

WALKERTON TELESCOPE

February 11, 1909

On Friday, Feb. 5 1909 Mr. Jno. Ritchie one of the oldest Greenock Tp. pioneers passed away in the Bruce County Hospital at the advanced age of seventy-nine years. Mr. Ritchie was born near the Broom-a-law in Scotland on the 8th of Feb. 1830 and, came to Canada with his parents when a lad of eighteen, first settling in the Tp. of Chinguacousy, Peel County, subsequently moving to Greenock about the year 1852 when the agitation was on to settle in the new district. Mr. Ritchie took up a Government grant lot No. 57, south of the lots 46 and 47 on the north of the Durham Road in Greenock, latterly buying lots 58 and 57 on the north of the Durham road, which lots still comprise the homestead of 150 acres.

Mr. Ritchie was one of the most energetic and public-spirited men of his time and always took a lively interest in any projects for the betterment and advancement of the community. He held the commission of justice of the peace for many years, and had in the early history of the township, filled the offices of clerk, assessor, collector, and councillor, in, each of which capacities, he gave excellent satisfaction to the ratepayers of the township.

In politics he was a staunch Liberal, and held in high veneration such leaders of as George Brown, Edward Blake and Alexander MacKenzie.

Mr. Ritchie moved to Walkerton about twenty years ago, where has resided ever since. His wife died about four years to go, and for the last two years, he had been an inmate of the Walkerton hospital, the victim of a nervous trouble.

He is survived by a family of two sons and four daughters. The sons are W.G. of Owen Sound, and John of Barwick, Ont. The daughters are Mrs. Jas. Armstrong of Mayfield, Mrs. Archie McLennan of Russell, Manitoba, Mrs. D.H. Wallace of Crystal, North Dakota, Mrs. Swanston of Walkerton, Mrs. Geo. Causton of Barwick, and Louise at home. The remains were interred in the Walkerton cemetery, where rest the remains of his wife, on Tuesday afternoon.