

Wylie & Sutton's Introductory.

In the same issue appears from the gentlemen who were to take over the business from Mr. Buell, an announcement, from which the following is an extract:—

"From the foregoing article, the friends of the Recorder will see that after this issue of the present number, the proprietorship will change hands.

"In assuming the onerous duties attached to the conducting of a newspaper, the new proprietors feel that they have many difficulties to contend against, but having an honest and upright aim in view, they will endeavor to move onward in a consistent course, supporting those great principles of religious and political freedom for which the Recorder, under the able management of Mr. Buell, has so long successfully battled.

"Believing that the present position of the colony calls loudly and imperatively on all friends of responsible government to bestir themselves in upholding these great principles against the machinations of appointed placemen, as well as the enemies of good government, internal and external, we will throw all the ability we possess into the scale of liberty and justice against that of corruption and oppression, and while we stand forth in defence of the rights of our fellow colonists who are ranged under the Reform banner, we will never seek to trample on the rights of those politically opposed to us. When, however, we have occasion to differ with them, we trust we will always have reason to offer for the faith that is in us, and when called upon to expose Tory trickery, though not seeking to offend, will maintain the right of telling the truth in plain language."

JULY 5, 1849.

This issue of the Recorder was the first to appear under the editorial management of the late David Wylie and in it appears a lengthy article stating the position the paper would take on public questions then agitating the minds of the people of this country, the opening paragraph of which was as follows:

"Mr. Buell having retired from the proprietorship as well as the edi-

torial management of the Recorder, it now devolves upon us to conduct the paper in future. In taking upon ourselves this responsibility, we feel its importance the more when we recollect the ability and great experience of our predecessor—a gentleman honored by his friends and respected by his political opponents, and who, moreover, is the oldest newspaper editor in Canada. From these considerations, we feel the difficulty of our position, but with 'hearts resolved and hands prepared,' we enter the political arena, and knowing our intentions to be honest, and the interest of Canada to be our aim, all our efforts will be directed towards the welfare of the province. In our labor for the good of our country, it may be that our statements will be misrepresented and our motives impugned by those opposed to us, but this will never deter us from the unqualified expression of our sentiments and in order that we may hereafter be understood, we publish our determination to uphold the Reform party and to advocate responsible government as carried out by the present administration; and also to use our endeavors to forward every measure which we, as Reformers, may be called upon to uphold.

The closing paragraph stated that "The price of the Recorder is 12s. 6d. per annum when paid in advance, and 15s. when not so paid." Of course it was only a weekly at that time and not over half the size of the present Weekly Recorder, the subscription to which is only \$1 (4s.) a year.

There was then as now a great hue and cry being raised by the Tory party about French domination. The Tories claimed that the French got more than their share of public offices and public money. The Recorder published a statement, taken from the public documents, which showed that there were 315 office holders of English origin to five of French origin. The salaries of persons of English origin totalled \$89,420 and to those of French origin £20,176. In Ontario the English held about ten offices to one held by Frenchmen.

The Tories were out of power then, as now, and the history of fifty years ago, as far as the tactics of that party in regard to raising the