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The Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley

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PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Steve Guthrie



We are very excited about hosting the great Cemetery Pageant at the Little Lake Cemetery on August 8. An incredible energy has been expended on all sides. Diane has presided with help from Little Lake Cemetery and Bruce Fitzpatrick. Elwood has written a cemetery history for the occasion. More than a dozen people are donning costumes for the occasion, many specially made for this event. Thanks to Heather Landry, Costume King, the Peterborough Theatre Guild and some of the actors we have some really great outfits. We have had the support of several organizations and companies who have contributed financially to the success of the day. The Heritage Gazette is featuring the cemetery as its central theme. We have had the support of the Peterborough Foundation as well. We have had CHEX-TV support our efforts, especially on the Newswatch at 5:30 show. The Peterborough Examiner has carried information in the Mary McGillis fundraising column and in the Saturday page on the Past. We have appeared in other printed media. Our advertising brochures and our poster were catchy, cleverly designed by Louis Taylor at North George Studio. This has been quite an undertaking, but we are optimistic that it will be the success it deserves to be. We hope to see you, and your family, friends, colleagues and neighbours. This event is unprecedented, so be sure to make room for it.

The Trent Valley Archives has acquired an annex for our overcrowded facilities. Again we have relied on support from many quarters. Bruce Fitzpatrick was our facilitator. The Catholic School Board donated a portable classroom. The Canada Futures program provided assistance. Doughty Concrete was a big help. John Krayvaanger, our contractor, handled a range of details. Elwood, Diane and Keith and many helpers will get the annex up to archival standards. There will be need for continuing financial support, and if you can assist it will be most graciously received and tax receipts will be issued. We plan to have an open house when all the pieces have come together. We are hoping that the annex will buy us another five years.

It is amazing to see our friends rally to our sides in these two major projects. It is humbling and we are grateful.

Mister Boston Bruin ^{the First} The Hastings Legend -- 3

Dave & Sharon Barry

This is the third installment on the family history and life of Dit Clapper, the legendary hockey player from Hastings Ontario who played for the famed Boston Bruins for twenty years. (1927-1947). The earlier installments followed Dit's family history, its German-Irish Palatine roots, its ties to Hastings village, and Dit's upbringing. Here we follow Dit's career before the National Hockey League.

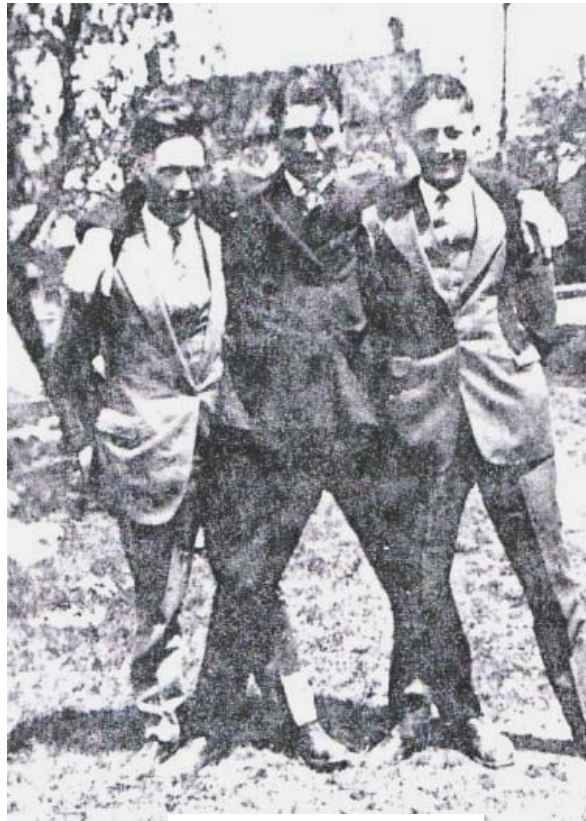
Fortunately for the Hastings hockey league, the Clapper family left Oshawa and returned to their native Hastings. Back in Hastings, the family now resided in a different house, leaving their former home on Homewood Street along the shores of the Trent River and now residing on Division Street, in the north end of the village, on the town line of Asphodel Township. Dit Clapper was now sixteen years of age and still a junior aged hockey and lacrosse player.

Fortunately for this avid sports family, Hastings had a group of hockey enthusiasts led by Father Cyril Bretherton,¹ of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish and the honorary president of the Hastings Hockey and Lacrosse Leagues. They spearheaded efforts a few years earlier to restore and refurbish the old open air arena in Hastings. By 1921, organized hockey had returned to the village, and there were hockey teams at both the junior and intermediate levels. However, earlier teams had very little success, and so the village hockey fans and players hoped and prayed for a more competitive hockey team. Their prayers were soon answered, with the return of the very accomplished sports family – the Clappers. Although the new Clapper

home on Division Street was a little further from the river and from the arena, this did not deter this keen sports family from essentially taking over the reins of the local hockey and minor sports programs in Hastings.

In December 1923, Bill Clapper (Dit's father) accepted the position as "Manager" of the recently reestablished and now restocked Hastings hockey league, for the upcoming 1923-1924 hockey season. Although the Hastings hockey league was mostly self funded, with only minimal financial help from the village, they remained somewhat cash strapped. This situation was soon reversed with a financial donation that season from Father Bretherton and the Hastings Catholic community.

With their finances in order and with the Clapper family (including Dit, his brother Bruce "Scotty" and their father Bill) managing the Hastings arena, the village, buoyed by young Dit's stellar performance as a junior the previous season in Oshawa, applied to play within the Ontario Hockey Association. However, when the request was denied, they settled to go it alone, along with teams from nearby Keene and Campbellford.



**The Clapper Brothers; Hastings
Circa 1923
L-R: Bruce Dit, Don**

Hastings had felt that with the likes of Lynn Hill, whom the Toronto Saint Pats of the NHL had been touting, the Clapper brothers, Bruce and Dit, as well as with another upstart junior by the name of Sheeny Stevenson, that they would have been very competitive in an OHA hockey circuit, against local hockey dynasties such as Havelock, Marmora, and Madoc. The *Hastings Star*, 29 December 1923, reported that Hastings had "excellent material in town that would undoubtedly produce a very good and fast hockey team." Buoyed with this kind of enthusiasm and confidence, Hastings also entered a non OHA junior team, competing against the likes of Norwood High School and Warkworth.

¹ Father Bretherton, who was assigned to OLMC Parish in May of 1905, as the first priest ordained in the newly formed Diocese of Peterborough (1882) was an avid supporter of minor sports in Hastings, as well as an accomplished curler and bowler. He was also a very active horticulturist and following WW-I, he was instrumental in planting Maple Trees along the entire length of Bridge Street, one each to commemorate the Hasting area lads lost in the war.

Dit Clapper, 16, made his debut into adult hockey in the fall of 1923, with the Hastings intermediate hockey team, playing both defense and wing positions. With his older brother, Bruce, on the same team, Hastings swept the season without a loss against teams from Campbellford, Warkworth, Norwood and Keene. In the season opener against Campbellford, young Dit Clapper scored a hat-trick within the first ten minutes or so of the game, before Campbellford had figured out what had happened to them. Campbellford was able to adjust their game somewhat, Dit and Bruce combined for two or three more goals. Hastings opened with a very convincing win that night. Dit Clapper had continued to build his reputation as a promising young lacrosse player in Hastings, while spending the summers at his grandparent. Now, he was a very promising young hockey player as well.

Likewise, the Hastings junior team also won every game in their league. As well as Dit Clapper, the team had outstanding players such as Sheeny Stevenson and the cousins Cliff and Doug Baker. However, neither team was eligible to play for OHA trophies and their seasons ended. Hastings hoped their teams gained enough credibility with the OHA officials in Belleville, to be accepted into OHA sanctioned play for the following season.

As a consolation to their outstanding season, the village organized the first annual Hastings Ice Carnival. The Clapper family, as managers of the open-air arena, organized the event with dedication and enthusiasm. This was a family fun event. Many young hockey players worked the event, and many Hastings youth entered the various costumed events and races. In costume as "Indian Girls," was Josie Jones and her little sister Bernadette Jones (the author's aunts) along with her good friend and neighbour, Marion Clapper (Dit's younger sister). Dit's older brother Bruce won the "Best Dressed Comic Gent" prize, while Bill (Tubby) Scriver (Dit's cousin) won the "Fat Man Race." Lyn Hill, won the speed skating event, as well as the half mile race, but Dit was not mentioned in any of the costumed events or races. However, one could safely assume that the much younger Dit ran a close second in the racing events to Lynn Hill, the local Intermediate hockey ace of the era and no doubt young Dit Clapper's mentor at this point. Hilda Jones, sister of Josie and Bernadette (above) and the writer's mother won the girls "Under Twelve Race."

Dit and his older brothers had taught the six Jones girls, the three Clapper sisters (Jean, Kathleen and Marion) and other neighbors such as Dorothy Johnson and Dorothy Kerr, how to skate. They had daily worked on their own skating and hockey skills along the frozen shorelines of the Trent River.

In the spring of 1924, at the end of the of hockey season, the village paid the Clapper family for all their hard work that season in maintaining the Hastings open-air arena. Dit and Bruce each received five dollars, while their father received seven dollars. This same year, the Boston Bruins entered the National Hockey League –the first American-based team to do so.

Sadly, Bill Clapper's mother (Dit's grandmother) Mary Elizabeth Scriver-Clapper died 24 April 1924. Young Dit and his older brothers had cherished their time with her in Hastings during those long summer months while the family was residing in Aurora and Oshawa.

Bill Clapper and his old friend, Bill Wellman, accepted management positions with the Hastings sports league for the 1924 summer season. Dit played lacrosse that summer, but Bruce (Scotty) Clapper played third base for the championship, Hastings Intermediate Soft Ball Team.



Hastings Soft Ball Team – 1925 Champions

Inserts: Hugh Walsh Sub, Cliff Baker Sub, L. Scriver Sub.
BR LR: C.B Runnels-Sec., G. Herrington 1B; A.S. Dodd CF;
 R.A. Cassidy RF; C.P. Doughty Manager.
CR LR: C. Way Sub, J. Gould SS; George Bond Mascot; A.
 Lemoire 3B; L. Lambert Sub; **Bruce Clapper 3B.**
FRLR: P. Lemoire LF; N. Scriver CF; Sheeny Stevenson
 Pitcher; K. Cruikshank 2 B.

The following winter (1924-1925). The OHA granted their sanction to the Hastings intermediate team to compete in the Trent Valley Hockey league, against neighboring Havelock, Marmora and Madoc. Hastings had hoped that this would happen as they had had a stellar season, and Dit Clapper, their elite junior player, was still playing. Dit's father, Bill Clapper, became "head coach" of this team and insisted that young Dit play for him at the intermediate level. So, young Dit, now 17 and with two more years of junior hockey eligibility, was introduced to the much rougher and more tenacious hockey style of older and burlier players. The word was out on this young Dit Clapper from Hastings who had played so well the previous season. However, some of his older team mates appear to have run shotgun for the very tall, but much lighter Dit. In addition to the veteran Lynn Hill, I. Dooman, Howard Fairman and his brother "Scotty", the Hastings intermediate team recruited two other junior age players. In the previous season, Sheeny Stevenson had played in Hastings and Cliff Baker was a star player with Campbellford High School.

Bill Clapper appears to have played Dit on regular shifts, against much bigger and burlier men. However, young Dit was almost always paired on the same line as his older brother Bruce. They had been an outstanding combination while playing junior hockey in Oshawa. However, Bill Clapper let young Dit take his licks! Although the older and accomplished Hastings aces such as Hill, Dooman and Bruce (Scotty) Clapper carried much of the early season load for the Hastings Intermediate team, Dit improved tremendously as the season advanced. Bill Clapper played young Dit on defense, the position he played most while playing junior in Oshawa, but also moved him more often to the wing position, where he played alongside his older brother "Scotty". This pairing seemed almost always to lead to a goal or two. However, young Dit continued to be dropped back to defense as the tempo of the game dictated, more so in the later stages of the season or to defend a lead. Joe Gould was in the net.

As the season progressed, young Dit eventually paralleled the offensive efforts of the top forwards on the team, such as Hill, Dooman and "Scotty". Dit was one of the top scorers and point getters in the Trent Valley Hockey League (TVL) that season. Hastings finished second, behind the very strong and much touted team from Madoc. Much to the pride of his coach and father, young Dit paralleled the accomplishments of older players in the league. The reinvestment in the Hastings minor hockey program under the leadership and inspiration of Father Bretherton had paid off!

In the spring 1925 playoffs, despite their valiant efforts, Hastings lost in the first round to Havelock, a team that peaked in the late season and playoffs. This team was led by the very rugged and notorious Quinn

brothers, Dit's lifelong friends. Some claim these Quinns were distant relatives of the more recent hockey legend, Pat Quinn of the Toronto Maple Leafs. Havelock was subsequently outclassed by Kingston in the quarter round. Kingston defeated Brampton in the semi finals, but lost to Grimsby in the Ontario final. Grimsby lost a hard fought Eastern Canada final to the University of Toronto, who advanced to the Allan Cup final, played that year in Winnipeg. The Port Arthur Bearcats won the Allan Cup.

Dit Clapper had an outstanding year playing intermediate hockey while still of junior age. He was invited to join the OHA junior team, Parkdale Canoe Club in Toronto, for the end of the 1925 season. Dit had apparently caught the attention of Harry "Moose" Watson, the new coach of the Parkdale Canoe Club in Toronto. As an amateur player from St. John Newfoundland, Watson had been named first team all-star on two previous "Allen Cup" Championship teams, while playing for the Toronto Granite Club in 1922 and 1923. That team won an Olympic Gold Medal in 1924. Watson took the helm as coach of the struggling OHA Junior, Toronto Parkdale Canoe Club for the 1924-1925 season.

A few seasons earlier Watson was an outstanding junior player in Oshawa. Watson had noticed Dit's progress in Hastings, under his father's coaching and tutelage, and was very impressed with his performance in this much rougher and tougher intermediate hockey league.

Watson was impressed with how well Dit Clapper played in Toronto. Quite early in the season, his play making and defensive prowess were outstanding considering he had been dropped cold turkey into a new and unfamiliar team in a competitive Toronto league. Dit played defense and scored a goal from defense. He maintained an excellent goals for and against ratio in the few remaining games he played for Parkdale that spring. Despite Dit's efforts, Parkdale ended last in their Group. The team competed against the Toronto Canoe Club, Toronto Aura Lee, Toronto Saint Mary's and the University of Toronto. The Toronto Canoe Club finished in first place, but lost 7-5 in the sudden-death playoff to second place Aura Lee. Aura Lee won four more playoff rounds in Ontario, finally defeating Owen Sound Grays, 14-11, to advance to the Memorial Cup. They defeated the Quebec Sons of Ireland, 8-1, but lost to the Regina Pats, losing both games of the two games series.

The following winter, Harry "Moose" Watson invited Dit Clapper to play the entire season with the Toronto Parkdale Canoe Club. He had been impressed with Dit's play the previous season. Curiously, Dit appears to have gone unnoticed by the local OHA Junior teams in Peterborough and Campbellford.

Watson hoped that Clapper would make the Parkdale team more competitive and it did. Parkdale finished the 1925-26 season in second place in their group play against Toronto Saint Mary's, Toronto Canoe Club and the University of Toronto. Clapper, the rookie defenceman from Hastings, scored two regular season goals, a substantial accomplishment for a defenceman in those days. In the playoffs, the Toronto Parkdale Canoe Club upset the first place finisher, Saint Mary's, in their group playoff and then humbled the Toronto Moose 9-1 in the first round of provincial playoffs. They beat Grimsby, 8-0, in the provincial quarter final, only to lose to the Kingston Giants in the provincial semi-final by a score of 10-3. However, young Dit found his rhythm in the playoffs, as he scored five goals and an assist, and had some outstanding performances on defence. Kingston eventually advanced to the Memorial Cup playoff representing Eastern Canada, but lost the cup to Calgary Canadians in a three game series.

Young Dit Clapper soon caught the attention of the major leagues. Eddie Powers, the coach of the recently formed Boston Tigers (a farm team for the Boston Bruins) admired Clapper and was determined not to let this talent slip away. Powers acted swiftly, purchasing Dit's rights in the spring of 1926, to play for the fledgling Boston Tigers, of the American-Canadian semi-professional hockey league, a direct ancestor of the American Hockey League. This team had debuted for the 1924-25 season and like its parent club, played at the old Boston Arena.

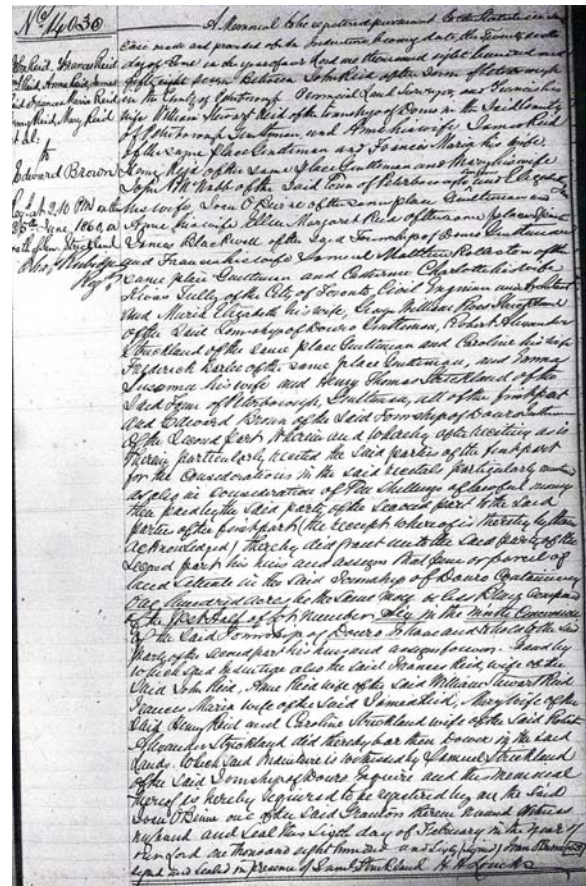
Meanwhile, back in Hastings the hockey glory of the two previous seasons had been very short lived. With players like Dit Clapper, Hill (who had defected to Campbellford, (where he was now working) and Dooman missing from the line-up, the 1925-1926 season had looked gloomy for the team, which now placed their hopes on the few remaining aces such as Stevenson, Gould and Dit's older brother Bruce (Scotty) Clapper. However, as the season advanced the team came to recognize that they were now only remnants of their skilled past, without their former top players, especially their ace, Dit Clapper. Hastings lost their season opener to the new Intermediate entry from Campbellford and went downhill from there, being soundly defeated almost every outing, by the considerably more powerful teams from Havelock and Campbellford. Consequently, they descended to the bottom of the league standings. The league later that season considered suspending Hastings from OHA play, due to their lack of competitiveness.

The Boston Tigers, as expected, called up Dit Clapper to play the 1926-27 season. This young, handsome, kid from Hastings, his face still defined by youth and enthusiasm, and perhaps some signs of trepidation, arrived in Boston, ready to play his most serious and competitive hockey. As rookie, playing defense the entire season, Dit had a very successful year,

scoring six goals and gaining an assist. Dit travelled home to enjoy Christmas with his family in Hastings that winter. Disaster again struck the Clapper family. Dit's mother Agnes was diagnosed with a very serious illness in early March 1927. The family remained optimistic and young Dit again rejoining his parents in Hastings at the end of the hockey season. Sadly, Dit's much-respected and well-liked mother, the former Agnes Ball of Warkworth, died 15 August 1927. Consequently, she never witnessed her son playing in the National Hockey League. Agnes was only 47 at her death. Agnes Bell-Clapper was buried in the Trent Valley Cemetery in Hastings.

Soon after, his mother's death, Dit was sold by the Boston Tigers of the Canadian-American League to their parent club, the Boston Bruins, of the National Hockey League, on October 25, 1927.

The next installment will discuss Dit Clapper's twenty year NHL Career with the Boston Bruins and his very humble life in Hastings during those years. Below, a land document from TVA related to Douro township.



COBOURG'S VICTORIA HALL, 1860-2010

Don Willcock

I grew up on the south shore of Rice Lake, in the village of Harwood, Hamilton Township, Northumberland County. For us, Cobourg was the important town. While Harwood and other small communities in the county usually had churches and general stores and post offices, major purchases (vehicles, furniture, appliances, etc.) were made in Cobourg. There, among other things, my family and our neighbours banked, did weekly grocery shopping, went to a doctor and dentist (or hospital), saw movies, ate at restaurants, and got our library books. Cobourg was where I bought gifts for family birthdays, Christmas, and Mother's Day. Township property taxes were paid at the County Courthouse on the edge of town, and Cobourg was where we went to do federal- and provincial government business. Children from much of Northumberland attended high school at either Cobourg District Collegiate Institute East ("the East") or C.D.C.I. West ("the West"). For us, Victoria Hall was part of the town and always had been.



Victoria Hall was designed by the renowned Kivas Tully, an Irish-born architect and engineer who came to Upper Canada in 1844 and set up in Toronto. Over the next few years, Tully designed private and public buildings in Toronto, St Catharines, Port Hope, Welland, Thorold, and Cobourg. He won the Victoria Hall commission in 1852, the same year he married Samuel Strickland's widowed daughter Maria Elizabeth.

Victoria Hall is a Palladian-style, three-storey, "E"-shaped structure of white bricks, with facings of buff Cleveland sandstone on three sides. The most impressive

interior areas are the foyer, the courtroom, (an exact replica of London's famous "Old Bailey") two grand staircases, and the concert hall. Inside, as well were the Council Chambers, municipal offices, and the local Masonic Lodge.

Exterior features include its imposing entrance portico with four Corinthian columns, a Greco-Roman roofed porch, and a speaker's balcony. It has elaborate lyres, dolphins, shells, a bearded head, and other decorations expertly carved in the sandstone. It has 96 large, multi-paned windows; a prominent cupola, topped by four clock faces and an ornate weather-vane. She stands, 90 feet high and 180 feet wide, on King Street – right in the centre of town; the Hall is clearly visible from downtown, and partly seen from other parts of Cobourg.

The building of Victoria Hall began in 1856, with Sir Allan MacNab laying the cornerstone (which included a time capsule) in December. Construction took four years to complete, and cost the immense sum of £22,000. When

Victoria Hall was completed, however, the citizens of Cobourg had a municipal building that they felt befitted the rising economic status of their "city in waiting", with its fine harbour and road- and railway connections along Lake Ontario and to the resource-rich "backwoods" of what is now Peterborough County.

On the evening of 6 September 1860, Victoria Hall was officially opened by Edward, Prince of Wales, the eldest son of Queen Victoria, and her successor as Edward VII. The prince was on a tour of North America, and arrangements were made for him to stop in Cobourg. Persuading organizers of the Royal Tour to stop in Cobourg may have been easier as the town's name had connections to the family of Prince Edward's father (Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg) and the new building was named for his mother. The prince and his entourage arrived on the steamer *Kingston* about 10 p.m. – late in the day but a day early, and by water instead of by train. When Orangemen in both Kingston and Belleville refused to comply with the "no public religious or political demonstrations" requirement laid out by Prince Edward's "handlers", his stops in those cities were shortened and the Royal Party sailed directly to Cobourg. Despite the late hour, an elaborate welcome met the prince at the harbour, and he was taken by coach to Victoria Hall for a Grand Ball. By all accounts, the prince thoroughly enjoyed himself – and reportedly danced until dawn with all the beautiful and eager young women present.

The visit by the Prince of Wales was, perhaps, the high point in Cobourg's early history. It never attained the economic and political position that its founders thought it would, but remained a prosperous town. Victoria Hall gradually lost its magnificence through poor maintenance and official neglect.

The Victoria Hall that I knew was dirty, dingy, and run-down. I didn't even realize that she was made of white bricks and buff stone. In the late 1960s, my brother and I participated in a summer drama class in the concert hall, but there was no sign of its former glory – the original elaborate decorative interior architectural features had all been covered up or painted over, and it was a gloomy and ordinary room with a stage. Two years after my drama class, the theatre section and the third floor was deemed structurally unsafe and was closed to public use.

During the 1950s and into the 1960s, citizens and community groups complained vehemently to Cobourg Council about the deteriorating state of Victoria Hall, to little avail. Some piecemeal repairs were undertaken: the public washrooms were properly vented, the roof was repaired, the heating system was fixed, the cupola was painted, and some maintenance was done. On her 100th birthday, in 1960, Victoria Hall was a dowdy old lady. In 1966, the Hall received designation as a National Historical Site, and Council considered restoring the building. They were perhaps embarrassed when holding events celebrating Canada's Centennial (1967) in the dilapidated structure.

In 1970, an engineering firm conducted a structural survey of the building and reported that Victoria Hall had subsiding footings, cracking walls, leaking roof, and substandard plumbing and wiring. Council considered three options for the building: 1) close the upper floors, and use the ground floor for a limited time; 2) make an extensive and expensive rehabilitation; 3) demolish the Hall. Council decided to demolish Victoria Hall. That was prevented by a quick response. Led by Lenah Fisher and John Taylor, citizens against demolition formed "The Society for the Restoration of Victoria Hall" to raise the needed funds to save and restore Cobourg's "Grand Old Lady". Aided by some early government grants, a 12-year restoration began.

Phase 1 saw the removal of various "add-ons" that had accumulated over the years: walls, partitions, ceiling coverings, and the like. Also, structurally unsound beams, woodwork, plaster, flooring, and ceiling sections were taken off. Renowned restoration architect, Peter John Stokes (who, in the 1970s was entrusted with restoring Peterborough's Hutchison House) supervised the work on Victoria Hall.

On 6 June 1972, Phase 2 – the rebuilding – began. William Davis, then Premier of Ontario, symbolically re-laid the cornerstone (actually he unveiled a bronze plaque) to officially "kick off" the project. At this point, Town Council, all municipal offices, the Provincial Court, the Masonic Lodge, the Order of the Eastern Star, and the Cobourg Opera & Drama Guild took up temporary quarters in town.

From 1973 to 1979, I witnessed the resurrection of Victoria Hall as my school bus passed it on the way to and from Cobourg East collegiate. For a couple of years, there was not much evidence work was being done. Stabilizing and reinforcing the foundation and structural supports was largely invisible. Then dramatic work on the outside started. The old wooden tower and clock faces were replaced with a steel reproduction in which the clocks once again worked reliably. Most memorable was the day we passed by and saw part of the Hall gleaming white! Over the next year, the entire exterior brickwork and stone was steam-cleaned to remove over a century's worth of dirt and grime. It was as if a brilliant butterfly emerged from a drab cocoon.

The interior rehabilitation of Victoria Hall continued, too. Beginning in 1977, rooms were gradually brought back into use. The Art Gallery of Northumberland moved from Chapel Street into the former Masonic Lodge quarters on the top floor. Cobourg Council occupied new chambers on the top east floor. The Provincial Court was held in the Old Bailey Courtroom, and the Family Sessions Court moved into the west wing. In January 1983, the restoration of Victoria Hall was declared complete. She was once more the "Grand Old Lady of King Street". Later that year, Governor-General Edward Schreyer officially re-opened the Hall as part of a day-long ceremony that ended with a Grand Ball – although the dancing did not go on until dawn.

Victoria Hall is now well-maintained under the auspices of the municipality and of the Victoria Hall Volunteers (successor group to the Victoria Hall Restoration Society, and the Volunteer Women's Committee). The Provincial Court recently moved from the Courtroom into another building, but the Hall remains a focal point of Cobourg. This is especially so this year, since 2010 marks the Grand Old Lady's 150th birthday. Saturday, 29 May 2010 another Grand Ball was held to celebrate a milestone. It was a very elegant party, with 160 guests, fine food and wine, and – of course – dancing to music provided by The Royals (but no princes!).

Happy Birthday, Victoria Hall, and many more.

Sources:

- 1) John Spilsbury, ed. *Cobourg: Early Days and Modern Times* (1981)
- 2) Patsy Beeson, "A Cinderella Story: Victoria Hall Celebrates 150 Years," *Watershed* magazine (Spring 2010)
- 3) www.cobourghistory.ca/victoria_hall.htm

Diary of Alexander J. Grant, from July 1915

Dennis Carter-Edwards

This is part of a continuing series of extracts, prepared by Dennis Carter-Edwards, from the diary of A. J. Grant, Superintendent of the Trent Canal, 1908 to 1918. It provides interesting glimpses on the local scene and occasional references to the issues facing the waterways in the years after the opening of the Lift Lock in 1904 to the completion of the canal by about 1920.

*Photo: A. J. Grant and his wife
Peterborough Museum and Archives
2000-012-001597-1 Balsillie
Collection of Roy Studio Images*

1 July 15 Peterboro Chemong
Home all forenoon Afternoon
Maude, children & myself went to
Chemong by motor bus &
returned by Middleton's cab, as
bus had broken down. Tea on the
beach of the Lake, where Alex &
Helen went in for a bathe.

2 July 15 Peterboro office all day

3 July 15 Peterboro office
forenoon Home afternoon

4 July 15 Peterboro Alex & I at
10.30 Mass. Mr. Davy in for
dinner

5 July 15 Peterboro office all day

6 July 15 Peterboro office all day

7 July 15 Peterboro

office all day. Sent off plans & specification to the dept at
Ottawa. Momtgomery began the first structural drawings of
the Section on 4 Feby 15

8 July 15 Peterboro Frankford Trenton

Left Peterboro at 8.20 for Stirling. Kydd joined me at
Campbellford. [Mullholland?] car took us to Glen Ross &
Frankford. At Glen Ross had dinner on Robertson dredge.
Engaged his tug for the afternoon & tomorrow. After
dinner it turned the sweep to Frankford where Kydd & I
swept during the afternoon between stns 473 & 488.

Dredge "Jack Canuck" reached stn 473 yesterday at 2 pm
on her was to Bradley Bay. she has been digging her way
past 473 since. At six o'clock we [found?] inshore a clear
channel from 474 to 487 and told Manley to pull into in the
morning. Water level Frankford to Glen Ross is [361.5?] [
note appeared to be 461.5 then crossed out to 361.5] or 1.5
feet high. Dennon & Rogers not woking on the river today.
Trenton after tea for an hour.



9 July 15 Frankford Campbellford Peterboro

Out sweeping at 7 o'clock. Dredge had moved up to 487 by

8 o'clock. At nine o'clock
we indicated to them where
to cut through the bar
between 487 & 488. At 3
o'clock the dredge was over
the bar, turned around & all
ready to be towed to Glen
Ross. W. level 361.7. Kydd
& I left for Campbellford at
3 pm. Stopped at Glen Ross
& told the men to go and
check floor at the dam so as
to lower reach down to
361.0

Stopped at lock 9 &
inspected clearing up etc in
prism before lock. At
Campbellford looked over
back filling above Chinese
laundry. Dredge (Brown &
Aylmer) resumed digging
this week. Went to
Peterboro at 7.18 pm.
Mowats, Clarks & Murphys
in for cards after tea

10 July 15 Peterboro Rice
Lake

office forenoon House
afternoon

At six o'clock Maude Helen & I went down the river to
Rice Lake with Killaly on the "Butler". The dredge Fenelon
is working at Yankee Bonnet Shoal & will be working for
the rest of the season between Peterboro and Hall's Bridge.
got back at midnight. Kydd & Holmes with the aid of the
dredge Jack Canuck stepped one of the lower leaves of the
Glen Ross lock gates.

11 July 15 Peterboro Alex & I at 10.30 Mass

12 July 15 Peterboro

Maude Alex Helen & myself with Fleetwood Cubit left at
10 am for Severn Falls via C.P.R. Reached there at 2 pm
Kydd & Holmes with dredge Jack Canuck stepped 3 leaves
of the Glen Ross lock gates today. They put one in last
Saturday

13 July 15 Severn Falls

14 July 15 Severn Falls Peterboro

Returned to Peterboro per pm train. Brought up some
things at Coldwater to sent up to the camp.

J.A. Aylmer & Lazier passed Severn Falls at 10 am on way
up the river from Port Severn. Lazier had with him the

amended plan of the Hamlet Road Bridge which I signed. Aylmer is looking at the work & incidently at Section No.1

15 July 15 Peterboro Severn Falls

In the office from 8.30 to 9.30 am. Eason at Hastings. Left for Severn Falls at 9.50. Found Maude better & the children well. Decided to move up to Wallace island cottage which we visited with M. McIntosh after tea which we had at Mrs Bryd's.

16 July 15 Severn Falls

About camp all day & down at Pretty channel dam which is finished with the exception of the deck. Gates of the Port Severn Lock was stepped today

17 July 15 Severn Falls

About camp & up at Wallace island cottage where two or three of the axemen are underbrushing & getting the cottage cleared out and the floors washed, etc

18 July 15 Severn Falls

On the river most of the day with the launch from Ragged rapids to the Big Chute

19 July 15 Severn Falls

At Camp all day. The "Dot" is on strike & was all day. Bowers took two hours after tea to get her going again. Went up to Swift with McIntosh in McCourt's boat.

Miss Dennison came up from Peterboro this pm to stay with us for two weeks.0

29 July 15 Severn Falls

Moved this forenoon from Severn Falls to Wallace Island cottage where we got installed fairly comfortably by evening. ___ towed all the household effects with his launch & a [pointer?] boat.

21 July 15 Severn Falls Peterboro

Around the cottage all forenoon. Left Severn Falls at 1 pm for Peterboro. Family had dinner at Severn Falls at 1 o'clock & were then to return to the island. Spent the evg gathering dishes etc together to send up to the Severn

22 July 15 Peterboro

Office all day. Lunch at the Oriental. Evg packed up dishes for Wallace Island cottage. || Sir Sandford Fleming died at Halifax today aged 88 yrs, R. I.P. Another link of the old I. C. Rly [Intercolonial Railway] days and our advent to Canada gone to his eternal home.

23 July 15 Peterboro

Office all day. Sent two boxes of dishes & kitchen ware to Severn Falls. Tea at the Murphy's

24 July 15 Peterboro Campbellford Hastings

Office forenoon. Went to Campbellford after dinner & drove with Kydd to Trent Bridge where "The R. Macdonald Co are dredging out crib seat for public works wharf. They will finish this dredging on Monday. While here Davy &

Spence came up from the Falls with the J.B. McColl. Kydd & I went on with them to Hastings where we had supper & then motored back to Campbellford. They say Macdonald has only two small spots to clean up between Heeley Falls & Hastings, one near the Falls at one of the channel piers & several boulders at ___ island. When this is done the dredging of sec 7 will be completed.

Alex Grant [PMA, Balsillie Collection of Roy Studio images]



25 July 15 Campbellford [Bradly?] Bay, Frankford

Mass at 8.30. At ten o'clock Kydd, Alan & I motored to lock 8 where we met West & then went on down the Bay in the launch "Fudge" stopped at the dredges "Drapu Rouge?" "Jack Canuck" & "Island" which all began work near Hickory island last week. Dinner on the Canuck. At Glen Ross locked the launch & also the government launch Oriental through to the Frankford reach & went down the river as far as the Frankford bridge. There is yet a 12 foot opening open in Rogers & Dennon's coffer dam, which will b closed next week. The "Oriental" was brought down from Hastings last week by ___ & put in the water last evening. Motored back to Campbellford had tea at Mrs. Kydd's.

26 July 15 Campbellford Peterboro

Left Campbellford at 6.40 am for Peterboro. Home all forenoon, not feeling well. Office after dinner, correspondence. Began checking over the petty specifications for tubes & valves for base of Swift Rapids dam

27 July 15 Peterboro

Office all day. Finsihed reading over spec with Pretty for sluice pipes & valves for base of Swift rapids dam. Eason went to Hastings to complete sweeping channel Rice Lake to Hastings etc.

28 July 15 Peterboro S. Falls

Left at 9.50 am CPR for Severn Falls. Maude and the children & Miss Denison met me at the Station. Lazier joined me at Orillia. After dinner at the Couchiching Camp we went up the river with Burns & Dickson to Swift rapids where Lazier & myself gave the contractors permission to fill in the north shallow sluice of the dam on the distinct understanding that the excavation in the bed of the river at Flat Rapids & at Pretty channel is finished this fall. They have no place at present to lay concrete except in their section of the dam.

29 July 15 Severn Falls Washago

Maude, Miss D., Helen Lazier & I left per Stanton's large launch for Severn Bridge. Alex stayed with the Dickson boys. We had lunch at ___ & ___ camp when the ladies motored over to Washago & called on Miss Stevens Lazier, McLeod & I walked along the canal to the Lake . . .

{too difficult to read} The last abut of the CNMR bridge is being finished today. Gravel is dirty & told the contractors I would have no more concrete made with gravel from ____ pit. Concrete at the Muskoka road bridge is setting up at last. Went out to the dredge & then motored over to Severn bridge & back to Ragged Rapids with Stanton's small boat. Lazier went into Orillia.

30 July 15 Severn Falls Big Chute

After breakfast Maude, Miss D., Helen & I left for Big Chute en route to Port Severn. We had not gone more than a 1000 feet beyond Big Chute dam when Miss Denison turned on her ankle & broke the small bone (____ fracture). We had quite a time getting her back to Wallace island cottage & did not succeed in getting the doctor before 7 pm as he was up at Portage bay cut.

He had to go down to Severn Falls & back so that it was about 9 pm before the foot was set.

Murphy was up at the Chute to meet us, but returned to Port Severn when we returned up the river.

31 July 15 S. Falls

About Camp all day & down at Severn Falls.

Maude started down to camp at 5.30 pm but the boat lost her wheel about 1/8 mile below Swift rapids which capped the bad luck of the week. She had no supper & did not get back to the cottage until 8 o'clock.

1 Aug 15 Severn Falls

Wallace Island cottage all day. Hickerson took me & the boys to Severn Falls at 10 am & back at 1 pm

2 Aug 15 Severn Falls Peterboro

We moved Miss Dennison from Wallace island cottage to Severn Falls at 11 o'clock & got her safely on the 1 pm train for Coldwater where we transferred to the Peterboro train & arrived safely with her at her own home by 8 o'clock. Maude, Helen & I came thru to Peterboro & Alex stayed with Mrs. Dickson. Both ____, Burns, Dickson & McIntosh rendered all help possible in getting the invalid to the train. We had Hickerson boat and also the Contractor's launch. Helen was glad to be home to see Margaret. They were up together until 10 pm. Tea at mrs. Murphy's

3 Aug 15 Peterboro

Office all day. Estimates etc. Lazier here with his July estimates etc. Rain, Ran & wind. Worst midsummer storm in yrs. About 4 inches of rain in Toronto & along Lake Ontario

4 Aug 15 Peterboro

Office all day July estimates & reports. Lazier here re data on estimated cost & present value of Ragged Rapids dam & power house.

5 Aug 15 Peterboro

Office all day. Maude & Helen returned to Severn Falls per CPR at 10 am. Blewett's cab to station with them.

Sent to Ottawa plans & specs for sluice pipes & valves for Swift Rapids dam

6 Aug 15 Peterboro Toronto

Went to Toronto at 7.50 am & home at 8 pm. Met H.G.

Acres at H. Elec P. Com office re cost etc of Ragged Rapids power plant.

Shopping for two hrs after lunch.

Manitoba provincial Election. Norris Gov't returned about 36 to 4. The Cons party got snowed under

7 Aug 15 Peterboro

Office all day Correspondence re Ragged Rapids dam & P. House

8 Aug 15 Peterboro

Mass at 10.30 Dinner at the Empress Maude & the children are on the Severn River. Afternoon & evening at home

9 Aug 15 Ottawa

Left Peterboro at 12.10 am & after breakfast went to J.B. McRae's office with Hogg one of the Hydro electric power house engineers re working drawings for Swift rapids power house, arranged for same to be sent up to Peterboro this week. Either the Com or Orillia will supply I Beams for rock & valve for Exciter penstock immediately. At 11 o'clock went over to Coutlees office & found him in. I went down to his new home at Rockcliffe for lunch. They moved in last February & are very comfortable, and wonderful to relate C.R.C. seems to like owning & working about his own Castle. Mrs. C is well. Called on Mr. Bowden at 4 o'clock and arranged to return tomorrow morning. Dinner with Mr. Pope & Davies afterwards. Stayed at the old Russell.

10 Aug 15 Ottawa

All forenoon with Mr. Bowden discussing Trent matters & incidently Hudson Bay affairs. Called on Gordon & found A. W. Roberts with him. We had lunch together & chatted for two hours. Saw Collin Isbester at Gordon's office. Tea with the Josts & Movie afterwards. Left for Peterboro at 11.25 pm. Last time I was in Ottawa was end of last October. Gordon's office are now in the Royal Bank Bldg. He says he expects be through with the Trans. Rly matters in 3 months.

11 Aug 15 Peterboro

Back from Ottawa at 6 am. Office all day Sundries. With Pretty in afternoon at Wm Hamilton Co. shops re gains for Severn Div [emergency?] dams. Those for the Swift rapids lock will be ready this week to ship out.

12 Aug 15 Peterboro Severn Falls

Left Peterboro at 9.50 for Severn Falls where Maude & the kids met me. We proceeded up the river to Wallace island cottage & came back to camp for dinner.

13 Aug 15 Severn Falls Big Chute

We all went down the river at 11 o'clock with Mr.

McIntosh to Pretty channel dam & ____ Bay dams. These structures were finished this month. Some rock excavation to do yet above Pretty channel dam. After supper at Severn Falls camp. We went over to Burns & played cards. At 10.30 started up the river but owing to rain & fog found it too dark to be sure of our course so came up to Burns & stayed all night.

14 Aug 15 Severn Falls Rosseau

Left burns cottage for Wallace island cottage at 8 o'clock. After breakfast Maude & I got ready to go to Balla on the 2 o'clock train. Left Alex & Helen with Mrs Boyd at Swift Rapids. At Balla took the steam K____ for Port Carling &

Rosseau. Mr. & Mrs. McIntosh, Rod ___ & Scully came up on the steamer train and joined us at Balla. We all stayed at the Montreal House, Rosseau. Took in a Red Cross Minstrel show. The Hotel is 2nd rate – shop girls, stenographers & officemen out for a two week noisy vacation. Port Carling lock is a wooden structure 175 x 33 with about 7 feet of water at low water. Lift about 2 ½ feet - Lake Muskoka (Musquoqua) to Lake Rosseau

15 Aug 15 Rosseau Royal Muskoka
Before dinner walked around the small deserted village of Rosseau. Like other northern towns its glory departed with the pine forests. Took the 4 o'clock boat for the Royal Muskoka where we got off & remained all night. The hotels is only 1/3 full, mostly Jews who dress for dinner etc. They spoiled this place 15 yrs ago & it does not seem to have recovered even now its early popularity. The situation is fine, good gold links & a good size artificially filled in sand beach for bathing. House can hold about 350 only 130 here now. Season has been below the average in attendance. The McIntosh's went home this pm

16 Aug 15 Royal Muskoka Port Cockburn
Left on the forenoon boat for Port Sanfield & Port Cockburn. Reached the latter place at the head of Lake Joseph on time & left in 10 minutes on the return journey. The upper end of the Lake is deserted & lonely. As Port Sanfield is pretty, I think Rosseau Lake is the most picturesque of the Muskoka Lakes. Got back to the hotel about 4 pm. Maude & I then wandered about the hotel grounds & golf links until supper time.

17 Aug 15 Royal Muskoka Severn Falls
Maude & U left at 9 o'clock for Balla which we reached about 12.30 & Severn Falls at 1.07. The children were at the station to meet us. Both are well

18 Aug 15 Severn Fall Peterboro
Left the Falls at 1.07 for Peterboro. Met Mr. Mart MPP on the train. Went on with him to Port McNicol & while there for 1 ½ hrs went through the C.P.R. sheds & the steamer *Manitoba*

19 Aug 15 Peterboro
Office all day. Correspondence. Eason & Pretty away on their holiday

20 Aug 15 Peterboro

Office all day. Ruddin at Washago taking pictures

21 Aug 15 Peterboro

Office forenoon. House afternoon working on lawn in a downpour of rain Austin, the imp has neglected the lawn badly during the past month

22 Aug 15 Peterboro Italy & Turkey at War
Mass at 10.30. Dinner with the Murphys. Walked over the Canal at C.P.R. bridge & back before tea.

|| Italy declared war on Turkey || || Naval Battle in the Gulf of Ripa, Baltic sea between Russia & German ships

23 Aug 15 Peterboro

Office all day. Correspondence. Giroiux & Gordon back from their holidays.

24 Aug 15 Peterboro Office all day

25 Aug 15 Peterboro Washago Ragged Rapids

Went to Washago at 8.20 am where I met Messers Lazier and McLeod. We inspected work on Sec 3 from Lake to CNR bridge & then motored out to Johnson's gravel pit lot 13, Con 11. [Nrth?] Orillia. Gravel is fine & clean.

Contractors are hauling to Dam on West Branch of the river. We then went on to Hamlet where contractors are working at bridge & road diversion. Took Stanton's boat to Ragged Rapids. Mrs. Lazier & Miss Colville were along with us from Orillia. Stayed at Wallace island & went on to Severn Falls for supper. Lazier & party stayed at Swift lock house.

26 Aug 15 Severn Falls

Packed up furniture etc at Wallace Island cottage & moved down to Severn Falls. We slept at Burn's cottage tonight. Strachan & Russell & Smith helped to move us. At Swift Rapids went over work with McIntosh. Two draft tube moulds are set & carpenters are erecting mould for two

piers under main floor of Power house.

Two gangs of drillers are in bottom of lock pit. One spillway of dam is finished up to sill level & south abut to first landing of stairs. Expect to be concreting in p.house tomorrow.

27 Aug 15 Severn Falls Peterboro

Around Severn Falls all forenoon. We left for home at 1.07 and instead of getting off coldwater went on into Port McNicol where we spent an hour & half around the ___ and went through the steamer "Assinioboia". Maude & the kids took quite an interest in the steamers. Got home safely at 7.30 and found the house okay.

28 Aug 15 Peterboro Home all day

29 Aug 15 Peterboro

Maude Alex Helen & I at 10.30 Mass. Murphy in for tea



Helen Grant [PMA, Balsillie Collection of Roy Studio Images]

30 Aug 15 Peterboro

office all day Evg Maude & I walked up to Mrs. Wm Sherwood. Maude interviewed sisters at the Mount re teaching Helen privately but without success, no one to spare.

31 Aug 15 Peterboro

office all day Kydd here with his estimates, etc.

1 Sept 15 Peterboro

office all day Alex went back to school at St. Peters

8 Sept 15 Peterboro Toronto

Maude Helen & I went to Toronto at 7.50 C.P.R. Called at Loretto Academy Wellesley St. re Helen. They take young

girls premier class at \$4.00 per term. Looked at apts in the Ernscliffe & Maitlands. Found an apt at the Maitlands that suited us – Apt 05, 4 rooms at \$28 per month. Took it for one year from October. It is near Loretto Academy & St. Michaels. Maude & the kids will move up end of September. Hope she will be happier than in Peterboro & repair control of her nerves. Home at 6 pm. Many up in the city for the Exhibition.

14 Sept 15 Peterboro

Street car extension on Charlotte St., from Park to Monaghan Rd began running this afternoon. The street from Park to Monaghan has been in the hands of the paving contractor for a month & will be entirely finished by October. The new car service will be a boon to the west side of the city. The extension is to be continued down the Monaghan road to Paterson St.

17 Sept 15 Peterboro

Evg went to Exhibition with Maude & Helen

21 Sept 15 Peterboro Chemong Buckhorn

Messers Pope, Atkinson, [Asthlan?] clerk, Killaly & myself motored to Chemong & thence to Buckhorn. We examined Hopewood & Mathews drowned land claim s& several others on way to Buckhorn. At Buckhorn we boarded the butler & went to Oak Orchard to see Perry Alexander's claim for damaged wharf etc. We then sailed up Pogeon lake a short distance & back by boat to Young's point where a car met us from Peterboro.

22 Sept 15 Peterboro Campbellford Trenton

office forenoon. After dinner Killaly & I left at 1.20 for Campbellford where Kydd met us with a car & we motored to Trenton. Went down the west side of the river past locks 12, 11, 10, 9 & 8. Kydd filled reaches 8-9, & 9-10.

Yesteray, they looked fine & wall in bank between 8 & 9 leaks very little. At Frankford we examined Rogers coffer dam & rock excavation & then went on to Trenton for supper. At Trenton we met Mr. Bowden & Fraser. The former has come up to go over the Canal.

23 Sept 15 Trenton, Campbellford Hastings

Left Trenton at 7.30 for Cam;bellford. Walked up past the lower entrance of lock to see the Meyers island wall & Cummings property. At Frankford we walked up the canal bank from the ___ bridge to Stn 475 & discussed removal of Miller's dam & the contractor's coffer dam. At Glen Ross we took launch "Oriental" up to lock 8, where the cars met us. We motored up the river past locks 9, 10, 11 & 12 & walked up the east river wall at Campbellford to the highway bridge, where ___ operated the bascule span for us. After dinner went over to Dickinson's shop to see their shell plant & thence to Heeley Falls which we reached at six pm. Went down to locks 15, 16 & 17 and across the dam. Left at 6.30 per str "Butler" for Hastings which we reached at 8 o'clock & remained here all night.

24 Sept 15 Hastings, Peterboro Bobcaygeon

Left Hastings at 6 o'clock & reached Peterboro at 10.30 & Bobcaygeon at 8.30 where we remained all night. Mr. Bowden did not get off at Peterboro. Killaly & I went ashore between the Peterboro lock & the hydraulic lock. It

was a long days run for the boat lost practically no time. The longest stop was at Lakefield for 15 mins for ice & provisions.

25 Sept 15 Bobcaygeon Washago

Left Bobcaygeon at 6.30 and reached Atherly Bdge at 4.15 and Washago at 5.45. Stephen piloted us in at Washago. The Boat tied up on the canal entrance at the Muskoka road crossing. After tea we went over to Stephens for ½ an hour. Lazier joined u at Orillia .

26 Sept 15 Washago Big Chute

About 9.30 we all got on rubber boots & coats & sallied out over the Canal to the C.N.R. crossing & back to Washago & over site of the dams on the central branch. After lunch on the boat we motored to Couchiching lock site, examined same & tok the launch "Dot" for Ragged Rapids. Went through Portage Bay Cut. At Ragged Rapids Nickerson's boat took us to Big Chute. At Swift Rapids examined work & lock house etc. at Severn Falls had tea at Contractors camp & spent an hour at Burn's cottage & then went on toe big Chute where we stayed at Ritchie for the night.

27 Sept 15 big Chute, Port Severn Peterboro

Bowden, Killaly, Lazier & I left big Chute at 8 am for Pretty Channel dam thence across Portage to Little Chute where Murphy met us with White's boat. We went to head of "Go Home Bay" and rowed up to the site of Honey Harbour lock & back to the launch & then made for Port Severn where we had dinner at 1.30. Examined work with Lothian. concrete work is all finished & Ham[ilton] Bdge Co is erecting Swing bridge. Excavation below lock is expected to be finished this fall. Murphy says they had had 411 lockages in two months. We left Waubaushe at 3.30 for Peterboro changing at Orillia to C.P.R.. Mr. Bowden went to Toronto.

29 Sept 15 Peterboro

Began packing furniture for Maude to take to Toronto at 1st October

1 Oct 15 Peterboro

Dr. Eastwood in today to see Helen & reports now that all indications of scarlet fever have disappeared.

6 Oct 15 Peterboro

Maude went to Toronto for the Winter. She & the children are going to live in suite 05 Maitland apts. Maitland St. Lumeley's car to the station; Alex remains with me here until next week.

11 Oct 15 Peterboro Thanksgiving

Alex & I patched roof of barn during the forenoon.

Afternoon I took the kiddies to the movies. We had super at the Empress.

After tea called on the Strattons for a few minutes. J.R. leaves next week for the South for the winter. He is about the same as for the past 6 mos., Much thinner [sic] than he was 2 yrs ago before he had s stroke of paralysis.

12 Oct 15 Peterboro

Evg went to hear Graham in the Armouries. He gave a good recruiting speech.

13 Oct 15 Peterboro Toronto Buffalo Left for Toronto at 6 am. Found Maude well at the Maitland apts. After breakfast

we went over to St. Joseph's convent and had an interview with Sister Mary Austin re Maude taking English Literature class this winter. She showed us all over the convent & the premier class room where Helen will be placed. We left at 3.30 for Buffalo enroute to Little Falls, N.Y. Stayed at the Iroquois hotel which neither of us have been in for several years. the ____ brought back Port Colborne days & Alex's babyhood. After tea we wandered about town & took in the movies.

14 Oct 15 Buffalo Lockport Rochester

Up early & out shopping. Met Messers Hubert Larkin & Arthur Sangster at 10.30. they have come from Seneca Falls to take over the canal in a motor [sic] Left at 1 pm for Rochester. At Caledonia turned north to Lockport where we stayed a ½ hour looking over the new locks built by them here 2 years ago. Caledonia to Lockport 17 miles. We then left for Batavia, coming out on the Onondaga trail at Akron. Stopped at Batavia for a ----. Made the run from Batavia to Rochester in 1 ½ hours. Stayed at the Seneca Hotel. After supper went to a vaudville show. Rochester is quite a large city & only a few miles from Charlotte on Lake Ontario.

14 Oct 15 Rochester, Seneca Falls Syacruese.

Left Rochester about 9 o'clock for Seneca Falls, passing through Geneva at the Head of Seneca Lake. After dinner at Seneca Falls went over Larkin & Sangster's work which they are just completing. They have built two locks & a dam here to replace seven old small locks & dams. The new ____ was filled 3 weeks ago but a blow out through the shale rock at the end of the dam, emptied it in a few hours. Left about 3 pm for Syracuse where we remained all night at the Onondaga Hotel. After supper went to a boxing bout with L & S & a mr. McGuire. Mrs Sangster & Maude went to the theatre.

15 Oct 15 Syracuse, Utica, Little Falls, Buffalo

Left Syracuse about 8.30 for Utica & Little Falls. We made the run of 52 miles S7racuse to Utica in 1 ½ hours over very fine roads. Reached Little Falls at noon where I met Mr. Lamb & his asst Mr. Benedick. Lamb went to Albany at 1 o'clock & Bendick showed me over the Canal works. The lock No 17 is not in commission although all ready. The lower & upper gates & valves are all installed. They have not been here since Jany 1915 & ____ nothing about the construction of the lower gate of the lock. Benedick says lock will be in Commission May 1916. Left at 3 pm for Syracuse where we had supper & bid goodbye to Larkin & Sangster. Maude & I took the train for Buffalo which we reached at 11 pm. Hat a very enjoyable outing during the past 3 days.

16 Oct 15 Buffalo Toronto

Breakfast at 11 o'clock Left by H.H. & B Rly at 1.30 for Toronto which we reached ½ an hour late at 5 pm. Dinner at the King Edward

17 Oct 15 Toronto Peterboro

Left Toronto at 8.50 for Peterboro office after dinner until 2.30 pm when I went out to the house & got Alex with his valise etc. We picked up Mrs. Murphy & Helen at the

Meldrum Appts where the Murphys are now living. Maude met us at the Station at 6.20 pm. She finished fixing up the rooms today & has everything in its place & ready to start the youngsters at school tomorrow.

18 Oct 15 Toronto Peterboro

Maude Helen & I took Alex up to St. Michaels College this morning & delivered him over to Father Carr the Superior. He joined Jr 4th class. We then went down to St. Joseph's convent where Helen entered the premier class & Maude English Literature. Hope they will all have good success in their studies this winter.

14 Nov 15 Toronto

Alex began being an alter boy today & will continue as such while at St. Michaels

27 Nov 15 Toronto

Downtown with Maude at the Bank of Montreal, Yonge St. branch, where she made application for \$4,000 Govt War bonds, & gave the bank \$400 cheque as deposit with the application.

4 Dec 15 Peterboro

Evg went to see the photo play "Cabiria" at the Grand Opera House

7 Dec 15 Peterboro

Went to hear Sir Herbert Ames & Mr. McGarry at the Opera House this evg on behalf of the Patriotic Fund. both made excellent speeches.

8 Dec 15 Peterboro

Subscribed \$100 to the Peterboro Patriotic fund.

16 Dec 15 Peterboro

Gave R. B. Rogers a blue print of river dams 1 & 2

Lakefield, re Dickson Co's power proposition at Lakefield

22 Dec 15 Peterboro

Office forenoon. Afternoon at home cleaning up house for Maude & the kids who came home this evening from Toronto over Xmas & New Year. They do not return until the 10th Jan when Alex has to be back at St. Michael's . They have been in Toronto since 6th October

25 Dec 15 Peterboro

Mass with John, Alex & Helen at 10.30. Home afternoon. We all went to Mrs. Shirley Denison's for Xmas dinner at 6 o'clock & remained there until 11 pm. John came in from Montreal at 6 am for Xmas & Sunday. He looks well & happy. It is just one year since we saw him. He has been in Montreal all the year.

31 Dec 15 Peterboro

Office. Saw the old year out with Maude, Alex, Helen, Mr & Mrs. John J. Murphy in our own drawing room.



TRENT VALLEY ARCHIVES

History of Bethany's First Railway

Larry Lamb

Little remains today that would help you recognize where Bethany's first railway was built and where the station and freight buildings stood. In the 1950's when I was growing up in Bethany there were still visible reminders and stories from adults who remembered the first railway. I'll try and share some of memories.

A little history of the railway would help with the story. At this time Port Hope was boasting that it was one of the fastest growing towns in Canada West. It also had a harbour that was one of the best between Toronto and Kingston. The Grand Trunk railway had, on 26 October 1856, its first train travel from Quebec City to Windsor passing through Port Hope. The businessmen and citizens of the town realized that a railway to the north could tap into the rapidly expanding farming, timber trade and commerce. The rival town of Cobourg had already built a railway in 1854 to Peterborough crossing Rice Lake on a floating bridge. It proved to be unstable and, in the winter of 1860, was severely damaged by ice and closed to through traffic.



Bethany and its railways

The Port Hope, Lindsay, and Beaverton Railway was incorporated on 18 December 1854. Tate and Fowler of Port Hope were awarded the contract for construction of 42 miles of track from Port Hope to Lindsay. The track was to be constructed as "provincial broad gauge", 5 ft. 6 inches, to qualify for Government monetary assistance. Construction started in 1855 and, by December 1856, the iron rails stretched from Port Hope, through Millbrook and Bethany to Reaboro. The rail line reached Lindsay on 1 December 1857. A branch line was constructed by Tate and Fowler from Millbrook to Peterborough and was in service by 12 May 1858. Trains passing through Bethany could now take you to Lindsay, Peterborough or Port Hope where you could catch a connecting train on the Grand Trunk railway running from Quebec City to Windsor. The railway passing through Bethany carried surplus wheat, flour, wool, potash, timber, and manufactured goods. During this period

it was one of the most prosperous short railway lines in Canada.

In 1869 the Lindsay, Port Hope and Beaverton became known as the Midland Railway and started planning an expansion and construction of 59 miles of rail line to connect the rest of the system to a port on Georgian Bay. In 1870 the railway had 11 locomotives, 5 passenger cars, 5 mail and express cars and 348 freight cars. The railway was extended from Lindsay to Beaverton by January 1st, 1871. In 1873 the Midland Railway converted its broad gauge tracks to 4 ft. 8 1/2 inches which had become the standard gauge for North American railroads. It also replaced the iron rails with the much stronger steel rails. The Midland Railway reached Orillia by January 1872 and established its terminus at the Midland harbour where grain elevators were built by 1879. The Midland railway, which was now headed by George A. Cox, a seven term mayor in Peterborough, proceeded to acquire by merger other small railways in Peterborough, Victoria county area. By 1878 the Midland Railway had grown from 145 to 452 miles of company trackage.

On 22 September 1883 the Midland Railway came under the control of the Grand Trunk Railway. The Grand Trunk started to build short sections of rail line to connect the acquired railways to increase efficiency and travel times. This was the start of the end of the rail traffic through Bethany. By 2 November 1883 the Grand Trunk had opened a new section of rail line from Omeme Junction to Peterborough known as the "missing link". Trains from Lindsay had a direct connection to Peterborough and avoided going through Bethany to Millbrook and back to Peterborough. Rail traffic still continued from Lindsay to Port Hope through Bethany but at a much reduced rate. The steep grades south of Millbrook made it preferable to ship heavy tonnage goods such as grain from Midland, through Peterborough to Belleville and onto Montreal Ports for shipment to Europe. Further decline in rail traffic occurred with the improvements to the motorcar and truck and competition from the Canadian Pacific Railway. In 1911 the Canadian Pacific Railway opened a railway that paralleled the Grand Trunk Railway and ran from Dranoel Junction through Bethany, Lindsay, Orillia, and terminated at Port McNicholl. In the early 1920's the Grand Trunk Line through Bethany became part of the newly established Canadian National Railway. In 1928 the Canadian National Railway received permission to abandon its trackage from Omeme Junction to Millbrook. Bethany now had one rail line - the Canadian Pacific.

In 1950 my parents, Ernest and Emma Lamb and I moved to the village of Bethany and settled in the end house on James Street. Our house was on a knoll and to the west of us we had a view of the village and surrounding

farms. The old railway station, and rail bed was below us and we often crossed through it to get to stores or friends homes. The station and property was owned by the farmer (Walter Rowan) who farmed just north and around our home on three sides. The old CNR station was still being used as a residence. Harold "Sparkey" Green, his wife and children lived there before moving to "Chudleigh Hill" in Bethany and into the residence formerly occupied by Alex Monk. On the property beside the old station was a two room cabin that was sometimes rented out. Another building, south of the old CNR station, resembled a garage and in it Bill Jordan, the section foreman for the Canadian Pacific Railway, discovered a treasure. It was a velocipede, a three wheeled rail inspection vehicle that was propelled by pulling and pushing on a bar in front of the rider. He moved it to his residence where his son Ross and I built a small track of 2 x 4s and rode it back and forth until it was removed by a scrap dealer, smashed up and sold as scrap. The old CNR railway embankment ran north out of Bethany on the west side of Ski Hill Road. It was deeded back to Walter Rowan and he pastured some cattle there as there was water from a small creek running across the railway. My mother and Renee Smelt used to give her sons and me a honey pail so we could pick wild strawberries. There were lots of berries, small and sweet on the old rail embankment north of the village. I suspect that our mothers were really looking for a few hours of peace and quiet. The Canadian Pacific Railway in 1950's ran a mixed train from Havelock to Lindsay and Bobcaygeon. The steam engine was usually #434, a 4-6-0 class locomotive built in 1912. mixed freight cars and a passenger, rail postal car. Its arrival always drew children and curious adults to the CPR station. Mail arrived twice a day by train and was sorted in the postal area of the passenger car. Freight from Peterborough came from National Grocers and supplied the three stores in the village. By the 1960s trucks had taken over most of the duties performed by the railway. The station was now a private residence rented from the railway. A small diesel switcher moved freight cars to Lindsay on a call as needed basis. In 1987 the CPR had started abandonment proceedings and soon after the rails and ties were removed.

The old CNR railway entered the village from the south (Millbrook) east of Ski Hill Road and ran parallel to the C.P.R. to the North. The feed mill at the CPR siding

originally was on the east side of the C.N.R. and in 1928 with the abandonment of the rail line was moved beside the C.P.R. tracks. The old mill, originally a freight shed built for the Midland Railway has been misidentified many times. It has been on the internet as the C.P.R station in Bethany and as being built for the Georgian Bay and Seaboard Railway (C.P.R.) in 1874, even though the C.P.R. did not enter Bethany until 1911.

The old C.N.R. right of way after 1928 became a road (Ski Hill Road) starting at Bethany Hills Road and running north to the village of Omemee. In the 1950's and 60's it was a narrow road with trees arching over the road. In the fall it was tunnel of trees and leaves in their finest fall colours. Progress and the demand for better roads have



eliminated most of the character and beauty from the road. Most people don't realize they are driving on top of an early and important railway. In Bethany the old CNR station was torn down, the feed mill was moved west of Bethany to Porter Road where it became a restaurant, the embankment leveled for two homes. Ski Hill Road moved on to the abandoned C.P.R. line where it meets 7A Hwy. The abandoned CPR line to Lindsay from Dranoel Junction was purchased by the City of Kawartha Lakes to become a recreational trail connecting to the Trans Canada rail trail in Lindsay. Maybe in the future as our transportation needs change trains will again run through Bethany. All we have now are memories and old photos of Bethany's Railway History.

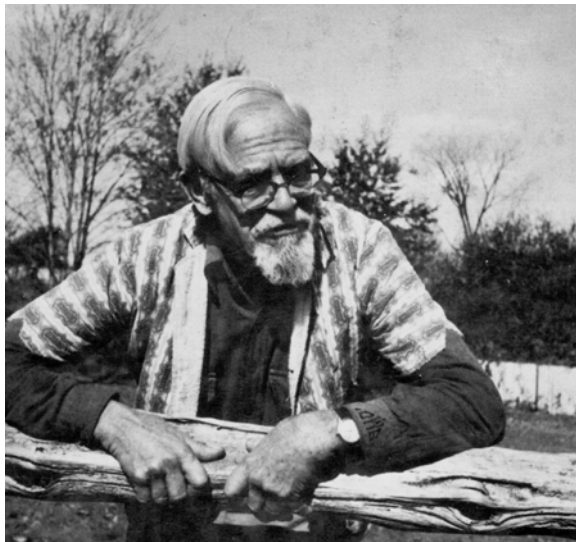
Bethany showing the CPR and CNR tracks

This story appeared in a Manvers history newsletter and is reprinted by permission of the author.

GORDON HILL GRAHAME WAS A SURVIVOR

Elwood Jones

It was truly amazing that Gordon Hill Grahame survived the Great War. He was one of the originals with the 2nd Battalion whose numbers were depleted during the battles of March and April 1915, around Ypres, St Julien, Kitchener's Woods and Neuve Chapelle. During these first battles for the Canadians, the death and injury tolls were high, as soldiers fought fiercely for small gains and gas warfare was introduced on a new scale. In an apt metaphor, Grahame called Ypres a "titanic battle." After the Battle of St-Julien, Grahame commented that all his Peterborough buddies had died, and each of the companies in his division was reduced to 25 to 35 men. It turned out that Heber Rogers had been taken prisoner, and did survive the war. Men who had been together at Valcartier in 1914 had blue shoulder tabs, and as the new men brought the decimated units up to strength, Grahame noted only one soldier in ten were originals, that had been with the unit six to eight months earlier. The 2nd Battalion, under Lt. Col. David Watson, was now brought into the counter-attack to regain Kitchener's Woods.



*Gordon Hill Grahame (1972) was the author of *Short Days Ago*, a sprightly memoir of his first thirty years.*

In two fine volumes, historian Tim Cook has done an exceptional job of capturing the experience of those who fought during the Great War, now known as World War I. Cook, who graduated from Trent University in Peterborough in the 1980s, commenting on these same two months. Canadians scored victories but at great costs and the Germans continued to advance slowly along this front. The Ross rifle, preferred by snipers and sharpshooters, jammed as soldiers tried to get off more shots to match the machine gun fire. Soldiers felt more secure with Lee-

Enfields or even German Mausers, which could be picked up along the battlefields of Ypres. As Cook observed, the Lee-Enfield kept firing even faced with the same problems of uneven or poor-quality ammunition, or mud. "The strain of battle was terrible, but help was coming." The "quiet heroics" of hundreds of Canadians "staved off defeat at Ypres."

Grahame was promoted from private to first lieutenant after Ypres. He hated the idea, and always believed he was poor at giving commands but superb at following them. After a week's training under a tough Regimental Sergeant-Major, Grahame was deemed fit to lead his men across the parade square and back. Back at the front, he was seriously wounded by an exploding German howitzer shell, and when he woke he was on the road to London. His skull had been fractured, and his scalp was badly torn, and his glasses had been smashed into his head, but apparently his brain was not injured. After three weeks in hospital he was allowed to live with some of his British relatives, and then was back to the hospital.

He was then given a three months furlough in Canada, which he spent mostly at Stony Lake. In some ways, his injury had been good luck. To illustrate the terrible toll of the battles, Grahame summarized the wartime experience of the 2nd Battalion. The normal strength was about 700. Over the course of the war, 52 officers and 1,227 other ranks had died; 120 officers and 3,285 other ranks were wounded. During the war 5,326 of all ranks passed through the battalion, and of these 4,648, about 87%, were killed or wounded.

Between 1910 and 1914, Grahame then in his early 20s, had spent the four happiest years of his life in Lakefield. During his early years he had lived in a dozen houses in Toronto, but he considered his grandfather's house, the Morsons, as his home. His father, Laurence Grahame, had been a journalist, 1895-1901, with the *New York Commercial Advertiser*, a paper edited by Lincoln Steffens, the famous author of *The Shame of the Cities*, which was considered an expose on the problem of poverty in New York City. Grahame had met Theodore Roosevelt while covering a crime, and they became good friends. Grahame was a political correspondent in Albany, a war correspondent in Cuba and then the press secretary for Roosevelt's successful runs for Governor of New York and for the vice-presidency and presidency of the United States. Through Roosevelt's patronage, Laurence Grahame became the Secretary-Treasurer, 1901-4, of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition held in St Louis in 1904, and then Secretary of the Interior for Puerto Rico, 1904-8. After a short stint with New York Life Insurance, he and his family moved to Lakefield, where Laurence Graham had, according to his son, purchased Lakefield Canoe Company.

The family lived next door to the Grove, and Gordon Hill Grahame was a junior master for the next four years. He already had the nickname Grahame Biscuits, or Biscuits for short while attending Trinity College School in Port Hope, where he started in 1901, while his family was living in St. Louis, but summering at Stony Lake. It was not necessary to be athletic to attend Trinity College School or the Grove, but Biscuits became an athlete, particularly excelling in boxing, cricket, canoeing and hiking. In his excellent autobiography of the years from 1889 to 1919, called *Short Days Ago* (1972), he mentioned some of his hikes. He walked 160 miles from Lakefield to Brantford in four days; and 570 miles to New York City, in 17 days. He once walked the complete circuit of Lake Ontario. On these hikes, he ate fruit and vegetables that he picked along the way.

At the end of the school year in 1914, he went on an ambitious canoe trip to New York City, where his parents were then living. He travelled with Don Cameron and Jack Davidson and his brown spaniel, Barney. They left on June 28, the day that the Austrian archduke was assassinated in Sarajevo, never realizing the event would alter their lives. Their route took then down the Trent, down Lake Ontario and the St Lawrence to Sorel, where they then followed the Richelieu River and Lake Champlain and the Hudson River. As they crossed the border, they learned that Canada was at war. When they reached Hudson, Biscuits telegraphed Sam Hughes asking to enlist in the Canadian army. When the canoe party reached New York, Grahame expressed his canoe and baggage to Lakefield (which never were delivered) and went to his parents' home. There he received a telegram telling him to sign up in his home district, which he did in Port Hope. He was then on a troop train to Quebec City and nearby Valcartier. He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion of the First Contingent and after a few weeks of training in Valcartier, the troops headed to England where they had more training on Salisbury Plain.

Grahame believed, "Our months on Salisbury Plain are a memory of hard times and good companions. The English military authorities did the best they could for us, but their best was pretty terrible." England was cold, wet and muddy. The training was not adequate for the tasks ahead. On the other hand, his comrades, including Heber Rogers and Keith Cumberland who were also from the Peterborough, were superb. As well, he had opportunities to visit English and Scottish relatives, including his cousin Kenneth Grahame, the author of the classic *Wind in the Willows*. Surprisingly, he visited with his father who was in London for some weeks before and after Christmas 1914 on top secret business; he had a letter of introduction from Roosevelt to Prime Minister Herbert Asquith. Grahame never knew what his father was doing but when writing his memoirs he found a reference in the diaries of Sir Robert L.

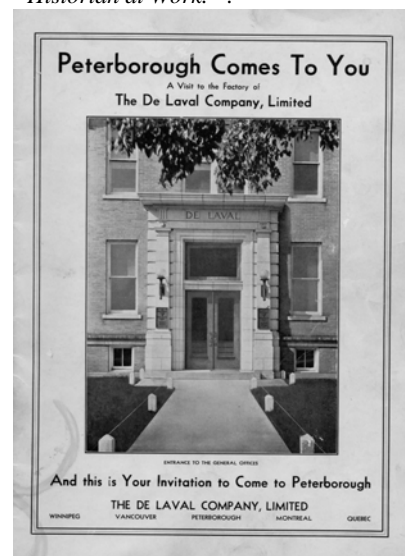
Borden, the Canadian prime minister, that his father had discussed the use of hydraulic pumps against the Germans.

The troops were inspected in early February 1915, and within days were on their way to France. The first billet for the 2nd Battalion was in a former insane asylum in Armentieres; and a few weeks later they were in a billet in a different insane asylum. They moved from billets directly to the trenches, and from March 9 were engaged in the first battle in which Canadians participated, that of Neuve Chapelle. In April the battalion had a break at Bois Grenier, and played in a baseball game where he was injured by a wild pitch. Grahame vividly describes some of the hardships and the fears. The war was quite different from what had been imagined on militia weekends; it was nothing like the Napoleonic wars. Soldiers had very little experience as soldiers, but they were being commanded by inexperienced officers.

Grahame understandably welcomed the furlough to Canada. While at Stony Lake, he courted his future wife and they were married the day before he returned to England. Happily, after the furlough he was assigned to Camp Barriefield, near Kingston; not so happily, he was assigned to teach about weapons he had never fired.

Grahame's autobiography is well-written and delightful in its observations. He captures well the disillusionment that followed that first expectation of a short and sportsmanlike encounter. In those short days, his world view changed, and so did his world.

Special thanks to Gordon Young. This article earlier appeared in the author's Peterborough Examiner column, "Historian at Work."



A delightful book on Delaval in 1938.

QUERIES

Diane Robnik

Little Lake Cemetery at 160

Diane Robnik

A savvy industrialist named Cox; the strong man MacDonald; Barnardo, a Methodist Preacher who pitied the plight of London's poor; and Charlotte Nicholls, Peterborough's first female philanthropist. These are just some of the characters you'll meet during Little Lake Cemetery's 160th Anniversary Pageant, hosted by Trent Valley Archives, to be held on Sunday August 8th 2010 from 1 to 4 pm. Admission is free to the general public. A horse drawn mourning carriage will be available for a nominal charge to shuttle people from Del Cray park to the cemetery grounds. No cars will be admitted past the cemetery gates on that day.



Peterborough Museum and Archives, Rutledge Collection of Ray Studio Images, 2000-012-4838-1

Official ceremonies will begin at 2pm with Mayor Paul Ayotte making his entrance to the Cemetery grounds portraying Peterborough's first mayor Thomas Benson. Speeches and cake cutting will follow. Musical entertainment will be provided in the chapel. A souvenir book on the history of the cemetery written by historian Elwood Jones will also be available that day. Jones will be located in the

chapel discussing the history and architecture of the building as well as answering any questions about the cemetery itself.

Visitors will then be free to tour the site with a map directing them to twelve grave sites of influential characters buried here. Costumed actors representing those buried at the various sites will present 5-10 minute vignettes of the events in their lives often interacting with their audience. Volunteer actors this day include Wally Macht, Teresa Kazsuba, Graham Hart, Peter Blodgett, Geoff Hewitson, Tim and Gail Rowat, Dennis Carter-Edwards, Elizabeth King, Basia Baklinski, Steve Guthrie, Bruce and Liam Fitzpatrick.

The definition of a pageant is an elaborate public dramatic presentation that depicts an historical or traditional event. What better way to mark the 160th Anniversary of the Little Lake Cemetery Company, Peterborough's longest running private corporation. Imagine yourself transported back in time, seated on a mourning carriage pulled by a team of horses as you view the splendid grounds of lovely Little Lake Cemetery. The Victorians would surely approve of such an entrance!

There are stories behind every headstone. Join us on August 8th to hear and see a few. For more information about this event please call Trent Valley Archives at 745-4404.

Lionel Yorke



Sally Funk was browsing the web, looking for references to her great-grandfather, Lionel Yorke, a contractor in Toronto in the late 19th c. The "Peterborough Examiner" article in *Historian at Work*, "Ready for the fight; Ashburnham drill shed was built near centre of the village" (which was reprinted in *An Historian's Notebook*) mentioned that "The contractor was Lionel York, about whom I know nothing else." Sally Funk confirms this was her great grandfather (correctly spelled Yorke). He was born in England 1834 and came to New York in 1857. he lived for a few years in the southern states. He reached Peterborough by 1860 or so. Sally Funk has a great deal of information about Yorke, whom she says was the

original contractor for the Queen's Park parliament buildings as well as many churches and other public buildings in Toronto. The Trent Valley Archives is interested in receiving what she has learned.

TORONTO BUILDERS' AND CONTRACTORS' FEDERATED ASSOCIATION

At the last monthly meeting of the above Association held on Thursday evening, the 5th inst., after the ordinary business had been transacted the retiring president, Mr. Lionel Yorke, was presented by Mr. Geo. Moir, President elect, on behalf of the Association, with a handsome gold-headed cane. Mr. Yorke is too well known to call for any lengthy comments here, he having built some of the largest edifices in the city and being now engaged in the erection of the new Parliament Buildings. He was the first president of the Builders and Contractors' Federated Association, and as such was untiring in his efforts to further not only the interests of the building trade, but also the interests of both the architect and the capitalist.

The peaceful settlement of the troubles last spring and summer were in great measure due to his large experience with workmen; his broad and sensible manner of looking at their side of the question as well as the masters', and his undaunted courage in bringing matters to a satisfactory conclusion even in the face of serious loss to himself. The fact that a general strike or lock out, or in other words a general disaster to the city, was avoided during his term of office principally through his instrumentality, is sufficient reason alone for our wishing with the Builders' Association that although the cane might be quite sufficient to support his bulky form, it may long be to him more for ornament than use.

(July 1888 – "The Canadian Architect and Builder")

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part of the Robert Reid grant. It was deeded to my great-grandfather Edward Wilson Brown, and was in his possession in 1848, as his mother-in-law Frances Stewart refers in *Our Forest Home* to a visit to Goodwood shortly after the marriage of her daughter Elizabeth Lydia to Edward earlier that year." The property was designated a centennial farm in 1967, but now the question is when did it become a sesquicentennial farm.

A We examined the county land records at the Trent Valley Archives, and when I am in I could take a look and see what we have. We only have documents that are post-Confederation, but some of the ledgers carry summaries and dates of earlier information. In the abstract register, the first transaction listed is the patent from the Crown to Robert Reid, dated 1 June 1848 for 200 acres, the east and west halves of lot 6 in concession 9. Reid then sold the east half to David Porter in 1849. The next sales transaction is the one that Gina copied. I think you will find that there are transactions on both halves of the property relating to the Brown family, perhaps most interestingly in 1880s to Thomas A. S. Brown. With some exceptions, we have the documents at Trent Valley Archives that relate to the years after 1867.

Our lead land researcher, Gina Martin, obtained copies of the key documents at the Archives of Ontario. The property was signed over from the Reid Estate on June 26, 1857 and registered at the Land Registry Office on June 25, 1860. The legal date of commencement for the Goodwood farm then would be June 26, 1857.

The other records vary depending on how the land came into the family. The land patents are generally in the Archives of Ontario, now on the York University campus. There are also some land records at the Library and Archives of Canada, and usually relate to the land records of the Executive Council and the District Land Boards.

The Newcastle District papers in the Trent University Archives contain assessment rolls.

We have confirmed that the Browns possessed the land by 1848. Some questions remain. Could the Browns have been on the property earlier? We do not have the records to confirm whether they rented the property from the Reids.

The Browns at Goodwood

Goodwood is the property at Douro con 9, lot 6, west half. We were asked if we could identify the earliest date when the Brown family lived at this location. Stew Brown notes, "This farm is on land originally

The site of Beavermead

We just spent a glorious long weekend at the Beavermead park and enjoyed walking some of the trails around there. We were told that the property had been owned by Sir John A. Macdonald, and that he had a house on that property. We spent some time trying to figure out where the house would have been but couldn't figure that out.

A The property that was known as Beavermead covered a much larger area than the park of today. Its eastern end was near the shopping centre that includes the Morello's Independent supermarket. The house that was known as Beavermead was located in the subdivision of houses that lies between the supermarket and the entrance to Beavermead Park, but closer to Ashburnham Drive. The Romaine map of 1875, which was printed in Illustrated Historical Atlas of Peterborough County (1975) shows the property just after John A. Macdonald had the lot divided into 40 pieces, which are shown on the survey as well. The story is told in part in Elwood Jones' An Historian's Notebook, and the subsequent story of Beavermead was told recently in his column in the Peterborough Examiner. The property was owned by George Barker Hall. When he died in 1858, Macdonald acquired the land in order to make arrangements that would allow his widow to make a living from the property.

Douro Township land patents

Thomas Moffat writes, "I have been doing much research in the past 15 years on several of the families in this document especially HERRON and HELPS. Note that Herron, Michael is wrongly described as HEWON, Michael. Michael Herron was a veteran of the 88th Regiment of Foot, born in Rosinver, Co. Leitrim, and emigrated with his wife Elizabeth Graham (of Ashfield, Co. Cavan), and settled first in Smith but moved over to Douro Con. 1 Lot 1 in 1845.

Historical plaques in Peterborough

Jaime Miller is currently working for the Heritage Preservation Office at City Hall on a project that will create an inventory of all of the city's plaques and public marks/monuments. She quickly reached 200, but would like information about plaques that are accessible to the public but may not be so readily discovered.

Jaime Miller, Heritage Preservation Office, City Hall

Gene Barry follow-up

In your magazine, Volume 12, 1. May 2007, Dave Barry of Peterborough, wrote concerning his family connection with Gene and Fred Kelly. I would like to contact Mr. Barry, to thank him for the article and to request permission to quote briefly from it on my website, which is a tribute to Gene Kelly. Using the information in the article, an Irish/American friend

and I visited Southern Ireland recently and found two villages he mentioned in connection with his family. Sue Cadman. England.

Merrick family

In the 1881 Canadian census I find my great grandfather, Herbert Merrick and family, living in Peterborough. His son, my grandfather Ralph Burritt Merrick, was 7 years old in 1881. How do I track down baptismal and burial records for this diocese?

While my family sprang from Merrickville and my grandfather, Ralph Burritt, was buried in Canada in 1924, I cannot determine where he was baptized or buried. He was married in NYC at the Church of the Transfiguration. He died in Springfield, Missouri in 1924 and was buried in Canada. I communicated with the diocese that includes Merrickville - Wolford - neither his baptism nor burial was recorded.

Where might I begin my search in your diocese - it appears the family lived in Peterborough in 1881. I attached the 1881 census record, although it simply says the Merricks lived in district 126 West Peterborough (Herbert Burritt and Margaret Weir Merrick and their children Mary Brooks., Ralph Burritt, Alice, et al.).

A The St John's Archives does not have the baptismal register for 1870 to 1890. There is a solid run of them from 1834 to the present, except for that period. However, there are marriage registers and burials for the same period and there were two burial notices related to Merricks.

Kay Merrick, infant, died January 31, 1884, minister was J. W. R. Beck

Alice Merrick, 7, child, died 17 April 1888, minister was J. W. R. Beck. This suggests that they were tied to St John's Church while they were here, so we might find some information in the pew registers and in the vestry book.

In the 1887 directory the Merricks were living then at 375 Brock Street, a very nice house that was built about 1880, and was a nice house by any standard then and now.

At the Trent Valley Archives we have genealogical records related to the Burritt family. I see that D. H. Burritt was living quite nearby, at 376 Stewart Street, in that same 1887 directory. Dr W. H. Burritt had been in Smiths Falls and moved to Peterborough in 1870 and was here until he died, age 77, 21 December 1886. One of his sons, Dr H. C. Burritt (1840-1916), was a doctor in the Civil War, and practiced in Peterborough from 1868 to 1882, when he moved to a high-class Toronto practice.

Index to the Roy Studio photographs

The huge Roy Studio collection, known since 2000 as the Balsillie Collection of Roy Studio Images, at the Peterborough Museum and Archives (formerly known as PCMA) is an impressive collection of 300,000 photos; perhaps more. The PMA is indexing the collection over time and providing a new base

reference number. However, it is a well-known principle of archives, known as *respect des fonds*, that archival fonds should not destroy the reference system established by the creator of the fonds. Sometimes this is referred to as maintaining original order, but in truth that misses the point of the principle. The key point is that the creator was able to find documents and that the way the documents are organized often give us additional information on the way the creator was thinking.

With respect to the Roy Studio fonds, the photographers used a chronological alphanumeric system. As well, the photos were separated according to whether they were taken in the studio, or away from the studio (called "views" by the photographers). When looking at the records when they were being appraised for possible sale to the city of Peterborough, I also noticed that there were two series of studio negatives which I speculated may have meant the father and the son kept separate reports.

The collection is also compromised by the tragedy of a fire in January 1904 that probably melted the glass plates in the studio at the time of the fire. There are some glass negatives that predate 1904, and these might have been in Peter Green's studio across the street, or perhaps were being used in a dark room off site. The fire did not destroy the building and there may have been cupboards of materials that survived the fire. Such details may become plain when the indexing has been completed, or the strategies have been devised.

In any case, we know a little of what to expect, because registers kept by the studio had survived. At the time of the appraisal there were in-studio pictures identified by B (which we assumed meant biographical) and out of studio views (identified as VR, or views register). The B series covers from 1892 to the 1960s, while the VR series covers from about 1904 to the 1970s. We think that the senior Roy began his local photographic business in 1888, but he had been making photographs since the 1860s, mostly from his Belleville base. When his contract with the Midland Railway was not renewed in 1892, R. M. Roy soon operated a full-fledged studio in the upper floor of the Post Office, at Water and Hunter. This location had been a studio for Peter H. Green who then moved to 144 Hunter Street the site that later became in 1896 the home of Roy Studios that we all know. At that time Fred Roy, a teenager, came into business with his father, and the Roy Studio dated its subsequent history from 1896. Because of the surviving photo registers, we use 1892 as the starting date for the studio business, but agree with R. M. Roy that he was there for every major development in the history of photography since 1865.

The Trent Valley Archives has indexed the surviving registers of the Roy Studios. We cannot guarantee that the numbers are identifiable by the

PMA, partly because the 1904 fire destroyed some glass negatives. However the index remains valuable for people interested in the history of the Roy Studio. As well, genealogical researchers have found the index useful. It helps to confirm whether members of your family had photos taken at this studio (which was never the only photographer in town.) As well, if you have a Roy photo, then the index can help you identify who might be in the photo. The date will sometimes suggest what prompted the desire to have a picture taken.

Here is one example of a recent inquiry.

Q I have a photograph, probably of my grandfather Robert George Mackey taken about 1900. It is undated and unlabelled, except for the "label" on the frame "Roy Studio, Peterborough". Since I believe that a photo of his father, Hugh Mackey, was in the studio window for many years, I was interested to see if photos of other members of the family were taken (and might be available for purchase by family).

mother: Margaret Ann Mackey (nee Fitzgerald)

Hugh James Mackey

Mary Ida Mackey (m. Thompson)

Mable Fitzgerald Mackey (m. Wood)

A This is the information contained in our registers at the Trent Valley Archives that might be pertinent. The first part of the reference links to the book created by the photographer, the second is the year of the photo, the third is the number assigned by the photographer and is essentially a chronological number Wh(while each entry is not dated, that number would allow us to bracket the date if needed). The fourth field is the name as spelled by the photographer, and the last part is the description of the project. For example, gr 3 is a group of 3; bust is head and shoulder; the size is indicated by cabinet or 1/2 cabinet in these examples.

B 1892-1899	1898	15755	MacKay, Mr. F.H	gr 3
B 1892-1899	1894	12969	Mackey, Mrs. Hugh	gr 5
B 1892-1899	1892	9069	Mackie, Mr. R.L	bust
B 1900-1911	1900	21111	Mackey, Mr. H.	cab, bust
B 1900-1911	1900	21045	Mackey, Mr. H.	cab, gr 2
B 1900-1911	1900	20170	Mackey, Mr. H.	s.b
B 1900-1911	1900	19902	Mackey, Mr. R.G.	1/2 cab, bust

To request the purchase of any picture, you can contact the archivist, Mary Charles, at the Peterborough Museum and Archives.



TRENT VALLEY ARCHIVES

WHEN AN 1836 PENSION PROTEST IS THE KEY TO UNLOCKING A 21ST CENTURY DATABASE

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Most of us have no idea what early settlers went through in their early lives *before they came to Upper Canada*. Many of the men were for many years at war during the Napoleonic Wars, an experience that would have changed these veterans just as profoundly as WW1 and WW2 altered the mindset of our parents, grandparents and great-grandparents.

These Napoleonic veterans turned settlers may have experienced six years in Portugal and Spain, with eye infections from the dust, skin infections from living outdoors in rain and even snow with no tents and months of mountain walking on rough paths that we would hardly call roads.

From time to time the misery was punctuated with building trenches under shellfire during a siege, or the frightfulness of battles where wholesale slaughter by cannon, cavalry and massed musket fire was the norm.

If they were in the navy, the aggressive tactics of the British strategy could mean endless skirmishes at sea around the rim of Europe or beyond, or months of blockade duty, winter and summer, just outside French ports in order to keep the enemy fleets from escaping to sea.

Fortunately there are new resources available to help us understand what these men went through, and at times even to follow their experiences day by day.

Most important is the UK National Archives Database of millions of records at Kew, including most of the PENSION FILES of the period. Access this at: www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/catalogue/search.asp

To fill out the search form: For *Word or Phrase*, put the name of interest; for *Year Range* use 1790 to 1820 (or risk having all later names, eg WW1); and for *Dept. or Series Code* use either WO or ADM (War Office or Admiralty/Navy)

Two caveats: a) Often several possibilities are presented, and b) Only if an individual served a long time, or was wounded, is there likely to be a Pension File.

Even on screen there may be new and fascinating information, such as information on origin in Eng., Scot. or Ire. One can order the file for a small fee and the results are even more fascinating, perhaps with information on battle in which a wound occurred, any prize money, etc. Even a death date for the pensioner (listed as OB in the file).

But is there a way to narrow the search, perhaps with information on the regiment in which the individual served?

ONE GROUP OF VETERANS AND A WAY INTO THEIR EXPERIENCES

Fortunately for some in the Peterborough region there is a wonderful 1836 petition to be found on one of the microfilms of the National Museum of Canada. Particularly, this is a file in C Series - Vol. 215, pages 123 & 124, on microfilm C-2786.

In 1836, the military establishment demanded that every individual receiving a pension in the Peterborough area (and elsewhere) travel to Toronto to receive it at the

Commission Office. This applied to many who were old, perhaps crippled by former war wounds, and many Peterborough area soldiers and a Royal Marine put their names *and regimental affiliation* pleading with Upper Canada's Lieutenant Governor Sir John Colborne to rescind this measure.

The response from Colborne was satisfactory - an officer associated with the pensions and the Commission office would travel to Peterborough twice each year to disburse the funds and verify the recipients.

In all, 22 signed the petition:

John McKernan	64th foot
John Lister	24th foot
William Wigmore	95th
James Morrison	27th
Patrick Farley	84th
Carey Scott	23rd
Christopher Quin	3rd Dragoon Guards
Patrick Wood	52nd
Peter Cunningham	11th
Thomas Crow	74th
John Cole Gray	Fermanagh Militia
John Bannon	68th
Michael Coggins	11th
William Burnett	9th
John Davis	82nd
Abel Helps	Sgt Royal Marines
James Rogers	Kilkenny Militia
John Plunkett	2nd Garrison Coy
James Sedgwick	3rd Garrison Bat.
Michael Brennan	2nd Garrison Batt.
Thos. Buckley	12th Veteran Bt.
Thos Madden	77th

On turning to the catalogue of the UK National Archives, there were files for sixteen of these Peterborough area settlers. A seventeenth was found in alternative files, and for a handful no file was found. As well, three others were found in pension records from the Quebec military headquarters.

INDIVIDUALS FOUND

Note: items in [square brackets] are suggestions and opinions of the author, not in the original record. For those found in the UK archives, most gave the place of origin directly online; plus a rough framework of their service. The file number for ordering is listed.

WO 97/778/36 JOHN MCKERNAN
Born KILLISHANDRA, Cavan Served in 64th Foot
Regiment Discharged aged 40
1800-1816

WO 97/303/60 WILLIAM BURNETT
Born SEVEN OAKS [Parish], Kent Served in 9th Foot
Regiment Discharged aged 30
1807-1816

WO 121/131/171 PETER CUNNINGHAM

Born KILMORGAN, [Parish & Townland] Sligo Served in 11th Foot Regiment Discharged aged 30 after 5 years 9 months of service Covering dates give year of enlistment to year of discharge.

1807-1813

WO 97/347/7 JAMES RODGERS

alias JAMES ROGERS Born TOMADONEE, [Tomakeany, Kilmacar] Kilkenny Served in 13th Foot Regiment Discharged aged 38

1799-1819

WO 97/1145/301 JAMES SEDGWICK

Born MAGHAL, [Magheragall Pr.] Antrim Served in 89th Foot Regiment; 3rd Garrison Battalion Discharged aged 20 1814-1816 – Wounded right thigh, at Battle of Chrysler's Farm

WO 97/916/8 JOHN DAVIS

Born WOOTTEN BASSETT, Wiltshire Served in 82nd Foot Regiment Discharged aged 23

1811-1814

WO 97/1037/85 WILLIAM WIGMORE

Born ATHY, Kildare [Town] Served in 95th Foot Regiment Discharged aged 20

1823-1826

WO 97/465/92 JAMES MORRISON

Born BALLINDERRY, [Parish] Antrim Served in 27th Foot Regiment Discharged aged 38

1806-1826

WO 121/107/81 JOHN LISTER

Born FOLESHILL, Warwickshire Served in 24th Foot Regiment Discharged aged 45 after 24 years 3 months of service Covering dates give year of enlistment to year of discharge.

1785-1810

WO 97/432/36 CAREY SCOTT

Born LIVERPOOL, Lancashire Served in 23rd Foot Regiment Discharged aged 41

1812-1834

WO 97/935/20 PATRICK FARLEY

Born LOURGAN, [Lurgan Pr.] Cavan Served in 84th Foot Regiment Discharged aged 26

1808-1814

WO 97/111/16 CHRISTOPHER QUIN

alias CHRISTOPHER QUINN Born BALLYMOTE, [Ballymote Tnld, Emlaghfad Pr.] Sligo Served in 3rd Dragoon Guards Discharged aged 33

1818-1826

WO 121/127/108 PATRICK WOODS

Born KILMORE, [likely Kilmore Pr.] Cavan Served in 52nd Foot Regiment Discharged aged 24 after 6 years 4 months of service Covering dates give year of enlistment to year of discharge.

1806-1813

WO 97/859/52 THOMAS CROWE

Born CURREN, [Currin Pr.] Monaghan Served in 74th Foot Regiment Discharged aged 21

1826-1829

WO 97/323/64 MICHAEL COGGINS

Born SLIGO, Sligo Served in 11th Foot Regiment Discharged aged 29

1808-1814

WO 97/1146/365 JOHN PLUNKETT

Born GLENERY, [Glenavy or Glenwhirry Pr.] Antrim Served in 2nd Royal Veteran Battalion; 95th Foot Regiment; 2nd Garrison Company; Royal Marines Discharged aged 43 Covering date gives year of discharge.

1816

TWO individuals of the name John Bannon were found associated with the 68th Regiment, so that other information would be needed to sort out the correct individual. It is just possible they are the same individual.

WO 121/70/188 JOHN BANNON

Born MUCKNY, [Muckno Parish?] Monaghan Served in 68th Foot Regiment Discharged aged 22 after 4 years of service

1803

WO 121/187/287 JOHN BANNON

Born MUCKERER [Donaghmoyne Pr.?], Monaghan Served in 68th Foot Regiment; 8th Royal Veteran Battalion Discharged aged 37 after 5 years 5 months of service Residence or place where pension paid stated in document. See film image 729 1816

In addition, Abel Helps, Sergeant of Royal Marines, was found via other mechanisms, but his pension file appears to be lost.

ADM 158/131 ABEL HELPS

Serjeant, Born CORSHAM, Wilts., Portsmouth Division, 74 Company, Attested 8 June 1798 in Blandford, Dorset, age 17, a shearman, discharged 6 Nov 1815 as being overage. Pension file itself not found.

Of the others, not found in the UK archives, other avenues brought some information:

MICHAEL BRENNAN of the 2nd Garrison Battalion, was noted in a Canadian list of out-pensioners of Chelsea Hospital.

THOMAS BUCKLEY of the 12th Veteran Battalion was found to be from St. Mary's Athlone in Westmeath, and an out-pensioner of Kilmainham Hospital

THOMAS MADDEN of the 77th Regiment was found to be from Castlebar, Mayo.

FURTHER RESEARCH

A rich, small trove would be found in ordering the pension files of those listed in the article. Then, for those who took part in the Peninsular War in Portugal and Spain under Wellington, there is an additional gold body to be mined. In the war in Portugal and Spain between 1808 and 1814, the regiments were lumped under Division designations. A good library will have the seven volume set of Sir Charles Oman's *History of the Peninsular War*. By consulting this work, it is often possible to follow a particular regiment day by day, and in battles hour by hour. This work is also as accurate as we are likely to find.

The great battles still ring out two centuries later - Rolico, Oporto, Talavera, Busaco, the lines of Torres Vedras, Fuentes d'Onoro, Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajoz, Salamanca, Vittoria, the Pyrenees passes, San Sebastien, Toulouse, etc. If you are interested in one of the soldiers, you can explore their lives through Oman's pages.

As many know, there was no General Service Medal for that war offered until 1847. But some of these and other Peterborough area veterans were still alive, and both applied for and received those medals. It is always worth checking that medal list, as it also provides the battle "bars" the settler was entitled to. Also, a list is available for the Naval General Service Medal.

CONCLUSION & A SUGGESTION

There is a certain irony that a protest petition of 1836 is the key to unravelling a 21st century database for finding pension files. Those files would provide a wonderful resource if an individual or organization ordered all of them, putting more details online, and acting as a focus for a web-based repository for the early military history of those from the area, with others able to add to this core of knowledge.

OTHER RESOURCES ONLINE

- **Best website for checking townlands and parishes in Ireland**, since spellings vary. Try the first or last three letters only: <http://seanruad.com>
- **Ordering pension files from Kew**: fill in the information for up to FIVE files, and send the email. They will respond with the cost for the copies. Their ordering and payment process is likely changing this year, but up to this point they will take faxed VISA information.



TRENT VALLEY ARCHIVES

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Cemetery Pageant

Unfortunately the hot air balloon will not be available for the Cemetery Pageant. Apparently it is unsafe for public access because of the winds. We had planned the balloons because in 1850 a Montgolfier balloon did come to an event such as this in Peterborough, for a *rural fete* on the

Merino farm near what is now Parkhill and Wallis. That said, everything else is looking really great. See you there for a once-in-a-lifetime happening.



LITTLE LAKE CEMETERY 160TH ANNIVERSARY PAGEANT

Sunday August 8th 1-4pm

Come celebrate Little Lake Cemetery, one of Canada's most beautiful places, on its 160th anniversary! Introduce yourself to some of Peterborough's most famous celebrities and hear them tell their fascinating stories at their own grave sites! Shake hands with George A. Cox who will personally shuttle you to the tour on a mourning carriage pulled by black horses. Pick up your souvenir book on the history of this historic cemetery. Free admission.

- Formal ceremonies to begin at 2pm in the Chapel with a cake cutting and speeches
- Souvenir book on history of Little Lake Cemetery available for sale
- Hot-air balloon views at a cost available on the north-east grounds.
- Light refreshments and entertainment provided all afternoon in the Chapel.

For those who wish a horse and carriage tour to and around the cemetery grounds, there is a \$10 per person charge. Shuttles leave from Del Cray park.

Little Lake Cemetery turns 160

TVA hosts big celebration at Little Lake cemetery, Sunday, 8 August 2010

The Trent Valley Archives has been working long and hard on helping Little Lake Cemetery to celebrate its 160th anniversary. The cemetery is one of Peterborough's oldest companies. It was established as a joint-stock company that operated as a public trust, a non-profit company run by volunteer directors operating entirely in the public interest. It was a remarkable concept which grew in the political culture of 1850. The legislation for Ontario, and for the Little Lake Cemetery Company, was, in both instances, made in Peterborough. This was the first cemetery in Canada to be run by a private company acting as a trust.

Elwood Jones has written a history of the Little Lake Cemetery with publication designed to coincide with the big celebration. However, it seemed appropriate to include some of the more interesting documents illustrating the history of the Little Lake Cemetery over 160 years.

1 THE ARRANGEMENT AND MODE OF LAYING OUT THE GROUND OF THE LITTLE LAKE CEMETERY, AT PETERBOROUGH, C. W.

F. F. Passmore, P. L. S. Surveyor's Report 1851

Gentlemen: -

Having, according to your instructions, made a survey of the proposed site for a Cemetery, and carefully studied the natural features and contour of the ground, which possesses a variety of outline, and though in some places uneven, is not hilly or anywhere precipitous, it was deemed advisable to deviate altogether from the method hitherto adopted of laying out the ground in rectangular blocks, inasmuch as it would be more inconvenient and expensive to excavate for carriage roads in the direct lines over the undulating surface of the northwestern part or portion of the proposed Cemetery, than to wind around the slopes in easy and graceful curves.

The spot selected is one presenting an unrivalled advantage over any other of the kind I have seen in this country, and requires but a small outlay of capital to render it the most attractive in Canada.

The soil is in no instance swampy: and if at any time surface water should accumulate from heavy rains, or the sudden thawing of heavy falls of snow, it can easily be carried off by shallow drains into the adjoining Lake. For this purpose the principal drain might be constructed, if absolutely necessary, in the concave ground between the Octagon on the east and the Chapel block on the west, the drain having a fall of about one inch to every ten feet; and in order that none of the graves might be disturbed, it can be excavated in its entire length under the carriage roads, in a direction from south to north. The outlet of the said drain should be toward the north-east. No other would be required in any part of the Cemetery, the soil being dry and porous and well adapted for the purposes of interment.

As a "Receiving Vault" has become an indispensable appendage to modern Cemeteries, and it is contemplated to erect a small Chapel at some future day, for the

convenience of reading the Burial Service, a block of land has been reserved entire for that purpose. The building should be of plain and unobtrusive design, and of that style of architecture which prevailed in England about the year 1200, and generally known as the Early English, or Lancet Style.

Whenever a Receiving Vault is absolutely required it can be constructed so as to correspond with the chancel of the Church, when erected as an entire edifice, but his apparent Chancel is to have no internal communication with the main building, but merely attached to preserve the unity of design and so save the expense of two buildings. Of course, not to be a detriment from a sanitary point of view.

After some little outlay has been made in improving the roads, etc., a Superintendent's residence will be required, the occupier of which should be constantly engaged in carrying forward such improvements as have been decided upon and begun, and also to prevent any injury being done to the trees and fences, either through malice or wantonness. This building should be situated within a short distance from the main entrance or gateway, and correspond, in appearance, with the Chapel.

The blocks not subdivided into lots are intended to be reserved for any specific requirement that may arise in the future, (including at the same time, that part which skirts the margin of the lake), and are to be kept as shrubberies; not however in one dense mass of foliage, but interspersed with occasional vistas, so as to increase the variety and produce an ornamental and picturesque effect. All broken angles and fragments of lots are intended to be reserved for planting.

It is proposed to intersect these reserves and blocks with footpaths about four feet wide, laid with gravel. Rustic

seats made from the gnarled and knotty branches of trees should be secured at proper distance, for the purpose of repose and meditation.

On the summit level, and the north side of the grounds, are to be found numerous gneiss and granite boulders, which at first, may be considered a great inconvenience when digging for graves, but I would on no account recommend their removal from the grounds, inasmuch the larger ones can be surrounded by trees and sheltered with shrubs, and occasionally used as seats, whilst the smaller ones might be collected together and piled up in the form of a cairn.

In wealthy and densely populated districts the most effective arrangement is aimed at, and greater attention is bestowed upon the design and distribution of sepulchral monuments, and the prevention of any incongruous structures being placed upon the grounds; but in the infancy of this establishment the careful introduction of trees, shrubs and grass plots, should be your first care.

The choice of trees should not fall upon such as have their foliage of a very vivid and bright green, and those that have a pendant tendency should chiefly be preferred. Such as the dwarf beech, birch, acacia, the larch and willow, which not only have a pleasing contrast of colour but also differ in character. The long avenue, as a variety to this is intended to be planted with the aspen and poplar.

2 THE MORTUARY CHAPEL

A letter of "a stockholder" in the EXAMINER of last week has called forth a reply from the Rev. Mr. Clementi, president of the Little Lake Cemetery Company – a reply that is not in harmony with his position as president of a company holding in trust a piece of ground that should at any rate remind him of the necessity to deal with all matters connected with it in a frank and strait-forward manner. We anticipated part of a plea likely to be put forth, that a Mortuary Chapel would be common property to all denominations. But this needs no reply, as all do not desire it, and none of them, except the Episcopalians, would be likely even to use it. The wit pressed in with reference to the sects of England and Scotland will not convince many of the justice and reasonableness of using the money of Stockholders of every denomination or Church of which the president claims to be a member. The directors could find other ways in harmony with the act, of spending the surplus, \$1700 – ways that would have the approval of all, and it is to be hoped that they will not undertake the erection of a Mortuary Chapel, until they have exhausted every just way of disposing of the cash on hand. Let a few things required engage their attention this season, such as enlarging the grounds while land adjacent can be easily obtained; aiding in getting a sidewalk from the main street to the Cemetery; placing posts to hitch teams to, instead of as now having them hitched to beautiful trees, which they

The Octagon may be used for interment if absolutely required. But at present the central space is reserved for a group of willow trees, with seats under and so situated as to be in front of, and command a view of any approach on the cruciform carriage way.

The principal blocks allotted for interment are mapped out into pathways four feet wide, and subdivided into lots eight feet by fourteen feet six inches, making an area of 116 square feet, being, I believe, sixteen feet more than required by law. The stakes already planted on the cruciform carriage-way, are thirty-three feet apart. Two feet on each side of the stakes are to be taken to make footpaths, and so on, in straight lines, as shown on the accompanying map.

The Blocks are first lettered, then divided into ranges, and again subdivided into lots and numbered, in order to describe any particular lot which may be required.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,

Your very obedient servant,

F. F. PASSMORE,

Provincial Land Surveyor

Toronto, 10 December 1851

To the President and Directors,

The Little Lake Cemetery Company,
Peterborough, C. W.

Peterborough Examiner, 7 February 1878

are almost sure to destroy; and many other little accommodations required.

In visiting the grounds the effect of the atmosphere on the monuments are too visible, as many of them are becoming black, and unsightly. If this \$1700 or say \$1200 of it, were invested in a capital fund, and the interest yearly used to clean and keep these memorial stones in good repair, the beautiful grounds would always have a fresh and cheerful appearance to visitors. In this way all funds would be aiding in beautifying the grounds for all time. At present the sum of two dollars a year is extracted for keeping each plot in order, and every one who visits the grounds will admit that Mr. Kelly does his part with great taste and exactitude. But, might not the \$1700 be invested so as to lessen this yearly expense, and at the same time be used in accordance with the act.

If the President desires a Mortuary Chapel, could he not get up a subscription from those holding views akin to his own, and use that money to build a Chapel for themselves. The next thing the President can do is call a meeting of the stockholders to advise the directors in this matter, and then he would be in possession of the views of a large number of those stockholders, who did not ever imagine such a matter as a Mortuary Chapel would be brought up at the annual meeting.

3 VISIT TO THE LITTLE LAKE CEMETERY

Peterborough Daily Evening Review, 26 July 1880

The Little Lake cemetery has always been the boast of Peterborough ever since the site was first selected, and at the present time we can claim without any danger of successful contradiction that we have the handsomest and best-cared for Cemetery in the Province, if not in the Dominion. In fact we have heard it said, by those well competent to judge, that it ranks next to the celebrated Mount Hope Cemetery at Rochester, N.Y., which is known all over the continent. Ours, on a small scale, is almost a counterpart of Mount Hope. We have been endeavouring for some time past to get an opportunity of paying a visit to this "city of the dead," but, without success, until the other day upon invitation of Mayor Lundy, the President of the Cemetery Company, our reporter accompanied that gentleman down for the purpose of seeing the improvements that have been made since our visit last year. As we drove down we found out that Crescent street around the edge of the Lake has been recently graveled from the main road to the cemetery gate, making it in good shape for travel. We also noticed the great difference in the way in which work is done when paid for by private individuals and by the corporation. Last year a large amount of cribwork was constructed along the edge of the Lake, to prevent the water from encroaching upon and washing away the road. Part was done by the Town and the rest by the Cemetery Company; and this is where we noticed the difference spoken of. While that part of the work done by the Cemetery Company is in first class condition and well filled in with stones and earth, that portion done by the Town is just in the opposite state, fully one half of the filling having either been washed away or sunk out of sight, leaving large holes all along. This matter should be attended to at once or in a short time the corporation may have to do the work all over again to preserve the road. By purchasing the small piece of land just in front of the Superintendent's residence, the grounds have been enlarged and we believe it is now in contemplation to purchase some land just across the street for the purpose of extension. That portion recently acquired has been enclosed, by a good and substantial wire fence, and a neat sidewalk built from the south end to the house. Two rows of trees have been planted all along the bank of the Lake, the whole distance of the ground, basswoods and willows close to the water and maples further in. A large flower bed in the centre contains some choice plants, while flowering shrubs, such as roses of different kinds have been planted at short intervals along the walk. The bank at the east end has been cut down three feet and terraced, and the bank re-sodded. The whole surface of the plot was plowed up and sown with grass seed which has grown nicely, looking just as well as if it had been sodded.

After thoroughly inspecting the approaches which were all found in good condition, we entered the cemetery proper and at once started in search of the indefatigable superintendent, Mr. John Kelly, to whom is due in a large measure the fine appearance that the grounds present to the visitors. After looking for some time without success we heard a sudden loud report and listening in the direction from where the sound came we were just in time to see him emerge with two assistants from a place of safety that they had retired to while a charge of dynamite was being exploded. As usual he received us cordially, and kindly offered to accompany us through the grounds and point out the improvements. The place where he was working at the time of our arrival was a short time ago the roughest spot in the grounds, but by blasting out the large stones, which are very numerous at this spot, and cutting down the trees and taking out the stumps it is now in a tolerable state. We were shown here some of the finest specimens of the stones known as "hard heads" that we ever saw. One of them measured seven by five feet. At present, Mr. Kelly is engaged in grading three ranges averaging eighteen lots each, just south of the chapel, and out of this small piece of ground he has already taken out over eleven cords of stone, besides a small army of pine stumps in filling a pier, which will have to be built pretty soon, at the extreme southern end of the grounds at the river bank, to keep out the cattle which are continually entering at this spot and trespassing on forbidden ground.



A large number of new lots have been cleared up and graded. Three ranges, making about 30 lots, were treated in this manner last fall, and are now well-sodded. Just south of the chapel grounds some two hundred new lots have been thoroughly cleared from stones, stumps and trees, and graded, having been filled in in some places over two feet. These have been sown with grass seed, and in a short time will be some of the choicest in the cemetery.

Perhaps the most noticeable improvement that has been made recently is that all the trees throughout the whole cemetery have been underbrushed for a height of about eight feet from the ground. All the bad trees have been removed, and all the dead limbs cut off and the ground "rough graded," as Mr. Kelly calls it. A person can now see from one end of the grounds to the other without any difficulty. The trees in the eastern section are rather too thick, and if some of them were removed it would give the grounds more of the appearance of a park. At one time there was a great antipathy to this portion of the ground, or the flat, as it is generally called, but during the last two or three years, it has been changed so much for the better that there is no difficulty at all now in selling lots situated there.

Considerable ornamentation has been done by Mr. Kelly. Several new flower beds have been made in different portions of the Cemetery, and the plants being in full bloom. Are very pleasing to the eye. Several cairns or heaps of stone attracted our attention, and upon enquiry and inspection, we found out that the stones concealed unsightly stumps, which were formerly regular eye sores, but in their new clothes, present a very artistic appearance. When clearing the ground the pines are all taken out, and only the hardwood trees left. Sometimes, however, it is found necessary to remove every tree off a piece of ground that is being graded, in which case hardwood slips are planted as soon as the work is completed. These all grow nicely, and in a short time are good ornaments. Mr. Kelly is always busy improving the grounds or buildings in some way or another. It strikes me as rather curious how he can find anything to improve on, but after he finishes his work, it is quite easy to see that we were mistaken. He never touches anything that is not in a short time changed for the better.

The Chapel regarding which there was so much disputing at the time of its erection, is a great improvement to the grounds. The piers of this building were badly discoloured by the rain, but by the application of a good coat of cement, this is hidden, and at the same time the color forms a harmonious contrast with the other brickwork. At the time of our visit, there were at least fifty visitors inspecting the Cemetery, and we are informed that that number is not above the average for an ordinary day. On Sundays they may be counted by the hundreds, and one would almost think sometimes that the whole town was there, especially during the hot summer days, as a breeze at all times passes through the entire grounds.

The Superintendent's residence has been greatly fixed up, and the barn refitted throughout and painted all over on the outside. A new platform has been laid around the ground in front of the dwelling, and a new verandah erected. A very handsome hedge has been planted at the eastern end of the portion of the ground recently purchased, and in the course of a year or two, when it grows sufficiently, will be a great improvement and a handsome ornament.

All the lots without exception show evidence of the great care that is taken of them by Mr. Kelly. All are properly looked after and many of them present a very attractive appearance, showing that those taking their last sleep may be gone but they are not forgotten by their friends. One lot in particular, owned by Mrs John Whyte, attracted our particular attention. It is surrounded by a handsome iron railing and is almost covered with trees and flowers.

When we first entered the cemetery we noticed a number of new monuments that have only recently been placed in position. One that has just been finished to the memory of the late Wm. Lundy, Esq., is undoubtedly the finest monument in the cemetery, and has just been put up by His Worship Mayor Lundy. The lot occupies a very prominent position, just at your right hand side as you enter at the large gate. In order to properly show the monument the lot had to be extended to very nearly twice its former size, and the foundation prepared last year had to be moved back. The lot is surrounded by a wall built of Bobcaygeon stone, and when the lot is properly fixed up it will not be surpassed by any in the cemetery. The monument is a very extensive affair, and is from the marble works of Mr. Chas. Watson, of Toronto, and is the only one of the design ever manufactured by him. It stands seventeen feet high, and is five feet square at the base. It is of Gothic design, with conventional carved caps and four granite columns, and has a plinth of Gothic style in the centre for inscriptions, and finished with a carved finial on top. The base is of Kingston limestone, and weighs two tons and a half. The total weight of the monument is slightly over ten tons and the cost \$4,500. It is made of American



marble and the granite columns are Canadian. These are particularly striking and are the finest grey granite that we have ever seen. It was procured from New Brunswick, and Mr. Watson says that it beats any Scotch granite he ever saw. The granite

columns in the new Mail building now being erected in Toronto, are of the same material. The whole design is altogether unlike anything in the cemetery and will be a great addition to the large number of handsome monuments already erected.

Messrs. George and Joseph Hall have recently erected a fine monument of gray Arnprior marble to the memory of their parents. It was put up by Mr. J. Byrne of Peterborough. Mr. R. Davidson of Smith has erected a family monument of red Scotch granite from Aberdeen. It was put up by Mr. Jas. Byrne. Mr. Byrne has also put up a very handsome white marble monument [to] the memory of the late Wm. Mercer, Esq. The Matchett family have erected one of red Scotch granite from Aberdeen. It was put up by Mr. McDonald of Newcastle. Those mentioned are all the large monuments that have been erected during the last year. Besides these, however, a large number of large and small headstones have been placed in position, but we have not the space to enumerate all of them.

A shower of rain coming on we finished our visit, and started for home, concluding our two hour's visit, and impressed with the idea that we could not speak too highly of the great courtesy extended to us by Mr. Kelly, or of the neat manner in which everything is kept. ...

4 LITTLE LAKE CEMETERY THE BEAUTIFUL BURIAL GROUND GREATLY IMPROVED

Peterborough Review, Thursday, 12 July 1883

The care that is bestowed upon the graves, lots and grounds in the cemetery, and the large number that visit it weekly and daily, show what an interest the people take in this, the last resting place of their friends. The Cemetery Company and the owners of lots have worked together in enhancing the beauty of this place, and the Company has not allowed expense to interfere in any way with the improvements.

This summer, so far, the Company has expended about \$500 in putting in one improvement which will be a great convenience. This is a SYSTEM OF WATERWORKS by which the flower beds and grounds will be watered. The power is furnished by a wind mill, which is situated at the north east corner of the cemetery, on the point which runs into the Little Lake. It is sixty feet high, and was manufactured by Mr. W. Forsythe, who also furnished the tanks. From the mill 800 feet of pipes are laid to the tanks, which are situated on the hill a short distance north of the Cemetery Chapel. The tanks are raised above the ground some feet, and are two in number. They are connected by a small tube and water first enters one and flows into the other. They are eight feet wide and six feet high, and their combined capacity is 140 barrels. The elevation from the wind mill to the tanks is fifty feet, and between these two points places have been fixed for four hydrants, one of which was already in operation on the occasion of our visit Monday. In addition there is a place where the hose can be attached at the tanks, which makes an additional hydrant. At the tanks there is a valve in the pipes to control the entrance and outflow of the water, and a drip cock is placed at the lowest level on the hill by which the water can be drained from the pipes. The Company have on the ground 150 feet of hose, and they have procured 500 feet. This hose will be used for the purpose of IRRIGATING THE FLOWERS and grounds. Even if the hose were not used the hydrants would save much time in carrying water, but when the waterworks are extended according to the plan the whole cemetery will be watered with the hose. While the mill was working 50 feet of hose was attached and a stream was thrown about 30 feet from the nozzle. The mill fills both the tanks, with a good wind, in twelve hours.

The waterworks system now extends from the wind mill at the north east corner to the tanks, and IT WAS TESTED on Friday by a committee of the Directors and found to work satisfactorily. At a meeting of the Directors on Monday night it was accepted as satisfactory, and taken off the contractors' hands. Mr. G. W. Ranney was the engineer of the works, and Mr. G. Bolton had the contract. The system will be further EXTENDED THIS SUMMER and pipes will be laid from the tanks to the chapel and to the entrance gate, where there is a circular flower bed, a fountain will be erected which will add greatly to the appearance of the cemetery. It will stand in such a position that it may be seen from Lock street. The system will be still further extended next summer, when it has stood the test of the winter months, to cover the whole cemetery, and several fountains will be put in, one probably on the flat east of the chapel. ...

In walking around the cemetery for a short time, it was noticed that, as usual, THE GROUNDS ARE WELL KEPT, and many of the lots showed evidences of great care and attention. Among those which especially attracted attention were the Mrs John Whyte lot, which has been and is one of the most attractive in the cemetery. The Kilmarnock willows, planted in this lot last summer, is doing well, and also those which were planted in the Lundy lot at the same time. The Lundy lot is a beautiful one, and is well attended to. On the Hall brothers' lot, where the little daughter of Mr. Maxwell Hall was buried, an ornament of a new design has been erected. Pillars of wire, painted green, stand on the four corners with flower pots on the top, and are connected by an arch. Suspended on the arch there is a marble tablet with the child's name cut in the stone, and painted in gold letters. Vines are growing in the centre of the pillars, and the lot is covered with flowers. On the new lot, where the late D. G. Hatton is buried, large vases have been placed in the corners, flowers have been planted and other ornamental work done. Mr. Cluxton's lot gives evidences of recent care and careful attention, as does also the Conger lot. The fence around Capt. Rubidge's lot has recently been repaired and painted, and other improvements have been made. The trees planted on Mr. W. H. Moore's lot are growing nicely, and the appearance of Mr. W. Galley's lot shows that it has been carefully attended to, and the flowers on it look fine. The lot in

which Miss Wood was interred last week has always been one of the best in the cemetery, owing to the care she bestowed upon it, and it is now brilliant with the beautiful flowers growing on it. Judge Dennistoun's lot and Mr. A. Goodfellow's give evidence of much care. Mr. J. W. Flavelle's lot has been improved in appearance, and looks well. On the Oddfellows lot, where Mr. Martin and Mr. Buckett are buried, there is a unique flower bed representing the triple links. On Dr. King's lot a new and large bed of flowers have been planted, and a similar tasteful adornment has been planted in Mr. A. Cox's lot. Mrs. Mercer's lot looks well, as does that of Mr. Wallis. The fence around Mrs. T. Lannin's lot has been painted, and two pretty flower beds, in the shape of diamonds, have been planted on it. Mr. S. D. Loomis' lot, on one of the new terraces, has an ornament of a new design, being a pillar with flowers on the top and arching branches with flowers on the end of the arms. In fact the whole cemetery has a beautiful appearance this summer, and not only is the same care bestowed upon it as in previous seasons, but the attention given to it seems to have increased. The lots, the grass plots and the walks are all well kept, and Mr. John Kelly, the obliging superintendent, appears to be indefatigable in his attention and determined in his efforts to make and keep the cemetery as beautiful as possible. ...

5 LITTLE LAKE CEMETERY: ADDING TO THE AREA OF GOD'S ACRE

Daily Examiner, 19 October 1885

Little Lake Cemetery has long been considered one of the most beautiful rural cemeteries in the Dominion, and when the present progressing extension and the improvements consequent thereon, are carried out, the result will be the making of a place of interment, which need not fear comparison with any other, anywhere. As already indicated in THE EXAMINER, the Cemetery Company have secured six acres, including the street to be given in place of the boundary road, lying west of the present inclosure. During the past week a good deal of preliminary work has been expended on the addition, under the supervision of Mr. John Kelly. Mr. James Weir has been employed in extracting the stumps of the sturdy pines that once towered amongst their companions of the primeval forest. Of these over two hundred have been lifted. They have been disposed of by placing them along the lake shore west from the present breakwater. They do not certainly constitute a great ornament, but they will prevent the washing away of the bank by the action of the water in the spring, that is if the town council will take enough interest in the matter to make some arrangements to prevent their being floated away at high tide.

The new portion of the cemetery will make a vast improvement in the appearance of Little Lake Cemetery. The high bank that forms the present western boundary of the inclosure will be suitably terraced and will present a series of fine sites for family vaults. From this terrace the new portion slopes beautifully westward, and will be in full view from several points in the town, and from the approach embracing nearly the whole length of Crescent street, that is if this street remains till the new portion is laid out and planted. Of this latter work Mr. Ranney, C. E., has charge and is now preparing places for the necessary system of walks and drives. Of course at present there is nothing definite decided on. The work being done is merely preliminary.

The present approach and the green in front of the present entrance gates is to be preserved. The new portion will be enclosed on the new side of the approach by a fence similar to and parallel with the existing fence from the point where the latter touches the confines of the lake. At the upper terminus of this fence another set of entrance gates admitting to the new portion will be placed, facing north. It is also proposed to substitute a low wire fence for the present semi-circular fence at the present entrance.

In speaking improvements it should be noticed that the stumps, to the number of eighty, have also been removed from the different portions of the unimproved places where they existed in the present cemetery. South of the fountain on the lower level of the grounds, on Maple avenue, considerable improvements have been made, resulting in making available 350 single burial plots. Maple avenue has been much improved. It is also proposed to open a new drive, starting from the point where Conger avenue strikes level ground; this drive will sweep round the base of the hill, southward and westward, and join one of the system of drives in the new portion.



Notes.

Everywhere the hand of improvement is visible in this lovely city of the silent, though it is impossible on account of the perpetual falling of the leaves, to keep the tended swards and terraces clear, but in spite of that, it is evident that an eye of taste looks after the keeping of everything.

Considerable repairs to the vault have been necessary this season, on account of the severity of last winter's frost. A wide fissure had opened in the arch over the vault door, and made the rebuilding of a portion of the front gable necessary. The front buttresses have also been enlarged and furnished with new coping, and those, as well as the entire front tuck-pointed anew.

There have been a good number of new monuments placed in position this summer.

On Mrs Whyte's plot, a fine Canadian red granite column has been

erected. An innovation is the placing on the bevelled top of low granite slabs, the name, ages and dates of the death of the occupants of the plot, the family name or names only appearing on the monument.

In the plot of the Deyells, of Otonabee, a similar monument with similar arrangements has been put up.

Mr. N. Shaw has erected this season to the memory of his late wife, a very neat and tasty monument in blue-veined marble.

An imposing monument in white bronze metal marks the last resting place of the late Andrew Jackson.

Mr. W. H. Rackham has placed to the memory of his wife a neat and elegant cruciform monument in blue mottled marble.

Mrs. C. J. Nicholls has palced around the family burial plot, 32 x 30, a handsome heavy balustrade in cut Dummer lime-stone, to the gate of which stone steps and a stone platform lead up from Chapel avenue.

The Bennett family have placed a beautiful monument in white bronze metal on their burial plot.

The remains of the late Mossom Boyd have been removed to a new plot and a magnificent monument in gray Scotch granite is being erected. The base, of Queenston limestone is five feet square, and weighs three tons; the weight of the entire monument is 12 tons, and its height 21 feet. It was imported directly from Scotland.

A tasty blue-veined marble monument marks the grave of the late ex-Councillor Allin.

A cenotaph, in blue-veined marble, erected in memory of the late John Sherlock, a member of the Canadian contingent, who died at Kaliber, in the Soudan, on March 22nd, is an interesting addition to the mortuary monuments. In one part of the column there is inserted a fragment of the stone which, carved with his name, marks his lonely grave in the deserts of the Soudan.

A handsome gray granite monument adorns the family plot of the Thompson family, Douro.

The elegant tomb of the Dawson family has been removed from Otonabee to a plot in the southern part of the Cemetery.

6 LITTLE LAKE CEMETERY: IMPORTANT IMPROVEMENTS

Peterborough Examiner, 17 July 1886

Every year it has been the pleasure of the The Examiner to note the condition and improvement made in the beautiful resting place of the dead. These were, however, confined to extensions of the cultivated portion, within the old enclosure. This year a quite different work is going on. Mr. Kelly is successfully carrying out the improvement of the several acres added to the cemetery on the western side and bringing it into correspondence with the old improved portion.

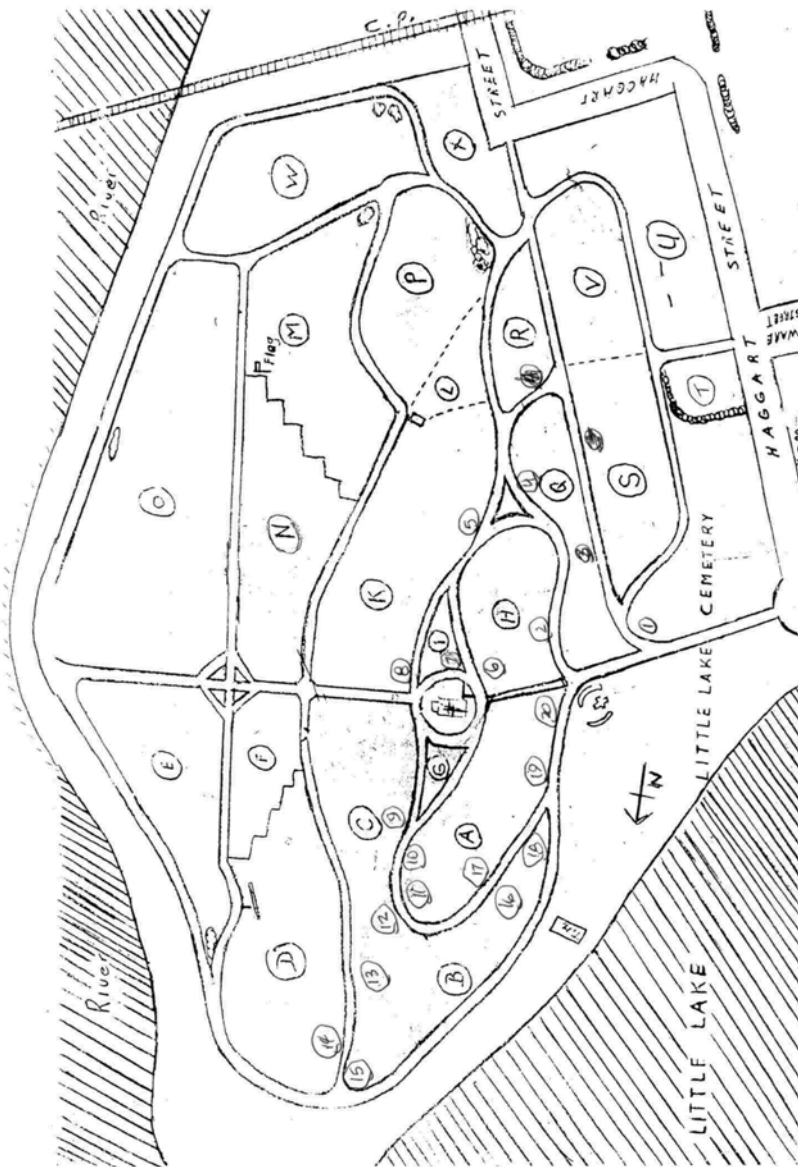
One who has not visited the cemetery before this year would hardly recognize the place on approaching it. The entrance gates and circular fence have been removed to the new western boundary at the roadway. The fence has been newly painted and so well has it been done that only a connoisseur could distinguish it from a new fence. Southward from this extends to the southern limit of the grounds a neat new fence of light iron and wood. This fence, which is 1,005 feet in length is neatly painted, the iron work, a bright green and the wood a neutral tint.

From the site of the entrance gates along the left of the entrance drive, a cedar hedge put down this spring, has been planted. This extends 300 feet, following at the upper end of the curve of the old circular fence at the old entrance and terminating where it did. From this point this year's improvements may be noted. From here to the southern boundary extends a broad drive, marking the dividing line between the old and new parts. To the left of this going southward to the new central drive, the bank has been converted into a terrace for vaults. Above and east of this portion, the undergrowth of thicket on the western boundary of the old cemetery grounds has been cleared away and the ground neatly graded, the best trees being left standing. From this terrace about the highest part of the cemetery, the view overlooks the new portion, producing a very fine effect.



The new part of the cemetery in its natural condition presented great difficulties of treatment, but Mr. Ranney and Mr. Kelly, cooperating with the directors, have overcome them. To the right of the entrance gates a broad plateau sweeps southward level lines about 300 feet, rising, however, gradually towards the old grounds. This portion is not yet quite levelled. A deep hollow had to be filled up, which required a large amount of earth, but so skillfully has Mr. Kelly used his materials that the work will be done by borrowing earth from other parts of the grounds without hauling any from the outside. From where the level space ends the slope of the hills will be broken by terraces, as the nature of the ground may require. Along the western limit of the grounds a level space, about a hundred feet wide, is made at the foot of the slope, to be planted on the outside with a row of trees, and flanked by a drive.

The system of drives in the new portion consists, first, of the dividing drive before mentioned. From the northern beginning of this, a broad drive sweeps diagonally downward to about the middle of the new grounds. It then runs directly south, broken by a large turning circle, terminating in a diamond which forms the intersecting point with the drive that leads from the minor entrance gate about the middle of the western boundary. This drive runs due east till it joins the main drive in the southern part of the old grounds. From the main entrance gates a drive extends along the boundary fence, all around the new grounds, and at the junction



cribbing has been placed to assist in preventing the total destruction of Crescent street by the action of the water of the lake. It is unfortunate that the corporation of the town should not make some effort to improve the approach to our beautiful cemetery. The street is becoming rapidly narrower every year, and, unless something is done soon, it will be too narrow for carriage use. The preservation of this street need not be very expensive. With the cribbing once in place, sufficient earth is on hand for filling. From Mr. Harry Winch's residence to the cemetery gates, the whole width of the road could be lowered a foot, thus furnishing sufficient material for filling. If the street were cribbed and levelled, the Cemetery Company would see that a line, or lines, of trees was planted. A sidewalk is another pressing necessity. At present, ladies who wish to visit the cemetery on foot, have to either wade through mud or dust, a circumstance which spoils their clothing and inspires the unamiable wish that they were on the way to visit the graves of the members of the Town Council, who permit what might be made a beautiful avenue, to remain in a worse condition than a country road.

7 THE CITY OF THE DEAD: VISIT TO THE PETERBOROUGH CEMETERY

Peterborough Examiner, 29 July 1886

One of the most unmistakable evidences of the progress of refinement in any community is the expenditure of care and

of the old grounds sweep under the base of the hill till it joins the existing drive at the lower fountain, east of the mortuary chapel.

An immense amount of work has been done, but so much of this is out of sight, it would appear to a superficial observer that very great progress had not been made. The new grounds have been thoroughly underdrained, about 1100 feet of four-inch tile and 1160 feet of six-inch tile have been put in at a depth of from four to five feet, besides no small extent of stone drain. This represents a large amount of work, not a particle of which is visible. The work has been well done. Mr. Kelly, when felling the pines, saved the small boughs placed them on the top of the tiles before filling in, thus preventing choking by the earth.

At present the work of grading and levelling is going on, six men and two teams being employed. Under Mr. John Kelly's supervision, the work is progressing satisfactorily.

The directors are fortunate in securing the services of so efficient a Superintendent. Mr. Kelly, to a full knowledge of the business gained by a long experience, joins a genuine love of the work, a good taste, a ready appreciation of the best means to be employed to produce the best effects, and a ready disposition to hard work.

Early this fall the work of grading and levelling will be finished, the walks and drives largely completed and the new lawns laid down to grass.

In appearance the improvement will be a vast one and also result in a large addition to the interring capacity of the cemetery. The new portion will furnish space for 1000 full lots and the extension of the older portion will increase the number to 1,500, besides space for vaults.

In addition to other work, 200 feet of

embellishment on the place set apart as the last resting place of those who go on before us into the mysteries that lie beyond this finite existence. Whether it be the tribute of public respect to the memory of those who lived not for themselves alone, or the cherished tenderness for the parent or child, brother or sister removed by the inexorable master of all flesh, which may be exemplified by carefully tended graves, a cemetery which presents these marks of care and devotion to memories which only are left of the departed is a certain indication of elevated sentiment and refinement, and is as discernible in the community as the individual. A visit to the Little Lake Cemetery as this season of the year will convince anyone endowed with the least appreciation of the beautiful in nature or in art, that the community owes a debt of gratitude to those to whose enterprise and forethought this beautiful spot was made available for cemetery purposes. At any time on a Sunday afternoon when the weather is favorable, the road, round the lake may be seen thronged with visitors on their way to and from the cemetery some with pious purposes and others to enjoy the cool air, calm and quiet and the natural and artificial beauties of the place. A visit there on Sunday afternoon last, after an absence of several months shows that in that time the place has undergone marked improvements, the approach has been beautified by the embellishment of the strip of ground acquired some time ago north of the street to the lake. A handsome fence runs directly west from the cemetery gate to the water's edge. The space to the back of the lake has been sodded, a very successful catch being secured by Mr. Kelly, planted with shrubbery and adorned in the center with a bank of flowers. At the farther end, the cemetery ground is reached by a terrace with two falls, and the bare look of the outbuildings at the edge of the woods are relieved by being neatly painted. As you approach the most striking object is the monument just completed in honour of the late William Lundy by his family at a cost of some \$2000 which adds greatly to the appearance of the view. It is of white Italian marble, beautifully finished with granite pedestals. The shaft is surmounted by a sort of canopy of elegant design upheld by four pillars, the whole built on a massive scale, and presenting an elegant and imposing appearance. It is 17 feet in height, 5 feet square at the base and weighs about 10 tons. The late Mr. Lundy who was the father of our present Mayor came to Peterborough in 1830 and was among the pioneers of the early settlement. Mayor Lundy, grandfather the late James Brown who was one of the early settlers of Cavan is also buried here. Near this lot is a very handsome marble column beneath which repose the remains of the late Sheriff Conger. The monument is surrounded by a very beautiful cedar hedge, and bears the following inscription: In memory of W.S. Conger, MPP for the County of Peterborough who during his lifetime held the office of Sheriff, of the County Warden of the Council and Mayor of the Town of Peterborough. This monument was erected by public subscription in testimony of his continued and disinterested efforts of advance the interests of the County of Peterborough.



Near by is the resting place of Mrs. Green, mother-in-law of Mrs. H. Calcutt, a nicely tended lot ornamented with flowers. This late Squire Henthorn, whose aged partner followed him to the last home not long ago, rests here with others of the first residents of Peterborough, among them Mr. Oughtry Morrow and the late Mr. McComb, these lots being all in first class condition and nicely looked after. Fore members of the Elder family are in the family lot a little to the southward. Here is seen the monument of the Flemmings, an old family who all appear to have died out from this section. A neat hedge surrounds the lot of Mr. George Hilliard, which contrasts very strongly with a neglected one in the vicinity. On the lot of the late Mr. Hall, father of Mr. George Hall, of Hall and Ostrom, was an elegant lot of flowers and hanging baskets. The lot of Mr. Joseph Walton has an elegant monument, simple in design made from Aberdeen granite. Two suspended hearts, surrounded by floral offerings mark the resting place of two children of Mr. B. Shortley. A very handsome hedge surrounds the lot of Mr. Adam Dawson. A very well kept lot with some handsome floral attractions is that in which repose the father, mother and brother of Mr. Henry Best. There are handsome stones on the lots of the late Adam Stark (the lot being kept in order by Mr. Kelly for the two sons who live in Chicago) on the lots of the families of Alex Morrow and W.J. Mason, George Johnston and on the grave of the late W. Thompson. "Ivan O'Beirne, son of the late Rev. Andrew O'Beirne, D.D. Of Enniskillen." is the inscription on a modest tombstone. Another inscription bears the following tribute to the dead: Erected as a tribute of respect to the memory of John McNab, surgeon, who died Feb 13 1870. He was constant and unremitting in all ready and by his skill in his profession he rendered to the poor and needy his gratuitous services."

The lot of the Armstrong family, of Otonabee has a fine monument surrounded by a thick hedge of cedars. Another fine stone has this inscription, "in memory of Robert Thompson who died aged ____ years." The gentleman for whom it is intended is yet in the land of the living. A handsome blue granite shaft occupies the family lot of Mr. James Stratton which is beautified by flowers and hanging baskets. Mr. Samuel White's lot has a handsome monument and is kept in very pretty condition. A simple

white cross, surrounded by flower beds and adorned by an elegant weeping willow marks the resting place of the late Captain Wallace. That of the late William Hall has a fine column of gray marble. The late Captain Rubidge and George Barlee are among the numerous interments in the lot of the Clementi family. Among other monuments which strike attention are those of the late A. W. Kept, John Matchett, Uriah Payne, W.S. Kelly of Bridgenorth, William H. Moore, James Armstrong of Monaghan, and the late Judge J.B. Hall. The lot of Mr. W. Galley is beautifully decorated with flowers and urns and hanging baskets. A very handsome white marble cross marks the lot of Judge Dennistoun. A handsome stone indicates the burial place of the late William Hall who has a finer monument, however, in the Protestant Poor Trust. One of the most striking ornaments of the ground is the tomb of the late Rev. Mark Burnham. The lots of Mrs. Dickson, Arch. Goodfellow, Mrs. Gilmour and S. Jamieson are noted for the care and adornment bestowed on them, as also the family burial lot of Mr. Edmund Chamberlain. That of Mr. James Best is marked by a graceful sweeping ash. We note the burial places of the late Thomas M. Fairbairn, of the late Hon. F. Steen Brown who once administered justice for the whole Newcastle District and of James Linen who will be remembered as a drill sergeant at the time of the Fenian raid. The lot of P. Connal has a fine monument and is very prettily decorated with flowers. A somewhat peculiar but imposing arch of marble occupies the resting place of the late T. Lannin, and near by a fluted marble column surrounded by an iron fence shows the marks of constant attention in the floral attraction tastefully supplied the lot of Mrs. John Whyte. There are many other tombs that strike the eye in granite, white and gray marble, Aberdeen granite etc. and the effect of the various colours and forms tastefully relieved with beautiful beds, urns and baskets of flowers as the various views open up through the trees and shrubbery is beautiful in the extreme. The walks and borders and in the most perfect condition, clean and well-tended and everywhere the skill of Mr. Kelly and his unremitting labor are discernible. On the south side of the cemetery a large area has this year been underbrushed, cleared up, stones and stumps removed, walks made, and a large number of very fine sites made available, the amount of work accomplished in so short a time being scarcely credible. We would suggest of those interested in some of the older monuments which have become blackened and corroded by time, that they can have them restored to their original purity by applying to Mr. Kelley. It would be an improvement to have a dozen or so of rustic seats available for the use of lady visitors, they would be both useful and appropriate. An improvement of the aspect at the approach might be made to advantage by the removal of a couple of the trees south of the entrance way, as they impede the view of some of the finest of the monuments. We believe it is the intention to adopt some scheme for setting aside a fund for the beautifying and care of the grounds which would not leave it so much to private effort. We would advise some of our local artists to make some stereoscopic views in the grounds and across the lake – they could not be excelled in beauty and picturesqueness. We might add that the monument of the Lundy family was erected by Mr. Charles Watson of Toronto, who has been so favorably impressed with Peterborough during his stay here that there is a prospect of his establishing his business here.

8 OVER NINE THOUSAND INTERMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE

F. H. Dobbin, Examiner, 17 April 1920, p 6

Persons of an antiquarian turn of mind, and who visit, for example, the British Isles, return to tell us of the many curious inscriptions and letterings on the stones of the cemeteries visited. England has had centuries – six or seven of them – in which to cultivate that sort of thing, and has excelled in putting together quaint and interesting memorial inscriptions of the departed. At points in Canada, where the remote years of the settlement and occupation has given time for several generations to live and pass away, something of the sort is found.

Peterborough, as noted, in its burial places has not much of antiquity to go back to. A bare hundred is but a week of years as compared with the countries of the Old World. But the visitor to the Little Lake cemetery who wishes to note record of the people who lived and were active in this town and district will find many stones, heading the graves, that display, [etched] into the marble, brief statements of birth and death and sometimes, curious facts in regard to the departed.

The first interments of those who died in and about the town plot and district were made in the ground now known as Central Park. The site had not been chosen with care or judgment. The growth of the town tended that way and afterwards it was seen that burials in the plot would have to be discontinued. In the early fifties the Little Lake cemetery was opened up as the care of a newly formed company, or syndicate, the beautiful grounds being the gift at a nominal price of the Upper Canada House of Assembly to the town.

Remains Removed

Many of the old headstones were removed to the new cemetery, along with such remains as could be transferred. At say along in the early thirties, there was not much of marble accessible to use as headstones. Only those well of could afford to provide such. But for anyone there was a profusion of the very finest of pine timber, and a plank could be cut that would measure all of thirty inches in girth and three inches thick. These were given many coats of white paint and lettered in black, and supported in another block, made an acceptable headstone or grave marker. As years passed on the wind and rain, frost and sun obliterated the lettering and gnawed at the wood. When the removals from the cemetery were in order, few of the old head boards were worth taking away. Indeed many of the marble stones had been overturned and broken the versatile youth of the town delighting to work mischief among the lots.

Many of the marble stones were what one might call trash. As transportation from the Front was by waggon and over an indifferent road, the thinner the stone the larger the number on a load and the less cost. Stones of one inch and of one and a half

inches in their kness were common. So on moving to the new cemetery the largest of the old stones they were wisely laid on the turf and tucked into a border of sods, with some provision to take away the water of rains or snows. But the visitor to the cemetery, of a summer Sunday afternoon, if he prowls about may find much to interest in deciphering the old inscriptions, telling of the personality of those who have passed away, after being identified with the Town and its interests.

East of the drinking fountain, adjoining the chapel on the cemetery grounds can be found the stone, flat on the turf, identifying the resting place of Commander (Captain) Robert M. Forbes, R. N. He saw service under Lord Nelson at Trafalgar Bay, was a participant in the naval engagement at Abouku Bay [1799] and in other sea engagements. Died on Jan. 26th, 1812. He was not a resident of Peterborough in the early days, but being father-in-law of the late James Wallis (of Merino Farm), the body was removed from where first interred and brought to Peterborough. For many years it rested in the old cemetery opposite the Public Library. The old headstone, a slab of marble, much discolored with age and the elements, rests on the grave. Following a brief statement of the birth, service and date of death, the following lines are cut into the stone, said to have been composed by the man himself:

"Tho' Boreas' blasts and wintry winds have tossed him to and fro,
Yet spite of all, by God's decree, I harbour here below.
Full fifty-years I've often braved the battle and the breeze,
But now on terra firma [illeg] Doomsday I'm at ease
Where calmly at Anchor I lay, till God my soul shall greet,
And call me to his Heavenly home, our saviour Christ to meet."
PPP

Monaghan Road, near to the St Peter's Cemetery. Many monuments were shipped to Peterborough, though, and the minutes contain many references to problems caused by monuments that ran against company policy.

In 1934, those attending the annual meeting of the Little Lake Cemetery Company reflected on the long service that had been rendered by Benjamin Shurtle, R. F. Ackerman and E. H. D. Hall. Mayor Donnie noted, "Mr. Shurtle has been a director for 43 consecutive years, while Mr. Hall rendered yeoman service for 30 years. Mr. Hall's father, the late James Hall, was the first President of the company, having been elected to that office in 1851. Mr. Ackerman was first elected a director in 1918, and he, too, was deeply interested in all the activities of the company."

It was remarkable that the board of directors was always able to find leading citizens to be on their board, and those who joined stayed for years. It was always an active board, and the directors became interested in what was going on around the cemetery, and interested in the Superintendent shared information he had received from his colleagues and from suggestions directed at cemeteries. The board members were well connected, but they also had learned quite a bit about running businesses. In 1934, for example, the three departing directors were replaced by W. J. Thompson, Dr. Middleton, and James Hamilton, all three of whom proved exceptionally strong directors. Each of them served several years as president. Thompson was with the city's largest insurance firm, and Hamilton was the president of the Peter Hamilton Agricultural Works, as well as mayor, 1938-1945.

Mayor Robert Donnie, the 1933 cemetery president and mayor since 1928, commented that "Little Lake Cemetery was planned and established by men of vision in the early days of Peterborough's history, and thanks to their foresight, the city possesses one of the most admirably situated cemeteries in the province, while throughout the intervening years leaders in business, industry and the professions have unselfishly served as members of the board giving of their time and ability with no hope of reward, but public recognition and only the satisfaction of discharging a community responsibility as a recompense."

During the 1930s, Mayor Donnie said that the cemetery kept expenses down by doing what was absolutely necessary. William Jones, the superintendent, noted a long list of jobs that were done apart from "ordinary cemetery work." The tomb-



PETERBOROUGH LEFT: The heavy mounds of earth on the side of the church under the name of its original burial ground.

RIGHT: A memorial plaque in the chapel recognizes the founders of the cemetery.

PETERBOROUGH RIGHT: On the page, Lt. Arthur Ross Ackerman was the son of Benjamin F. Ackerman, of the famous north on George Street. As a surgeon of Peterborough's 13th regiment, he volunteered in 1914 at the age of 21 and served at Valenciennes, France. In early October, he sailed to Britain with the First Canadian and was deployed to the field of Salisbury near Sandhurst. By February, he was at the front in France with the First Division and was later part of a valiant posting in the 2nd Canadian Infantry Battalion. Arthur Ackerman was one of the Handicapped Soldiers of the war, being at the front for the second battle of Ypres and also at Vimy. In July 1918 he was wounded in the First World War. Arthur Ackerman was one of the Handicapped Soldiers of the war, being at the front for the second battle of Ypres and also at Vimy. In July 1918 he was wounded in the First World War. Arthur Ackerman was one of the Handicapped Soldiers of the war, being at the front for the second battle of Ypres and also at Vimy. In July 1918 he was wounded in the First World War.

Pages from the history of Little Lake Cemetery showing the Ackerman family monument and the funeral procession.

Turn to the left on entering the cemetery, just at top of entrance grade, and along the shore line of lots, will be found two gravestones of interest. One is erected to the memory of Daniel Macdonald, born in the Scotch Village (East City) in 1838. A son of Daniel Macdonald, the elder, tailor and pioneer. The son followed in early manhood the employment of clerk and afterwards became interested in the lumbering business. While a man of no unusual proportions physically, he was noted for his feats of strength, which exceeded that of anyone in the district or indeed in the province. Many stories were told of his use of his gift in his occupation and in the woods. On occasion he had lifted with apparent ease and carried the length of the store four barrels of flour at one time, the flour being tied with a rope. He carried on his shoulders a good-sized horse for a distance. His death was said to have resulted from over exertion in attempting to exceed records he had already made. Died Oct. 27th, 1871. On the headstone standing at the grave is carved the following:

"Ye weak beware, here lies the strong, / A victim of his strength, / He lifted sixteen hundred pounds, / And here he lies at length."

It will be observed that the cautionary appeal and admonition is addressed to the weak, and not to others who might attempt to overdo their strength. The lifting of the sixteen hundred pounds, referred to, was done by arranging on a long plank, bags of flour to the weight indicated. The load was arranged in the centre of the plank from end to end. One end of the plank rested on a block of wood. The other end Macdonald took hold of and raised from the ground. He won a bet and paid the forfeit. Only thirty years old at the time of his death.

Standing up for observation at the head of a grave on the same range of lots is the stone that marks the last resting place of the late Thomas Lannin. He engaged, on coming to Peterborough, in the stove business, afterwards acquired by the late Adam Hall. Being a practical tinsmith, among other works done, he had made a full-sized model of the memorial stone, or rather structure, that he intended should stand at the grave where he would be interred. This model he kept for many years. ...

9 LITTLE LAKE, A QUIET PAGE OF PETERBOROUGH HISTORY

C. H. Ireson *Peterborough Examiner*, 25 June 1949

Of the quotations of epitaphs there is no end, and their name is legion. In these modern days they have almost fallen into disuse. But if one walks through the churchyards and cemeteries in the old Country one can generally see an epitaph that is worth noting.

They are of every type – some amusing, if one may use the term in such a connection – many pathetic, and some unduly sycophantic.

But turning from the general to the particular and from far-off fields to our own cemetery, a tour through our own beautiful “God’s Acres” – Little Lake Cemetery (now nearly 100 years old) – discloses some interesting epitaphs and memorials.

Perhaps the best known to the general public is that over the grave of the strong man, Daniel MacDonald, which tells its own story:

“In memory of Daniel MacDonald, died October 27, 1871, aged 33 years.

Ye weak, beware! Here lies the strong,

The victim of his strength;

He lifted sixteen hundred pounds,

Now here he lies at length.”

There seems to be some doubt as to the locale and exact knowledge of this fatal display of strength, but there is no doubt that MacDonald, by means of some harness on his body, lifted clear of the ground an object weighing 1,600 pounds, and in so doing burst a blood vessel and died.

If it is true that the evil that men do lives after them, and that the good is oft interred with their bones, it is only fair that the merits of the departed should be written in stone to form an enduring monument of their virtues and the services rendered by them to the community.

Here in Little Lake Cemetery we find many testimonials to the public services rendered by various citizens of the past. These form an epitome of and commentary on the civic life of the community in days gone by. Let us consider some of these. Starting at the southern end, we come to one erected in memory of James Robert Stratton, 1859-1916, and inscribed thereon this record: “For 22 years he represented West Peterborough in Ontario and Dominion Parliaments.”

Not very far away there is a monument “In memory of Wilson S. Conger, MPP for the county of Peterborough, who during his lifetime filled the office of sheriff of the county, warden of the County Council, and mayor of the town of Peterborough.”

Passing on we come to James Hall, who filled many public offices. He was MP for the combined counties of Peterborough and Victoria, 1849-1851; sheriff of the same counties, 1856-1863; sheriff of the county of Peterborough, 1863-1872; MP for the east riding, 1872-1878; mayor of Peterborough, 1852-1855; and first president of the Little Lake Cemetery Company.

We find a monument to another prominent citizen in James Stevenson, 1829-1910: “For ten terms mayor of Peterborough; for nine years member of Parliament.”

In another sphere of action was Capt. Donald Andrew Frazer, “who served his country with distinction as an officer of the 42nd Regiment in many of the actions of the Peninsular War and at Waterloo, and also acted for many years as police magistrate for the county of Peterborough, beloved and respected by all who knew him.”

There is a striking tribute to work well done on a monument: “Erected as a tribute to the memory of John McNabb, surgeon, 1871. He was constant and unremitting in all acts of benevolence and charity, at all times ready, and by his skill in his profession he rendered to the poor and needy, his gratuitous services.”

There are some of the memorials to men prominent in local civic life, but there are others of wider interest.

Probably unique is a memorial to John A. Sherlock, whose cenotaph lies near the banks of the Otonabee River: “In memory of John A. Sherlock, Canadian voyageur, one of those who volunteered for prolonged service under Lord Wolseley. He died at Karber on the Nile in the Soudan, March 26, 1885, aged 26 years and four months. There is not a name, there is not a stone, and only the wind from the desert makes moan, but he’ll never be forgotten, no never.”

But the unique feature is that there is embedded in the monument a small piece of fossilized wood taken from the vicinity of the place of his death and sent to his relatives here, who had it fixed in the monument or cenotaph. This strange relic from the tropical Soudan has weathered without damage the rigors of many Canadian winters.

Not far away we find a monument of more than local interest. A granite cross marks the last resting place of Isabella Valancy Crawford. This gifted young woman, in her lifetime comparatively unknown and now almost forgotten, possessed, according to great literary critics, the true genius of poetry. The monument was erected by friends and admirers and has an inscription of simplicity and strength, “Poet by the Gift of God.” Could a multitude of words say more?

At the end of our journey, and not far away, rises that landmark so well-known to all visitors to the cemetery, the bronze angel standing with outstretched wings facing the rising Son, erected “In loving memory of John MacDonald, eldest son of the late Lieut.-Col. John MacDonald, died March 27, 1892, aged 45 years.”

10 IN AN OTONABEE BACKWATER*Examiner, Wednesday, 24 August 1960, editorial**[Robertson Davies was Editor and Publisher; Wilson Crow, Managing Editor; W. J. Garner, General Manager; Ralph Hancox, Associate Editor; R. J. Garner, advertising manager.]*

Were it not a desirable property for the City to acquire and were we not anxious for a park in what will undoubtedly be the centre of the City one day, we would suggest to the Little Lake Cemetery Company that it cock a snook at the City Council and sell its 57 acres of land to the first customer to meet its price. The Council in solemn session on Monday examined the proposal to buy the land and appointed a committee to purchase it. Various comments were passed; it was too dear at \$45,000; it cost the Company only \$12,576; the City was being held to a deadline; nobody else wanted it; it has taken its time to come before the Council, and so on. Almost every remark a face-saving contribution to a question that has been alive for almost two years.

The Cemetery Company has been forbearing in its attitude and has, as far as we know, not pushed the property to open sale, so that the City could have first refusal. There was considerable public discussion a year ago, though no official notice was taken by the Council, and it has been left to the newly formed Parks Board to bring the park to a point where Council will recognize that it exists. All questions of doubt could have been resolved about the purchase of the land almost a year ago – except for one factor.

The Provincial Government has made provisions in legislation for municipalities wishing to acquire park land. It has the effect of making the purchase more desirable than before. On March 29 it passed a Bill offering half the purchase price and half the cost of development for park property – such as the Cemetery land would prove to be. At the end of May the regulations to be complied with in applications were made known; their effect is that the City could buy the land at a cost to itself of about \$22,500. Of this amount the City already has approximately \$15,000 in a fund for parks which could be applied to the purchase price. Thus the outstanding amount would be something under \$8,000. This has been known for two months; a relatively short time, it is true, but long enough for an enterprising alderman to acquaint the Council of the public's interest in this matter.

The price, considered against the original cost of the land, appears to be unreasonable at first examination. No one has put forward an explanation and the Cemetery Company has been reluctant to discuss its position. However, it is safe to assume that the price will recover what has been paid in taxes on the land – it is assessed at \$16,000 – and the development over the years. There is no doubt that the Company made a mistake in purchasing it since the water table cannot have varied significantly, in this time, to affect its suitability as a burial ground. Mistakes must be paid for; the way out would be a compromise on the price. Why should the public pay for the Cemetery Company's bad judgement?

The Council must not delay too long; there are at least two private speculators interested in the purchase who have, we understand, the intention of turning the property into a commercial amusement park along the lines suggested by the Parks Board. A commercial park would undoubtedly make money – a municipal park should likewise be profitable, so doubts may be removed on that score. The forbearance of the Company so far suggests that they will tolerate more delay in the interests of the City; the City Council should not trade on the Cemetery's good nature.

Editor's note: The preceding documents provide interesting information on how people have viewed the cemetery, and Little Lake in particular. The excerpts are some of my favourites. The photos are from my camera, except in the case of the 1905 photo of the chapel and the receiving vault, which is from my collection of old documents.

The book on Little Lake Cemetery will be available on August 8 at the great Cemetery Pageant marking the 160th anniversary of the cemetery. See you there.

Doors Open Peterborough**25-26 September 2010**

Several sites will be open for the Doors Open Peterborough.

One site, only open on the Saturday, 10 am to 4 pm, is St John's Anglican Church, 99 Brock Street, Peterborough. During the year, the church has been celebrating the 175th anniversary of the building of what is the oldest church in the county, the main part of which dates to 1835. Aspects of various projects over the years are visible. As well, the parish hall is an heritage building (1878) that has been sensitively updated over the years. The plan is to have volunteer guides on hand, but the parish archivist is working on an updated version of the Pilgrim's Guide for the occasion.

For details see www.doorsopenpeterborough.ca

The sites this year are Knights of Columbus Hall; Dixon House; Comstock Funeral Home; John Howard Society; St John's Anglican Church; Queen Mary School; Wisteria B&B; Moffat House B&B; Publican House Brewery; "Down at the Plant" walking tour with Steve Guthrie, president of TVA; Jackson Park walking tour with Andrew Elliott. The sites are all open on Saturday, 25 September from 10 to 4; the walking tours are available on Sunday as well.

NEWS, VIEWS AND REVIEWS

TRENT VALLEY ARCHIVES EXPANSION

The Trent Valley Archives has reached its capacity in its main building at the corner of Carnegie and Woodland Drive. However, thanks to some creative thinking that came out of a series of meetings with Bruce Fitzpatrick as facilitator. The Roman Catholic school board has donated a portable school room, 24' x 32' and we have arranged for a solid foundation and considered some of the logistics necessary to make the space suitable for archival uses. Heat, electricity, air conditioning, shelving, floor layout, and links to the main building will need to be accomplished. We then plan to make this our Peterborough County Land Records Research Collection. This will require a photocopier capable of 11x 17 copies, research tables and work spaces for the ongoing indexing of the abstract registers. The land records will be accessible by land description, and by family name when we complete our current projects, which Alice MacKenzie and Don Willcock have been developing. The project was facilitated by grants from the Peterborough Foundation and anonymous sources.

We still need help to complete this project without going into debt, and so any financial help you can give will be gratefully received. Cheques made to Trent Valley Archives can be brought or sent to our office at 567 Carnegie Avenue, Peterborough ON K9L 1N1.

The land records are the largest collection at TVA and so when it is transferred to the annex, we will have considerable space for expansion. We anticipate making some changes in the Research Room, and we will need to make significant changes to our digital systems. We also hope to redesign the web page. Indeed there are many improvements to consider which we will undertake as the means emerge.

We are grateful to many people who have made the TVA annex a reality. Special thanks to John Markle and Steve MacPhee at the school board; to Bruce Fitzpatrick; to our several donors, and especially our lead donors Dave Mitchell, Carl Doughty and others. Tom Robinson gave us solid and excellent advice in the planning stages. The Smith Ennismore and Lakefield township offices were supportive. Besides the support of volunteers within TVA we had professional assistance from specialists in electricity and air conditioning.

The siting of the TVA annex was determined by township regulations. The lot fronts on Carnegie and not Woodland, and that impacted a few decisions. The minimum setbacks for the placement of a portable unit would be: 28 m from the centreline of the County Road; 25 m from the centreline of Woodland Drive; 6 m from both the west and north lot lines; 2 m from the south lot lines; 2 m from the indented west lot line; and 12 m from the east lot line.

We still need financial support for this project, so please consider what you can do to help. Thanks.

TOWER AT ST ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

Elwood Jones

This historic church, founded in the 1830s, is seeking help from heritage enthusiasts to fix and repoint the church tower that was built in the 1880s when the church was rebuilt after a serious fire. Andrew Elliott gave a talk on the history of the church, and Elwood Jones plans to discuss the church's windows at a future date. The tower is at the top of Brock Street, and the church anchors a line of churches featuring the steeple at the Roman Catholic Cathedral of St Peter-in-chains. Further down Rubidge, there are now towers at All Saints Anglican Church and Knox United Church. Downtown there are dramatic towers at George Street United, St Paul's Presbyterian and at St John's Anglican Church.

In the 19th century town, towers were used as guides pointing to the downtown, as is evident on George Street in Peterborough. Coming from the north, the towers at George Street United Church, the YMCA and the Market Hall pointed to the centre. For a while there was a tower at Hunter Street, on the Bank of Toronto building.

In places such as Toronto, for example along College Street, the towers on the fire halls likewise operated as guides pointing to Yonge and College.

There are some interesting questions one could ask about the towers of Peterborough. Are towers more than advertisements for the buildings they adorn? There seems no limit to the patterns available for churches, even as we differentiate towers and steeples. Somewhere, church towers and steeples are like snowflakes: no two are the same. There are architectural links to specific styles and expectations, but towers are also tied to landscape.

Were, for example, the church towers of Rubidge Street designed to get people to church? Or did they somehow suggest the centre of town? What about the church towers in the centre? St John's Church used to have the flag announcing fires, and since 1911 has been home to the People's Chime for the whole community. Its tower would have been visible from Ashburnham and have brought people to downtown. Maybe St Paul's did the same for those travelling to town by Water Street?

As for the difference between steeples and towers, there is no easy answer. There are stylistic differences that point to national differences. With neo-Gothic styles, the towers varied by whether the inspiration was to the eleventh, twelfth or thirteenth century. We know that there is some significance attached to the styling, for St John's Church changed the style of its tower top even as it changed the style of the church as a whole in 1881 and 1882. But there was never a suggestion to have a steeple, apparently because the steeple was developed later than the eleventh century.

Some of my favourite steeples are tied to Anglican churches such as Salisbury Cathedral or to Roman Catholic churches such as St Michel. In Peterborough, the best steeples were at St Peter's and St Paul's. It would be nice to know why St Paul's went for a steeple rather than a tower with Scottish flourishes such as graced Knox or St Andrew's.

Of course all of this suggests that architects and builders had a sense of history, as well as good instincts about design.

Donations are being accepted for the restoration of the tower at St Andrew's Church. Cheques may be sent to the church, 441 RUBIDGE ST, Peterborough, Ontario K9H 4E4 (705) 745-2722.

ARCHIVES ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

This year's conference was held in Barrie. To date, we have no information on how it went, but there was a strong program, and some impressive people.

The most recent issue of *Off the Record* has some interesting information. Erin Walsh is the new archivist at the Port Hope Archives. She has graduated from the University of Toronto program. Robin Keirstead, the University Archivist at Western announced that Amanda Jamieson, also from the Toronto program, is on the archives staff at Western. She had earlier been at Fanshawe College where she developed the college's first archives and records retention system.

The Peel Heritage Complex received federal infrastructure funding and is expanding, and in the process will upgrade their storage and exhibition facilities. The Reading Room is closed until the fall of 2011. However, the staff is handling requests and enquiries to the extent they can.

One archivist, Jennifer Bunting, commented on the number of slide collections being brought to archives. Her advice is that people wishing to make such donations should identify slides and prints, as otherwise the collections are near useless and very difficult for archivists to process. She admits that listings would be preferable, but if it seemed more feasible to potential donors, they could put comments and identifications directly on the prints and slides. I might add that potential donors should discuss ways in which they can assist the archives with their collections.

Carolyn Bart-Riedstra, the AAO Archives Advisor, reported on her amazing trip to Iqaluit for a workshop with northern archivists. She noted that a big problem there is the low humidity which makes storage conditions very dry. This can cause difficulty for documents and artifacts. She reported that the Nungatta Sunakkutaangit Museum, where she had a site visit, has "a fabulous facility with environmentally controlled storage area and display cases."

During *Doors Open* in Waterloo, the University of Waterloo Archives showcased some of their business collections. Susan Mavor wryly observed that when the doors closed to the factories, the archives kept open a window on the past. Their archival collections include Seagram's, Breithaupt Leather, Electrohome, Greb shoes, Kaufman footwear, and Kaufman Rubber.

The Archives of Ontario has been open at its York University site for a year, and it reports that the paperless archives is possible, at least in the reading room where finding aids are digital. The preservation facilities are triple what was available at Grenville Street. The new archives has more floor space for customers, large tables, "an open concept reading room with natural lighting", many work stations for patrons with computers, and specially designed research tables for accommodating archival boxes, 93 microfilm readers, and close to a bus hub at York University. We have had reports of people who enjoyed their visits to the Archives of Ontario; others have complained of the parking costs and the sterile ambience. Over time, those problems will be overcome.

Sharon White, the Archeion coordinator, is sharing some of her observations about the operation of RAD in connection with descriptions for Archeion. She recommends downloading the Participant's Manual, Sample Template, and Template User Guide. TVA has welcomed Archeion, and we agreed to share our fonds descriptions with Archeion. However, in ten years we have not done so. This would be a good job for a volunteer. Archeion allows people to search all archives in Ontario and find if papers related to someone of interest to them are already in an archives. It works best when all archives are using it.

COMMUNITY HISTORY PROJECT

This past academic year, Trent Valley Archives sponsored students in the TCCBE (Trent Centre for Community Based Education). Our supervisors were Karen Hicks and Elwood Jones, while the students were working for credit in a Geography 4th year course. The project was mainly defined by Karen Hicks and was designed to test the proposition that one could do a community-based history one unit at a time. The units could have been defined by census areas but we chose to work with election polls in the recent provincial election, and started with Poll 110. This was an area touching upon, but not including, Traill College and ran from McDonnell to Parkhill, chiefly from Stewart to Aylmer. The sources included Martha Kidd fonds, fire insurance plans, street directories, photographs and interviews. There were some newspaper articles, including pertinent columns from "Historian at Work", and the students relied on some local histories, including the recently-published *An Historian's Notebook* which included columns on Ryerson Ritchie, who lived in this poll area. Andrew Elliott's column, "Walking Back", featured houses in this area, notably related to Smithtown, the house associated, among others, with Mossom Boyd, John E. Belcher. Beauchamp Boucher, and William Moore.

Our supervisors thought the research time line was far too short, and think that it may relate to how the Geography course defined its expectations. Still, there were some interesting conclusions. The population has always been fairly dense. General Electric employees were dominant until the 1950s; the links to Trent University occurred fairly quickly after Traill College opened in 1964. The housing stock was quite varied and

the modern in-filling, and the conversion of houses to light housekeeping was fairly evident.

Over the next few weeks we will assess the original objective and decide which poll should be next.

ENNISMORE HALL

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Peterborough agreed to let a local group have Ennismore Hall and a reasonable amount of land on which it sits. The details still need to be negotiated. The Smith-Ennismore-Lakefield Township council postponed giving the building heritage designation until after the details are complete. The hall is considered to be the site of the first rural continuation school in Ontario, and there are many family stories tied to events that occurred there. Architecturally, the building has a fine tower and is a landmark in the community.

KENNER COLLEGIATE WALL OF HONOUR

Kenner Collegiate added Catherine Foy, Geoff Hewitson, Barry Larock and Kenneth Ruttan to its wall of honour. Catherine Foy, a graduate of Queen's, is an outstanding teacher. Geoff Hewitson has been one of the stars of the local music scene, and will be playing Dr Barnardo at our Little Lake Cemetery event on August 8. Barry Larock has been active in various sports in many capacities. Kenneth Ruttan had a hall of fame career in lacrosse, but was a dedicated OPP officer over a long career.

CANADIAN OPEN

Ted Brown, a young golfer from the Peterborough Golf and Country Club, is playing in the Canadian Open from St. George's Golf Club in Toronto. The course is a Stanley Thompson course of the same vintage as the Peterborough and Kawartha courses designed by Thompson and so it would be nice if that gave him a boost. Pat Fletcher, from Saskatoon, won the Canadian Open in 1954, and I remember learning of his success from reading the front page story in the Saskatoon Star-Phoenix while delivering the papers door-to-door. I do not remember meeting Ted Brown, but he is a friend of some of the young golfers that I met while writing the history of the club a dozen years ago. In 1993, there were 140 juniors at Peterborough, and nearly as many at Kawartha. This season, the Peterborough Golf and Country Club made a concerted effort to attract junior golfers, and it is really great to see. Ted's career followed Reg Millage's college route, and Luke Lafave, Heather and Geoff Dobbin, and a very young Adam Daifallah (who is now connected with *National Post*). Brent Goulding is head professional at Prestwick Village, and Matthew Peavoy is a pro at Rosedale GC. PGCC had a good junior program in the 1990s, and during the current year the pro, Chris Jones has started a new team program to make golf fun and challenging.

As I thought of Ted playing in the Canadian Open, I could not recall any past trips to the Canadian Open by Peterborough golfers. However, the club pros and others have gone annually to the Canadian Professional Golf Association tournament. George Hillebrecht's "gambled and lost" in 1965 at the Royal Montreal Golf Club, notably on the par-4 16th, where he scored

11. Even the best players can have bad shots; Hillebrecht had three trips to the water hazard on that one hole!!

PETERBOROUGH SOFTBALL LEAGUE AT 90

The greatest moments in local softball history were between 1955 and 1961 when Ray Judd was the pitcher, and Peterborough three times had the best team in the province, and the crowds at and around East City Bowl were enormous. Softball has a 90-year history locally and Clair Leahy, the historian of Peterborough softball, chose, besides Judd, the all stars, including several that are still active. He picked Ted Maloney, Carl Maloney, Matt Leahy, Brett Condon, Pat Murray, Luke Leahy, Corey Taylor, Scott Wasson, Ian Knott, Jarrett Taylor, Aaron Benson, Riley Capalbo, Ed Maloney, and Al Crowe; he was named the honorary pitching coach.

PETERBOROUGH PATHWAY OF FAME



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A stellar line-up will be added to the Peterborough Pathway of Fame at the formal ceremony on 11 September. Ed Arnold, managing editor of the *Peterborough Examiner*, and author of *George Street Stories* and *Hunter Street Stories*, and Jean Murray Cole, recently the editor of the Sandford Fleming Diaries, are the two literary names added to the walk. Pansy Forbes, famous for the long-dominant synchronized swimming teams and Dr Donald Harterre were named for community betterment. Al Beavis was named as a samaritan for his community fund-raising. On the entertainer front, Vincent Abrahamse, Joe DeNoble and Ray Hutchinson were given nods. Bea Quarrie and John and Nora Martyn were named for their contributions to dramatic arts. The archival scrapbooks for the Peterborough Pathway of Fame are kept at the Trent Valley Archives.

PETERBOROUGH NDP RIDING

Mike Epp, president of the local NDP and a Trent University English teacher, presented the Trent Valley Archives with a copy of the booklet produced by the local NDP, "Celebrating Social Democracy in Peterborough" (1999). Elwood Jones, archivist, accepted the donation which was reported in the local press in late June. The donation was prompted as a response to a "Historian at Work" column on the federal election of 1935. The CCF candidate, Dr Lorna Cotton Walsh, was for Peterborough the first CCF candidate, the first woman candidate and the first candidate with a non-medical doctorate. We know far too little about her, partly because she and her husband moved to Toronto. However, it is also true that the best way to know about people is if they leave footprints in the archives. The booklet is a small footprint, but a welcome addition to our research library.

WILLIE P. BENNETT (1951-2008)

Willie P. Bennett is being inducted into the Canadian Country Music Hall of Fame, in Edmonton, 10 September. Bennett was known locally as one of Rev Ken's "Lost Followers" and also with the Fred Eaglesmith band. He was a songwriter of note, and 14 of his songs were featured on a 1996 tribute album, "High or Hurtin'", by Blackie and the Rodeo Kings. He won a Juno in 1998 for "Heartstrings." He also played the guitar, mandolin and harmonica. Hank Fisher said he was called Bible Bill during the 1970s because he shared his name with the Alberta radio evangelist and politician, eventually Premier Bill Bennett.

JOHN ALEXANDER (JACK) RICHARDSON (1932-2010)

Jack Richardson had three successive careers as a soldier, a teacher and a politician. A graduate of Ottawa and Toronto, he served in the COTC (Canadian Officer Training Corps) and with PPCLI and QOR in Germany, and then had a long career in the militia, rising to Brigadier General. His teaching career began in 1961, and he was high school principal in Norwood, Thomas A. Stewart and Lakefield before becoming superintendent for Perth County and Stratford. When he retired he was a Liberal MP 1993-2002 for constituencies centred on Perth. He served as parliamentary secretary for Veterans Affairs. His funeral was held from Cathedral of St Peter-in-chains in June.

DONALD KEITH CARMICHAEL (1927-2010)

Don Carmichael had a long career in journalism, after graduating from Ryerson, with the Toronto Telegram and with Ontario Hydro. After retirement he owned the weekly newspaper in Lakefield, the Lakefield Chronicle, 1984-1994. The complete run of this newspaper is in the Trent Valley Archives. In 1994, he wrote a book, *The Doctors Carmichael*. His grandfather was Dr. Duncan Niven Carmichael (1854-1947) whose medical practice was in Omeme area and from 1888 in Peterborough. Dr Martyn says he was the first local doctor to have an x-ray machine in his office, located at Brock and Water. He was on the teaching staff of the Nicholls' Hospital and was in 1902 one of the founders of the Peter-

borough Medical Society. Apparently there were seven doctors and several nurses across four generations of Don's family.

MARY EVELYN TOLMIE (1908-2010)

Evelyn Tolmie was a grand old lady who was a great friend during the 1980s and 1990s. She was married to Archie Tolmie who gathered material related to Victoria county which he hoped to use to write a county history for Victoria county. That history has not been written, and it is more needed than ever. Archie's papers were donated to the Trent Valley Archives, and was one of our first three collections. It has been used by many researchers working on the genealogy of people connected with the area around Woodville. But there is stuff on all aspects of the county's history. They had four children. Murray was a medieval historian at UBC, and Ken was a superb artist based in those days in Nova Scotia, but now in the Kitchener area. Margaret was a nurse in Peterborough and the fourth child was Ron, who lived near Ottawa. She died in Millbrook, 8 May, and the funeral service and reception was in Lindsay, and Evelyn was buried in Smith's Cemetery, Woodville. She was an unforgettable lady and I have many reasons and shared moments to remember.

C. MICHAEL TOWNSEND (1934-2010)

Michael Townsend, was a long-time teacher at the Grove and lived across the highway from the school. He loved the water, his 1920s cottage and Lakefield. He died suddenly at his Stony Lake cottage, which he doubtless reached by canoe. Mike was blind, but managed to get around very well. Michael was active in every local historical organization, and a stalwart supporter of the Trent Valley Archives. He was president of the Lakefield Historical Society and past-president of the Peterborough Historical Society. He served in the navy, and was a member of the local military history group. He was on the management committee for Hutchison House, and vice-president of the Peterborough branch of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario. He was a member of the Peterborough Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (PACAC). Last year, he was one of the local organizers for the provincial heritage conference held at Peterborough under the auspices of the heritage organizations and the ACO. I have only known Michael over the past decade, but he was knowledgeable, a voracious reader, and a fine advocate for history and heritage in the local community. He was a judge for the Historica fairs because he loved what they were doing to promote history in the local schools. The heritage community has lost a great friend. According to his cousin, local historian Kathy Hooke, a memorial service will be held at the Lakefield College School, Friday, 20 August 2010, at 4 pm.

CIBC MARKS 140 YEARS IN PETERBOROUGH.

The Canadian Bank of Commerce, mainly at the corner of Water and Hunter, came to Peterborough in 1870, and the Imperial Bank opened on Simcoe Street in 1947. The two banks merged nationally in 1961, and in the early 1970s they were consolidated at the current location at Hunter and George.

The Bank of Commerce was associated with George A. Cox, who was the bank president when he moved to Toronto.

CANADIAN LACROSSE HALL OF FAME

The 1972-1975 Peterborough PCOs / Gray Munros will be inducted as a team into the Canadian Lacrosse Hall of Fame in November 2010, in Burnaby BC. During 182 games the team won 90% of its games and only lost seven regular season games and five playoff games in four years. They had a perfect 46-0 season in 1974, and were 46-1-1 in 1972. They won the national title, the Minto Cup, in all four years, beating teams from Burnaby three times and from Richmond BC.

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PETERBOROUGH WALL OF HONOUR

The Wall of Honour project will probably be mounted this fall. There were some delays because of difficulties in India getting the twelve huge granite boulders that will be the physical base for the wall. Dave Edgerton and Susan Kyle, working with volunteers, have been confirming the names that fit the criteria for the wall. They have made great strides but it is amazing how much checking needs to be done and how some names cannot be confirmed. Everybody knows that once the names are engraved in stone they will not be easy to change. The monument will complement Walter Allward's war memorial in various ways. Considering all that has happened in the last dozen years, the community will be delighted with the final product. Donations are still needed as the cost of the memorial has risen from all the early estimates. Donations may be directed to Peterborough City Hall, and are eligible for income tax receipts.

SONGS FOR SIGHS

Rosa Bateman McGee, *Songs for Sighs* (Peterborough, Hummingbird Poetry Book, 2010) Pp 72; illustrations, \$25

Jane Anne Dugan-Downey has poured her love into this fine book containing the poetry of Rosa Bateman McGee, her maternal grandmother. The Bateman family was from the Stirling area in Hastings County, but she lived in Peterborough after she married. Several poems were originally published for the 1939 New York World's Fair. As well, the book contains a delightful poem about riding the S. S. Islinda from Lakefield to Stony Lake. This gets my vote as the best poem in the book. She wrote poems for the centennial of George Street United Church and for the town of Peterborough in 1950.

Jane Downey has illustrated the book quite cleverly. She has several photos and drawings of hummingbirds and of family. Her own artwork decorates the book.

The book suggests a viewpoint that is practical infused with hope and a generous spirit, perhaps what we might expect from someone growing up in the depression. Some of the poems are didactic, others reflective. Some capture a moment in time, while others are timeless.

Although not typical of the small book, the historian in me was attracted to her poem on Peterborough's centennial in 1950. She told visitors what they should see, and I wondered what she would have written fifty years later.

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This book is available from the book shop at the Trent Valley Archives and elsewhere.

Trent Valley Archives Book Store

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Mallory, Enid	<i>Kawartha – Living on These Lakes</i>	20
Martyn, Dr John	<i>The Past is Simply the Beginning [Peterborough Doctors]</i>	20
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Wilson, Pete	<i>Illustrated Historical Atlas for Peterborough County (2009)</i>	90
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