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Export date: Fri Oct 30 10:07:37 2026 / +0000 GMT

Dipping into the past...

150 YEARS AGO Thursday, June 2, 1864 ??From The Sun, Orangeville, compliments of Dufferin County Museum and Archives: TRAMWAY MEETING ? In accordance with a requisition of the ratepayers, the Reeve of this village has called a public meeting, to be held at the Court Room on Broadway, on Monday evening next, at eight o'clock, for the purpose of taking into consideration a scheme for the construction of a tramway between here and Brampton. We have received a communication from a ?Subscriber? near Malton, endeavoring to prove that a more convenient route exists between that village and Orangeville for a tramway, than between Orangeville and Brampton, and offering to take up shares in the enterprise to bring it that way. As it is yet premature to discuss the particular route that should be taken, we withhold the publication of the correspondent's letter, but he may rest assured that the route which shall be found to present fewer physical difficulties, and command the greatest measure of support, will be the ne ultimately chosen. A survey and a little time will determine the issue. AMARANTH FOR TRAMWAY ? The farmers of Amaranth, foremost in every sensible enterprise, are the first to move for the construction of a tram road from Orangeville to Brampton. I n accordance with a numerously signed requisition, the Reeve, Charles Gillespie, Esq., has called public meetings of the ratepayers, to be held at Trueman's inn, Mount Nobo, at 10 a.m., at Bowsfield's inn, Whittington, at 2 p.m., and at Wallace's inn, Farmington, at 4 p.m. of Friday next, for the purpose of taking into consideration the scheme proposed in these columns for the construction of a tramway from this village to Brampton. This is a move in the right direction and an example which the farmers of the adjoining municipalities should not be slow to follow. A project, having for its object the promotion of their interests, should receive from them every consideration. THE WAR ? We have little to report from the contending armies in Virginia this week. From the dispatches, it would appear that Grant and Lee are mutually trying strategy and endeavoring to out-general each other, each in turn being the assailant and the assailed. Grant, however, by a flank movement on Lee's right, has succeeded in getting within a few miles of Richmond, and now occupies nearly the same ground held by McClellan previous to his disastrous retreat from the Confederate capital. ORANGEVILLE COUNCIL ? The Village Council met at Kelly's hotel on Friday evening, pursuant to adjournment. Dr. Hewat presented the report of a special committee appointed to report on By-Law No. 9, respecting pounds and pound-keepers. After discussion in committee of the whole, the bylaw was passed and read a third time as amended in committee. On motion of Dr. Hewat, seconded by Mr. Jull, the clerk was instructed to get the village By-Laws published for the use and instruction of ratepayers. 125 YEARS AGO Thursday, June 6, 1889 ??A rousing anti-Jesuit meeting was held in Shelburne Town Hall last Saturday, June 1st. The meeting was gotten up by a local committee of which Dr. Barr, MP, was chairman, and Mrs. J. Skelton, secretary. Speakers were provided by the Toronto Citizens' Committee, in the persons of Rev. G. M. Milligan and Mr. J. L. Hughes, both of whom are prominent opponents of the ?iniquitous Jesuit Estates Act,? as it was termed in the posters. The Act authorized payment of $400,000 to the Vatican as compensation for loss of lands that had been settled by Jesuit missionaries. The proceedings were to have taken place in the Shelburne Park, but the heavy rains of the previous two days had left the ground so damp that an outdoor gathering was a thing to be avoided. The meeting cannot be otherwise regarded than a great success: the hall was filled to overflowing; the speeches were forceful and eloquent; the audience was sympathetic and unanimous, and a liberal collection was taken up. After long speeches by Mr. Hughes, a prominent member of the Orange Order and in Inspector of Toronto's Public schools and Mr. Milligan, pastor of Toronto's Old St. Andrew's Church, the meeting unanimously approved the following resolution: ?Resolved, that we regard the Act incorporating the Jesuits and the Jesuit Estates Act, recently passed by the Quebec Legislature, as a serious menace to the civil and religious liberties, not only of that province, but of the whole Dominion; and that we cannot but regard the failure of our public men at Ottawa to devise a means of preventing such legislation as humiliating to themselves and the country; as inimical to the best interests of their constituents, whose liberties they are obligated to protect; and as derogatory to the Queen's honour and perilous to her prerogatives, inasmuch as the Act they refused to disallow invites a foreign potentate to exercise in a British province the prerogatives which of right belong only to the sovereign; and we hereby pledge ourselves to use every constitutional means by petition and otherwise to secure the disallowance of said Act, and never to cease our efforts till every vestige of state-churchism shall have been swept from our land.? ??Former Police Magistrate M. S. Gray has laid an information charging Constable Finbow with collecting Scott Act fines that he had imposed and not returning the funds or giving any account of it. The case was tried at Laurel on Monday last before Justices Johnston and Richardson. It was proved at trial that the constable had received $30 from Joseph Black as payment of a fine imposed on George Black. Finbow was also charged with receiving a $50 note from Mr. Black, of Mansfield, in payment of a fine which he discounted. He is also accused of receiving $13 from a Mr. Sindles. ?? A coroners jury inquiring into the death May 27 of James Scott during a row over access to a fishing stream at Glencross has reached the follow verdict:??the jury find by the evidence, that the deceased, James B. Scott, came to his death by a fracture of the skull, causing blood to be poured out on the brain, which caused death. The said fracture of skull was caused by a stone thrown from the hands of Henry

Atkinson in self-defence.? 100 YEARS AGO Thursday, June 4, 1914 ??Unchecked speed in a fog cost over 900 lives last Friday morning when the collier Storstadt sank the Canadian Pacific liner Empress of Ireland in the St. Lawrence River. About 400 were saved from the whole ships' company of 1, 387 crew and passengers. Very few of the first or second cabin passengers were saved and only a few women were rescued. ??The Ontario Legislature has been dissolved and on June 29 the government of Premier Sir James Whitney will go to the country on its nine years' record seeking a renewal of its confidence. Dufferin County Conservatives will meet at Shelburne tomorrow to select a candidate. The sitting member, C. R. McKeown, is expected to face opposition in seeking the nomination. ??Shelburne will soon know the virtue, or lack of it, that lies in oiling the town's streets. A quantity of the necessary oil has been secured and the work of putting it on is underway. A section of Main and Owen Sound streets will be used for the experiment. 75 YEARS AGO Thursday, June 8, 1939 ??Quiet a number of Dufferin residents motored to Guelph Tuesday to have a look at King George and Queen Elizabeth at the Guelph Station. The Royal train arrived there at about 2 p.m. and stayed for 10 minutes. ??Dr. S. A. McKelvie, well-known Shelburne veterinary, has been appointed a part-time veterinary inspector by the Federal Government. The appointment is not expected to interfere greatly with his private practice as the work required will only be at intervals and in the surrounding district. 50 YEARS AGO Wednesday, June 3, 1964 ??Dufferin County Historical Society's Pioneer Village in Shelburne's Hyland Park may have its public opening sooner than had been anticipated. The members' strenuous and continued labours are showing fruit to such an extent that plans are ahead of schedule. ??A petition calling on Orangeville Council to submit the question of allowing the sale of beer, wine and liquor with meals in Orangeville to a vote, is currently been circulated for signatures. ??At its May meeting, Mono Council passed a resolution giving permission to the Hockley Valley Improvement Association ?to use the road allowance where necessary to develop the Bruce Trail through the Township of Mono, under the supervision of the Road Superintendent.? 10 YEARS AGO Friday, June 6, 2004 ??Ontario Premier Ernie Eves cut the ribbon last Friday to officially open the Sunrise Centre at the Headwaters Health Care Centre. Headwaters is the first hospital in the province to work with its community partners to develop a complete medical/legal treatment centre for victims of violence. ??As many as 235 persons, some with nine years of service, will lose their jobs for possibly six months as a result of Canam Manac's decision to cease operations ?temporarily? at its Orangeville van plant as of July 10.