



Patrick Michael Dewan, B.A., B.S.A., L.L.D., K.S.G.

From the Editor's Desk - A number of articles from the manuscript of Memories of Patrick Michael Dewan have appeared in the Newsletters over the years. I thought it would be most fitting to present a profile of the man himself. The above picture and his biography was forwarded to me by his son David Dewan, long time member of the Osgoode Township Historical Society and Museum.

Born son of John Dewan and Margaret Shields on Dec 23rd, 1890, Lot 17, Con 2, Osgoode Township.

He completed his primary school work before he was twelve years of age. The years following were passed on the farm and in the lumber woods. The exception to this routine was a period of six winter months in two successive seasons when he

attended the Willis Business College in Ottawa where he received his Diploma in a general Business Course including Bookkeeping. This experience only whetted his appetite for further education.

Because of his somewhat belated longing for more education, he entered the Kemptville High School in September, 1911 when he was in his twenty-first year. He was allowed to double his work, and in that way completed the examinations successfully at the end of two years for both Normal School Entrance and Matriculation Diplomas.

Following High School, he entered Ottawa University where he took his first two years in the Arts Course. The following two years he attended the University of St Francis Xavier at Antigonish, Nova Scotia where he completed his B.A. in 1917. While at St Francis Xavier he engaged extensively in debating, was Editor of the university magazine (The Xaverian), president of his class and Valedictorian at graduation.

By request he taught the following year on the high school staff of St Francis Xavier University. His principal during that year was Dr M.M. Coady who later became famous for his leadership in Co-operative endeavour. It was at this institution also that he first met Angus L MacDonalid, who was later to become Premier of Nova Scotia and for some other time was Minister of Naval Affairs in the Federal Government. That friendship once formed, lasted until the death of Angus L MacDonalid.

During the season 1917-18 he spent a long Christmas holiday in Nova Scotia and attended a short

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Osgoode Township Historical Society & Museum

at the

Old Vernon School

Newsletter

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course in Agriculture which was being given at Truro Agricultural College. During this time he was facing two choices of spending his career, the one in law, the other, agriculture. He loved the series of lectures at Truro, and without hesitation he decided in favour of a career in agriculture.

In the fall of 1918, he entered the Ontario Agriculture College at Guelph and graduated in 1922. It should be said that he took a prominent part in debating there too. From 1922 to 1925 he taught under Professor W.J. Bell on the newly formed Kemptville Agricultural School. Only nine years had intervened between his matriculation from Kemptville High School and his return to the staff of the Kemptville Agricultural School.

In December 1925 Mr Dewan was enticed to leave Eastern Ontario for the western part of the province to come to Woodstock to manage the build up of the Oxford Farmers' Co-operative which had been founded only a few years before and which was still struggling along without much growth and with the original provisional directors in charge.

The business grew very rapidly and Mr Dewan remained as Manager and Treasurer of the company until October, 1927 when on being appointed Minister of Agriculture for Ontario, he tendered his resignation.

While living at Woodstock, Mr Dewan took part in many civic enterprises. He was a member of the Separate School Board for three years, a member of the Woodstock Library Board for four years and an alderman of the city council from 1931 to 1935. He was elected a member of the legislature of the Province of Ontario for Oxford County in 1934 and served in the legislature from 1934 to 1943. He was appointed Minister of Agriculture in 1937 and carried that portfolio until 1943.

While a private Member of the Legislature, Mr Dewan was a strong advocate of the value of co-operative enterprise among farmers, a field in which he had had considerable experience. During his years as Minister of Agriculture he also advocated equitable and comparable returns for farmers through fair prices for their produce which would give them a fair margin of profit. In wartime, he sponsored a bill providing provincial subsidy payment on cheese and bacon hogs. In principle he did not favor subsidies, but he contended that extra ordinary times called for extra ordinary measures.

During his time in office Mr Dewan had revised and brought up to date practically all agricultural legislation on the statute books, including the novel and far reaching Farm Products Control Act for which his immediate predecessor in office had been responsible.

Patrick Dewan Cont'd

Another very prominent piece of legislation introduced by Mr Dewan was the Credit Union Act of 1939. An exhaustive study had been made of Credit Union legislation throughout the world. Then the Ontario Act was drafted. When enacted it was acclaimed by students and advocates of the credit union movement as the best Credit Union Law then in existence.

It might be pointed out that it was somewhat unusual to have Credit Union Legislation under the direction of the Minister of Agriculture; nor was that the original intention of the government. Credit Union enthusiasts of the day put considerable pressure on the premier to have the act put under the Minister of Agriculture because his co-operative knowledge and leanings would likely give more sympathetic administration to the Act than the slim and indifferent attention credit unions had received before that time. It was Mr Dewan's happy and gratifying experience to sign scores of Credit Union charters before retiring from office in 1943.

In 1942 the Dewan family moved to a large farm south of Ingersoll which Mr Dewan wanted to use for a dairy operation and where he established a large purebred Holstein herd. Now at last Mike Dewan had achieved a life long ambition, that of managing his own farm.

In later years when Highway 401 was built, the right of way cut the farm into two pieces. Subsequently Mr Dewan sold the farm and moved across the Culloden Road to a brick house with a fine garden and lawns and where he continued to pursue his many outside interests.

In September 1921 Patrick Michael Dewan married Margaret Olive Tierney of City View, Nepean Township. The family comprises seven children, three sons and four daughters, all graduates of Woodstock Collegiate and the University of Toronto, the youngest by way of Ontario Agricultural College, now University of Guelph.

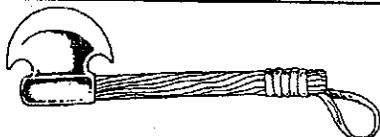
The family are in order Marie, (Mrs John Dunn), Almonte, Ont.; John of Houston Texas; Patricia, (Mrs John K Wilson) of Toronto; Rev Wilfrid, Paulist Fathers, N.Y; Margaret, (Mrs W.J. Spence) Toronto; Helen, (Mrs R Knollmeyer) Pittsfield, Mass; and David, Burlington, Ont.

Native Son - Patrick Dewan has left an indelible imprint in the annals of Ontario History. Patrick Michael, died July 29, 1988 in Scarborough, Ontario, his body was returned to the land of his forefathers to be interred with that of his wife Olive (1892-1970) in the pioneer cemetery of St Johns in Enniskerry.

Patrick Michael's roots run deep in Osgoode Township. Grandson of Patrick Dewan born 29, May, 1820 County Tipperary. His wife Mary McGee born 1828 County Down, Ireland. Great Grandson of Morris Dewan born 1793, his wife Alice Prout born 1798 County Tipperary (farmed Gloucester). Great Grandson of Bernard McGee, his wife Briget of County Down, Ireland. Great Grandson of Patrick Shields, his wife Molly McGee of County Wexford, Ireland. Great Great Grandson of Edmund McEvoy, his wife Catherine Kennedy of County Kilkenny, Ireland. Edmund McEvoy died Dec 12, 1834, buried in St Johns Cemetery in Enniskerry, Township of Osgoode.

Olive, Great, Great Grandparents Patrick Nash, his wife Margaret Blanchfield, also reside in St Johns Cemetery.

Michael Daley



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Little did I realize back in 1998 when I first began poking through the old records and other artifacts at the former two-roomed Vernon, Ont. school house owned and operated by The Township of Osgoode Historical Society and Museum Inc. that one day I would become first a director, and then today the society's President. While sifting through the museum's vast Family History Collection, I started out doing research on Osgoode Township's founding families, the family of William and Ann York and the family of Col. Archibald and Catherine McDonell. In 1827, both families had settled close to one another on the banks of the Castor River near the present day village of Metcalfe. After a couple of years of digging, both at the museum and on the internet, I was able to gather enough convincing evidence to prove that these two families indeed were the first settlers in Osgoode and they were truly worthy of having Heritage Ontario recognize their contribution to the development and betterment of the Province of Ontario.

On behalf of O.T.H.S. & M.'s Board of Directors and the society's membership I would like to thank Doug Hughes for his dedication to the society over the past years. I assumed the position of President April, 2003 upon Doug's retirement from the society's board of directors.

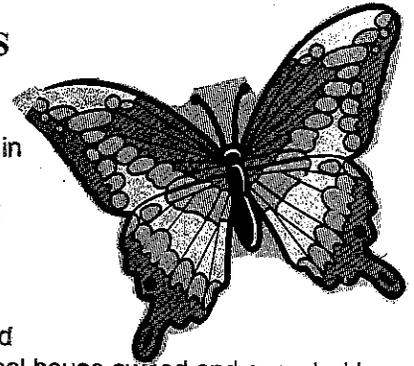
Doug had very capably, and tirelessly, served on the executive for many years and had been its President for the past seven years. During that time, the museum went from a facility with part-time opening, and receiving some annual funding from the Township of Osgoode (the land and building leased from the Township at a minimal charge) to a museum now open six days a week year around (7 days per week during July and August). With the Township's amalgamation with the City of Ottawa, (the land and buildings are now the property of the new City - the collection remains the property of the Society and its day-to-day operation controlled by its independent board of directors), additional funding is received from the city to defray operating costs and to provide money for special research projects.

We now have a full-time Curator and Archivist - Michelle Lachance, and part-time employee - Angela Barkley, plus a great deal of assistance from several dedicated volunteers. We've come a long way since our beginning in 1972! Doug is not really leaving us. He has agreed to stay on to head up our Community Memories project - a special multimedia record of some of the Township's first, and still operating, industries and the people who were, and still are involved, or those who have extensive knowledge of these activities. As well, Doug will remain as the society's web master. Please look us up - O.T.H.S.@magma.com Thanks Doug!

Congratulations to Elizabeth Stuart, one of our founding members. Elizabeth was recently granted an award by the Province of Ontario's Heritage Community Recognition Program, Natural Heritage Division, for her extensive effort in managing her 80-acre wood lot as a natural legacy. Elizabeth was also a recent recipient of an Outstanding Citizen of the Year award from the village of Osgoode.

Finally, a reminder to come out to our annual Pioneer Day at the Vernon Museum on Saturday, July 26, 2003. Always a great time! See you there!

Ron Isaac



WHAT'S IN A NAME, GREELY, ONTARIO

Was Greely, Ontario, now a rapidly growing bedroom community located about 12 km south of the old City of Ottawa city limits on Bank Street (formerly Highway 31) and a village of the former Township of Osgoode named after the renowned American Arctic Explorer and hero General Adolphus Washington Greely (1844-1935)? Or was it named after one of the early pioneer families who had lived in the area? (Early records show that a Thomas Greely had settled on Lot 6, Concession 5, across the road from where All Saints Anglican Church now stands.)

It appears more likely that Greely got its name from the explorer. The Post Office Department, in its wisdom, chose the name Greely over Rossiter's Corners (Adam and Sam Rossiter, both active in municipal affairs in the 1850's ran a store and a toll booth on the macadamized Prescott Road) for its first post office in that area. In 1884, Stanley's Hotel on Lot 5, Concession 5, Township of Osgoode was recommended by Moss K. Dickinson, M.P. as the post office site which, a short time later, became known as the Greely Post Office.

Why wasn't the post office called Stanley or Rossiter, or even Shea (Shea's Corners was located at the present day intersection of Parkway Rd. and the Old Prescott Rd.)? About the same time as the post office was established, Lieutenant Adolphus W. Greely, of the U.S. Signal Corps, had just been rescued from Cape Sabine, along with six of his crew members, from his ill-fated Lady Franklin Bay Expedition (1881-1884) on Ellesmere Island. This voyage marked the United States participation in the first International Polar Year Project in which a series of circumpolar meteorological weather stations were to be set up. This also was an attempt by the U.S. to put itself at the forefront of international exploration.

It appears that about the same time as Greely's book, "Three Year's of Arctic Service: An Account of the Lady Franklin Bay Expedition of 1881-1884 and the Attainment of the Farthest North" (New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1886) was published, the post office in Greely got its official name. Greely's name has been given to other communities in the U.S., to a military barracks in Alaska, and to a naval transport ship. Likewise, because of his fame, do you suppose that a U.S. Army Signal Corpsman gave his name to a small Ontario village, now a large subdivision in the new City of Ottawa? Very possibly!

Ron Isaac

DR. DAVID GRAY GIVES LECTURE ON THE GREELY EXPEDITION

On Tuesday, June 3, 2003, at special meeting of the Township of Osgoode Historical Society and Museum, held at the Greely Community Centre, Dr. David Gray, Arctic biologist and historian gave a very interesting talk on the Greely expedition. Dr. Gray illustrated his lecture with numerous slides taken on his recent visits to Ellesmere Island. These images were of some of the same areas visited by Greely. The frozen landscapes around Fort Conger and Lake Hazen were spectacular, as well were the many slides of arctic flora and fauna. The collection included copies of actual rare photographs that had been taken by the expedition's official photographer.

Dr. Gray is presently working on a project for Parks Canada involving the development of Ellesmere Island National Park. As a research associate at the Museum of Civilization, David is also working on the preparation of a virtual museum on Canadian Arctic expeditions.

Ron Isaac

REMEMBER THE ICE STORM OF JAN 1998

Do you have stories, pictures, diaries?
The OTHS&M is looking to gather the memories of the residents of Osgoode Township while they are relatively fresh. If you would like to leave your mark on the history of the Township, please contact us at:
(613)821-4062 or oths@magma.ca

CURATOR/ARCHIVIST REPORT

June, 2003

Signatures in guest book (Mar, Apr, May): 666
Researched In-House:

Moses; Taylor; James; Vintage Magazines from 1928; Greely Village; Harris; Iveson; McRostie; Lot 20, Concession 6.

E-Mail/Mail Requests:

Beauchamp; Mills; James Murray; McConnell; Daley; SS #21; O'Boyle; Carlisle; Clark; Guy; Hall; Hoy; Hyndman; Kerr; Marlin; Porteous; Skuce; Town Hall prior to renovations; Moore; McKenna; Divisional Registrar Death Records; McDonald; Notre Dame Church, Ottawa; McNeil; Dalmery.

Spring Activities:

Our application for funding to the Canadian Heritage Information Network (CHIN) has been approved. This grant is to allow us to produce a virtual display on our topic: "Plain Living in Osgoode". It will record several activities still practised here (for example dowsing and midwifery). We are still seeking volunteers to help out with this project, which must be completed by early December 2003.

A number of activities were offered to children aged 5 to 12 around the Easter theme.

We participated in Gene-O-Rama 2003 which was held at Ben Franklin Place on March 29th. Last year's summer student, Angela Barkley, has been re-hired to work with us from May 1 to August 29th.

Board member Ann Leighton-Kyle was a guest speaker at the March meeting of the Kenmore Women's Institute. Ann also gave a talk to grade 3 and 4 classes at Manordale Public School in the month of April.

Board member Coreen Atkins-Sheldrick represented us at the first Ottawa Heritage Fair on May 8th at the Aberdeen Pavilion at Lansdowne Park, as well as the International Museum Day Celebrations held at Ottawa City Hall on May 16th.

May was "Museum Month" and we held a number of activities to celebrate. The kick-off was a Pancake Breakfast held on May 10th, followed by a full day of open house on May 17th. On May 24th and 25th we participated in "Doors Open Ottawa" both at the Museum in Vernon and at the Town Hall in Metcalfe. Our last event was an "Airing of the Quilts" which took place on May 31st.

We want to extend a special thank you to all of our volunteers from the community who helped us during these last three months: Brian Kelsey, Bonnie Burke and Brenda Foss from the Brockville Museum, Alec Ball, Diane Barkley, Maegan Barkley, Alice Craig, Heather Hughes, Gordon Bowen, Nicholas Dallas, Russell Johnston, Myra Kelly, Cheryl Bunda, Pat Green, Pierre Doyon and David Nolan.

New to the Museum:

A wedding dress, worn by Jean Elizabeth Sheldrick on her wedding day has been donated by the **Sheldrick Family**. It is currently on display at the Museum.

A 1950 calendar, prepared by the Vernon Presbyterian Church, showing the names of all the

Curator/Archivist Report cont'd

members at that time, as well as the day of their birthdays, has been donated by **David Sheldrick**. Thank you very much David for this very interesting piece of history!

Do you have an interesting collection which you would like to display at the Museum? If you do, please contact me at 821-4062 and we can discuss how we can show off your collection for you.

New to the Archives and/or Reference Collection:
Michael Daley brought in several interesting files of information, which allowed us to create a Nash Family File.

A special thank you to **David Nolan** of Ottawa who brought in his collection of photos of the Nolan, Redmond, Sullivan-Fox, Manotick Station General Store, Boulger, Dewan, Hamey/St-Patrick's Separate School, Potvin, and Manotick Train Station photos to be scanned and added to our collection. The photos are also being used in the preparation of a second edition of "The Manotick Station Story" to be released later this year.

Our newspaper collection has been re-boxed into archival newspaper storage boxes and listed in our finding aid binder. We have a total of six boxes of old newspapers and newspaper fragments in our collection.

Verna Kinsella of Vars has donated photographs of the McDiarmid, as well as correspondence written by Laura McDiarmid.

Councillor Doug Thompson has donated a reproduction of an old photograph of the Town Hall in Metcalfe, which is obviously a very old photo, but unfortunately is not dated.

Thank you to **Len Lemoine** for bringing in an updated copy of the Lemoine Family History.

Gladys Hill MacDonald has donated a reproduction of an old photograph of five Osgoode Township men homesteading in Temiskaming in 1902-03. The photo was titled "Saturday Night at Kenmore House" and features: Dan Taylor, William Hill, Sam Brunton, Alex Stewart and James Carkner.

I am currently looking for any information or photographs you may have of **SS #2 - the Gibson or Rideau Hill School, and SS #3, the Greely School**. If you can help me, call at 821-4062.

We are also seeking the help of volunteers to help in the following capacities:

Persons interested in serving as members of a **Fundraising Committee** for a six-month term. This committee is drafting a mandate, vision, and strategic plan for a five-year period. Meetings are held no less than once per month.

Persons interested in serving as members of an **Accessions Committee** for a six-month term. **Knowledge of Museum/Archival practices are definite assets.** This committee israfting the accessions policy for the Society, and will review accessions received in the coming year. Meetings are held no less than once per month.

If any of the above sound interesting to you, please call Michelle at 821-4062.

Submitted by Michelle Lachance



IN SEARCH OF THEIR ROOTS.....



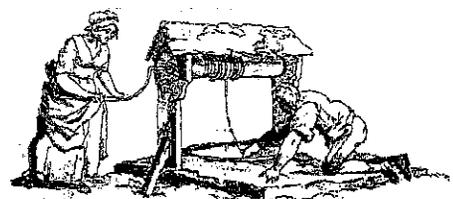
My great grandfather **John Keegan** and his wife **Alice Huggard**

lived in Osgoode in the mid-1800's. Their daughter Stephanie (Fanny), married Alex Thompson Jr. Michael Daley was instrumental in my finding the church where their daughter Mary Ann married Patrick Murphy. It was his grasp of history that led me to St. Patrick's basilica. I would have never known that St. Andrews outgrew itself and became St. Patrick's. Thank you so much. Now, if I could only find out where John Keegan and Alice Huggard married in 1844. An old article said it was near the current Oil River near Cornwall, but nothing could be found in area churches or civil records there. Any ideas?

Gretchen Lowe
gdlowe@inxpress.net

JOHN MURRAY of Osgoode Township, c. 1832 Seeking to find descendants of John MURRAY and Jane Harvesting/Harvesten who emigrated from Co. Monaghan Ireland in 1832. They supposedly settled in Osgoode Station. They had 8 children whose names were Christopher, James, Joseph, Matthew, Thomas, Mary, Jane and Em. Some of these children moved to the US (Rochester & Detroit) when they married. I believe the married names of the girls were Brennan, Trainor and Murray (no relation), If any of this information connects with someone, I would love to hear from them. Thanks.

Mary Brohman
marybrohman@sympatico.ca



HELP REQUIRED
SPRINGHILL CEMETERY PROJECT

As part of the team researching the history of the cemetery and documenting burials of people who have no stone or monument, I would appreciate any information on these subjects in order to update and correct the current OTHS&M Springhill Cemetery Record publication. Sources may include family bibles or histories, obits, family letters, stories passed on by relatives, death certificates, etc. Confidentiality of source will be promised when asked.

Please send any information, large or small, that may help to: Alec J. Ball, P.O. Box 464, Metcalfe, Ontario K0A 2P0. Telephone: (613) 821-3934. E-mail: alec.ball@nexinnovations.com. You may also drop it off at the Museum. Thank you very much for your support.

NOTE OF INTEREST

ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH THE OSGOODE MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY?

Due to recent queries, we are reprinting a note from our Newsletter of Volume 13, No. 2, 1987

A.G. Robinson who was a salesman for the Howick Co. initiated the forming of the Osgoode Mutual Insurance Co. Circa 1918 - 1920.

President - A.G. Robinson,
Secretary Treasurer - Robert McLaughlan, also salesman. After his death Dan McLaren for a short period of time.
Directors - Robert Hill; John Cummings, Ormond; John Hume; Alex Dow; John R. Boyd, Russell;(also a salesman.)

The Company was taken over by the Wawanesa Co. Of which Donald Dow was one agent about 1930.

Any further information our readers can come up with on the above would be appreciated.

Michael Daley

KENMORE BASEBALL TEAM 1915-1920



Front row: Glen McLaughlin, Ray McNab, Alex Craig, Ed Kinkade

Back row: Jim Watson, Charles Dagleish, Bob McRuer, George Warren, Harold Warren

submitted by Charlotte Reaney (daughter of Ed Kinkade)

THE DOW FAMILY

OF
PERTHSHIRE, SCOTLAND
and

OSGOODE TOWNSHIP ONTARIO

Thomas DOW of Dull Parish and Mildred McKAY of Weem Parish married April 8, 1727.

Son - Thomas DOW b. June 1, 1736 to the deceased Thomas DOW in Kinloch of Glenquaich and Margaret McKAY

Sponsor: - Donald McKERCHER

Witness: - Alex'r MENZIES, John MENZIES

Thomas DOW (above) of Dull Parish and Janet CARMICHAEL of E. Tuerrerich

Margaret DOW b. Sept 5, 1766 E Tuerrerich

Thomas DOW b. Oct 13, 1769 to Osgoode Twp

Catherine DOW b. May 2, 1772

Donald DOW b. Feb 2, 1775 E. Tuerrerich

Thomas DOW miller in Ardeonaig, Killin Parish, b 1769 and Janet McEWEN of Killin Parish married Jan 20, 1799 Killin Parish (moved) to Osgoode Twp. Lot

36, Lot 9, 1832.

Children: (all born E Ardeonaig SW shore loch Tay)

John 23 Nov, 1799 m. Catherine CAMPBELL

Marg't 26 July, 1801 m. Colin CAMPBELL 15 Feb 1829 - d 1831

Janet 26 July 1801 died

Alex'r 23 Dec 1803 m (1) Christian McTAVISH; m (2) Isobel BRODIE

Janet 11 Feb 1806 m Duncan CAMPBELL

Thomas 10 Feb 1810 m unknown - to Montreal

James 14 Aug, 1811 m. Janet ROBERTSON

Grandchildren of Thomas and Janet:

(1) John - Thomas, Margaret, Alex'r, Janet, John, Annabella, James, Daniel

(2) Margaret CAMPBELL - Margaret (1832-1914) unm.

(4) Alex'r - (1) Thomas, James, Christie, John Dougall McTavish

(5) Janet CAMPBELL - John, Thomas, Janet, Catherine Margaret

(7) James - Jessie (1851-1921) Bur. Winnipeg unm.

Thomas (1854-1921) bur. Vancouver unm.

Charles Alex'r (1854-1947 UNM. (Built brick house now Ron Eastman)

John Russell (3Mar 1859-7 Nov. 1955)

m Alice MARKELL UE.(1859-1912)

(All bom lot 36, Con 9 see Colin Campbell. Now Ron Eastman home)

John Russell m.(1) Alice Markell - John Francis (1903-

1922), Gordon Russell (1887-1974) Stanley Markell

(1893-1956), Allan Gladstone(1895-1917)

m (2) Helen Campbell d/o Jos Arch CAMPBELL miller, Vernon

Gordon Russell m Beatrice BOTT

children: Dorothy Sterling, Helen Jeannette, Marguerite Ruth

submitted by Elizabeth Stuart

NOTE:

May 13, 2003 a tragic and untimely incident in the city of Ottawa took the life of Marguerite Ruth Dow.

Marguerite was a long time member of the Osgoode Township Historical Society was laid to rest in Spring Hill Cemetery in Osgoode Township.

The United Empire Loyalist grave marker bearing the cipher of King George III from the tombstone of Alice Dow, U.E., Springhill Cemetery, Osgoode Township. Found in "An Early Ontario Harvest - Receipts from the Southeastern Counties" collected by Alice Markell

Thompson Dow. Edited by grand daughters Helen J Dow and Marguerite R. Dow. Published by OTHS 1982. A number of copies of this 85 page book were donated the museum. A family collection, this booklet contains a family photo, the Arms of Gordon Russell Dow, U.E, a drawing of the Bronze Medallion in honor of Flight Lieutenant Allan Gladstone Dow, U.E. killed on active service with the Royal Flying Corps in England in 1917, drawings by Gordon Russell Dow, recipes and health remedies of grandmother Alice Markell.



U.E.L. Grave marker

Editor

REMINISCENCE

I live in the Ottawa valley on a dairy farm. Our children loved to roam the field and streams and explore the bush area. One day we were walking along a stream and we stumbled upon the foundations of a long disappeared farm building. While the children were busy discussing the possibilities I wandered away and sat beside a creek.

We live on a century farm and the former owner could tell stories of years gone by. I heard the sound of nature but in the distance I could hear the traffic rushing by. Then I started to wonder. Who lived here..? How long ago..? How did they travel..? I felled the urge to write down what I could imagine and "Reminiscence" was created in my mind and written down.

We travel along the highway so fast,
Have no time to think about the past.
Imagine what we travel in an hour and a half,
Took our forefathers a day or two and a half.

There was only a path in the bush for a horse and his rider.
This was the only way to make his horizon wider.
Pioneer life was hard and lonely, but rewarding:
He was building a future and knew where he was going.

He carved a future out of unbroken lands.
Was a logger at first and built a cabin with his own hands.
Side by side, man and wife worked as one,
Plowed sowed and harvested. Never were done.

They raised their family, taught them to love and have pride.
This was their country, stay put but spread wide!
They taught them this feeling, this love of the land.
This was their future to build on, hand in hand.

In winter they felt safe in their cabin, this was home.
This was home forever, no farther to roam.
Safe around the fire place they lifted up their heads and listen,
As the wind through the dry leaves makes the sound of a whistle.

He heard a howling of the wolves, far in the forest unknown.
Did he have a neighbour? He did not know.
When spring came he would follow the creek.
Who knows...he might just some one meet.

As I walk through the fields and see the wealth,
Of green meadows and cattle in perfect health.
I can't help wondering of the hard work it took,
To make all this possible, this perfect look.

I hear the birds in the trees and the wind in the wood.
I smell the flowers and hear the frogs in the brook.
How I love this land... Is there a better one?
Think about it, it belongs to you, me and every one.

I hear the birds in the trees and frogs in the creek,
I see beauty around me as far as the eye meet.
This land is yours - mine - and everyone.
I am very, very sure there is no better one.

Eda Van der Linden, 1973

YOU KNOW YOU'RE GETTING OLDER WHEN.....

- * The gleam in your eye is from the sun hitting your bifocals.
- * You know all the answers, but nobody asks the questions
- * You join a Health Club and don't go

OLD TIME STUFF - OTTAWA CITIZEN 1929

Practical Joke on Fellow Who Took Bites Out of His Tobacco.

Country Storekeeper prepared a "Plug" of Oak so it looked like the Real Thing.

This little story is not told by Mr Michael McEvoy. It is told about him, however.

In his younger day Mr McEvoy had a reputation for playing practical jokes. One of the jokes played by Mr McEvoy has been told to by one who was a neighbour out in Osgoode some 45 years ago.

About that time Mr McEvoy ran a store in Osgoode. Like all country storekeepers, he sold smoking and chewing tobacco. Tobacco of both sorts came in caddies and always one or two plugs of tobacco lay loose.

At that period it was the practice of many farmers to use chewing tobacco. One of Mr McEvoy's customers made it a practice whenever Mr M was not looking to take a bite off one of the loose plugs. Mr. M having caught this customer several times in the act, decided to teach him a lesson. He procured a piece of oak, cut it to the exact size of a plug of tobacco and then glued top leaves from another plug on to it. The prepared plug looked wonderfully like the real thing.

The next time the plug-biter came in, Mr M made it a point to go out of the shop for a while. From the back shed he soon heard a yell and hurrying back to the store found the customer dancing around and fingering his two broken teeth.

When asked what the trouble was the customer replied; "I have a tooth ache bad." "Well," said McEvoy with a grin, "I am afraid that your teeth are not as good as they used to be. You ought to give up chewing tobacco for instance."

The story got round the township and the plug-biter was jollied everywhere.

Editor

ATTENTION OSGOODE VETERANS

OTHS&M is looking to contact all Veterans who were either born in or have lived in the Township of Osgoode. We are currently gathering information to prepare a publication of "The Military Heritage of Historic Osgoode Township"

If you are a Veteran or are currently serving or have an ancestor who served, we would like to speak with you. Please contact

**Corinne Atkins-Sheldrick
at (613)821-4062 or oths@magma.ca**

OSGOODE TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

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