

MARRIED.

Kingsbury—At Acton, on Dec. 1st, by Rev. R. Lovell, Mr. Kingsbury to Miss Maggie E. Thompson, all of Acton.

Taylor—Baptized—in Kitchener, in the First United Methodist Church, the Rev. Dr. Wm. A. Taylor, pastor, and his wife, Rev. Mrs. Taylor.

Wesley—Married—at Greenbank, Bathwell and Wedderburn, Dec. 2nd, by Rev. Mr. D. Murdoch, Mr. James Wesley, son of Rev. Mr. Wesley, and Miss Estelle, daughter of Mr. Goodwin, of Kitchener.

Erskine—Married—at the Wedding Parsonage, on Dec. 2nd, by Rev. Andrew Murdoch, Mr. John Erskine, son of Rev. Mr. John Erskine, of Kitchener, and Miss Jean Patterson, wedged, of Kitchener.

Ward—Married—at the residence of the bride's father, Edith Mills, on the 1st of December, by Rev. Mr. J. T. Moore, Mr. Ward, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ward, and Miss Alice, daughter of George Lewis, Esq., of Kitchener.

McDonald—Married.—At the residence of the bride's father, David McDonald, on the 1st of December, by Rev. Mr. F. Moore, only son of Rev. Mr. McDonald, of Kitchener, and Miss Agnes, daughter of George Lewis, Esq., of Kitchener.

McLean—Married.—On the 1st of December, at the residence of the bride's father, Mr. McLean, by Rev. Mr. Moore, only son of Rev. Mr. McLean, of Kitchener, and Miss Agnes, daughter of George Lewis, Esq., of Kitchener.

The Action Free Press

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1891.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Until recent years Jews were forbidden to own real estate in any country on the continent of Europe. It may be interesting, therefore, to know that the largest land owner in the world, the man with more money than an American millionaire who buys up whole countries of speculation, is a Jew—Baron Hirsch, of Paris. By a late purchase in the Argentine Republic he becomes the proprietor of a farm larger than the state of Montgomery. He will make many of his speculations Russia, brother there.

The people of Ontario have been so dazzled with the legitimate and broad-based resources of the farther North-west that they have overlooked their own more immediate North-west, which in many ways offers greater inducements to settlers than any other part of this continent. If the Mowat Government would but link up for public politics and devote some of its alleged \$4,000,000 surplus to the settling up of the vacant lands in the Rainy River District, and other portions of the Provincial North-west, it will deserve well of present and future generations. —Gillies' News Record.

According to the new Banking Act, the Government will, on January 1st, possess itself of all undelained sums that have been lying in any of the chartered banks for five years. It therefore behoves all parties who have funds in any of the banks and have not made any claim thereto, or had any transaction therewith, for five years, to call at the banks and make good their claims. There are a great many persons in this situation, some of them parents who, in the birth of a child, have laid by a small sum to gather interest for ten or twenty years, and who never imagine that it is in danger of disappearing.

At Ottawa the minister of marine is considering the question of co-operating in the system adopted by the leading steamship companies for the transatlantic trade designed to lessen the liability to collision. The system consists of the adoption of a uniform course between leading ports in Britain and America. Already the Cunard, White Star, Inman, Cunard, and National Steamship Co.'s have agreed upon a sailing basis whereby their steamships follow certain great courses on the ocean, and it is now proposed to extend the system to the leading steamship lines between Canada and Britain. The system comprises a northern and southern route, the latter being followed during the period necessary to avoid icebergs. Each route comprises two parallel lines, one route on the western trip and the other eastward.

The Ottawa Citizen has editorially that the prosecution of Theo. McGroarty has been carried far enough, that his expulsion from the House of Commons and subsequent expunction in the courts of Justice by the recent meeting of Mr. Henderson. The conviction was most anticlimactic. Mr. Widdis was not present, and it is not yet definitely known whether he will accept the nomination. It is understood that he would prefer not to do so if he continued his inclination, but his friends and the convention hope that when it is made known to him with what enthusiastic unanimity he was chosen he will consent to stand.

The convention was presided over by Dr. Robinson, and Mr. E. Dixon discharged the duties of secretary. The chairman explained the object of the convention, referred to the cause to which was due the new election. He hoped that whatever might be chosen the choice would be made unanimous. If this was done and they worked with a will they would keep the candidate elected.

Mr. Henry Robinson, of Trantier, ex-warden of the county, nominated Mr. John Wilds. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Wm. McLeod, reeve of Georgetown, and an ex-warden. Both of them made spirited speeches, and the choice was ratified by the convention with the greatest enthusiasm.

Mr. Wilds being present, a delegation consisting of Messrs. D. Whetton and Wm. McLeod was appointed to wait upon him and acquaint him with the desire of the convention.

Stirring speeches were made by Messrs. R. A. Grant, J. G. Jasline, of Toronto, and Mr. Preston, Secretary of the Baden Association.

At Brantford, A. S. Eddie Brown presented herewith, William Rose, with a revolver as a Christmas gift. The next Miss Brown waited to break the weapon, and a bullet followed which ended in Rose slaying the girl with the revolver.

THE NOMINATIONS.

Dr. Lowry Reavis, and Rev. Mr. Lovell Action by Acclamation.

NOMINATIONS ELSEWHERE.

Seldon has as great an interest been manifested in the nomination of municipal officers here as was to be seen on Monday. The town hall was filled with a well-behaved audience. About half an hour passed after twelve o'clock before returning Officer Moore was addressed at all. Dr. Lovell was the first nominated for Reeve, and then each member of the present council in quick succession, and the nominations continued until the formidable list below had been proposed:

Mr. Keast, nominated by R. B. Cook, seconded by Alex. Grant.

J. R. Prasnow, nominated by Col. Allan, seconded by John Williams.

John Harrer, nominated by Col. Allan, seconded by L. Lambert.

Geo. Huntz, nominated by Alex. Grant, seconded by R. B. Cook.

Joe. Anstrum, nominated by Arch. Campbell, seconded by Thos. Statham.

Alex. Stearn, nominated by Edward Forbes, seconded by John R. Kennedy.

A. O. Bramond, nominated by W. T. Smith, seconded by T. E. M. Secord.

John Kerr, nominated by Wm. Hemsted, seconded by A. E. Nicklin.

A. E. Nutz, nominated by H. H. Weston, seconded by James Wilson.

John Williams, nominated by Alex. Secord, seconded by W. T. Smyth.

For school trustees:

James Mathews, nominated by J. B. Pearson, seconded by John Harvey.

George Huntz, nominated by Geo. Harrell, seconded by Levi Lambert.

Eliza Evans, nominated by A. E. Nicklin, seconded by H. H. Weston.

W. H. Stover, nominated by A. O. Beardmore, seconded by Wm. Hemsted.

Ross Hotchkiss, nominated by Joe. Anderson, seconded by D. M. Smith.

Since the nominations were declined by Messrs. Meers, A. E. Nicklin and John Williams, the Council has decided to enter the contest for Councillors and Messrs. W. H. Stover and James Cobban for School Trustees.

At the conclusion of the hour for receiving nominations Reeve Lovell was moved to the chair and the audience pricked up their ears to hear the speech of the members of the Council of the past year and of the candidates entering the contest.

Before taking his seat as chairman the Reeve took opportunity in a speech of some length to give a general review of the course of the Council during the past year. He stated that at the first meeting of the Council he had expressed the hope that the members had not come into power with the intention of carrying out any pet scheme of their own, but that they would have confidence in each other and work harmoniously for the best interests of the municipality. His hope of that date was now an experience. He found the members had no particular scheme to carry out and their meetings had been harmonious. Continuing, he referred to the work accomplished during their term of office, dwelling particularly upon the removal of the Drill Shed—giving in detail the history of the correspondence with the Government and the agreement concerning its removal—the work at the Park, stating that the laying out of the new track had really been done the previous year; and the adoption of a new plan for which they had originated themselves. For this work they had found a well-qualified man who had not only been able to satisfactorily perform the duties of his office, but to rock the cradle of a new son and heir as well. The work on the streets was referred to and pronounced "done, and well done," the benefits of the Reading Room opened during the year, and the lack of appreciation by the people were alluded to. The Reeve claimed that all the election promises of a year ago have been fulfilled; taxes have been reduced—his own being \$50 less than last year. Before concluding his remarks the Park was again referred to. He had seen some where that "The greatest bird is the owl." "The greatest beast is the bear." "The greatest tree is the foot." and had just said last week that "The greatest tree is the Park."

While in his poetical frame of mind the Dr. might have added, for one of his colleague's edification, that a very few years ago

"The greatest question was the new Cemetery."

However, as that is now a dead issue, let it pass. Proceeding, he said it was stated that Acton is not a racing town, but he was of opinion that if there was a horse race in the park at the present hour it would have been difficult to find enough ratepayers present to hold a nomination. He said to himself to be in a delicate position. A number of excellent gentlemen had been nominated, but in all fairness he had to speak in the highest terms of the members of the present Council. Each in turn were eulogized, and "as the proof of the pudding is in the eating of it" he thought the municipal body would be safe in their hands for another year. In closing his speech the Reeve let fall a remark which was very generally construed as most unfair to the manufacturer who are taking part in the contest. It was this: "Let us feel that we are not like the scots of Russia, but have freedom of speech, of thought and of press, and to exercise our franchises as free men." After thanking the people for a renewal of their confidence the Reeve took the chair and called upon Councillor Pearson to address the assembly.

The local Minister of Finance came to the platform loaded with ledger, financial statements and a good-sized scrap book containing clippings from the columns of the Free Press for the past year or so. He produced his key half-hour's speech with the statement that he had come to render an account of his stewardship for the past year, but owing to his nervous temperament would rather do the work of a year than stand before the people and tell them about it. His financial statement, and ledger were then brought into service and the ratepayers were treated to a painfully prepared list of accounts and figures, in which the official statement and Treasurer's books were almost totally ignored. Mr. Pearson had kept a set of books of his own, covering all municipal finance during the year, whether because he questioned the honesty or ability of the municipal treasurer, has not been stated. However, by his own peculiar system of book-keeping he labored for some time to prove to the public how much money the present Council had put into the pockets of the taxpayers. But it was evident that no one understood his figures thoroughly but himself, and his year's effort add trouble with municipal book-keeping counted little, if anything, with his hearers. The pages of the ledger were exhausted, the scrap book was brought forth when he waded into the Free Press right side left. His reliability was questioned; his opinions disregarded; his editor's opposition to "race courses" challenged and by misinterpretation of

isolations made by general unseasoned ratepayers in the city's contest. Of course this was reason for the official and his friends in the community, disengaging people generally, and calling forth the expression from one of his fellow-councillors that "Pearson had gone a little too far." Had such an unprecedented outburst been unexpected the press representative might have felt somewhat startled but the threat that the Free Press was to be "rooted" on nomination day had been so freely called about beforehand that the "rooting" had nothing more serious than an amusing effect when it was done. As a final thrust Mr. Pearson dodged in the paleolithic confusion that the reason for the course pursued by the Free Press was that it was subsidized from certain sources in town. 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