ESTABLISHED 1834.

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Daily British Whig.

OUR PORTRAIT GALLERY.

The leading sketch in our gallery to-day is that of the founder of the WHIG Dr. Barker, appropriately presented upon his 85th birthday, and in the concluding issue of its fiftieth year. He was born in Islington, London, England, on Dec. 31st, 1799. In 1807 the family settled in North Carolina, where his father, an accomplished linguist, died. The subject of our sketch returned to Norfolk, England, to be educated. In 1814 he joined relatives at Smyrna, in the east, and subsequently was articled to a surgeon and apothecary in Malta for five years. In 1819 he became doctor's mate on H. M. sloop of war "Race Horse." He afterwards walked the London hospitals and for ten years practised in East Smithfield, receiving the degree of M. D. from the London College of Medicine. In December, 1832, he landed in Kingston, and engaged with Noble Palmer as editor of the *Spectator*, filling that post for a year, retiring upon its sale to John Vincent, and establishing a paper of his own. He issued it in full sympathy with its title—British Whig—and thus it happened that, though a Liberal organ, it became a loyal one during the rebellion and a breach being made in its ultra supporters in consequence, it drifted into Conservative ranks, where Dr. Barker enlisted the warm sympathies of Sir John Macdonald, then a rising young politician, and became his faithful follower for forty years.

Though never loaded down with this world's goods, and having his full share of trials and difficulties, he managed not only to keep his journal afloat, but also to be enterprising in many ways—notably in the issue of the first daily in Upper or Lower Canada, in the publication of "Barker's Canadian Magazine," and in issuing a daily of double royal size twenty years before any of his rivals attempted it. Though not a prolific writer, as the term goes to-day, or an industrious news gatherer, it was through the style of his editoral work, and by the co-operation of the friends made by his social qualities, that the WHIG outlived so many of its contemporaries. No writer upon the Canadian press has had a more characteristic pen; none have possessed his knack of compressing force and ideas into few sentences, while he always had a quick, trenchant answer for an opponent, with a ready wit to turn the effective weapon of ridicule into play. But the most robust of natures tires of work at last, and he was gradually relaxing his office cares when the exigencies of politics in Kingston in 1871 led to the enlistment of another paper as the preferred Conservative organ, and he gave up newspapering to accept the City Registrarship.

Acknowledged as the Nestor of the Canadian Press, being so widely known and continuing to be identified with all that is characteristic of the WHIG, we make no apology for the attention paid him in this issue. We regret that his bodily strength has not been preserved so well as his mental powers, or most interesting reminiscences, written in the old style, would have been added to those presented.

THEN AND NOW.

The journalist of to-day—enterprising, plucky, independent—is doing his duty much more energetically, laboriously and perfectly than his predecessor of fifty years ago, but under a vastly improved state of things. The times favor, almost demand, his freedom of action and criticism; the steam engine and the telegraph make news a matter of daily, almost hourly, supply, while formerly there were weeks of dearth; and the public, which once looked to be fed upon pungent political attack or sharp personal controversy, is now most anxious for a paper which gathers the local and general news with industry and serves it up in crisp form. The political and editorial columns have sunk to a secondary place in its changed affections.

The pressman of to-day has to fight no stronger political evil than an extravagant syndicate bargain or an odious coal tax; his predecessor of 1834 had to struggle for the personal liberty of the subject, Kingston's Magistrates being all powerful and none too scrupulous, for they ruled politically, three to one. He may now complain of the inefficiency of the city government, but he finds it to be a fault easily corrected by the people, the masters. Fifty years ago he would have had to deal with a brace of town wardens acting for the citizens, one of whom was annually appointed by the Rector of St. George's Church, whose independence of popular will never had a more striking example than has been afforded at this late day—in this very month. He may now feel that an extravagant rule at Ottawa, with a lavish use of funds to gain political friends, is a political dragon worthy of the noblest steel, but what is the evil compared with that his forefathers fought—the power of a family compact, grasping and inflexible—backed by a Downing street rule, as determined as it was mistaken, rebellion becoming its only cure? Merchants at one time left Kingston because their political opposition had drawn such enmity from the ruling compact that their bank accommodation was stopped and their retail business boycotted. This is but a few of many available illustrations of the state of public disability which Dr. Barker issued the WHIG avowedly to correct. His caustic pen filled the breach, we should judge, to the intense satisfaction of the minority, since he seems to have called forth the strongest and most cowardly efforts of his opponents. They canvassed incessantly against the paper, he was several times personally attacked, men not being ashamed to assail him in groups, and masked at that; three times his windows were smashed; once the type was wrecked, and even his dog was poisoned, so low was the instinct of revenge. But his perseverance was greater than his regard for personal comfort, and he triumphed. How much pleasanter the lot of the journalist of to-day, with acknowledged freedom and few insults and no outrages sufficient to atone for the added drudgery his post demands! And if acts were now attempted, as were practised in 1834, they would help to build the journal up, only doing the work more speedily.

CHALMERS' CHURCH.

The Annual Christmas Entertainment on Friday Night—A Good Programme.

Friday night the little folks of this school met together to partake of their annual tea and Christmas tree, provided by their teachers. Mr. A. Macalister, the Superintendent, occupied the chair.

After the opening exercises the cake and coffee was passed round, and the children did these things ample justice. The programme proper was commenced by a chorus, "A Christmas Carrol," by the children. Mr. R. Murray made a very interesting address. This was preceded by a recitation from Master Georgie Mahood. Then another hymn, "One by one," by the children, and a recitation by Misses Nellie Mahood, Eva McKay, Maggie Gage, Minnie Filbeck, each taking a verse. Mr. Houston made an address.

In the opening of the second part six little girls sing the solo of "A Child of a King," and all the children joined in the chorus. Masters Willie Sutherland and Robbie Williamson, on behalf of the scholars, presented Rev. Mr. McCuaig and Mr. A. Macalister with a very handsome Christmas card each. The children sang another hymn and the meeting, after the distribution of the bags of candy and a short recitation by the Rev. Mr. Chambers, was brought to a close. Both Rev. Mr. McCuaig and Mr. Macalister made suitable replies to their presentations, and expressed themselves gratified with the handsome cards.

There was a large gathering of the children notwithstanding the coldness of the night, and everybody went away pleased.

R. M. HORSEY'S VIEWS.

He will Work for the Educational Interests of the City—No Axe to Grind.

A member of our staff interviewed R. M. Horsey in reference to the school question. Mr. Horsey said that in his capacity as Trustee he has always acted for the best interests of the city, both in point of efficiency and economy, and has never had any private interest to serve. He will be pleased to represent St. Lawrence Ward for another term, but can only take his seat at the Board with the full confidence of the electors. This, he expects, will be accorded to him on Wednesday next, and this confidence has been his pride for many years. He said: "The Folly has already gone; the question has been decidedly settled by the Board. The opinion (unfavorable to the purchase) of Messrs. Agnew and Macdonnell, the counsel to whom the matter of title was referred, was received and acted upon by the Board. The cry of 'Folly' is but the dodge of a couple of prominent Trustees who have relatives already in the employment of the Board. They want me out of the way, and for their own purposes." Mr. Horsey added that if re-elected he would continue to study the interests of the citizens in the expenditure of the city's funds for school purposes. Although the "Folly" is a question of the past Mr. Horsey says he would not feel himself justified at present in assisting in the scheme of some members involving the expenditure of $16,000 or $20,000 for school purposes.

Hornford's Acid Phosphate

IN LIVER AND KIDNEY TROUBLES.

Dr. O. G. Gilley, Boston, says: "I have used it with the most remarkable success in dyspepsia, and derangement of the liver and kidneys."

1883, ADIEU!

Like the dew on the mountain,
Like the foam on the river,
Like the bubble on the fountain,
Thou art gone, and forever!

"The mandible and noiseless foot of time" has reached the end of 1883, and we contemplate the fact in all seriousness of spirit. This year has been full of incident and sensation. It has been especially wealthy in its contributions to history, in its terrible bereavements, and in its harvest of death. No brief span, similarly measured by days and weeks and months, has been so pregnant with fatality. The new year had scarce set in, amid the world's rejoicings, ere accidents, by land and sea, occurred in succession so close and with results so tragic as to create a great unrest. It is melancholy even now to scan the appalling record, nor would we do so save the inevitable dissolution of all things earthly not a fitting theme for thought to-night.

Yet all our meditations are not dismal. Our lines have fallen in pleasant place. "We have seen better days." There has been the individual sorrowing which every year must bring; many of our friends have sat for a season among the shadows; but the multitudes have had joys and blessings innumerable. Peace has prevailed throughout fair Canada, and its sturdy and progressive people have had a reasonable share of prosperity. The year has been kind to us, it has brought us many favors, and it dies with our profoundest gratitude. From 1883, whose sands are nearly run, we have had very useful lessons. Let us, ere it passes into oblivion, ponder over its events, mentally noting our successes and failures, our pleasures and disappointments, our friendship and hatred, our acts of kindness and unkindness, and having contrasted them let us make an honest effort to correct our defects, redress our wrongs and forgive as we would be forgiven.

These anniversary appointments are as halts by the wayside for reflection. They are halts in the whirl of this busy age in order that we may seriously study the realities of life. They are periods which regularly remind us of what we have been and what we ought to be, and with the new year come new purposes, new hopes, new resolutions. Let the dead past bury its dead, and at the entrance upon another epoch let our standard be that of Philip James Bailey who wrote:

We live in deeds, not years; in thoughts, not breaths;
In feelings, not in figures on a dial.
We should count time by heart throbs. He most lives
Who thinks most, feels the noblest, acts the best.

Great Britain remains the first nation in the world. Her power has not been decreased during the year, if anything it has increased, and to her Government all Europe looks for counsel. At her very heart, however, a deep grief is gnawing. Her own children, portions of her own Empire, are disturbed and dissatisfied. Poor Ireland is still distressed, but, as the poet has sung so beautifully on the annual address of the carrier boys, the dawn of better days seems near, and ere long it is hoped the grim of the sea may be so circumstanced as to give ground for the hope which its people have been so long possessed.

During the year there have been wars and rumours of wars, civilization not having attained the perfection that enables nations to settle their differences without the arbitrament of the sword. The difficulty between Peru and Chili appears to be interminable, but it is not so ugly as to prevent the reasonable use of an armistice. Egypt is almost as much disturbed as when the English conquered Pasha. One crisis was hardly ended before another appeared, a war of an internecine character. What the result of it will be we cannot conjecture. The annihilation of Hicks Pasha's force has not satisfied the False Prophet; on the contrary the event seems to have given him an increased desire for conquest. France and China have taken the Tonquin matter out of the hands of the diplomats and the army of the former has already invaded and captured several fortresses in the disputed territory. That which promised to be a dangerous and doubtful campaign has, so far, been an easy one. But the end is not yet. The relations of other nations have been strained, not seriously or to an irremediable extent.

Politically the condition of Canada is interesting. The parties, in relation to government, stand just as they were. During the year the Ontario elections occurred, the Liberal Government being sustained by a majority which has varied every month in consequence of changes judicially and otherwise effected. It is now quite safe to affirm that "Mowat must not go." In Manitoba, too, there has been a new election, in favour of the Norquay Government, though its tenure of office depends very much upon its policy, which is now hotly denounced by the opposition chosen. Quebec is politically in an empty state and must remain so until there is formed a Government that can command the popular support. In the Maritime Provinces, and in the Province on the Pacific coast, quietness prevails.

In the United States the most notable thing at the present time is the depression in trade. Its effect is felt in Canada. It has already forced thousands into idleness and the multitude of unemployed must be largely increased during the winter unless a change for the better very soon occurs. Our cousins always agitated over an election of some sort, are now preparing for the Presidential campaign, into which the opposing parties will plunge shortly after the new year opens.

Religiously the past year has been full of surprises. The great event was, of course, the consummation of the Methodist union, a consummation devoutly to be wished. Then there has been much newspaper controversy, locally, about Paradise, Future Punishment, the Intermediate State, the Salvation Army's work and Dr. Wilkes's dismissal. Some of these are still matters of serious moment.

In regard to educational affairs our citizens were never more alive. Each generation sees the benefit of culture and the need of brighter intellect. It is significant, too, that this culture has not been confined to one class and one sex. The college class rooms have been opened to the ladies, and for the study of medicine by them a special institution has been provided and endowed. This last accomplishment will make 1883 a memorable year.

We sometimes think that the times are improving, that with the spread of enlightening and refining influences crime must decrease. It may have decreased during the past year, but we don't think it has. The files of our paper teem with the chronicles of dreadful offences. The most revolting case in Canada was the Little Bidean murder; the most exciting case in Britain was the Phœnix Park assassination, the last victim in connection with which was O'Donnell, whose execution the Buffalo Fenians desire to avenge.

In local railway enterprise we have had gratifying evidence in the construction of the Thousand Island RR., the Napanee & Tamworth RR., and the extension of the K. & P. RR. Beyond local circles the two greatest achievements of the year were the bridges at Brooklyn and Niagara Falls—one the largest suspension bridge in the world, the other the largest cantilever bridge known to the builders. Both have been finished within the year.

Of strikes there have been many, the most important being those of the telegraph operators and the C.P.R. railway engineers. Both were too precipitate, and both ended ingloriously. The Companies re-engaged the men at their own terms.

The list of illustrious dead is too long for reproduction. It embraces some of Europe's greatest statesmen, philosophers and literary men, some of America's pioneers and foremost philanthropists, and some of Canada's best and noblest children. Kingston has lost a few whom multitudes no one can fairly estimate. For piety and religious devotion Rev. Mr. Peacock, Rev. R. Cartwright and Dr. D. J. Macallister will be kindly remembered; for benevolence and good works the names of George Robertson and Mrs. Mather will never be forgotten. Among the venerables who had found without seeking it, were C. Hatch, S. H. Strachan, a hero during the cholera plague, and Jas. Fraser, a one-time slave who passed away just before he had reached the age of a hundred years.

The fatalities are unprecedented in their number and nature. 1882 was considered a sad year in this respect, some 6,000 lives having been lost within it, but in the first six months of 1883 almost 6,000 persons had perished in different ways and in different parts of the globe. In January 28 persons were drowned by the upsetting of a flat boat in North Carolina, 10 were killed by a mine explosion in New York state, and 82 lost their lives in the Newtoulf House fire. In February fools at various places drowned 30 people, and 77 lost their lives at Braidwood. In March 11 were burned at Duluth, Minn. In April 14 were killed by the fall of a hotel in Texas, and 200 lost their lives by tornadoes. In May 128 more were killed by tornadoes, and 14 lives were sacrificed in the Brooklyn bridge panic. In June fools and tornadoes killed 38. In July the most fearful accidents were those near Clayton, N.Y., by which 17 were killed, and the pine disaster near Baltimore, which killed 70. In November there were 20 killed by cyclones in Missouri and Illinois. The casualties in the old world have been infinitely more terrible. For instance: Sinking of the Cimbria, 464; floods in Germany and Hungary, 440; burning of the circus in Pelhank, 200; powder explosion in Shelhank, 40; panic in a wool factory at Bombay, 20; accidents at Mount Amosel, 150; loss of a fishing fleet on the English coast, 270; boiler explosion at Dunon, France, 50; powder explosion at Pont Carreau, Italy, 60; mine explosion at Somerset, France, 120; powder explosion at Scotland, 130; panic at Sunderland, England, 200; fire at Varvin, Italy, 67; the bridge disaster at Glasgow, 150; fire in Hungary, 20; mine explosion in Sicily, 90; Italian earthquake, about 4,000; the Java earthquake, between 70,000 and 100,000; fire explosion in Asia Minor, 1,000; cholera in India in June and July, 12,000; cholera in Egypt, 10,000. The fatalities of more recent date, bearing Kingstonians, were: Wreck of the wife Fitzgerald off Fort Brown, and drowning of Capt. D. Langan and crew; loss of the steam barge Enterprise on Lake Huron and drowning of P. Quinn and eight others; loss of the barge Milwaukie on Lake Ontario and all her crew; the collision of trains with vehicles at Cataraqui and the killing of Isaac Powley, Mrs. Armitage and Mrs. Gowie.

And now we close the volume. We have sketched the events of one year, as briefly as possible, while the respected seniors of our profession have traced the features of 50 years. Throughout the long period of the WHIG's existence, as regularly as the festive season came, it has exchanged compliments with its patrons, but it never more cheerfully than the present bade them A Happy New Year.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Some People we Know are Spending Their Time—Their Coming and Going.

Gould is seriously ill.

C. L. Gilchrist, of the Mounted Police, Fort Calgarry, is at the British American.

Capt. Ryerson left for her home in Paterson, N.J., being driven across the islands.

Lennox Irving, who went to Pembroke ill from Queen's College last week, is rapidly recovering.

Captain Nellie Ryerson was unable to attend the Salvation Army meeting last evening. She is still quite ill.

Prof. Fenwick, of the Congregational Church, Montreal, occupied the pulpit of the First Congregational Church yesterday.

Dr. McMurchy, of Queen's, has commenced his duties on the Canada Pacific RR. He will reside at Mattawa, and his section will extend from Chalk River to Sturgeon Falls.

Rev. Mr. Forsum, Rector of Adolphustown, is agitating for the erection of a memorial church in Adolphustown in honour of the U. E. Loyalists. Among the contributors are Lieut.-Governor Robinson and D. W. Allison, M.P. Mr. Allison's contribution is $300.

ARMY TEMPLE.

Mr. Abb. Snook Declares Himself a Convert of the Salvation Army—His Speech.

Last night the large barracks on Queen Street was crowded. Some hundreds failed to gain admittance. The Army seemed to be very jubilant, but the audience was very quiet and attentive. There was the usual good singing, especially that by Capt. Hughes, whose rich voice never wearies. As we predicted at the beginning of the year ex-Ald. Snook declared himself a convert, and testified as to how he came to seek salvation, how through God's grace and the Holy Spirit he had became regenerated by the blood of Jesus, how God's love filled him with a marvellous light, causing him to weep with transport at the glorious transition, and how his love to God would be the ethical compass of his heart in his future journey through life.

"Corinne Merrie-Makers."

The Ottawa *Citizen* speaks well of the Company, the "Corinne Merrie-Makers" appearing in the Opera House on Wednesday. It says the comedy itself is a good one, full of good situations and broad in plot, though it gives ample opportunity for the introduction of a number of the best selections from the favourite operas of the day and a splendid olio. The Company has been well selected, and all are well up in their work. Little Corinne was, of course, the attraction, and "Little Dorn" fairly brought down the house. Susie Parker and Dora Bracecombe in their Tyrolean warbling were loudly encored. Steve Corey, in his music songs, proved an unqualified success. The singing of Frank Hayden, who possesses a splendid tenor voice, was greatly admired.

A Popular Entertainment.

The usual quarterly union service of the three Sabbath Schools, Portsmouth, was held in the Orange Hall yesterday afternoon, and although the weather was stormy there was a full attendance of children and friends present. The meeting was opened with devotional exercises by Mr. James Craig and addresses delivered by Rev. Mr. Dobbs, Major Jones and Mr. Schroder. Several appropriate hymns were sung very nicely by the children, Miss Adams presiding at the organ. These meetings are very enjoyable and have a tendency to promote good feeling and harmony among the people.

Police Court—Monday.

W. Mills, G. Burns and A. McCartney were charged with creating a disturbance at the Salvation barracks while drunk. Cases adjourned until Wednesday.

William Mills, creating a disturbance on the street; case adjourned for two weeks.

Thomas Mills was committed for trial for assaulting Police Officer Hinds on Christmas Eve while in the discharge of his duty.

HERE AND THERE.

Lazy Arrangement of Items of Local and General Interest—Gossip that is Readable.

The streets were quite lively this afternoon.

Dr. Brown has a small collection of old Kingston papers.

The police court fines and fees this year will total $2,000.

The Aldermanic candidates have begun their work in earnest.

The Christmas offering in Brockville's Catholic Church amounted to $700.

The social in the Primitive Methodist Church to-night will be a happy event.

The first volumes of the weekly and daily WHIG are on exhibition in the office.

Don't fail to get your photograph taken at Bell & Son's gallery to-morrow.

The Clayton *Independent* makes its appearance again, and is a welcome visitor.

A reported strike at Chown & Cunningham's foundry is not known to the proprietors.

With the mayoralty matter settled the municipal elections will be less exciting than usual.

We possess an "old curiosity shop" of no common interest—the complete files of the WHIG for 50 years.

To-morrow, beginning at 1 o'clock, teams of the Royal Quoit Club will play a match in the drill shed.

The City Clerk in declaring Dr. McCammon elected by acclamation, acted under the City Solicitor's advice.

A Kingston tonsorial artist has been doing himself and his friends discredit by his performance in Belleville.

Sergt.-Major Morgans' gymnasium opens to-morrow evening in Wilkinson's Block. Develop muscle by attending.

Remember that the drama of "East Lynne" will be produced in the Opera House to-morrow evening. It will be excellent.

The Cape Vincent *Eagle* ends the old year by promising to atone for the mistakes of '83 in '84. While the lamp holds out to burn, &c.

Good Friday comes on April 11th, and Easter Sunday on the 13th. The Canadian Almanac is wrong in placing them on the 21st and 23rd of March.

A correspondent asks, Is it lawful to canvass the votes of the electors on the Sabbath day? It is not, but it has been the custom as long as we can remember.

Five o'clock.—In order to prepare for stock taking, F. X. Cousineau will, until further notice, close their store every evening (except Saturday) at 5 o'clock sharp.

Counterfeit ten cent pieces are being circulated at different points in Canada. Look out for them. They are roughly moulded, are lead-like, though hard, and will not ring.

The man who this morning bet $5 that, though a Conservative, he would vote for Wilson, in the mayoralty contest, has been left. He didn't know that Billy had decided to retire from the contest.

Mayor Livingston, in his address to-day, created a laugh when, speaking of Dr. Sullivan, he said he was a genial and eloquent little man, "a man whom very few respect." He saw his mistake, however, and promptly rectified it.

The mayoralty candidature of Ald. Wilson promised to lead to a bad party rowing, and so it was wisely abandoned. Some men, always ready for strife had already got to work. They must feel good that their occupation's gone.

1884 will be leap year, and the ladies will have the right to assume the male prerogative of popping the question. Such being the case the marriage license issuers will not perhaps complain next year of the paucity of their receipts.

Messrs. Bowes & Bissonette return thanks to their many friends and customers for their very liberal patronage during the past year. They wish all a Happy New Year, and have much pleasure in announcing the increase of their sales at 25 per cent. on the year 1882.

Trenton High School is advancing under B. N. Davis as head master. He has succeeded so well in increasing the attendance and prospects that another teacher has been added to the staff, and a special commercial branch has been organized. Mr. Davis is a First Class honour man of Queen's in Mathematics and Chemistry.

The photograph keeps up more steadily than any other of the modern arts. The demand for reproduction of the human face divine seems to increase rather than decline. W. P. Bell & Son report that they were never so busy as during the festive season, both here and in the new branch established at Perth, where his son has been very successful in his management. The seven persons employed in both stations have been as "busy as bees," and yet New Year's will bring an increase of orders. A visit to either of the galleries will well repay the student of photography as well as those in search of a good personal likeness, as the display of finished work is both extensive and meritorious. The backgrounds for the portraits are also new and decidedly artistic.