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Dipping into the past...

150 YEARS AGO

Thursday, November 5, 1863

??rom The Sun, Orangeville:

The Orangeville Quarterly Fair for the sale and exchange of livestock, produce &c, will be held here on Thursday, next, the 12th inst. This fair is usually well attended and both sellers and buyers general succeed in dealing to their mutual satisfaction.

DAY OF THANKSGIVING ? The Governor General has appointed Wednesday the 11th November as a day of thanksgiving for the late abundant harvest with which the country has been blessed. The Anglican Lord Bishop of Montreal had previously appointed last for the same purpose in his diocese; but the Echo says that His Lordship has changed the day to the one to be observed throughout the Province which will doubtless be kept by all denominations.

MONO AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY ? We are informed that this Society received its portion of the Provincial Grant to Agriculture on Wednesday; and that the prizes awarded at the Exhibition here on the 16th inst. will be paid when called for by the Society's Treasurer, John May, Esq./ For the delay that has taken place this year in the distribution of Agricultural Grants, the Government is to blame; but its neglect in this respect has given such dissatisfaction throughout the country and been so generally condemned, that we hardly think the Ministry will again dare to give further cause for complaint in the matter.

CALEDON PLOWING MATCH ? The annual plowing match under the auspices of the Caledon Agricultural Society, came off on the farm of Mr. W. Shield's., Lot 13, 1st Con. East, Caledon on Friday last. The weather was favorable and toward the afternoon, there was quite a respectable turnout of spectators who seemed much interested in the work of the different plowmen. The work was generally well executed. The judges, Messrs. Robt. Standing and Geo. Robertson bestowed great care in arriving at their decision, and their awards gave general satisfaction. The following is the prize list: Old Countrymen: 1st, Phillip Dillon, 2nd, Robt. Hacket; 3rd Thos. Harrison; Canadians: 1st Joe Hacket; 2nd Geo. Harrison; 3rd Robt. Oliver; Boys ? 1st. J. Richardson; 2nd @m. Harrison; 3rd Wm. McDonald. The judges, plowmen and visitors partook of an excellent dinner prepared by Mr. Shields and after spending the evening pleasantly together, the company separated about nine o'clock.

WINTER ? On last Friday snow fell to the depth of two inches in many parts of this Riding. Sleigh rides were enjoyed in the township of Garafraxa. Pretty early this for winter. ? Fergus Constitution.

The Viscount and Viscountess Victor Hugo have just affianced their daughter to mr. Albert Penson, an English officer, who distinguished himself in the Crimean war. We understand that immediately after the marriage the bride and bridegroom will take their departure for Nova Scotia where Mr. Penson's regiment is stationed. ? Guernsey Star.

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION ? Washington - Gen. Meade has within a day or two made some changes in the position of his forces, looking to the better protectin of those engaged in the reconstruction of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. While this change was being effect, at about three o'clock yesterday morning, the rebels made a demonstration against the 6th corps, but nothing further was accomplished than the driving in of the pickets of that corps a short distance, when the rebels retired.

WANTED ? A good active boy, about fourteen years of age to learn the Tinsmithing business. None need apply unless well recommended. Sepha Donner, Orangeville.

NOTICE ? This is to notify all person indebted to the Firm of Penfold & Huskinson, Founders, Orangeville, that I have handed the Books of the firm to Maitland McCarthy Esq. Solicitor who is the only authorized person to receive monies and grant receipts. Parties who have given notes for their accounts are cautioned against paying any person except my authorized agent. H., Mulholland, Iron Merchant, Guelph.

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125 YEARS AGO

Thursday, November 8, 1888

??t Dufferin Fall Assizes, held at the Court House in Orangeville before Justice Galt last week, included an action against the Town of Orangeville brought by Emma and Manasseh Leeson. The plaintiffs sought to recover damages sustained by them by reason of water being brought on their property and deposited in front of their place on Broadway. The water pipe used in connection with the waterworks system ends nearly opposite Leeson's hotel and a hydrant is placed there. The plaintiffs claim that the hydrant or water pipe leaked and a large body of water escaped from the pipe and percolated through the soil into the hotel cellar, by reason of which, the foundation became badly cracked and the cellar unfit for use, seriously impairing the health of the plaintiffs. They further complained that the waste water created a nuisance in front of the hotel, making the road so muddy that a buggy would sink to the hubs of the wheels. The plaintiffs' cause of action was in respect of damages sustained in this way from the first construction of the waterworks, but His Lordship held that they could not make any claim except for such damages as had occurred within a year prior to commencement of the action, the Waterworks Act expressly limiting the damages to such period. The plaintiffs called a large number of witnesses in support of their claim, but none was called by the corporation. The jury, under his Lordship's instructions, visited the premises in order the better to understand the position. At the conclusion of the case, three questions were submitted to the jury, all of which were answered in favour of the defendant, and upon these answers judgment was entered dismissing the action with costs.

In a criminal case, R. vs Haney, the accused was charged with having committed rape on the person of Mrs. Thomas Fleer, of Horning's Mills, last June. None but Crown witnesses were examined and defence counsel, Mr. W.L. Walsh, submitted that no case had been made out which could be left to the jury. His Lordship agreed and dismissed the case. The evidence was of such a spicy nature that a number of women occupied seats in the gallery to hear the case. The evidence was not such as would be admissible as good reading, and therefore is not being published. Haney maintains that if his witnesses had been examined he could prove that he had not been near the premises on that day.

A second criminal case, R. vs Brown, involved a charge of bigamy against John Brown, of Caledon. His first marriage, which took place about three years ago, was to a Miss Graham, daughter of Robert Graham, of Caledon, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. Dr. Stewart, Baptist minister, then stationed at Cheltenham. Wife No. 1 is now residing in Toronto, being engaged as a servant for a living. Brown and his first wife did not agree and they separated. His second marriage took place in March 1887, to Jennie Kench, of Orangeville, Rev. A. Henderson performing the ceremony. It appears the first wife left him a short time after their marriage and refused to live with him any longer. Wife No. 2, a very young girl, was present at the trial and when the prisoner was acquitted she jumped up and hugged him in an old fashioned style. They left the court in high glee.

?? public meeting was held in Shelburne Town Hall on Friday evening for the purpose of setting up a joint stock company to rebuild the Wilson foundry. A number of businessmen were present and it was the wish of all present to see the formation of a company successfully carried out. It was arranged to form a company under the name of The Wilson Bros. Manufacturing Company, with a capital stock of $15,000 divided into shares of $50 each. As soon as the required amount of stock is subscribed, an application will be made to have the company incorporated. It is the intention of the company to erect a brick moulding shop at once.

??red A. Clarry, at one time owner of the Orangeville woolen mills, has got into trouble at Toronto. Clarry was the prime moving in an extensive lottery scheme and was arrested two weeks ago and fined $20 and costs for running the affair in violation of the law. He gave notice of appeal.

100 YEARS AGO

Thursday, November 6, 1913

??n Monday evening a large number of Shelburne citizens proceeded to the residence on ?wen Sound Street of Mr. G. M. Vance, who was recently appointed senior judge for Simcoe County and will shortly move to Barrie with Mrs. Vance and daughters Lois and Ruth.

During the evening Mr. Charles Mason read an address, accompanied by presentation of a cabinet of silver and a gold-headed cane. The address was an artistic piece of work, handsomely in gold and colours, and was the work of Rev. Dr. McKenzie, pastor of Knox Church, Shelburne. The corners of the scroll surrounding the address, were medallion-shaped with a quarter inch gold border. In the upper left corner there was a neatly painted representation of ?Justice? and on the opposite corner to the right, a picture of the Shelburne town hall, and at the bottom left corner a painting of the Shelburne school building and to the right a cornucopia or horn of plenty.

??r. R. E. Davis, of Horning's Mills, has purchased the property of Dr. H.?D.?Thompson, of Shelburne, and will occupy the same offices and residence as previously occupied by Dr. Thompson and before that by the late Dr. Steele and Dr. Norton. Dr. Davis comes well recommended, having been senior house surgeon at the Toronto General Hospital for two years, and also has had connections with Erie County Hospital in Buffalo. Dr. Thompson and Dr. Davis will remain in practice jointly for a couple of weeks. It is understood that Dr. Thompson plans to take a post graduate course in Edinburgh, Scotland, before resuming practice.

75 YEARS AGO

Thursday, November 3, 1938

??uesday morning, Mrs. John Reburn, of Whitfield, was out in her garden where she picked about a dozen fat, ripe strawberries, the largest of which was about 1 1/2 inches across. There were more berries on the way to maturity but if the weather suddenly turns in the near future, that crop may be the last for the year. These were not scrawny, out-of-season berries, but nice large ones that any strawberry lover would be glad to find on the menu for dessert. The average temperature for October locally, was 52.1º F, which was about 10º above normal.

??rand Valley residents were awakened from their slumbers at 2:30 a.m. last Wednesday morning by a fire alarm, spread by telephone and use of the bell of St. Alban's Church. The blaze, which had it not been nipped in time would have proved disastrous to part of the village's business section, occurred in the grocery store of G. W. Hornsby, in the Richardson block, one door north of the Commercial Hotel. When first noticed by the proprietor, whose living quarters are at the rear of the store, the fire had made rapid headway under the counter. The fire engine and many willing workers were soon on hand but the blaze was extinguished without turning on the fire hose. The store's stock of groceries was completely ruined, but damage to the building was not extensive.

50 YEARS AGO

Wednesday, November 6, 1963

??usan Little, grade 8 student in Shelburne Public School, and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Little, Owen Sound Street, won the Dufferin County Public School Oratorical Title last Tuesday night at the finals competition, held in the auditorium of Centre Dufferin District High School. She also won the James Wardlaw Trophy and replica.

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10 YEARS AGO

Friday, November 6, 2003

??wo citizens' groups have lost a bid for full intervenor status at hearings into an application by a biosolids contractor to quash a Melancthon bylaw. Late Wednesday afternoon, Ontario Superior Court Master Joan Haberman released her decision denying the requests by the Melancthon Citizens Coalition and Environment Voters. In reaching her decision she said the court must balance ?the desirability of giving that person a voice before the court while providing the court with the benefit of additional information or a different perspective, against the extent to which that will increase costs, delay the process or prejudice the determination of the rights between the names parties.?

??he Shelburne District Agricultural Society is one step closer to building a 3,600 square foot community centre on William Street. Shelburne Council passed a bylaw Monday night authorizing the Town to enter into a site plan agreement with the Society that will allow the project to proceed. The proposed building would be on land near a recently demolished horse barn.

??t is a process that has taken more than six years to complete, but Dufferin County's stray animals now have a new home. The new animal shelter of the Orangeville and District Branch of the Ontario SPCA, on Riddell Road, was officially opened last week.