

OFFICE OF
THE GRAND RIVER SACHEM

HENRY B. SAWLE,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

BOOK AND JOB PRINTING A SPECIALTY.
TELEPHONE 18 A

CALEDONIA, ONT.,
CANADA

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J. W. Richardson

Our Fair was started in 1873
The first Secretary was Robert Shirra, Esq
In 1875 Mr. James Old was appointed Secretary
and Mr. M. Howard assistant. In 1876
Mr. Shirra was re-appointed, and held the
office until 1879, when Mr. Howard was
appointed and held the position until
1895, Mr. John Richardson taking his place
and held it until 1902, when I was ap-
pointed and have held it since

Of the men who constituted the first Board
I find only Mr. H. Wickett, E. Walker James (P)
Madigan ^{David Hett,} and Arthur ^{Joseph McCarley, W. Mayhew} Smenton. The Board
at that time consisted of 32 members.

The first President was Hugh Stewart
" " Treasurer being Robert Hudspeeth.

In 1874 the board of directors was increased
to 43

The first Financial Statement published was
in 1876, and showed receipts of \$585.¹⁷/₁₀₀. Our
report for the past year receipts being about
\$5,000, with a cash balance of \$1400,
with good buildings and the Society don't
owe a dollar.

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It was in the year 1878 that the Town Council granted \$250 towards buying our present grounds (which by the way was mainly secured by ^{Mr. W.} Mr. Richardson and our late member D. Thompson). The drill hall was moved the same year from the market square, Mr. W. Richardson and Mr. D. Jones giving their note to the late James Wice for \$125 for ten months, to pay for the moving.

The only year our Fair was ever postponed was in 1888, when bad weather interfered the second time, and there was no money to pay the prizes. After borrowing \$250 from Mr. Robert Hudspeth and paying the prizes, \$2.00 was left in the hands of the Treasurer. From that date to the present, our Society has been in a flourishing condition, and is acknowledged to-day by all, to be one of the best conducted and most up-to-date Fairs in Ontario, and one in which the people of Caledonia should be proud of, as it has done more to advertise the town than anything else in its history.