



Osgoode Township Hall, 1891

## Osgoode Township

### Historical Society & Museum

Vernon School

P.O. Box 83 - Vernon, Ontario

### Newsletter

VOLUME 5 1979 NUMBER 2

In this, our second Newsletter of the year, we wish to thank our members who responded so readily to our notice "Time To Renew" your membership fee. As of April 1st there were about 240 paid-up members for 1979, by far the greatest number we have had at this time of the year. Our Membership Secretary reports that all provinces are represented except Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island, and that we have members in the American States of California, Michigan, Utah, Kentucky, Florida, Ohio, Arizona, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, New York, Missouri. Our very busy Secretary, as well as mailing the Newsletters, sends out about twenty pieces of mail each month.

Our Annual Meeting this year was delayed until February 2nd, since the Grant to the Museum from the Ministry of Culture and Recreation did not arrive until late in January. The Grant was based on our proceeds for the year 1977. The new slate of Officers:

- |                                     |                                       |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Past President - Connie Sallans     | Supervising Curator - Arlowa Ferguson |
| President - Michael Daley           | Assistants: Museum - Vivienne Shorey  |
| 1st Vice-Pres. - Effie Morris       | Archives - Amy Daykin                 |
| 2nd Vice-Pres. - Harvey Linton      | Library - Katie Campbell              |
| Recording Sec. - Grace Blair        | Schools - Harry Anderson              |
| Corresponding and                   | Churches - Anne Carkner               |
| Membership Sec. - Harry Anderson    | Agric. - Harvey Linton                |
| Treas. Historical Soc. - Jennie Dow | Program Convener - Vivienne Shorey    |
| Treas. Museum - Margaret Robb       | Editor - Elizabeth Stuart             |
| Social Committee - Sara Lee         | Maintenance - Gerald Hill             |
| Alice Craig                         | Harry Anderson                        |
| Receptionist - Olive Anderson       | Dick Blanchfield                      |

We are grateful to all those who so willingly offered to be of help during the coming year; and we owe a special thanks to the Township Council for the excellent job done in keeping the road to the Museum ploughed out during the winter months. The Museum will soon be open again on a regular basis, weekends and holidays from May 1 to October 31.

As mentioned in the last Newsletter, the Village of Osgoode Station had a Post Office opened there in the year 1880, and the Centennial for that event will be celebrated in 1980 with a week of events now in the planning stage. Any one with items or pictures of interest for the occasion should contact Margaret Robb, Osgoode, KOA 2W0. We have an account of the Village as it was in 1900. Kenneth Russell, Banker in Winnipeg, son of Johnny Russell, Osgoode Station Agent for many years, wrote to Mr. and Mrs. George Kerr in 1941. Ethel Russell of Ottawa gave us a copy.

#### RURAL LIFE IN ONTARIO

*"The advent of the Automobile has brought about many changes in the Rural Life of Ontario and in the Village of Osgoode, situated 1.8 miles due South of Ottawa on the Prescott Branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Osgoode, along with other pleasing Hamlets in that section of Carleton County, has felt the effects of the 'March of Time'. The writer speaks only of the life of the community about the turn of the Century.*

*"My first impressions are of a peaceful one-street village, devoid of sidewalks or pavements, that extended from the Lewis Corner on the West to the Logan Farm on the East. The street was intercepted by the railway tracks and the centre of activity focused on the station nearby.*

*"Four local passenger trains a day were in operation at this period, as well as one or more freight trains, and the names of Hank Powell, Con. O'Leary, Jack Young, Doc Horne, and Ike Snider stand out clearly as being associated with the movement of this traffic. As far as is known, Jack Young is the only survivor of this group of railroad pioneers, and the accidental death of Con*

O'Leary was a matter of deep regret to his many friends. The arrival and departure of trains was a never failing source of interest to the small boys of the village, and only school or illness prevented these lads from being on the station platform to watch with keen interest the loading and unloading of the baggage, express, mail, and freight. A number of these youths later took up one form or another of railroading, and while the writer once pictured himself as a newsboy and later at the throttle of a locomotive eventually he became associated in a profession far removed from childish dreams. At this time, several retired farmers found the station a pleasant place to wile away an hour or so, and one old gentleman, known to the boys as 'The Despatcher', greeted all and sundry, in fair weather and foul, with 'It's a fine morning, this morning'.

"The arrival of the mail coach from North Gower, in charge of Alex Higgins, was one of the highlights of each week day, and the team of nondescript horses drawing the vehicle was invariably tethered to a telephone pole close to the station platform. A few passengers were accommodated in the stage coach, and there was the rotund form of Tom Garland, Super-Salesman, occupying a seat beside the driver. The gray Persian Lamb trimmings on his overcoat are indelibly stamped on my memory.

The remaining part of the article, which deals with the residents - including "The Lady of the Loom" - who lived along the one street, will appear in the October issue.

The Financial Statement of the Museum for the period January 1, 1978 to Dec. 31, 1978 appears below.

RECEIPTS		EXPENSES	
Book balance as of Jan. 1, 1978		Maintenance Share - fuel oil, hydro, caretaking, grass cutting, insurance	\$ 961.98
Certificates	\$6000.00	Curators' salary - Conference	700.00
Bonus and Chequing	3953.43	Curators' assistants	150.00
Grant on '77 Activities		Paper, Covers, Printing	878.18
Donations	5336.00	Osgoode Twp Maps - 1879	312.00
Basket Receipts	493.03	Atlases - Carleton County	469.5
Families	142.88	Emigration Booklets	114.00
Atlases	510.00	Donations - share to Hist. Cos.	232.00
Maps - 1879 - Charts, Pins	150.00	Refreshments	70.00
Glimpses	66.81	Expenses of Pioneer Days	134.07
Emigration - M'Donald, Lalonde	577.39	Twp. Cheque to Pioneer Days Committee	400.00
Heritage Day Bake Sale, Pens	72.00	Postage	21.40
Cheque from Twp. re Pioneer Days	120.15	Clock Repairs	60.00
Bank Interest	400.00	Account Book, small equipment	18.00
	894.12	Certificate of Deposit	6000.00
Total Income	\$ 18,715.81	Total Expense	\$ 10521.13
Total Expense	10,521.13		
Balance	\$ 8,194.68		
Investment Certificate	6,000.00		
Book Balance as of Dec. 31, 1978	14,194.68	Treasurer of Museum Account, Margaret Robb, February 2, 1979	

On a recent trip to do Research in Salt Lake City at the fine Genealogical Library maintained by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints - L.D.S. - your Editor found a variety of valuable and interesting information.

An ancestor, John McNaughton, was known to have had a younger brother, Donald, who had come to Canada c1758 with a Scottish Brigade that took part in the War with France. Recently, from bits and pieces of information, it was discovered that he had been caught up in the American Revolution, that various groups had been combined to form the 84th Regiment, that Donald had died in Charlottenburg where he had got land as a Loyalist. From Edwin McDonald of St. Andrew's West, one of our members, and a keen genealogist who had given us valuable information on Archibald McDonnell's family from the Church Records there, I learned that Donald's tombstone states he died 1841, age 96; some of his daughters married McDonalds; and Edwin is a descendant. Donald's son, Alexander McNaughton held land in various parts of Osgoode Township. The Kenmore Church records, Perthshire, read:

"Mar. 6, 1746 John McNaughton and Elspeth McDougall of Braes of Balloch had a lawful son baptized called Donald." In spite of the rigours of war and life in a New World he, lived nearly a century. His brother James, a year older, is buried beside the writer's ancestors in Kenmore Churchyard.

Our busy secretary, Harry Anderson, knew that an ancestor, John Anderson, had fought in the war of 1812, that he had married a Galbraith from Edwardsburg, and that he was living in Osgoode when his friend, Archibald McDonnell, also a veteran of the same

war, recommended John Anderson, amongst others, for the position of Magistrate of Osgoode Township in 1832. But Harry was not aware that John's father, Henry, was himself a Loyalist, and since Harry and Henry are the same name, our secretary bears the name of his Loyalist ancestor who had children: John, Catherine, Elizabeth, Mary, William, Henry.

A book, CLELAND COUSINS, written by a descendant of Samuel Cleland who arrived in the States in 1828, tells the ancestry of our well-known Osgoode family. On a visit to Ireland, the author of the book found a great deal of valuable information in the Church records in the Parish of Kilmore, County Down. Moreover, he located a relative with a Family Bible in which there were four generations of Clelands from the time of the arrival in that community in 1645 of a Hugh Cleland, formerly of Lanarkshire, Scotland. The name was traced back about one thousand years to the era when the Vikings over-ran most of Northern Europe. The ancestor amongst these Vikings went by the name Kneeland. In the Kilmore Cemetery is a stone bearing the name Hans Ceeland.

Searching in the Balquidder Parish Registers of Perthshire, we found the pages filled with Fergusons, McLarens, Stewarts, McNeess, and a few McDonalds. The ancestors were found of the original owners of the west half of Vernon. A Duncan McDonald was born Apr 20, 1783 in Craggan of Edinchip, the son of Patrick McDonald and Janet McDonald. This Duncan married Katharen McNie and came to Beckwith in 1821 with a wife and 6 children. He was on one of the boats of which we have a description written by a John M'Donald who came out at the same time. Patrick and Janet McDonald had other children, among them a John born c1765, who may have been the writer of the book. He was born at Wester Castarnhead. Two other children noted were Patrick, born 1774, who owned E<sup>1</sup> lot 34 concession 5 in Osgoode for a time, and a sister Helen. Duncan and Katharen moved from Beckwith to Osgoode and bought lot 39 concession 6. They have descendants living on the same property. Their son Duncan, born June 12, 1816, sold the property along the west side of Highway 31. Jessie Ferguson of Winchester has given us the names of the large McNee family who married Fergusons, McLarens, Kings, etc. Thus, many of our residents have ancestors lying in the same cemetery as that where Rob Roy McGregor was buried. It was surprising to see in the 1851 census for Balquidder that over half the population living there then had been born elsewhere, and that a large number had come there from Ireland - names like Ryan, Sullivan, etc. No doubt the hard times in Ireland had driven the population in all directions.

We were able to acquire 4 books, one on each of the 4 Provinces in Ireland - Munster, Connaught, Leinster, Ulster. Each book has a map of the Counties and the Parishes, and a list of the records available for each. Since the mid-forties, there has been civil registration, and births, deaths, marriages are listed year by year, giving ages and the parishes. Imagine the care necessary to sift through 250 Daleys who died in the same year.

Harvey Linton, one of the group going on our Tour of Scotland in August, had said that his grandparents had come to Montreal, and he wondered if any were still in Edinburgh. Some of the information from the Edinburgh records is quite detailed:

*"Adam Linton, Gentleman Servant and Helen Selkirk his spouse, Tolbooth Church Parish, son born 6 Feb 1806 named Adam."*  
 or *"Andrew Linton, cork-cutter residing 112 West Bow, St. John's Parish and Isabella Gibson his spouse had a lawful son born on the nineteenth day of January eighteen hundred and forty-five named Andrew."*

For myself, I discovered a reason why my great great grandfather, by the time he was thirty, could come to Canada, buy up a lot of land, sponsor the marriage of his brother John for 200 pounds, and then return to Scotland. In the Edinburgh Records I read:

*Colin McNab, Spirit Dealer, and Catherine Walker his spouse, High Church Parish, a daughter born 19th August last named Jean." (Baptized 6 Sept 1826) Jane McNab Stewart lived until 1921 and I never asked her a question about the 95 years of her life - although I saw her sitting in her rocking chair for many years. Perhaps it was because of the prosperity of the Spirit Dealers that the 1842 Census for Edinburgh had such a large population in the "Lock Up House". Unfortunately the majority were children from age nine upwards. No doubt many of these unfortunate people later found homes in Canada.*

In our PIONEER FAMILIES OF OSGOODE TOWNSHIP Volume VII, there is the story of "Some Doyles of Osgoode", prominent families a century ago about which we know very little now. Michael Daley has given us a story of a Peter Doyle.

*"Peter Doyle, late of Manotick, was one of many self-made men passed by when we are considering the people of Carleton County. Born in Kings County, Ireland, he was left destitute when very young by the death of his father. But by the age of 16 he had earned and saved enough money to pay his way to America - a very difficult thing to do in that day and in that country. He settled in the state of New Jersey where he lived for eleven years and where he met and married Annie Bergin, a native of Nepean. She persuaded him to remove*

to Ottawa and they arrived here in 1870, and kept a Hotel in Ottawa for over a year; then he kept a Public House at Manotick until his tragic death.

"It was on July 15, 1878 that he fell from a load of hay beneath the feet of his horses where he was instantly kicked and trampled to death." The obituary goes on to say that "his tragic end is still fresh in the minds of the inhabitants of Carleton County and will never cease to be of deepest regret to his numerous friends and cause bitter anguish to a grief-stricken family whose presence he left smiling and in health and contentment only a few moments before the dreadful event which robbed them of a kind and loving father and husband."

"Mr. Doyle was honest, industrious and prudent, highly respected while he lived and deeply regretted when he died. He left a family of 4 little children. His widow continues to carry on the business."

She later married Berny McCarnen who owned land in Osgoode near Manotick. When she died 7 Sept 1898 she left the business to a son Peter Wm. Annie Elizabeth Doyle, a daughter of Peter Doyle and Ann Bergin, married Feb 4, 1896 Thomas J. Herbert, the son of Michael Herbert and Ellen Nash. The Herberts had a family of 6 children, one of them being William Herbert who resides on Regional Road 6 in Osgoode, in concession 2.

Plans are well underway for the Pioneer Days to be held July 28 and 29, and buttons displaying the beautiful Osgoode crest are already advertising the event. If for any reason you cannot attend we would be glad to mail you some, 50 cents each, plus postage. The Parade will be as varied and colourful as usual, and there will be plenty of food while you enjoy the events on either Saturday or Sunday. An Osgoode Men's Chorus has already held an enthusiastic practice under the capable direction of Archie Smith, a newcomer to Dalmeny. We shall all be privileged to enjoy their fine singing as part of the Sunday afternoon program.

Complete details of the celebration will appear in the July Newsletter.