

"The Nancy Hanx"

Charles Bradshaw, proprietor of the Commercial Hotel supplemented his hotel earnings with a Livery Stable. With the help of his sons several horses and vehicles were at the disposal of villagers when in need of going to and from the railway station at Edwards, Pana or Russell. Yes, at times people rented livery conveyance to travel the twenty miles to Ottawa and return. At one time daily rental service was as low as one dollar. Of course, stable and feed costs in Ottawa added thereto. Bradshaw inaugurating a Bus Service, the bus locally nicknamed "Nancy Hanx", replaced livery services. Chucking along Macadam roads to the tune of seventy-five cents brought Ottawa within a one hour time limit. Mail bags and parcel delivery to and fro were included in the routine service. Fire in the early 1900's put an end to all this leaving a bleak gap in the heart of the village for years.

From: "Metcalf Village - A History From The Writings and Collection of Frances Iveson" - (O.T.H.S Publishers 1997)

OSGOODE VILLAGE FIRE

Submitted by Michael Daley

Osgoode, Ont. August 18, 1911.

Fire in Osgoode in the early hours of this morning, entailed a loss of \$25,000 less than half of which is covered by insurance. The part of the village destroyed is the south-west corner, just east of the C.P.R tracks and the buildings comprised the best business section of the place. For a time it looked as if the whole village would be wiped out and so appeals for assistance were sent to Ottawa, and nearby villages. Ottawa, responded with a fire engine, under Foreman Bradley, with seven men from No. 2 station. The hand pump from Kars was the first on the scene and it played a most important part in checking the fire at a critical point. It was a very bad fire, but wonder is that its progress was stayed where it was, as several adjacent frame buildings were saved only by the herculean efforts of the volunteer fire fighters.

The fire originated in the stables of J. H. Nixon, but the cause, a complete mystery. The buildings destroyed, were J, H, Nixon frame stable and contents, loss \$4,000, insurance \$1,200. F, S, Richardson Furniture and farm implement dealer, loss \$4,000, insurance \$1,200. Boyd Brothers General Store, contents \$7,000, insurance \$2,000. A, P, Wilson, loss on Boyd Brothers buildings, \$4,000, insurance \$1,000. William Taylor, residence \$3,500, insurance \$2,000. Union Bank building, owned by Edward Boyd, damaged to building, \$700, no insurance. In addition, there were smaller losses which would aggregate over a thousand dollars.

Mr. Nixon is the proprietor of the Temperance Hotel, and had two frame stables at the rear. The fire started in the smaller of the stables, which was only a few feet from the hotel, spread to the adjoining stable and then eastward to other buildings. Mrs. Nelson Kidd of Carp who is visiting in Osgoode and staying at the hotel, was the first to notice the fire and she immediately gave the alarm. Mr Byron Main, clerk in Craig & Sons store, Mr Geo. Kerr who had been attending a social function, and Mr J, Wallace, merchant, also saw the fire

Osgoode Township Historical Society & Museum

at the

Old Vernon School

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about the same time and with Mr Nixon, succeeded in getting out about fifteen horses from the livery stable. One horse, one cow, and four pigs were the animals burned in the stables. In addition, there were many hens owned by Mr Nixon and others which perished in the fire, so rapidly did the fire spread that the men had great difficulty in getting out the horses. The contents of the stable, included the winter rigs, robes, harness, hay, feed, etc.

Attention was then directed to the hotel and other buildings, the whole village being aroused by the shouts of "Fire." Mr Nixon has a windmill and tank on his premises, and a small hose attached. This helped in large measure to save the building. In addition everybody lent a hand. A bucket brigade was formed and water was carted in barrels from the various wells. Wet blankets were also used with excellent results, the hotel building was saved. The wind was blowing east and it was a very short time till the iron-clad building occupied by Richardson's Furniture Store was doomed and then in rapid succession the fire spread to the two-story frame building occupied by Boyd Brothers to Mr Taylor's residence and to the Union Bank.

Mr. Malcolm Wallace, of Kars, noticed the reflection of the fire and got in telephone communication with Osgoode, with the result that in a few minutes about twenty men from Kars with their hand engine were on their way to the fire. They covered the three miles in good time and were the first from outside places to arrive. They immediately directed their attention to the bank building, the roof of which had taken fire. They succeeded in stopping the fire here, confining it to the roof and upper part of the building. The bank is a two story brick structure, the upper part being used as a sleeping apartment by the sub-manger, Mr E. F Cranston and his assistant, Mr W A Burehill. They had gone out early to assist and did not think the bank was in danger. They lost a little in personal effects, but the bank loss is very light and business is going on as usual, the lower part of the building not being damaged.

Another hand engine arrived from North Gower shortly after that from Kars with about 25 men and they too did good work. The Ottawa contingent came out by special train on the C.P.R. Osgoode being situated twenty-one miles from the city on the Prescott line. When they arrived the flat car with the engine was placed on the railway tracks near the C.P.R. which contains 47,000 gallons of water and a splendid stream was directed on the fire till all danger was removed. The men then returned on the special train which brought them. It was after three o'clock before the residents breathed freely and knew the danger was past.

O.T.H.S gratefully
acknowledges the
financial support of
the City of Ottawa



OSGOODE FIRE CONT'D

There were many close calls. Just east of the bank is the frame dwelling occupied by Mr J. Moses. Several times the fire caught on the hay stack, bee hives, out-buildings and house but with a hand sprayer and pails he succeeded in saving them. It looked like the house was doomed, so all the contents was were carried out. Several trees around the house played a big part, as they did with other buildings in helping to keep the fire from spreading and in protecting from the heat, the men who were fighting the fire. On the opposite side of the street from the burned area, the residence of Mr G. W. Francis and the general store of G. A. Otto, both had close calls. The loss to them was confined to broken windows and scorched fronts. For ten years Mr Otto has carried no insurance, but in lieu thereof had two barrels filled with water on the roof of his house. These proved the salvation of his building.

The tank and windmill of Mr Nixon property did great service. The tank on top of the windmill is filled by the wind-mill and from it a good stream was secured till the tank itself took fire and the side burned out. But meantime the frame hotel building had been saved. Boyd Brothers are the heaviest losers and they had very little insurance. It was only a month ago they purchased the business from A. P. Wilson who still owned the building. The contents of Mr George Boyd's residence over the store were also destroyed. Mr Taylor's residence was erected only three years ago. Nearly all of his furniture was carried out. In the stores destroyed the entire contents were consumed.

NOTE The conflagration will be a serious blow to the bright little village of Osgoode which has been advancing industrially at a faster pace than any other local centre. It is a matter of coincidence that less than eight weeks ago the Weekly Advance handed out editorial advice to Osgoode to purchase adequate fire fighting apparatus. It is not too late yet to take this step. Indeed just now when everybody's mind are filled with lessons from the recent fire, would seem to be a good time to drive home this great lesson - "BUY A FIRE ENGINE"

Submitted by Michael Dailey

FOR LIST OF CITIES & TOWNS SURVEYED SEE ANY NUMBER OF INSURANCE SOCIETY

ANOTHER COMPANY'S BUSINESS - EVERY COMPANY SHOULD PAY ITS JUST SHARE

PAGE FROM THE PAST

Excerpts from the school journal, of School Section No. 5, West Osgoode. Report of the Annual Meeting dated December 28th 1910.

- (1) According to notice the electors of school section No 5 meet this day in school room at 10 a.m.
- (2) Moved by Charles Blanchfield, sec. by James O'Connor, that T. Cleland be Chairman, carried.
- (3) Moved by Char, Blanchfield, sec. by James O'Connor that R. Cleland be Sec'y. Carried.
- (4) Moved by Char, Blanchfield sec. by James O'Connor that the Trustees Report be adopted, carried.
- (5) Moved by James O'Connor, sec. by Char Blanchfield that the Auditors Report be accepted.

- (6) Moved by R. Taylor, Sec. by James O'Connor, C Blanchfield be Auditor for current year, carried. (7)
 - Moved by Char C. Blanchfield, Sec. by James O'Connor. That a new porch be built in 1911, carried.
 - (8) Moved by James O'Connor, Sec. by C. Blanchfield, that John O'Callaghn be Trustee for legal term. Carried.
- Signed - Theo. Cleland, Chairman,
R. Cleland Sec. D

JAN, 2ND 1911.

Expenditures

Jan 3 rd E R Watson for painting school	\$21.20
May 26 Grenville Insurance	\$1.00
June 23 Advertising for teacher in the Citizen	\$1.00
Aug 17 Advertising second time	\$1.00
Aug 28, trip to Ottawa to see Teacher	
Oct. 21, Frank Iveson Levey	\$385.00
Dec. 22. Mamie Grants, Salary	\$60.00
Jan 2 ND 1912. Auditors Report Balance fwd	\$34.75
April 2 nd borrowed from W. Schwerdfager	\$60.00
Interest	\$2.61
July 3 rd borrowed from Vance Allen, [2]	\$1.82
interest	\$6.84
Nov 15 Legislative Grant	\$44.00
Dec 23 Levied on School Section	\$480.00
Dec 28 Legislative Grant	\$14.43
Total	\$874.30
Expenses	\$852.65
Balance	\$21.65

The undersigned Auditors of S. S No 5, having audited the books of said School Section and found them correct for the year 1912. Signed, Theodore Cleland, Charles Blanchfield 1914

Jan 1 st paid Waterbury Co. for furnace	\$140.00	Jan
3 Box of chalk	20 cents	
April 15 Letter to Insurance company	2 cents	
April 20 J. O'Callaghan repairing roof after fire	\$2.25	
June Insurance on school	\$1.20	
Nov 14 Miss Brownrigg salary	\$35.00	
Nov 23 two brooms @ .30	60cents	

1927

Jan 31 paid Miss O'Neill	\$100.00
June 22, paid Irene Cleland lighting fire	\$22.00
July 25 paid for fence post	\$9.00
Paid Wesley Everts	\$25.00
August 24 D. Carkner for lumber	\$44.10
Aug 24 paid Bernard Dewan trip to Kenmore	\$5.00
Aug 24 paid Wesley Everts putting floor down	

\$30.00

Aug 26 paid Napoleon Clement closets	\$3.00
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1939

Jan 12 Wesley Everts. Fbng furnace, seats, glass	\$5.00
Feb. 2 nd Ken McEvoy Salary	\$55.00
May 8 th Leo Dewan, kindling fire	\$10.00
May 10 Imelda McEvoy sweeping	\$10.00
June 2 Gas - take class to Ottawa	\$3.00
Sept. 27 Edna Clarey, Salary	\$65.00
Nov. 7 th Bernard Dewan 6 cord of wood	\$15.00
Dec. 8 th Manning McEvoy sweeping	\$10.00

1939 Receipts

Jan 1 returns from Christmas concert	\$16.40
Jan 1 Balance from 1938	\$786.91
May 31 Interest from bank	\$4.09
June 30 Interest in bank	\$1.64
Dec. 26. Total Receipts	\$1,475.56
Total Expenditure	\$813.67
Balance on hand	\$666.89

Note from the journal, S.S.No 5. Dated Aug. 31, 1962. In July 1962, a one room addition is added to our 80 year old brick school. Since October 1961, we have had two teachers teaching staggered hours. Mrs Robb teaching from 8. A.M. until 12.30, Mrs Faith then began at 1. P.M. and taught the junior grades, grades 1, 2 and 3 until 4 P.M. This system is of course is temporary, and a great strain on teacher, pupils and parents, We are proud to say the new room is opening on the first

PAGE FROM THE PAST CONT'D

day of school with few necessities missing. August 14th 1962. Debentures deposited at the Royal Bank of Canada \$28,269.56. With the elimination of all small school boards in the Township going to school in a one room school house like the close of a book is now but a memory.

Submitted by Michael Daley

CURATOR/ARCHIVIST REPORT

The following people have contacted or have come into the museum over the past few months searching for information on their family relations.

Diane La Cavera is researching the McDonalds ties to the La Cavera family

L. Hagan is interested in the British Home children and was looking for general information about the Barnardo adoptions

Rod Stevens - looking for the Stuart/Stevens connection, has contacted E. Stuart

S. Allen - searching for James and Robert Allen of Kenmore after 1921.

D. Raddatz - Searching for grandparents in Our Lady of Visitation Cemetery, Mattias Larkin and Bridget Mary Collins

C. Dixon - trying to establish the Grant and Cameron connection; she was given information on the Grant - Cameron wedding, 1832 (one of the earliest religious ceremonies in the Township). Family relationships in her chart include the Farens, Campbells and Yorks.

L. McMartin - Ruhle, researching Ruhle - McMartin and McEwen living in Osgoode before moving to Winchester and Mountain Townships. The first names of the particular people being researched were not clarified at the time of the request and she has been contacted requesting further information.

Beverly Pyle and Judy Brown, searching the McArthur family, (Donald, John and Alexander) and for the relationship of Peter McLaren to the McArthur family of Kenmore.

Margaret Samboi is searching for historic houses in Osgoode Township to do a newspaper article detailing their histories.

Bob Taylor looking for his relationship to Joseph Taylor. Names of interest include Robert Nixon Taylor and Lorne Emerson Taylor.

R. McConnell - Cook, Cooper, Sheldrick, Wallace; looking for information on the Wallace family. She provided a partial family chart listing the names above which has been placed in the McConnell family file in the archives.

A one-page listing entitled the Descendants of John Carson has been given to the archives and copies were placed in the Carson and Wood family files.

Persons wishing to contacts these researchers can call museum at 821-4062 and the message will be passed on to the parties involved.

HAPPENINGS

On Saturday April 9th, the museum / archives presented the first annual Art Show and Tea. Nelda Isaac, with a lot of help from a host of dedicated volunteers, did a great job of staging the event and arranging the participants list. Fifteen exhibitors from the region displayed their art which included memory boxes from Deborah Lyle,

photographic works from Beth DeVerteuil and from Phill Potter Studios, sculptures by Gary Briggs, wood

carvings by Herman Falke and Bill Zandbelt, heritage dolls by Joanne Metcalfe, paintings / drawings by Heather Cheslock, Pauline Fisher, David Grey, Frank Toonen, Louise Sharp, Ann Leighton-Kyle, and Vera Rivard. Several older paintings from the home of Cecil Reaney and a few items from the museum collections were also on display. The event appears to have been a success as many favorable comments were offered by the visitors during and after the show.


May is Museum Month and celebrations took place at the museum in Vernon as well as at the National War Museum. May 12th the museum staff and volunteers participated in the official dedication of May is Museum Month at the national War Museum. A small display was set up in the main hall to showcase our artifact collection and the events we have planned for the year. One of the items taken for display was of particular interest to the War museum staff and request to examine the item closer was met with the approval of our volunteer Coreen Sheldrick. The item in question was a canteen found several years ago in the Militia Drill Hall located off of old Highway 31. The canteen had been labeled as a remnant of the Fenian Raids but it turns out it is likely a war souvenir taken from some poor hapless American during a Fenian encounter with our Osgoode Militia. Identified as an 1860's Bulls Eye pattern, this type of canteen was used by the Federal forces during the American Civil War. Having participated in this National Museum Month event certainly was well worth the effort for the information we gained on this artifact.

National Museum Day on May 16th was celebrated at the museum with the official presentation to the Historical Society of the Archibald McDonell land grant. Given by George Pettit and his family of the "Swan On The River" restaurant the deed is of great historical importance to Osgoode Township as Archibald McDonell along with William York are stated to be the first two settlers in Osgoode Township.

James Stevenson



George Petit and family presenting the McDonell Land Grant to Ron Isaac of the Osgoode Township Historical Society and Museum

 Don't Forget
PIONEER DAY July 23rd
All new features, music and displays
beginning
at 1:00 p.m. on the museum grounds

VETERAN'S CORNER



JAMES WILLIAM ALEXANDER STUART Regimental #410200 38th Infantry Battalion

James Stuart was born Jan 17, 1889, son of Colin Stuart and Margaret McConneil. Margaret died July 1892 after contracting tuberculosis, leaving sons James and John to be raised by their grandmother. James enlisted 22 Feb 1915 in the 38th Battalion with his cousin and best friend Findlay Stuart. He was 5 foot 10 ins and aged 27 years, listing his home address as Osgoode Station. He was assigned to "C" Company as it was mobilized in the outlying districts of Eastern Ontario. The 38th was to complete its training in Bermuda, an important military and naval base of the Empire. After training, the 38th proceeded to Britain arriving on June 13, 1916, later becoming a unit of 12th Canadian Infantry Brigade at Bramshott Camp. Following further training, they sailed to Belgium Aug 17th, and that evening were sent forward to trenches east of Ypres.

The Canadians had arrived on the Somme in Sept 1916 when the battle was 2 months old. They were part of an offensive that used tanks for the first time in war. German positions were assaulted at Courcoteffe (Regina Trench), Hessian Trench and Desire Trench. The 38th Battalion spent time between arrival and Nov 17th as working parties on the front line. James reported suffering deafness Oct 23 - 24th 1916 as well as shell shock and muscle strain. On Nov 3 till Nov 11th he was reported as having 'general debility'. On Nov 17th the 38th took part in the attack of "Desire Trench," and achieved their objective on Nov 18th. James went into base hospital Nov 21, 1916 with shell shock, released the same day. Cousin Findlay Stuart was mortally injured on Nov 21st died in field hospital a few days later.

James Stuart continued with the 38th throughout its many campaigns. Its next engagement was the taking of Vimy Ridge on April 9th, 1917, staying at the front until July 1st, 1917. His Majesty the King inspected the Regiment on July 11th. August and September were spent in the line at Avion and on October 4th the 38th was sent back to the Ypres.

The 38th gained the objective of the outlying defences of the town of Passchendaele on Oct 30th. They were relieved on Nov 3rd having suffered approximately 400 casualties.

The winter of 1917-18 was busy, with the 38th holding various sectors of the front. The Germans made five separate raids on the 38th line in one week. They relieved a British Division four miles south, which had been pushed back two miles that day, and remained there until mid May. They went back into the line just north of Arras on July 19th.

Amiens was held from Aug 7, 1918 until the 9th when further advance was made to Rosieres. All in all, the Battalion had advanced 22,000 yards and capture of 167 guns, 1000 machine guns and 10,000 prisoners. On this occasion the Canadian Corp included the 38th.

On Aug 30th, the 38th went into action east of Feuchy, and Sept 1st at Ostrich Trench and Sept 3rd at Drury Hill.

By Sept 1918 the focus of the Allies was to break through the formidable German defensive system, the Hindenburg Line. The line of attack was to strike all along the front from the Meuse to the English Channel. The 38th was to advance with the 12th Canadian Infantry Brigade toward Cambrai. Cambrai was situated in the

Nord-Pas de Calais in northern France, containing a system of canals and marshy lands. The enemy had flooded the already swampy area, leaving a narrow stretch of firm ground. This stretch was heavily defended. Under command of General Sir Arthur Currie they advanced on Sept 27th behind a creeping artillery barrage and with sappers hastily building bridges. The 38th advanced with great difficulty; practically all the Officers and N.C.Os were casualties. They went in with 570 strong and came out on Sept 30 with only 96, but they achieved the objective by capturing Bourlon Wood and railway on Oct 11.

After being reinforced and reorganized, the Battalion went again only into the line on Oct 22nd to advance beyond Cambrai. Northeast of the city the Division came under heavy enemy fire and had to dig in. James was finally wounded at the taking of Valenciennes on October 29th and on Nov 4th, 1918. Armistice would be declared on Nov 11th.

He was demobilized on Mar 13, 1919 with wounds to his left shoulder, left leg, and right groin.

Before returning home, he married in London (on 20 Feb 1919), Mary Elizabeth Frieman. He kept his marriage a secret until her arrival on Oct 13, 1919. James worked in the Civil Service in Ottawa and died there May 16th, 1971. He is buried in Pine Crest Cemetery Ottawa.



Members of the 38th Battalion and their friends on Parliament Hill in August 1915 prior to leaving for Montreal.

Photo: "The Les G Dewsbury History of the Battalion" on the website.

THE WAR DIARIES

To connect with James Stuart's war experience and with one of the days he was wounded, the "War Diary" was consulted. Between October 22 and 30th the 38th Battalion had relieved the 85th Canadians and headquarters were at La Sentinelle. On October 29th the diary reads -

"Battalion holding same position in front line as on the 26th. Ration train came under very heavy shelling in La Sentinelle. One Lieutenant and one corporal killed. Casualties - one Lieutenant wounded, one O.R. (Other Rank) killed, four O.R. wounded. All back areas heavily shelled with heavy explosives and gas by Hun."

Bibliography

- (1) *For King and Empire - The Canadians on the Somme: September to November, 1916* N.M. Christie.
- (2) RG 150 Accession 1992-93/166, Box 9395, Sequence #20, James Alexander Stuart Regimental # 410200. Library and Archives of Canada
- (3) "Where We Fought - Canal-du-Nord and Cambrai Sept 27-Oct 11, 1918" - www.collectionscanada.ca/05/0518/051806/0518060701_e.html
- (4) 38th Canadian Battalion War Diary from 1st April to 30th April 1917 - www.magma.ca/~leprecha/38th_battalion_war diary_april_1917.htm
- (5) The Dalmer Family of John & Jane Macnab - Stuart/Stewart, Elizabeth Stuart (1997)
- (6) Library and Archives Canada. "War Diary of the 38th Battalion" (October, 1918) www.collectionscanada.ca

Compiled by Ann Leighton-Kyle

DEED DATED Feb'y 20th 1901

Between Terrance Gillissie to Trustees of School Section No. 5, Osgoode.

This indenture made the twentieth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and one. In pursuance of the Public Schools Act of the Province of Ontario, and of the act respecting the transfer of real property between Terrance Gillissie of the Township of Osgoode in the County of Carleton and Province of Ontario (yeoman) of the first part and Donald McLachlin, E.N. Richardson and Thomas P. Gillissie all of the Township of Osgoode in the County of Carleton (Trustees) of the Public School Section No. Fifteen in the Township of Osgoode in the County of Carleton and Province of Ontario, Dominion of Canada. Witnesseth that in consideration of the sum of one hundred and seventy five dollars of lawful money of Canada now paid by the said Trustees to the said party of the first part, he the said party of the first part doth grant unto the said Trustees of the Public School aforesaid and their successors in office forever all and singular that parcel composed of part of the south east quarter of lot number twenty nine in the ninth concession of the Township of Osgoode.

In witness whereof the said parties hereto have hereunto set their hands and seals in the day and year before mentioned.

Signed sealed and delivered in presence of (signed) James Watson
Terrence Gillissie, Donald McLachlin, E.N. Richardson, L. Gillissie (signatures)

donated by Mary Bushe

THE GOOD OLD DAYS THEY WERE THE BAD OLD DAYS

Health practices in the latter 19th century are somewhat unbelievable compared to the practices we know. The knowledge accumulated from these early practices are the basis of knowledge we know today. Anaesthetics and their use were discovered in the 1840's. Chloroform, ether and nitrous oxide were in use up until the late 19th century. However, the danger was in the risk of infection

Appendicitis was often a death knell for the person with this familiar condition. In mid 19th century Physicians did not remove the appendix since the risk of infection and death were extremely high. Many died of perforation of the appendix and peritonitis. The first recorded operation to remove an appendix was in 1848. The surgeon opened the abdomen at the swelling and let out a large of pus and toxic material, not surprisingly

the patient died. Appendicitis was generally treated by local bleeding by leeches, "blistering" the abdomen and treatment by tartrate of antimony. In the advanced state of this disease, the use of local bleeding continued with "calomel and opium given internally for the most efficacious mode of treatment."

Blood letting was the immediate response to a 'hard' pulse.

From: "A Short History of Medicine"

Ann Leighton-Kyle



Dr. McDougall
An early practitioner in
Metcalf Village

MUSEUM SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

A letter from Gilles Seguin, City of Ottawa. How you can show your support for increased investment in local museums. This is a vital time to show your support for the continuation of museum livelihood.

1. Attend one of the three scheduled public consultations May 31st, June 1st or June 2nd. See http://ottawa.ca/public_consult/art3/oh_1_en.shtml to confirm locations and times.
2. Read the Museums Sustainability Plan when it becomes public the week prior to July 7th. The report will be available at <http://ottawa.ca/cgi-bin/docs.pf?lang> on the July 7th agenda of the Health, Recreation and Social Services (HRSS) Committee.
3. Write to your councillor and the Mayor expressing your support for the plan's recommendations the week prior to July 7th.
4. Attend the July 7th meeting of HRSS Committee to show support.
5. Book a 5-minute speaking slot before the HRSS Committee meeting on July 7th through Rosemary Nelson, Committee Coordinator (580-2424, ext. 21624, Rosemary.Nelson@ottawa.ca).
6. Attend the Council meeting of July 13th to show support for the Museums' Sustainability Plan.
7. Attend the 2006 Budget public consultations in December to show support for local heritage and museums.

TO TELL THE AGE OF A HORSE

To tell the age of a horse
Inspect the lower jaw of course
The six front teeth the tale will tell
And every doubt and fear dispel

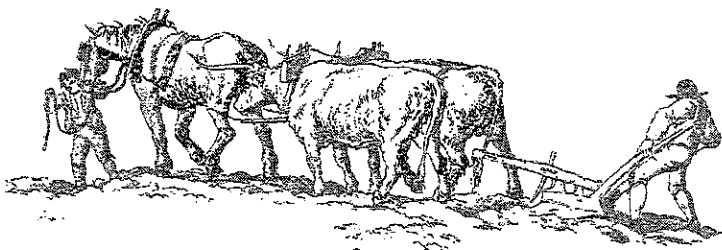
Two middle nippers you behold
Before the colt is 2 weeks old
Before eight weeks old two more sill come
Eight months the corners cut the gum

The outside grove (sic) will disappear
From middle two in just one year
In two years from the second pair
In three the corners two are bare

At two the middle nippers drop at three
The second pair can't stop
when four years old the third pair goes
At five the full new set he shows

The deep black spots will pass from view
At six years from the middle two
The second pair at seven years
At eight the spot each corner clears.

From the Scrapbook of Steven Currie in the Archives



ANSWERS TO LAST NEWSLETTER QUIZ

- 1) Have citizenship; be 18 years of age; be a registered voter; be enumerated.
- 2) Vote in elections; obey Canadian law; respect others' rights; help others; care for Canada's heritage; eliminate discrimination
- 3) fur or beaver
- 4) Confederation
- 5) Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia
- 6) Charter of Rights and Freedoms
- 7) Many rights are listed in the carter. Some examples: freedom of religion and opinion, right to vote, right to life, liberty, security.
- 8) Quebec
- 9) O Canada
- 10) O Canada! Our home and native land
- 11) Atlantic, Arctic, Pacific
- 12) Ten provinces and two territories
- 13) Erie, Huron, Ontario, Superior, Michigan
- 14) Prince Edward Island
- 15) U.S.A
- 16) Queen Elizabeth II
- 17) Federal, provincial, municipal
- 18) Liberal, Conservative, NDP, Bloc Quebecois, Reform
- 19) Paul Martin
- 20) Bill
- 21) Liberal

A GLIMPSE INTO THE PAST

Past-Editor Michael Daley has compiled a booklet about his beloved community around Enniskerry and just past the time of the 150th Anniversary of the St John The Evangelist and St Brigid's Churches (1854-2004). During his time spent as Editor of this Newsletter his collection of material has grown to several cabinets and a valuable resource for many historians. The Publication of "The

150th Anniversary -An Historic Sketch of St John the Evangelist and St Brigid" is available at the museum. This booklet "A Glimpse into the Past" is of limited edition and is complete with historic sketches, data documents, family histories and legendary characters. To choose one was difficult.

Alk

FROM THE OTTAWA CITIZEN, DATED FEBRUARY, 1928

Unusual Incident in St. John's Church Cemetery on the old Prescott Road in Osgoode.

The strange incident occurred on the 1st March, 1879. It occurred on the day when "Michael Brannick" was being buried. The grave for Mr Brannick's remains was being dug. The grave digger's had gone through two feet of frost when the pick suddenly sank into something soft that was evidently not soil, which was gravelly. When the pick was pulled out there was impaled upon it a small green snake, with each additionally pull-up there came up a green snake. Suddenly a lift of a chunk of earth revealed a whole mass of snakes curled up into a ball shape. The mass moved slightly showing that the snakes were not dead, but merely moribund, with a shovel the ball of snakes was lifted to the surface and pulled apart by picks. It was found by actual count, there were 183 snakes in the ball, of all sizes from 9 to 22 or 23 inches long.

The spectators were greatly surprised at the discovery. They tried to find some hole in the soil by which the snakes had reached what was evidently their winter resting place, but could not find any. There was no evidence of a runway or descent channel by which they could have got down.

Among those who were present when the snakes were pulled out were Johnny Devereaux, Tom Prendergast, James McEvoy, Tom Welch, Doses Doyle, Michael McEvoy, and Father McGoey, the parish priest. There were no other graves near where Mr Brannick's grave was being dug, it was virgin soil and there were neither apparent nor suppositions explanation of how the snakes came to be in a cavity nearly three feet under the surface.

Some queries: (1) How did snakes get three feet under ground without any appearance of a descent hole. (2) How did so many snakes get into one place? Is it the custom of snakes to thus hibernate together in large numbers? (3) Did the snakes themselves dig the descent path? Do snakes dig?

NOTE: Perhaps the name "Snake Island" make have just come to your mind. You may recall how "Snake Island" got its name. It was a section of high land surrounded by swamp. When the Irish families came to the island (1830-1840), they found the island overpopulated with snakes of varying sizes, needless to say, the Irish had not been long on the island when the snakes took their departure.

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