty, and have the right ring in them.

DEATH OF AN OLD RESIDENT OF GUELPH.—We record to-day the death of Mrs. John Neve, one of the oldest settlers in Guelph. Deceased came to Guelph with her first husband, Lieut. Ledan, about a year or so after the first tree was cut down, and was a resident in the town until some two or three years ago, when she went to reside with her daughter, Mrs. Pooley, in Buffalo.

BIRTHS.

HARVEY.—In Guelph Township, on the 23rd inst., the wife of Mr. Robert Harvey, of a son.

DEAD.

NEVE.—At Buffalo, on the 26th inst., Mrs. E. Neve, widow of the late John Neve, Esq., Guelph, aged 71 years.

The funeral will leave the depot of the Great Western Railway on arrival of the 11.45 train on Wednesday next. Friends and acquaintances will please attend without further notice.

BISHOP.—At West Garafraca, on the 21st inst., Richard Alexander, youngest son of Mr. W. H. Bishop, aged 6 months and 23 days.

EMERSON.—In the Township of Nelson, Co., Ont., on the 19th inst., Mary Harrison, the beloved wife of Mr. John Emerson, and mother of Mrs. P. Small, Guelph, aged 85 years. She was a native of Ireland, and a resident of the Township of Nelson for upwards of 35 years, where she was highly respected.

DICKARD is so busy selling 30 cent O.P. that he has no time to change his advertisement this week.

ACTON EMPORIUM

The proprietors would call the attention of the public to the large and select stock of Groceries, Dry Goods, HATS, CAPS, and READY-MADE CLOTHING, at the ACTON EMPORIUM.

Directly Opposite the Post Office. Quality first-class and prices low.

MILLINERY and Dressmaking.

This branch of the business is also conducted at the store, under the supervision of a first-class Milliner and Dressmaker, of long experience from Toronto. Hats, Bonnets, Flowers and Feathers in the latest styles always on hand. Dressmaking in the latest and most approved style done to order.

A call is solicited at the store, opposite the Post Office. McNAIR & CO., Acton, Jan. 27, 1878.

BRITISH Saddlery Establishment, ROCKWOOD.

The subscriber begs to announce that he has now on hand a large stock of Heavy and Light Harness, and is prepared to sell them as cheap as any other shop in the Province, on terms which will suit buyers. He would call special attention to his collars, which are all carefully made on the premises, and warranted for ease and durability.

He has also a large stock of Horse Blankets, saddle riding boots, and harness, and every thing else connected with the trade constantly on hand. Buffalo skins lined and trimmed at his establishment. JAS. W. KNOWLES, Rockwood, Dec. 4th, 1872.

STEAM DYE WORKS GUELPH

The subscriber having fitted up a portion of his Soap Factory, Front Street, near Erasmus Bridge, as a Dye House, and has secured the services of Mr. Wildridge, late Goldie & Co., Wyndham street, who is a first-class dyer, to superintend the same, begs leave to acquaint the public that

Dyeing and Scouring

In all its branches will be from this date carried on with promptness. N. B.—All orders to be received at the Soap Factory Office. Guelph, Feb. 24, 1878.

New Advertisements.

J. E. McELDERRY No. 2, Day's Block, Guelph.

Still a-head! See the Prices:

A CHOICE JAVA TEA, very strong and sweet 40c per lb
EXTRA FINE YOUNG HYSOON, new crop..... 50c per lb
FINE BLACK TEA 50c per lb
EXTRA FINE BLACK TEA, English Breakfast..... 75c per lb
CHOICE YOUNG HYSOON, best value in town..... 80c per lb
A fresh lot to hand of our Famous Mixed Tea at 50c per lb

11 lbs. Good Bright Sugar for \$1

20lbs. Good Currants for \$1.

Good Family Washing Soap, - - - 12c per bar.

The above Goods are no old stock, but fresh goods, which are daily arriving at

J. E. McELDERRY, No. 2, Day's Block, Guelph.

Noted for Superior Teas.

GUELPH TEA DEPOT

GO TO E. O'DONNELL & Co.

For Cheap Groceries.

NEW RAISINS, 5 cents per pound
NEW FIGS, 5 cents per pound
WALKER'S SOAP, 15 cents per bar
GOOD PRUNES, 30 pounds for \$1.
10 pounds of the BEST BRIGHT SUGAR, for \$1.
11 pounds of GOOD COOKING SUGAR, for \$1.

First-class TEAS!

OUR VERY BEST GREEN TEA, for 80 cents per lb
A VERY FINE BLACK TEA, for 75 cents per lb
A NICE YOUNG HYSOON TEA, for 50 cents per lb

All orders will be delivered at your houses. Give us a call.

E. O'DONNELL & CO. Guelph, Jan. 23, 1878. Wyndham Street, Guelph.

CLEAR THE TRACK FOR THE FASHIONABLE WEST END!

GREAT BARGAINS "ALL THIS MONTH" Selling Off! Selling Off!

We are now offering to the Ladies of Guelph, the Balance of our Large and Beautiful Stock of Dress Goods at cost price. We have no hesitation in saying that we have the best stock of desirable Dress Materials to be found in the trade, and Ladies who may favor us with their patronage will find no difficulty in getting suited.

Dress Goods at Cost Price all this Month! Our entire and splendid stock of Shawls and Mantles to be sold all this month at Cost Price. Our Beautiful and Attractive Stock of Millinery to be sold off at once—PRICE NO OBJECT I case Terry and Silk Velvet Hats and Bonnets—NEWEST STYLES ONLY—former price everywhere, \$1.25, to be sold off at 50 cents each. I case Velvet Hats, various new styles, former prices 75c and \$1, to be sold off at 25c each.

The Ladies of Guelph are cordially invited to examine our Stock. Our Clearing Sale will continue all this month.

A. O. BUCHAM, Fashionable West End Dress, Millinery and Mantle Establishment. Guelph, Jan. 9, 1878.

The Guelph Cloth Hall

Is the Oldest Establishment in Town for READY-MADE CLOTHING

EVERY ARTICLE OF WHICH IS MANUFACTURED ON THE PREMISES.

Cloths and Woollen Goods of all Kinds. ARMSTRONG, McCRAE & CO'S FIRST PRIZE UNDERCLOTHING.

HATS AND CAPS

And a general assortment of Goods for Men's Wear.

SHAW & MURTON, Guelph, Dec. 6, 1872. Wyndham St., Guelph.

FIRST PRIZE BISCUITS

JAMES MASSIE, Manufacturer of CHOICE CONFECTIONERY AND BISCUITS, Alma Block, Guelph.

Invites the attention of the Trade to the Superior Quality of Goods now produced at his Manufactory. Having introduced many new improvements, and employing only first-class workmen, and possessing every facility, he is prepared to supply the trade with a class of goods unsurpassed by any manufacturer, in

OZENGES, all flavors; DROPS, assorted flavors and shapes; GUM and LICORICE DROPS, CONVERSION LOZENGES, MOULDED SWEETS, new patterns; SODA, SWEET and FRUIT BISCUITS, FRUIT BISCUITS, GINGER BUNS, CHEWING GUM, ROCK CANDY, LICORICE.

A Large Stock of Choice and Favorite Brand Cigars.

His Biscuits took the first prize over all others at the London Western Fair this year the only place where they were entered for competition. All Goods carefully selected and stored with care.

DAY'S OFFER IS THE BEST!

READ IT

Day supplies the Weekly Papers for 12 months

FREE OF POSTAGE

AS FOLLOWS:

Weekly Globe..... \$1 50
Weekly Mercury..... 1 00
Weekly Mail..... 1 00
Weekly Advertiser..... 1 50
Weekly Herald..... 1 50
Montreal Witness..... 1 20

With any of the above Papers is presented

Gratis all of the following Books:

Little Men, by Louis Alcot..... price 40c
Our Girls, by Dio Lewis..... " 40
My Summer in a Garden, by Bradley Wren..... " 25
My Own Story, a Canadian Xmas Tale..... " 50
Hornes Greeley's Book on Practical Farming..... " 40
Josh Billings' Spice Box..... " 25
Little Breckles, by Col. John Higby..... " 45
Nest's Illustrated Almanac..... " 25
Josh Billings' Almanac..... " 15

9 Books, Retail prices is..... \$2 85

Remember, to each subscriber for any of the above Papers is presented all the Books from P. 3, 2, 2, 2.

DAY has been before the public for twelve years, and has always done what he has believed in.

DAY has already paid in advance for 1878, the Proprietors of the Globe, Mail, and Mercury for his Weekly Papers, thereby saving in some cases, 50 cents on each paper.

DAY SELLS CHEAP.

Step in and examine the Books. They are all late and popular works.

DAY'S BOOKSTORE.

The above offer ends on the 16th Feb., 1878.

PETRIE'S DRUG STORE

Nearly opposite the Old Stand, NOW OPEN.

Mr. PETRIE takes this opportunity to thank the Public for their large and liberal support during the seven years he has been in business in Guelph.

The New Store is the one formerly occupied by Mr. H. Berry, and lately by Mr. J. R. Potts, as a Confectionery Store. The store has been enlarged and refitted, making it a much more desirable place of business than the old stand.

Having secured the new store for a term of Ten Years, I hope, with the assistance of the Public, to prevent in the future as I have done during the past seven years, any monopoly in the Drug Trade in Guelph.

The old store will remain open for business until the first of May.

By conducting my business in the future in the same upright principle as in the past, I trust to receive a continuance of your generous support.

I am, yours very truly,

A. B. PETRIE.

BEST WHITE COAL OIL

Lamps, splendid assortment, AT BOND'S

Extra Flint Lamp Glasses, AT BOND'S

Best Wicks, AT BOND'S

Lamp Shades, AT BOND'S

Fire Irons in Sets, AT BOND'S

Fire Shovels, AT BOND'S

Tabular Lanterns, AT BOND'S

Coal Scuttles, AT BOND'S

For what you require in Hardware go to JOHN M. BOND & Co., DIRECT IMPORTERS, GUELPH.

JOHN KIRKHAM, Silver Plater and Brass Finisher

All orders promptly attended to. Also opposite the corner of Church, Quebec street, Guelph.