

Dipping into the past...

150 YEARS AGO

Thursday, October 1, 1863

From The Sun, Orangeville:

A despatch from Paris asserts that the Archduke Maximilian has positively accepted the throne of Mexico, tendered to him by the Emperor Napoleon. The London Times thinks there is no danger of any trouble from the manner in which the Washington Government will regard the proceedings in France.

The King of the Greeks has signed the agreement relating to his succession to the Danish Throne. By this document he renounces his right of success in favor of his younger brother and his heirs. King George and his own line then become the last in order of succession to the Danish Throne.

It appears in the latest news from Europe that the steam rams in the Mersey will be detained by the Government until they are cleared of the suspicion of being intended for the Confederates. Messrs Laird & Co., the proprietors, will of course protest, and the question of the legality of the detention will have to be decided by the law courts.

MCKITRICK CO.'S FOUNDRY ? Messrs McKitrick & Bro. have just turned out from their foundry in this village a large casting weighing over two tons. It was cast in two pieces and is intended for a pit wheel in Mr. Newell's grist mill, Mono. The same firm has also just completed a large cog-wheel for Mr. Jull's grist mill, in Orangeville, that weighs over thirty-four hundred pounds. This latter wheel was cast in twelve segments and measures twenty-one feet in diameter. The success with which these castings have been made speaks well for the enterprise and ability of the Messrs. McKitrick and shows the facilities they possess for executing every kind of mill gearing and machinery in this respect Orangeville can compare not unfavorably with Toronto, Hamilton and other cities.

THE WAR NEWS ? The northern journals are discussing the cause of the defeat of Gen. Rosencrans near Chattanooga. They allege that the victory on their side would have been overwhelming had Burnside been more prompt in reinforcing the army of the Cumberland. The Confederates claim to have captured 4,000 prisoners and 30 pieces of artillery though admitting a heavy loss of officers and men. Gen. Rosencrans is at present at Chattanooga where he holds a strong defensive position, awaiting reinforcements. There is nothing worthy of mention from Charleston. As latest report, the Confederates continued busy repairing Sumter, and fortifying the approaches to the city. The navy does not manifest the slightest signs of activity.

BATTALION DRILL IN GUELPH ? We learn from the Guelph papers that the Volunteer Companies were present at the appointed battalion drill in Guelph on Thursday last. At an early hour the town presented a gay appearance, flags floated from various buildings and numbers of people in carriages and on foot poured into town to witness the proceedings of the day. The following were the Companies present: Orangeville Company, Capt. Buckham, 2 officers and 25 men; Puslinch Company, Capt. McFarlane, 2 officers and 32 men; Fergus Rifle Company, Lieut Strath, 2 officers and 24 men; Elora Company, Capt. Donaldson, 3 officers and 30 men; Guelph Company, Capt. Higinbotham, 3 officers and 36 men; Guelph Cavalry Troop, Capt. Heming, 3 officers and 25 men; Guelph Union Brass Band.

125 YEARS AGO

Thursday, October 4, 1888

Says the Orangeville Sun: It appears that, after all, the Dufferins are to be defrauded out of the Northwestern District

championship. Fergus was billed to play Shelburne yesterday, but the latter 'flunked' and the Thistles stayed at home.?

Responds the Shelburne Free Press: 'Wrong again sonny! Shelburne did not 'flunk,' they expected to play the match and did not know anything about the match being given to Fergus until they received a telegram from the Secretary of the Association on Tuesday.?

??oneywood: The Harvest Home Festival held, under the auspices of Cranmer's Church on Monday evening, was a grand success, although the evening was very disagreeable. An excellent tea was served in Bowers' Hall and the literary part of the festival was held in the church. Addresses were given by the Revs. T. Reid, J. Goodman, A. C. Watt and the pastor, W. E. Carrol, B.A. First class music was furnished by the choir, assisted by several ladies and gentlemen from Shelburne. The proceeds of the entertainment amounted to \$57.

??he steamship express was delayed for about an hour on Thursday on its way from Owen Sound to Toronto owing to a not unusual occurrence on the Toronto Grey and Bruce Railway. The engineer of the freight preceding the express saw a cow on the track just as he was coming into Orangeville. He whistled but the stubborn animal still stood on the track. The driver did not desire to be delayed and ran ahead with the intention of shoving the cow off the track but he got his engine off as well, causing a slight delay. It is not necessary to state that the animal was killed.

??he brickwork of the new Shelburne Methodist Church is completed and the roof was finished on Saturday last. The contractors, S. P. Hodgson & Co. are pushing on the work as rapidly as possible. The building, when completed, will be a very handsome and imposing structure and a credit to the society. The brick work was done by Messrs. Ostrander & Hill.

??n Monday, Mr. Peck, representing the Ontario Pump Company, attended a meeting of the Shelburne Council to arrange matters in reference to the contract of erecting waterworks for the village. Councillor Mason was absent but came in before the matter was settled. On the motion authorizing the reeve, on behalf of the corporation, to sign the agreement with the Ontario Pump Co., the yeas and nays were taken. Messrs. Jelly, Skelton and Madill voted yea and Messrs. Mason and O'Flynn voted nay. The motion was declared carried and it is expected that the company will commence the well at once.

100 YEARS AGO

Thursday, October 2, 1913

??udge Walter G. Fisher was sworn into office as County Judge for Dufferin last Monday by Clerk of the Peace J. L. McKay. Judge McCarthy, retired, whom Judge Fisher succeeds, and G. M. Vance, K.C., of Shelburne, were present representing the judiciary, and Messrs. A. A. Hughson and Charles R. McKeown, MPP, spoke for the bar, all congratulating the new judge.

?? M. Vance, K.C., of Shelburne, has been selected as the new Senior Judge of Simcoe County. Says the Shelburne Free Press: 'The appointment is no doubt a great honour, but the Free Press and hundreds of others in this county would have preferred that Mr. Vance be appointed a judge of this county. The government is no doubt correct in its policy not to appoint barristers to official positions in counties where they have been practicing law. Our Simcoe friends fully expected that W. D. Fisher would be appointed for that county, but the government decided otherwise and on Monday last Judge Fisher received a cordial from the bar and people of Dufferin to his new position at Orangeville as judge of Dufferin County. We are fully persuaded that our townsman, G. M. Vance, K.C., will receive the same cordial reception from the good people of Simcoe at Barrie, when he assumes his duties as Judge of Simcoe County.'

??undalk Fair and Old Boys' Reunion, on October 9 and 10, promises to be a hummer, with a big display of agricultural products, livestock, etc.

??ack Stone, an eccentric character who had acted as an hostler at Young's hotel in Mono Mills for many years, was found dead in a stall in the hotel stables. He had slept in the stables for years from choice, as he refused to sleep in a house. When he was taken ill an

effort was made to move him to the house, but he refused to be taken from the stable and so was made as comfortable as possible where he was. He was about 70 years of age.

The death of Miss Clamina Annie MacLachlan, a daughter of the late Alexander MacLachlan, the Scottish-Canadian poet, took place rather unexpectedly on September 19. Miss MacLachlan had been in delicate health for a year or longer, but was always able to be about until the Monday preceding her death, when she became bedfast. Her demise was caused by anaemia. The family moved to Orangeville from Amaranth about 18 years ago, Mr. MacLachlan dying there about a year later. Two sisters, Misses Lizzie and Maggie, live in Orangeville, while a married sister, Mrs. Robert Oliver, resides in Nelson, B.C., and the only brother, Dr. Charles MacLachlan, in Elwell, Michigan.

A very sad death took place in Orangeville on Friday about midnight. Miss Fannie Lawson, a young woman who was married to Mr. John Hawley, arrived on the morning train Friday with her small baby, having left Montreal the previous evening. She consulted a local physician about noon, who found she was suffering with a malignant case of diphtheria which had apparently been contracted about five or six days earlier. The doctor prescribed anti-toxin and ordered the victim of the insidious disease to go home at once. She died at midnight and was buried Saturday morning in Forest Lawn Cemetery, the house being disinfected and quarantined. Mrs. Hawley was about 21 years of age and had been of a robust constitution.

After three days' hard work, the Hymnal Committee appointed by the Methodist Conference, finished its labours last Thursday. The result of the committee's deliberations will be presented to the Conference which will in all probability accept the work. In the near future there may be a joint hymnal for the Presbyterians, Methodist and Congregationalists.

Says the Shelburne Economist: The Shelburne Fair was a great success, including the number of people and everything else. So many people were there that day that we could not see you. We, from this side, did our share to help it on. We said a week or two ago that when the Shelburne Fair was over we could then settle down to work, but we forgot the Fair to be held on October 2 on the school ground. This is something we all ought to be interested in. The fair is largely the work of the scholars and we believe it will help and encourage them if we turn out in good force to see their work.

50 YEARS AGO

Wednesday, October 2, 1963

The provincial election held Wednesday of last week, saw the re-election of the sitting Conservative members in Dufferin's two constituencies - John Root in Wellington-Dufferin by an overall majority of 3,774 votes over his Liberal and NDP opponents, and Rev. A. W. (Wally) Downer, in Dufferin-Simcoe, by an overall majority of 3,538 votes over his Liberal and NDP opponents.

The Conservatives, led by Premier John Robarts, came out of the election with 78 seats, seven more than they had in the last Legislature. The Liberals won 23 seats, one more than they had, but leader John Wintermeyer was personally defeated in Waterloo North and has resigned as leader. The New Democrats now have seven seats, a gain of two.

Monday was the last day of duty in Dufferin County for Dr. Donald Davison, who has directed the activities of the county health unit for the past three years and is planning to go into other areas of medical endeavour.