



Osgoode Township

Historical Society & Museum

Vernon School

P.O. Box 83 - Vernon, Ontario

Newsletter

VOLUME 2 1976 NUMBER 4

Since this Newsletter is the final one for the year 1976, we are using the interesting picture of the Loney family for the last time. As we stated earlier, this family has a link with the American Revolution of 200 years ago when John Loney and wife Mary and three sons and a daughter came to Canada and after a few years in barracks at Montreal settled in Charlottenburg Township along the St. Lawrence. The Census of that township in 1861 indicated many Loneys were living there at that time. A great many other names there are the same as many in our earliest Osgoode Township Records.

An entry in the Church of England Register at Christ Church Cathedral reads: "Mrs. Lony midwife died October 5, 1813." This lady was probably the mother of all the Loneys in our district.

Earlier this year we promised to continue the letter written home to Breadalbane, Perthshire, by Donald McKercher, who had arrived in Osgoode Township the previous year, 1855. In a very pleasant visit to Scotland last July, the Editor visited Stronfernon, on the edge of Drummond Hill - a mountain to us - about a mile from Kenmore. A view of Loch Tayside would convince anyone of the homesickness everyone must have felt who exchanged that scenery for the wilderness of mighty trees in our neighbourhood. At the Registry House in Edinburgh the marriage is recorded for Kenmore Parish on December 30, 1848,

Donald McKercher of Kenmore Parish
and Mary McLellan of Killin Parish

The letter to cousins Gilbert and Duncan McLaren continues:

There is a great many from Loch Tay side around me which they were very angry at me I did not bring out a bagpipe they told me that they would rise four pound by subscription if I would get one out from the auld country If you would be so good to speak to my auld companion John McPherson and maybe he would have one to spair of his prize pips but I would like a good black ebene and mounted with ivory....

I think John McPherson can get one made with McDougall Perth for four pounds.... I shall get them out next summer with somebody there is a great many came from Breadalbane this summer if I would get a pipe I would get great many of the highlanders to chop and clear the land while I was down in the Indian land last winter seeing my friends they are not very well of they have very poor lands there I got a cow from Donald McKercher my cousin, I am 50 miles above them.

The people in this country are far back in cloths the first day I went to church hear the most of the men had nothing on them but their trousers and shirt and some of them bairfooted and a straw hat about 6 pence worth. men that has properties worth 500 pounds going so ragged but I dont see them half so poor now because I am a custom to see them. the people when they are a while in this country they will lose there coular they turn so dark the regular food people takes here is floor bread and pork and tea without sugar and potatoes they have cooking stoves which is very handy there is 3 places for cooking and an oven to backe bread all joined together but they are dear from 6 to 10 pounds when they are new I bought a second handed one at 5 pounds

It is very hard for a poor man to commence in this dear country but if I will keep in good heath I shall get over it there is to be a large gathering of the sons of temperance and if I had a pipe I would get \$10 dollars that is 2 pounds sterling and I am losing great many chances for not having a pipe I think I could get one out from Glasgow to Montreal with store goods the merchants in Montreal gets goods from Glasgow but if you would fine out a good black evene pipe and the price of it I would get them out someway provision is not so high this year here we shall get good green

tea for half a dollar a pound that is 2 shillings sterling the people in this country are terrible tea drinkers Stewart that I was with last year spends about 60 pounds of tea every year there is no sugar used in the tea in this country I saw more poor people here than ever I saw in Scotland but not any of them from Breadaloane... 3 or 4 families stopping in one house like the tinklers in the kilns in the auld country the people in general looks very poor and thin with the heat in summer and cauld in winter and drinking strong tea without milk or sugar there is a great heat in this country.

Mary made a kind of garden and she has about 4 bushels of water mellons and cookumbers there very fine to eat on a warm day... If you would be so good to send me a newspaper now and then I am fond of Scotland yet....

D. Mc Kerchar.

Note: The ebene and Ivory Pipes came to Canada and have been donated to our Museum by a great grandson Barry MacKeracher, also a "Piper". His ancestor had taken part in the splendid pageantry described by Queen Victoria herself in her visit to Taymouth castle in 1842 and he had received a cup in appreciation of his part in the ceremony. The Church referred to was the old Free Church - Presbyterian - at Springhill. The people who are left in beautiful Breadaloane are anxious to contact descendants of Emigrants. A group there are collecting and publishing Emigrants' letters.

The Editor was entertained by the Mitchells in Edinburgh - not far from Dalmeny Bridge - and purchased from them a copy of all the inscriptions from the Perthshire tombstones, pre-1855. This fine, active, very elderly couple have spent a great deal of their time travelling around the country, not only recording hard-to-read inscriptions but also searching out other valuable data concerning the names in each of the old burial grounds. This massive piece of work can be examined at the Museum.

As well, we have six rare, out-of-print books on Perthshire located for us by Mrs. Agnes Bain, a former teacher of Kenmore. She presented to us a project by her pupils: "The Record of the Parish of Kenmore".

It is interesting that the Inn in the beautiful old village is more than 400 years old.

As mentioned in previous Newsletters, the Ontario Archives has material very valuable in studying the History of our Township. On micro-film you can read the wills of all those who owned \$5.00 worth of land in Carleton County. As well there are all the land transactions, arranged by years, and in most cases indexed. You find that people moved around much more than expected. For instance, William Kelly, usually associated with the River Road, bought the W¹ lot 40 in the 6th concession on December 5, 1836 and sold it 6 years later to the Rev. Daniel McPhail, Pastor of the Osgoode Baptist Church for 25 years. Our Museum is on the most easterly part of this same lot. Many died without wills and the Surrogate Court records give the date of death and the Administrator appointed. A number of our early leaders died without wills, including Archibald McDonell. So did Ann Cooper Wallace, widow of John Wallace, who had got the W¹ lot 13 in concession 7, a Clergy Reserve, in 1855.

The 1861 census gives the following information:

WALLACE, John	Farmer	born Ireland	Wesleyan	52	married
Ann	"	"	"	43	"
Robert		Upper Canada	"	20	"
Mary Ann		"	"	22	"
Rachel		"	"	18	"
Margret		"	"	14	"
John		"	"	12	"
Emlia		"	"	10	"
Elizabeth		"	"	8	"
William		"	"	6	"
George		"	"	4	"
Saria		"	"	1	born 1860
Victoria		"	"	2	"

Living in a log house.

We have been told that the father John died at age 65 when he slipped off a beam and got hurt. When Ann Cooper Wallace died the 30th day of October 1906 and the farm was sold to son William, all the heirs had to "sign off". We have a document, Indenture # 9498, with valuable signatures and addresses that are of interest to many of us:

WILLIAM JAMES PORTEOUS, General Merchant, Administrator of the Estate,

WILLIAM WALLACE of the Township of Osgoode, Farmer,

MARY ANN MURRY, ... Osgoode, widow of Joseph Murry, farmer
 RACHEL SLIGHT of the city of Oswego, in the State of New York, ...
 wife of John Slight of the same place, Esquire,
 AMELIA HENRY, ... Oswego, wife of Charles Henry the elder, ... foreman
 MARGARET MCCARGAR of Nicolet... Minnesota... widow
 VICTORIA ADELAIDE COBURN of the village of Pembroke, ... widow
 SARAH GIRARD of the Town of Sault Ste. Marie... wife of Thomas
 Girard of the same place, Agent

WILLIAM S. LONEY of the Township of Osgoode, farmer
 JOHN SLIGHT, CHARLES HENRY, THOMAS GIRARD,
 MARGARET WALLACE of the Township of Clarence, widow of the late
 Robert Wallace of the same place, farmer, deceased,
 MARGARET WALLACE of the City of Ottawa ... widow of George Wallace,
 late of the Township of Osgoode, farmer, deceased,

GEORGE ERWIN WALLACE, Ottawa, son of the said George Wallace,
 deceased, infant within the age of twenty-one years,

CHARLES HENRY, the younger ... Oswego, labourer,
 MARY ELIZABETH HENRY FERRIS, of the same place, wife of --- Ferris
 of the same place Esquire, the only two surviving children of
 Elizabeth Henry the first wife of Charles Henry the elder who died
 intestate at ... Oswego.

SARAH MCVEY of the Township of Osgoode, wife of James McVey, ... farmer
 ANNIE LACELLE of the Town of Port Perry, wife of Frank Lacelle, tailor,
 REBECCA WALLACE, ... Clarence, spinster,

MARTHA WALLACE of the city of New York ... spinster,
 LENA CARKNER of the said Township of Osgoode, wife of James Carkner,
 of the same place, Mill Owner,
 ROBERT WALLACE ... Clarence, farmer

JOHN WALLACE of Campbells Bay ... Merchant,
 BENJAMIN WALLACE ... Clarence, farmer,
 the only surviving children of Robert Wallace, who was a son of the
 said Ann Cooper Wallace and who died intestate on or about the
 twenty-eighth day of August A.D. 1905,

WILLIAM LONEY ... Osgoode, farmer,
 SAMUEL LONEY ... Osgoode, farmer,
 ANNIE KINCADE ... Osgoode, wife of Robert Kincade, ... farmer,
 LOUISA LONEY of the city of Waterbury ... Connecticut ... spinster,
 the only surviving children of Martha Loney who died intestate ... 1892.

Documents such as this one indicate how our early families have spread throughout the Continent. There is much more detail for those who have a special interest in the Document.

In the 1861 census, we find John Wallace's father Robert, an elderly man, living with another son, Benjamin. Bruce Elliott of Ottawa, who has done a great deal of research in the last few years has handed us the obituary of Robert Wallace which he found in the old Methodist Periodical "The Christian Guardian", of June 24, 1863, written by E. E. Sweet, Metcalfe, Osgoode, May 26, 1863. The Copy of the obituary reads in part:

Mr Robert Wallace

The subject of this brief sketch was born in Ireland, April 12th, 1778. His father died when he was quite a child; an elder brother and an uncle, who each in their turn assumed the paternal oversight, were in less than twelve months numbered amongst the dead. His mother was now his only guardian and instructor; she was a member of the Church of England and ... trained her fatherless boy up in the fear of God. From a very early age he was the subject of powerful religious impressions ...

About this time (the age of twenty-five) in the public market whither he had gone on business, seeing a large crowd of people, he was attracted by their singing, which he was wont to say he thought was the most heavenly he had ever heard. He drew near; the Rev. Gideon Ousley was commencing Divine service. It was the first time he had ever heard the Gospel preached by a Methodist minister. The Word proved powerful ... He sought union with the Methodist Church, and soon was appointed a Class Leader and Exhorter.

His writings (a large manuscript volume) which he has left to his family is an evidence that he was a genius, and if in his early days he had been favoured with a liberal education, he would have shone in the literary world....

He emigrated to Canada in the year 1828, and in several places in the backwoods where he resided, he gathered its scattered people for worship. The last time he met the class in his own neighbourhood, a few months before his death, he arose above his wonted strength. On the morning of April 2nd, he arose, dressed, and partook of refreshments as usual... and fell asleep in death, aged 85 years. His mortal remains were followed by a very large concourse to the burial ground of the Metcalfe Methodist Church Osgoode.

The obituary is much longer but does not name any members of his family. Bruce Elliott is speaking to the Ottawa Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society at the Archives, Wellington Street, on October 19, 8:00 p.m. about sources he discovered last summer at Salt Lake City. Bruce is a very helpful member of our Society.

We recently spent part of a day getting better acquainted with the village of Metcalfe, situated a little to the east of the centre of our Township, a village that has played a leading role in most aspects of the development of our Township. For a few years, Archibald McDonnell and children Duncan and Isabel (Kennedy) owned the four 200 lots surrounding the 4 corners. In 1846 the first plan of the area was laid out by Hawley. Mrs. Shorey and Miss Iveson used a later plan of 1888 for our informative tour. We are very grateful to them for the many hours they put into organizing the vast amount of information available. We very much appreciate the hospitality of the Anglican Church in allowing us to use their beautiful Hall.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, Mr. Gerald Hill, of Marvelville

Time rolls on and it is up to us as individuals and members of our local Historical Society to use our time to preserve and collect articles for our Museum in Vernon. We should see to it that valuable articles are not carelessly destroyed.

During the past year our newly-incorporated Society drew up a few by-laws to guide us in carrying on our business. The annual meeting, previously held in October, will now be held in January, just as soon as our treasurers can get their books audited. It is compulsory for us to send audited statements of receipts and expenses to both the Provincial and Dominion Governments, and these statements were for the calendar year. For this reason we decided it would be wise to have our annual meeting as early in the new year as possible.

The membership fee is somewhat changed. For a regular member who receives the Newsletters for 1977, the fee will be \$2.00. An additional member in the family will pay only \$1.00. On a person who does not wish to receive the Newsletters can still be a member for \$1.00 annually. Fees for 1977 are acceptable at any time.

Already our Museum has been open to the Public for approximately 180 days since January 1, 1976. We shall continue to be open in October every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday afternoons from 2:00-5:00 p.m. We are grateful to our very efficient secretary Harry Anderson, for arranging supervisors for the Museum.

Early in September, Mrs. John Robb, treasurer for our Museum, received a cheque for \$4,500. from the Ontario Government, Ministry of Culture and Recreation - An Establishment Grant. We thank the Provincial Government for this help.

The Rideau Township Historical Society will be holding their regular meeting in our building on Wednesday Evening, October 20, 8:00 p.m. All are welcome. As usual, our society meets the first Friday afternoon in every month at 2:00 p.m. Evening meetings are usually held the 3rd Friday in each month. In October, several members are attending a Seminar in Cornwall, October 14, 15, 16. A speaker from the R.C.M.P. is coming in November. A special gathering is being planned during the Christmas vacation. We are looking forward to seeing the Museum and several of its Artifacts featured on Helen Vechtor's show, "THE JOYS OF COLLECTING, COLLECTING."

Receipts will be sent out early in January for any money donated to the Society during the year.

GERALD HILL

Plans are underway to get into print a Pictorial Study of Osgoode Township. Already many valuable prints have been presented to the Museum from former residents as well as from local people. We appreciate each picture for its value in preserving the story of the past.

A committee has been appointed to look after this important side of our work. The members are: Herbert Donaldson Taylor, an enthusiastic member now living in Toronto, with ancestors in every corner of the Township. No one could be more qualified for the work because of his previous experience with the News Board, with Crawley Films, and at present his work with Bell Canada. He is writing an article in the January Newsletter explaining how we can

in their work. A second member is Mrs. Rolla (Katie) Campbell of Springhill, a longtime school teacher endowed with a remarkable memory and well-informed on interesting happenings long-forgotten by most of us. The third member of the committee is Mrs. Connie Sallans of Osgoode, a lady with a great deal of business experience, and one who has shown a great deal of public spirit in every organization where she has so unselfishly served.

The 1975 Newsletter was completely sold out a year ago, but we have made plans to have about 50 copies of each of the four numbers printed before the end of the year. The price of the complete set of 4 will be \$1.00. Copies will be sold individually as well.

Additional Members as of October 12, 1976

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| 188. Hedley T. Boyd
Kemptville | 204. Anne Glen Mills,
Hd. of St. Margaret's Bay,
Halifax Co., N.S. |
| 189. Robert F. Harding
171 St. George, Brantford | 205. Garnet Marshall,
Osgoode |
| 190. Clifford Folkard
932 Teal Dr., Burlington | 206. Gordon E. Blair,
210 Donald St., Osgoode |
| 191. Lorne Harrison
R. R. 1, Metcalfe | 207. Mrs. Hilda Dombroski,
1701 Kilborn Ave., Ottawa |
| 192. Mrs. Lorne Harrison
R. R. 1, Metcalfe | 208. Jean Ellis,
1701 Kilborn, /910 |
| 193. W. J. Miller
Box 147, Athens | 209. Mrs. John Boland,
R. R. 3, Metcalfe |
| 194. Muriel Blair Cameron,
Vernon | 210. Mrs. Helen Blair Cameron,
22 Gillanders Rd.,
Elliott Lake |
| 195. Willis Hill
Vernon | 211. Mrs. Merle (Mabel Blair) Porter,
Box 62, Newport Rd. |
| 196. Mrs. W. (Irene) Hill
Vernon | 212. John Lacharity,
99 Charlotte St., # 3 |
| 197. Mrs. Rolland Nesbitt
42 Havelock Ave., Ottawa | 213. Sid Butterfield,
1249 Kilmer Road,
North Vancouver |
| 198. Winifred Meldrum
1410 Orillia St., Ottawa | 214. Greta Loney Dewar,
2651 Regina St., Ottawa |
| 199. Sister Marianna (O Gallagher)
St. Patricks College,
Quebec City | 215. Mrs. J. D. (Evelyn Kelly) Butler,
23 Regent St., Ottawa |
| 200. Mrs Kenneth Mutter
R. R. 1, Lansdowne | 216. Dominic Kelly
R.R. 3, Manotick |
| 201. Mrs. Cecil Johnston
R. R. 3, Metcalfe | 217. Patti Mitton,
R. R. 2, Russell |
| 202. Miss Christine Schroeder,
R. R. 2, Russell | 218. John Shields,
R. R. 1, Osgoode |
| 203. Gordon Sedgwick
44 King St. W., Toronto | 219. Rita Daley,
372 S. Highland Ave., Apt. 302
Pittsburgh, Penn. |

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