

Stone Memories

INTRODUCTION

"Stone Memories" is a collection of articles long ago published in the Marmora Herald.

In collecting "Stone Memories" minimal changes have been made to the original text, primarily in punctuation and paragraphing to clarify the original free-flowing form. That the reporters themselves would have reworked some parts of their stories, probably expanded others, and corrected spelling mistakes is evident, but I believe the stories stand on their own merit, offering a rare glimpse of early life and times in Marmora and area. The tragedies that occurred served to bring a village together and give it the character to survive 175 years.

Gerald Belanger Cathie Jones

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gerald Belanger".A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cathie Jones".

AN ACCIDENTAL DEATH**AT DELORO**

An unfortunate accident, and the only fatal one since its inception, occurred at the plant of the Deloro Mining and Reduction co. last Friday morning. The victim, Kust Bikki by name (a native of Finland) was caught between an ascending elevator and the floor above in such a manner as to cause dislocation of the spine and instant death. So far as could be ascertained there was no actual necessity for Bikki in the spot where he met with his death. Why he was there and what move he made that led to his being caught and crushed with such sudden and dire result will always remain an inexplicable mystery as the only other person near was the employee in charge of the elevator who was standing with his back to the position which must have been occupied by Bikki and whose first realization of the unfortunate man's predicament came from the stopping of the elevator by its impact against his body, then the elevator was at once reversed, but too late, Bikki's life being crushed out. Coroner Dr. Harper of Madoc was at once notified of the occurrence, but upon arriving at Deloro and hearing the circumstances of it decided that an inquest was unnecessary.

Mr. P. Kirkegaard, manager of D.M. & R. Co., then directed that the body be prepared for burial and arranged for its proper interment in Marmora cemetery.

On last Sunday morning, the funeral cortege leaving Deloro at eleven o'clock and reaching St. Paul's Church an hour later, where the solemn burial service of the church of England was conducted by Rev. C. M. Harris, who also officiated at the graveside. Countrymen of the deceased all of them employees of the D. M. & R. Co. were pall bearers and mourners and Mr. Kirkegaard with many of his employees were noticed as amongst those present at the last sad rites.

December 16, 1909

COMMITTED SUICIDE

Alex Larravae Found Hanging in
Marmora Cooperage Co., Camp.

Mr. Alex Larravae, who has been a resident of the village for some time ended his life last week by hanging himself in the Marmora Cooperage Co.'s camp near Beaver Creek. Messrs. Thos. Culbertson and Floyd Gray drove back to the camp on Monday last to get a grindstone which had been left there. On entering the shanty they were horrified to find the body of a man hanging from the roof. They immediately drove back to town to notify Dr. Mackechnie, who is the Coroner for this district, but the doctor was out of town and did not get back until late, so did not visit the scene of the tragedy until the following morning, when he was accompanied by a large number of men from the village.

Apparently the affair had been deliberately planned, and as there was no suspicion of foul play no inquest was held. The remains were identified as those of Alex. Larravae who was employed by the Pearce Co. for two or three seasons. The body was brought to town and shipped from here to Toronto where it will be used by the medical faculty for dissecting purposes.

The deceased was a Frenchman and came here from Trenton. He was about 50 years of age and is said to be a widower. No reason is known for his rash act.

April 1, 1909

FOR NEW CEMETERY

After the business in regard to securing better railway facilities for the village had been disposed of Rev. Mr. Moore introduced the question of getting a new cemetery for Marmora. He said that the caretaker of the cemetery had informed him that there was only room for three or four more graves at most without digging up the remains of those already buried. In fact a number of graves had already been opened.

After some discussion Mr. Moore moved that Messrs. J.W. Pearce, R.T. Gray, H. Wiggins and Dan Shannon be a committee to find out the proper Statutory steps to take in the organization of a Cemetery Company, and also to look up a suitable plot of ground near the village which can be secured for this purpose. The motion was then seconded by Mr. Rich. Campion and unanimously carried after which the meeting adjourned.

November 23, 1911

**FROM HERALD FILES OF
FORMER YEARS**

Last week two aged residents of Belmont township passed away within a few hours of each other, in the persons of Mr. and Mrs. Robert McFaul. Mrs. McFaul, in her 77th year, passed away on Feb. 16th and her husband, aged 79, on the following day. A family of seven daughters and three sons survive as follows: Mrs. D. McQuaig, Mrs. Wm. Demille, Mrs. W. H. Leal, Mrs. Arthur Pitts, Mrs. J. D. Cartwright, Mrs. L. E. Neal and Miss Katharine, Alex, Robert and William John. The double funeral took place on Saturday, Rev. C. M. Harris conducting the service in St. Paul's church and interment taking place in Marmora cemetery.

February 24, 1916

FROM HERALD FILES**OF FORMER YEARS**

William Edward Terrion was drowned on Monday forenoon while fishing with his little son. Apparently Mr. Terrion lost his balance and fell out of the canoe. Jas. Leonard, who was nearby in another canoe, rescued the little lad but the father went down and did not come up again. The body was later recovered by Alphonse Shannon, who with others, was diving in an effort to locate it. The accident occurred near the stave mill. Dr. Thompson and others did everything possible to resuscitate him but to no avail.

August 24, 1916

JAMES GALLAGHER KILLED

SAMUEL ROGERS ARRESTED FOR DEED -

PRELIMINARY TRIAL AND INQUEST,

On Saturday afternoon there was quite a sensation in Marmora Village and Township when it was learned that James Gallagher had been killed by a companion while engaged in doing statute labor on the 8th concession of Marmora township.

Three men were engaged in drawing gravel and spreading it on the road when the tragedy occurred. They were the deceased, who was pathmaster, Samuel Rogers and Edward Storey. According to reports Gallagher and Rogers had quarrelled several times during the day and the affair reached a climax between three and four o'clock, when Rogers struck Gallagher on the head with a shovel, the blow resulting in his death.

Rogers and Storey, when they realized that the deceased was seriously injured, tried to revive him by carrying water in a hat from a near by stream. Their efforts proving vain they then placed the body in the box of Hugh Farrell's wagon, for whom Rogers was working, and the latter then started out to find his employer. In the meantime Edward Flynn had discovered what had occurred and informed Farrell. The latter, after hurrying to see if any assistance could be given the victim, immediately summoned Dr. Thomson. The doctor hurried out and a brief examination convinced him that life was extinct, and he at once notified Coroner Dr. Bissonnette, of Stirling. He also gave instructions that the body was to be left in the wagon until the Coroner arrived.

Dr. Bissonnette arrived on the scene about 8 o'clock, accompanied by Dr. Thomson. After an examination of the deceased a jury was sworn in and an inquest opened. But little evidence was taken and the inquest was adjourned until to-day (Thursday). A permit for the burial of the deceased was issued, and Rogers and Storey were summoned to appear as witnesses at the adjourned inquest. Just why the Coroner failed to have a warrant issued for the arrest of Rogers, or to hold a proper post mortem examination is a mystery, but in any case the mistake is an expensive one for the county.

July 5, 1917

On Sunday Mr. Daniel Gallagher, brother of the deceased, laid a complaint with Mr. B. C. Hubbell, J.P., who issued a warrant for the arrest of Rogers. County Constable Barrons served the warrant and the prisoner was brought to the village and placed in one of the cells in the hall. The hearing was first fixed for Monday but the prisoner was remanded until Tuesday morning.

Magistrates B. C. Hubbell and William Bonter presided at the preliminary trial. W. Carnew, County Crown Attorney, who represented the Crown, W. D. Shorey, of Belleville appeared for the defendant and A. A. McDonald, of Marmora was present on behalf of the Gallagher family.

Dr. Thomson was the first witness. He described the injuries to the deceased. There was an abrasion over the left temple about an inch above the eye brow, the nose was fractured and there was a mark below the bridge of the nose and also a cut between nostril and lip. Right eye was black and blue and left eye blood shot. The neck also appeared to be fractured. On cross examination the doctor stated that death was probably due to the neck being fractured and the blows in themselves might not have resulted fatally. The neck might have been broken when the victim fell instead of when the blow was struck. No post-mortem examination was held.

Mr. Hugh Farrell gave his evidence very clearly which was largely as above stated. The prisoner had confessed to striking the deceased with a shovel, but claimed it was in self defence.

Edward Storey was the only other witness called. He is not very bright intellectually and it was hard to get his evidence. Apparently he was afraid that if he told what had occurred he might get himself into trouble. He told of Gallagher and Rogers quarrelling during a considerable part of the day. He did not see the blow struck with the shovel, but turned just as the victim fell and Rogers then struck Gallagher a number of times while he was on the ground. The prisoner told him he had such a temper he couldn't help it.

As a result of the preliminary trial the body, which had been buried on Monday, was exhumed on Wednesday and a post-mortem examination held by Drs. Thomson and Crawford.

The inquest was resumed this morning, the evidence being about the same as that given at the preliminary trial. The verdict of the jury was to the effect that the deceased came to his death as the result of a blow struck by the prisoner with a shovel, and that the accused did not intend to cause death. It also recommended that the accused be tried for man slaughter instead of murder.

The late James Gallagher was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gallagher. He was thirty four years of age and unmarried. He resided alone on the old homestead. Besides his parents he is survived by five sisters and two brothers.

" The Grand jury brought in a true bill for murder against Samuel Rogers at the Belleville Assizes on Tuesday, The accused is on trial for the killing of James Gallagher some months ago. The case will come before the Petty Jury tomorrow or Saturday".

The assizes opened at Belleville, on Monday, the 4th day of March, 1918 before the Hon. Justice Rose. The case of the King vs Rogers for murder came up for trial on Tuesday morning, and after hearing a lot of evidence and argument, it was given to the jury who were instructed by the Judge to consider whether or not the prisoner committed the offence in self defence. If so, of course, there would not be any offence. The jury brought in a verdict of Not Guilty.

A. H. THORNTON

One of the most regrettable accidents in the history of Deloro occurred on Saturday morning as a result of which Mr. A.H. Thornton passed away on Sunday morning. The deceased was employed in putting on a belt and in some way was caught in it and whirled around striking his head on the cement floor with such force that his skull was fractured. Medical aid was immediately summoned, but in spite of all that could be done he passed away without recovering consciousness. Mr. Thornton came from England a few years ago to accept a position at Deloro and he has been in the employ of the Company ever since. For a couple of years he held the responsible position of Master Mechanic and he was popular and trusted, both by his employers and those under him. His untimely death came as a great shock to all of Deloro and to many in Marmora as well.

The deceased leaves a widow and one son for whom the deepest sympathy is felt in their great loss.

The late Mr. Thornton was Senior Warden of Marmora Lodge, No. 222, A.F. & A.M. and few officers of the lodge have ever been more popular. He possessed in an unusual degree the qualities which win and hold the friendship of those he came in contact with. This particularly evidenced by the sorrowing friends who followed his remains to their last resting place.

The funeral was held on Tuesday afternoon under the auspices of the Masonic Lodge. Service was conducted in St. Paul's church by Rev. C.M. Harris and the remains were interred in Marmora cemetery.

The pall bearers were Messrs. S. B. Wright, R. H. Elliott, W. L. Rigg, D. E. Bell, Bert Horwitz, of Montreal, and R. Carswell, of Detroit, all members of the craft.

February 28, 1918

MRS. GEORGE BEDORE

The sympathy of the community goes out to Mr. George Bedore and children in the loss of their wife and mother by death on Friday, August 9th. Mrs. Bedore gave birth to twin girls on the 7th, and although she was very seriously ill, seemed to be slowly improving until just before her death. She leaves a family of ten children, including the twin babies. The deceased was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Doyle, Sr. of Marmora. She was of a very kindly disposition and will be sincerely mourned by a large circle of friends.

The funeral was held on Sunday, service being conducted in the R.C. church by Rev. Father Murtagh. Interment took place in the R.C. cemetery.

August 15, 1918

GEORGE AND LEORA PEARL**KEATING**

Among the victims of pneumonia were Mr. and Mrs. George Keating, who died yesterday a few hours apart. Mrs. Keating died at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William McWaters, yesterday forenoon. She was twenty-nine years of age. Her husband died at Deloro, where he was in the hospital, last evening. They are survived by three children. Mrs. Keating will be interred in Marmora cemetery this afternoon and Mr. Keating will be taken to Frankford for interment.

October 24, 1918

TO TAKE OVER CEMETERY

As a result of a meeting held in the Council Chamber last Friday evening at which about 30 were present, the first steps were taken towards putting Marmora Cemetery under proper management, with a view to having it enlarged, and cleaned up and put in a shape which will be a credit to all concerned.

After the meeting was called to order Mr. C.A. Bleecker was elected chairman. Mr. H.R. Pearce next explained the reason why the meeting had been called and the present situation in regard to the cemetery. Owing to the fact the owner or owners are unknown and there is no caretaker with authority to prevent burials, where the law as to registration and the securing of a burial permit has not been complied with the Provincial Health Department had threatened to close the cemetery unless such conditions are remedied. In order to do this it would be necessary to either have the Municipality take over the cemetery or elect trustees and have a special Act of Parliament giving them a deed to the property and power to enlarge it and to regulate or control all interments.

Moved by Mr. Thos. Potts, seconded by Mr. Frank Osborne, that Marmora cemetery be put under a board of trustees.

Mr. Adam McCarvey moved and amendment, seconded by Mr. Wm. Knox, that the Municipality take charge of the cemetery.

On a vote the Amendment was defeated and the motion carried.

A committee composed of Messrs. C.A. Bleecker, H.R. Pearce, F.N. Marett, Oliver Airhart, Harry Loveless, A.T. Eastwood, and Thos. McQuigge was appointed to interview Marmora Village, Deloro, Marmora & Lake, Rawdon and Belmont Councils in regard to grants to defray the expenses in connection with the passing of the necessary legislation and the enlarging of the cemetery. The committee was also directed to ascertain what land is obtainable for the enlarging of the cemetery and the price at which it is valued.

It was also decided to hold another meeting as provided by Statute on Friday, March 28th and the legal notice of the meeting appears in this issue.

March 6, 1919

MORE DEATHS FROM INFLUENZA

Marmora and Deloro are both suffering severely from the epidemic of influenza. At Deloro six deaths have occurred so far and two in the village. Two of those who died at Deloro, were residents of the village. There are probably a hundred cases in the village at present, though fortunately most of them are of a mild type.

In addition to the two deaths reported last week, the following have succumbed to pneumonia following an attack of influenza: Randolph Simard, a returned soldier, whose home was in Montreal; Harvey Massachusetts, a native of Mexico; Garrett Berry and George Keating, of Marmora. The first three died on Saturday or Sunday and were buried on Monday afternoon. The remains were brought to the R.C. church, Marmora, where the prayers for the dead were offered, after which the remains were interred in the R.C. cemetery. Mr. Keating died last night.

October 24, 1918

TRUSTEES OF CEMETERY

A meeting was held at the town hall last Friday evening for the purpose of appointing trustees to manage and act as owners of Marmora cemetery. A motion to ask Marmora Village Council to assume control of the cemetery as provided by the Cemetery Act was defeated, nearly all present being in favor of appointing trustees.

Some ten men were nominated as trustees, so a ballot was taken, which resulted in the election of Messrs. F.S. Pearce, J.D. Narrie and John Richardson. All three were present and consented to act.

The new trustees have a big problem on their hands in bringing order out of the chaos, which at present exists in regard to the cemetery and in securing enough new land to enlarge the cemetery so as to meet requirements for years to come. One of the first things necessary will be to secure the additional land and then have the whole cemetery surveyed and a plan made showing the location of the various plots. It will then be necessary to make an estimate of the total amount required to put the cemetery in proper condition and of the amount which may be secured from the sale of plots in the new section. The balance of the amount required will need to be assessed against the holders of plots in the present cemetery.

In the opinion of the Provincial Health officer and others in a position to know it will be necessary to have a special Act of Parliament passed by the Legislature giving the trustees a deed to the property and other necessary powers in regard to the assessing of plot holders, etc.

It is proposed to hold a bee, or perhaps two, as soon as the weather is favorable to help clean up the brush and weeds in the cemetery, remove some of the stones, improve the roads and do other necessary work. In this way it is hoped that considerable expense can be avoided in putting the cemetery in decent order.

Mr. J.C. Bowen announced a very generous donation of \$25.00 from his son W.F. Bowen towards the cost of the foregoing charges. It is hoped there will be other donations which will be of great help in putting the cemetery in a condition which will be a credit to the village. Needless to say all such donations will be greatly appreciated.

April 3, 1919

TO HOLDERS OF PLOTS IN MARMORA**CEMETERY**

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of those who have plots in Marmora cemetery will be held in the Council Chamber on Friday evening, Feb. 28th, at 8 o'clock to consider the matter of appointing a committee to take charge of the cemetery, appoint a caretaker and formulate plans to enlarge the cemetery and secure a proper deed to the property. Unless some action is taken the Provincial Health Dept. has threatened to close the cemetery and forbid any more interments being made there.

February 27, 1919

CEMETERY ACT AMENDED

A little over a year ago three trustees were appointed to take over the control of Marmora Cemetery. On the start they found they were without authority to put the desired changes into effect owing to the fact they were unable to procure a deed to the land on which the cemetery is situated. While the cemetery is a very old one apparently no deed or title to it had ever been given to anyone. After the appointment of the trustees last year it was too late to take any action in regard to securing a vested interest in the land by the trustees before the close of the Legislature.

This year, the matter has been dealt with by Mr. F.S. Pearce, Chairman of the Committee, and Robt. Cooke, M.P.P. in a most satisfactory manner. The Cemetery Act has been amended so that where land used as a cemetery has not been properly deeded for cemetery purposes, Trustees appointed by holders of plots may, on application to the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board, have the title to the land vested in them, on condition that such title be registered in the Registry office for the Division. That means that on making application to the Railway and the Municipal Board the trustees of Marmora cemetery will be granted full control and authority in regard to all matters connected with the Cemetery. No interment may be made except under their authority, and when they direct. In addition they will have the power to assess plot holders for the up-keep of the Cemetery and to appoint an official caretaker of the Cemetery.

The amendment to the Cemetery Act also provides a solution in regard to the Road Allowance which runs through the Cemetery.

The difficulty arose from the fact the Municipality had no power to give the deed of a Road Allowance, but now the Cemetery trustees may secure the title to it in the same manner as for the rest of the land.

The Trustees should immediately make the necessary application to the Railway and Municipal Board for title to the Cemetery and then additional land should be secured so as to provide for future requirements and plans made of the whole cemetery so that each plot holder may be made secure in the ownership of their plot by paying a reasonable fee.

May 13, 1920

LITTLE GIRL SHOT

The sympathy of the whole community goes out to Mr. and Mrs. John Crawford in their sad bereavement through the accidental death of their only daughter, Margaret, which occurred last Saturday afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Crawford came to town and left their youngest son, a lad about nine years of age, at home, expecting an older brother to join them in a short time.

Apparently the children got a 44 repeating rifle, which was in the house, and were playing with it. The gun had an empty shell in it and one cartridge in the magazine. The other cartridges had been put away out of reach. It seems they pumped the cartridge into place and the lad states he left the house for a minute and while out heard a shot. When he ran in his sister was lying on the floor with the bullet hole through her just below her throat. The older brother arrived home about the same time and some neighbors were notified of the accident, and a call sent to the village for the parents and the doctor.

Margaret was a bright and loveable child. She started to school some time ago and was a general favorite with the other pupils. She also held a warm spot in the hearts of the neighbors and all who knew her. Besides her parents, she is survived by three brothers, all at home.

The funeral took place on Monday morning to the Church of the Sacred Heart, Marmora, and was very largely attended. Interment took place in the R.C. cemetery.

October 21, 1920

JOHN J. TERRION

At 5:45 on Sunday morning March 13th, John Joseph Terrion, one of the most popular and most active citizens of Marmora, passed peacefully to his reward at the age of 64 years.

The deceased had been suffering for the past ten years with progressive paralysis, but only a few days prior to his death did he fall sick, with small pox which was destined, not only to end fatally, but to be the most doleful event in the annals of Marmora's history.

Owing to the contagious disease his many friends were barred from paying the respect, which they owed to him, who worked so faithfully for them during his life.

The deceased leaves a widow and seven children: Mrs. Charles Thompson of Eldorado, John F., James V., Dan J., Agnes E., Patrick E., at home and Wilfred L., en route for the Holy Priesthood. Besides his family he leaves five sisters, Ellen and Kate of Marmora, Isobel of Kemptville, Mrs. M. Legrow of Peterborough, Mrs. A. Beddome of Winnipeg; and two brothers, James of Marmora and Patrick of Michael, B.C..

In compliance with the rules of the Board of Health, a private funeral took place on Monday morning March 14th and even his own family had to remain at the house and watch their loving father go on the path, where all glory leads.

High Requiem was sung at 9 o'clock by Rev. Father Hanley and interment took place in the Catholic cemetery, directed by the Catholic Order of Foresters, of which he was a faithful member.

March 17, 1921

MISS SUSIE FLYNN

A shocking accident occurred on Tuesday afternoon as a result of which Miss Susie Flynn lost her life. She was alone at her home at the time and was doing a washing. Owing to the pump not working, the water was drawn from the cistern through a trap door in the floor. After drawing water she had apparently left the trap door open and in carrying on her work in some way had stepped back, falling into the cistern. It appears that in falling she tried to catch a chair, as a chair was knocked over near the opening to the cistern. The water in the cistern was only about four feet deep, but the walls of the cistern were about seven feet high, so that it was impossible to get out without assistance. Evidently Miss Flynn lived for some time after falling in the water as her hands and knees were bruised and torn by the desperate efforts she had made to escape.

Her aged mother, who lived with her, had gone for the day to the home of her son Edward, who was ill, and her brother John, for whom she kept house, was driving the mail route that day for Edward, owing to the latter's illness. On his way round he stopped at the house and he discovered the tragedy. Relatives and friends were at once notified and also the Coroner, Dr. Harper, of Madoc. After visiting the scene of the accident, and learning the particulars as nearly as they could be determined, the Coroner decided and inquest was unnecessary.

The deceased was a daughter of the late David Flynn and Mrs. Flynn. Besides her aged mother, who is seventy-eight years old, she is survived by six brothers and four sisters. They are David and James, of Deloraine, Manitoba, Patrick of Seymour township; William, of Marmora; John and Edward of Marmora township; Mrs. John Sullivan and Mrs. John McCullough, of Marmora, Mrs. Alphonse Madden, of Peterboro, and Mrs. Harry Warren, of Marmora township.

The sympathy of the whole community will go out to the bereaved family in their trouble. A large number of friends will also deeply regret the passing of one who was esteemed for her ready sympathy and many admirable qualities.

March 17, 1921

FATAL ACCIDENT

The one regrettable feature in connection with Marmora Fair this year was an accident which resulted in the death of Mrs. M. Fitzpatrick. She was crossing the race track with her daughter, Mrs. A. McLaughlin, when a horse belonging to Mr. Elmhirst, of Peterborough, and driven by a man named Bowen, ran into them. Both were knocked to the ground and injured. Mrs. Fitzpatrick so seriously that death resulted in a few hours, and Mrs. McLaughlin had her shoulder bruised and was badly shaken up. The victims of the accident were rushed to Dr. Thomson's office and given all possible assistance. It was thought for a time that Mrs. Fitzpatrick would recover and she was removed to her home east of the Village but she passed away early in the evening.

Dr. Bissonette, of Stirling, a Coroner of the County of Hastings was notified and it was decided to hold an inquest. Yesterday afternoon a jury was impanelled, the following being sworn in: W.R. Linn, Geo. Forestell, Chas. Lummis, Tim Byrnes, C.W. Gladney, Jacob Wilkes, Phillip Sopha, M.J. Maloney, and Jas. Maloney. Mr. C.W. Gladney was elected foreman. After the jury had viewed the remains the inquest was adjourned until next Tuesday, Oct. 4th, when a number of witnesses will be called to fix the responsibility for the accident.

The sympathy of the community goes out to the bereaved family in their sudden loss.

September 29, 1921