

# ESQUESING HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 51, Georgetown, Ontario, Canada L7G 4T1  
[www.hhpl.on.ca/sigs/ehs/home.html](http://www.hhpl.on.ca/sigs/ehs/home.html)

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*January - February 2001*

## **BARBER WOOLLEN MILLS (1853)**

The branch of the Credit, which runs through this place, is a feeble stream. It is, however, the seat of an important woollen factory; which is owned by Wm. Barber & Bros., -- four in all, men of indomitable energy and perseverance. The establishment and success of this factory, and its Streetsville offshoot, already larger, in some respects than the parent stem, go far to solve an important question of political economy. The history of these two establishments shows that a certain degree of perfection in woollen manufacturers is possible in this Province, under the operation of a free trade tariff; a tariff of 12.5 per cent. on the importation of such articles as are manufactured here, and at Streetsville by the Brothers Barbers. These comprise Canadian Greys, Satinets, Tweeds, Flannels, Blankets, and Carpeting; which latter articles is however, now almost entirely neglected by the firm. It is only necessary to trace the history of the establishments under the control of these four brothers to prove that the successful manufacture of the several woollen articles enumerated is quite compatible with our present free trade tariff. Sixteen years ago, last June, the four brothers located in this place, buying out a small concern that was then in existence. Their united capital was less than \$3,000; the capital invested in the two concerns is now about \$80,000, the reward of their industry and perseverance. This single fact is sufficient to confute the arguments of less disinterested manufacturers and old school economists that manufacture cannot exist in Canada under the operation of a free trade tariff. They not only exist but exceed well, when carried on by men of energy, ... and perseverance. The concern here began with 10 spindles. It now contains 12 looms and the establishment at Streetsville, 16. The latter establishment is not yet in full operation. It is calculated to hold 60 looms; which will render it quite equal in capacity to McKechnie's at Cobourg. The reason for going to Streetsville was the partial failure of the water power here; the machinery being too heavy for the water at a season of the year when the creek is lowest, which is generally about September. At such times it is necessary to use steam power in conjunction with that of water. The steam engine used is of about 15 horse power. It consumes about three cords of soft wood daily to keep up the stream; the cost, at this point, being a dollar a cord. To avoid this cost is a sufficient inducement to remove where water-power is accessible. If it were not for the absence of water-power, there is no reason why woollen manufactories should not be established in Toronto as well as anywhere else. The aggregate product of the factory at this place is about 50,000 yards a year that at Streetville will ultimately have a capacity equal to the production of 1,500 yards a day. The labour employed in woollen manufactures requires some ... but it does not bear a large price. The average wages of the men employed is only about \$1 a day; which, as things go now, is very moderate. The weaving is done by women. Of the 70 hands employed in the two establishments of the Barber Bros., about half are males and half females. They females who work by the pricemake from \$10 to \$16 a month, and board themselves. The

Barber Bros. are no common men. They can themselves make all the machinery requisite in their manufacturing establishment; and what is possible to them is not possible to everybody else. There is no doubt, however, that any industrious and intelligent persons who understand the business and apply themselves energetically to it can make the manufacture of certain woollen fabrics in Canada profitable. Of the quality of the articles produced in these establishments we have yet said nothing. The blankets are excellent, and the flannels superior, especially in point of durability, to most of those imported. For the tweeds it is impossible to claim a equal to the best imported; and the reason of it is that the wool necessary to produce this article is a first degree of excellence is wanting. It might be had by recourse to importation, and this course is pursued by the establishment in Cobourg. The best wool is Sarcoug; but this is scarcely grown at all in Canada. Merino the next in quality, is produced in this Province to only a limited extent: some is grown in the township of Esquesing. The wool produced to the greatest extent in Canada is Leicester, or a cross between that breed and some of the others. This does very well for the manufacture of blankets; but it will make no other than a very coarse cloth. Pure Leicester is scarcely fit material for the manufacture of Canadian grey. The comparatively inferior qualities of Canadian wool operates against the extension of the manufacture of woollen fabrics of other descriptions than those now produced; and, on the other hand, it is quite probable that the absence of a local demand for finer descriptions of wool tends to prevent their cultivation here. But this demand is beginning to spring up; and there is believed to be no insuperable barrier in the climate to prevent its being supplied. Whatever woollen fabrics are produced here are able to compete with the foreign articles of the same description. This successful competition, while it proves the compatibility of establishing certain manufactures of woollen articles, encourages the hope of their future extension and still greater success under the operation of that free trade tariff which certain old fashioned persons hold to be incompatible with the success of manufacturing industry.

One of the Messrs. Barbers is anxious to get up a company for the manufacture of cotton fabrics.

*Daily Leader - Toronto, 1 September 1853*

The Oshawa *Freeman* says that the paper mill about to be erected by Barber brothers on the Credit, near

Georgetown, will be a large stone building 100 feet long and four stories high.

*The Daily Leader—Toronto*  
7th April 1854

River Scow, Georgetown, Ont.



Jessie Maud Barber, a daughter of Joseph Barber of Georgetown, married William Fraser, the author who lived in the first of the row of houses on Main Street South, across from Knox Presbyterian Church. According to a short newspaper account, their actual marriage ceremony may have been a little unique, and the

Barber Paper Mills (EHS photo# 618)

first few months of their marriage very interesting.

On 31st July at 8 am, in the old family residence, Miss Jessie Maud Barber, daughter of the late Joseph Barber, Esq. of Georgetown, Ont, was married to Mr. Wm. Fraser, of Boston, Mass. with the Rev. D.B. Gordon officiating. The bride and groom left on the morning train for Michigan and elsewhere. . *Acton Free Press, 8 August, 1889*

Six months later, this travelling couple were found heading for India, in the middle of winter. That must have been an interesting trip in those days. "Mr. & Mrs. Fraser (Miss Jessie Barber) left town this week for India, via England. They expect to remain in India for a number of months." *Acton Free Press, 23 January 1890*

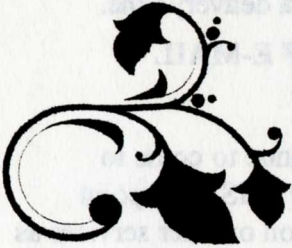
## THE BARBER BROTHERS

These gentlemen, all of whom are now deceased, deserve more than a passing notice, not only on account of the energy and ability they displayed in acquiring wealth, but for the great benefit they conferred upon this community by their enterprise and integrity. For thirty nine years the brothers carried on their business in partnership without a settlement between the partners; owning almost everything in common, an example of "brethren dwelling together in unity" refreshing to behold in these degenerate days. The brothers Barber, William, James, Joseph, and Robert, were born in the County Antrim, Ireland, and came to Canada with their father in 1822. After a residence of two years in the old town of Niagara, the family removed to Crook's Hollow, which was the largest manufacturing centre in the western province. The brothers found employment in the works of the Hon. James Crooks; William and Robert in the woollen factory, James in the paper mill, while Joseph became a millwright and builder. Thirteen years of assiduous labour and rigid economy enabled them to acquire sufficient capital to start the Georgetown woollen mill, the pioneer manufacturing industry in the upper valley of the River Credit.


-*Toronto Daily Mail, 24th June 1893*

### OBITUARIES

Delma HESLOP



On Monday December 25, 2000 at Allendale, Milton, Delma Carey, wife of the late Rex W. Heslop, in her 87<sup>th</sup> year. Loving mother of Marilyn Sunnucks of Georgetown and Rex and his wife Barb of Brampton. Dear grandmother of Debbie McClure and Barbara Rothwell and the late William Rex Heslop. Dear sister of Lowella Rowell and predeceased by her brothers and sisters. Interned on December 28 at Glendale Memorial Gardens, Etobicoke. (*Toronto Star, 27 December, 2000*)



### Charles Gordon "Bud" BISHOP

On December 13, 2000 "Bud" Bishop died at Georgetown. He was the husband of Christine Leslie, a long-time member of the Esquesing Historical Society and the father of Society past-president Karen and her husband Rick Hunter. Karen was one of six children, Catherine Conroy, Leslie Bishop, Robert Bishop, Claire Bishop, and John Bishop. "Bud" was in his 84<sup>th</sup> year. There will be a spring internment in the Glen Williams cemetery.

## Society Notes

### EHS EXECUTIVE

Sherry Westfahl	873-7145	President
Karen Hunter	838-2109	
Dawn Livingstone	877-6506	
Doug Cole	877-3657	
Stephen Blake	877-8251	
J. Mark Rowe	877-9510	
Carol Wood	873-0792	

### ARCHIVAL NEWS

Another box has arrived at the Archives containing a donation from the Stull family vis Russ Miller. This has been added to the large number of unprocessed donations from the summer. An Archives working session was held at the Library the first week of January to make a dent in the accessions.

### INTERNET CONNECTIONS

The Esquesing Historical Society has an official web site on the World Wide Web. You can visit us at

<[www.hhpl.on.ca/sigs/ehs/home.html](http://www.hhpl.on.ca/sigs/ehs/home.html)>

Send your e-mail to [rowem@aztec-net.com](mailto:rowem@aztec-net.com) or [dlvngstn@stn.net](mailto:dlvngstn@stn.net)

### EHS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter was prepared by John Mark Rowe with assistance from Karen Hunter, Sherry Westfahl and Dawn Livingstone.

### MEMBERSHIP

Membership fees for 2000 are valid until February, 2001. The individual rate is \$10. The family or institution rate is \$12. Cheques payable to the Society can be mailed to our post box.

Our 2000 membership now stands at 117! We began accepting 2001 memberships at the November 2000 meeting. We are looking for a membership secretary. Please see Dawn Livingstone or any executive member to volunteer.

### ELECTION TIME FOR E.H.S.

Although you've probably heard enough talk of elections, we must talk about one more. The Annual General Meeting of the Esquesing Historical Society will be held in February, 2001. The election of the executive of your Society will take place at that meeting. As usual the Society is looking for executive members. Please consider running for an office.

### MAW FAMILY INQUIRY

We have received an inquiry from a Margaret Gibbs, of Delaware, inquiring about the early pioneer MAW family. She is looking for family history, and wondering if there are any descendants still living in our area. If you know anything about this family, please talk to a member of the EHS executive.

### RESEARCH REQUESTS

We are a small group of volunteers, and we do have difficulty getting the time and people to do much research. We charge \$5.00 for the initial fee, and \$1.00 per photocopied page. The request can be made by e-mail or regular mail, but we cannot guarantee a delivery time.

### STEADY NUMBER OF E-MAIL REQUESTS

The e-mail inquiries continue to come to executive members of the EHS. We point people in the right direction or offer services as outlined in the article "Research Requests". The latest requests include the Farmer family of Acton from Dave Baker of New Jersey, the Merediths of Limehouse from Brian Meredith in Kamloops BC, and about the Maw family from a Margaret Gibbs in Lewes, Delaware. Chris Wright, the grandson of Gordon Torrance Beardmore, has inquired about Beverly House in Acton.

We are also looking for information on a book called "The Blacksmith Shop, Scotch Block" written by a George H. Michie, an Associate

Professor from York University. This shop was built on Part Lot 11 Con 4, Halton, about 1838.

### **ANCIENT ORDER OF UNITED WORKMEN**

There are several sites that show the abbreviation AOUW as a grave marking relating to this Society.

At <<http://www.artisansaomp.org/>> there is a site about Artisans which states;

"... It was during the period of stress, turmoil and uncertainty following the Civil War that our Order was conceived. Our Order was the one of first of its kind to be conceived (1867), though the actual formation did not take place until May 1, 1873, at which time one other fraternal insurance society was in existence (Ancient Order of United Workmen- 1868). We therefore are the second oldest fraternal insurance organization in the country. (The oldest active organization since the A.O.U.W. is no longer in business) In the summer of the year 1867, two gentlemen met at Erie, PA to devise a form of beneficial society, embracing improvement upon the old organizations as to death benefits, and a fraternal organization to give it strength and permanency..."

If you go to <<http://www.altavista.com>> to and type in +"Ancient Order of United Workmen" it lists quite a few sites which may tell you more.

### **NORTH HALTON SCOUTING BOOK**

*The Scouting Spirit* by John Mark Rowe was published in February. The book is illustrated with several photographs. It sells for \$5 a copy and will be available at Society meetings or by phoning the author. After outlining the founding of Scouting in 1910, it explains the organization of the sections and groups. A chapter follows the history of North Halton District and then a short history of each section is given.

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### **HHH SIGNAGE PROGRAMME**

As many are aware Heritage Halton Hills, on which the Esquesing Historical Society is represented, has begun a signage programme for homes older than 1939. This is simply an attempt to identify older buildings. It does not imply Heritage designation. Brochures to apply for a sign are available at the Acton and Georgetown Libraries, Glen Williams Town Hall and the Civic Centre. The cost is \$100 and research usually takes 2 to 4 months.

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### **BRAMPTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

#### **MEETINGS 2001**

January 18: Canada's Newspaper Legend, the story of J. Douglas MacFarlane, with Richard MacFarlane.

February 15, History of Caledon with Heather Broadbent. Meetings held every third Thursday, 7:15 pm at Heart Lake Presbyterian Church, 25 Ruth Street, Brampton.

On March 3, they are holding an "Antiques Road Show" from noon to 4:00 pm, a joint venture of the Brampton Historical Society and Historic Bovaird House, at the HBH. Appraisals by Ward Brownridge, for \$5.00 per item.

#### **HALTON REGION MUSEUM UPDATE**

Representatives of the Halton Region Museum outlined the current renovation plans and vision for our Regional Museum at the November meeting of the Historical Society. It was a very enlightening presentation.

#### **HERITAGE DISPLAYS**

The Society has two heritage displays planned. For three weeks in February, the Acton Library display case will feature Scouting in Canada. In May, the Georgetown Library display case will feature Empire Day memorabilia.

## ESQUESING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

- Wed. 10 Jan. 2001 **Barber Brothers and their families** - Join Mary Finley of Streetsville as she explores the role of her Barber ancestors in the history of Georgetown and Streetsville.  
KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Georgetown, 7:30 p.m.
- Wed. 14 Feb. 2001 **Step into Your Archives Night** - Photos, diaries, school registers and newspapers! Learn all about the EHS Archives and how it can help you with your interests, genealogy or history. This will also be the Annual General Meeting of the EHS.  
KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Georgetown, 7:30 p.m.
- Wed. 14 Mar. 2001 **Their Stories!** - Sharpen those pencils for a chance to share the history of local pioneers and memorable people. Write up the history of locals to share at our March meeting.  
KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Georgetown, 7:30 p.m.
- Wed. 11 Apr. 2001 **John Newton** - Join Jean Somerville as she recounts the interesting life of her ancestor John Newton, long-time postmaster and chief entrepreneur of 19<sup>th</sup> century Limehouse. Newton, an Irish immigrant, left detailed diaries of his life.  
KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Acton, 7:30 p.m.
- Wed. 9 May, 2001 **Young's Drug Store** - Stuart and Neil Young will recall the long history of Georgetown's Main Street pharmacy. Hear tales from behind the druggist's counter from the sources themselves!  
KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Georgetown, 7:30 p.m.

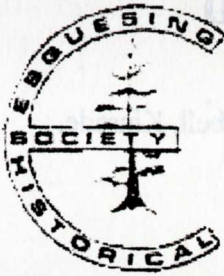
ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AT NO CHARGE!

Please bring your own cup for refreshments to help protect our environment.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to President Sherry Westfahl and her husband Justin on the birth of their first child, JADE INGRID on Thursday 14 December, 2000 at Georgetown Hospital. She weighed 6 lbs, 14 oz. Proud grandparents are Jerry and Linda Westfahl and Willard and Evelyn Halladay.

#### HISTORY IN A NUTSHELL

Explore the highways and by-ways of Esquesing township by reading our series of short informative pamphlets about settlements in our township. STEWARTTOWN is the latest pamphlet to join our collection. Read a synopsis of the history of Georgetown, Acton, Limehouse, BALLINAFAD, Glen Lawson, Glen Williams, Norval, Speyside, Ashgrove, Each pamphlet available for only 25 cents! Complete your collection at the next meeting!



## Our Archives Are Open to the World!

By J. Mark Rowe,  
Archivist, EHS

Come and visit the Archives of the Esquesing Historical Society! Founded in 1982, the EHS Archives is housed in the Georgetown branch of the Halton Hills Public Libraries, on Church Street. Since that time many volunteers and summer students have been putting together quite an interesting collection.

An archive is not a museum, so a trip to Georgetown will let you look at our finding aide and the Information Services staff can access the documents or pictures you're interested in. That is where computers and the internet have come in mighty handy! Anyone with a computer hooked to the 'net can visit the EHS Archives! Whether you're at home or using the computer at your local library or cyber-cafe, you can check our Finding Aid on-line, look at hundreds of photographs, read some historic newspapers, read community histories, research births, marriages, deaths, probate and land records! We would like everyone to have a quick look at our Archives and let us know what you think.

You may have an interest in local history, family genealogy, local archive set-ups or web sites. Everyone can visit the Esquesing Historical Society Archives on-line by typing [www.hhpl.on.ca/signs/ehs/home.html](http://www.hhpl.on.ca/signs/ehs/home.html) If a problem occurs just go to [hhpl.on.ca](http://hhpl.on.ca) which is the Halinet home page and click on The Esquesing Historical Society.

When you arrive at our web page the choices are: *Search the Archives, Local Community Histories, Special features, Newspaper Articles, Photographic Collection, About the Society, Research Requests and Join the EHS.* While the contents of some web documents might be obvious from the title, others need some clarification.

You can search our Archives finding aid to find what we hold on any particular subject in our first link. The *Local Community Histories* link has several condensed histories of communities in Esquesing. These histories are published in pamphlet form by the Society and are copyrighted.

Under the link *Special Features*, excerpts from newspapers which featured areas of Esquesing are copied for your personal use. The specific references are: *Acton Free Press*, 19 April, 1888; *The Georgetown Herald*, 17 December, 1913; The Kennedy Family and the *Toronto Daily Mail*, 24 June, 1893. The next link, *Newspaper Articles*, also contains various short references to Esquesing Township and its people. The newspapers are all from out of the area and are the result of hours of searching by local volunteers. They are *British Whig*, 1847; *Colonial Advocate*, 1824, *Guelph Advertiser*, 1850-1855; *Streetsville Review* 1855; *Daily Leader*, 1853-1855 and a special newspaper insert called, "Brampton, Georgetown and Acton - 1917".

Our *Photographic Collection* link lets you search and see thousands of our historic photographs housed in the Archives. They are published for personal use only. The final three links tell about the Society, how you can join and allow for small research requests which the Society will undertake for a low fee.

As you can tell the Esquesing Historical Society is a busy group which firmly believes in its mandate to increase awareness of local history. Broadcasting our history to the world may seem a little over-ambitious, but you never know when a boy or girl from Esquesing will make their mark in China and someone will want to research it!

## EHS ARCHIVAL COLLECTION FINDING AID

### MG1 COLLECTIONS

GENERAL: Barnard, Esquesing Historical Society, Walter Biehn, Luena Campbell, Kinrade, Janet McDougall

FAMILY PAPERS: Marion Young, Winfield, Dayfoot

### MG2 POLITICAL PAPERS

Halton County / Region - includes H. H. Bert Hinton collection

Esquesing Township (1818 - 1973); Town of Georgetown (1865 - 1973);

Town of Acton (1874 - 1973); Town of Halton Hills (since 1974)

Dominion of Canada

Political Parties; Political Groups

### MG3 UNINCORPORATED BUSINESSES

BUSINESS CORPORATIONS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### MG4 EDUCATIONAL LIFE: Trustee minutes; school reports; school registers; yearbooks.

### MG5 LITERARY PAPERS

### MG6 PERSONAL PAPERS: personal papers, court cases, last will and testaments.

### MG7 CULTURE AND RECREATION

### MG8 RELIGION: Church histories; Church minutes and reports; Church literature; Religious organizations; cemeteries.

### MG9 GENEALOGIES

### MG10 ORAL HISTORY: transcripts; audio-cassettes; video-cassettes.

### MG11 LAND DEVELOPMENT: property instruments; house histories

### MG12 MAPS

### PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION and SLIDE COLLECTION

### NEGATIVE COLLECTION

### NEWSPAPER COLLECTION

## ARCHIVES NIGHT - CHOOSE WHAT YOU WANT TO SEE!

The February meeting of the Esquesing Historical Society will be Archives night. We will explain how it works, what we've done and what we hope to do. Samples of the Archives will be transported to the Knox Church, Georgetown, next door to the Archives at the Georgetown Library. If you are interested in seeing a particular item from the Archives, please request it from John Mark Rowe, Archivist or Karen Hunter, past president. After evaluating the item to ensure transportation will not be a problem, we will bring the items to the meeting.



## **THEIR STORIES!**

The study of the people who lived in a certain area is most often the study of "famous" people simply because these people generated most of the available documentation. As historians we have an obligation to document our own selves, our loved ones and all the other "not-so-famous" lives. These are people who, through their choices, actions and relationships, made history. By studying these lives we restore dignity to individuals who led unheralded lives of quiet accomplishment and then generally passed on to little fanfare, leaving only weathered inscriptions and fading memories as meagre testimony to the fact that they ever were at all!

Last February, the Historical Society was very pleased with the success of our "Herstory" meeting. We repeat the offer this year to share the story of people with local connections with the public. We are broadening the topic to include women, men or families. The subject of your presentation must be deceased and can be relations, former neighbours, or just someone you're interested in researching. Please compose an essay of one or two pages in length. Pictures are welcome. Please inform any member of the executive that you would like to share your essay.

### ***ACTON FREE PRESS: 4 January 1900***

**CANADIANS VICTORIOUS - In their first Engagement With the Boers on New Year's day. Captured Forty Prisoners.**

Milton model School graduates - 3rd class cert: E.U. Dickenson, Lottie E. Lusk, G.H. Holmes, Erna Norton, Ethel Chisholm, Edith M. Moulton, Gertrude Dayfoot, Nellie Springer, Margaret McQueen, Harriet I. Cook, Aggie Wooding, Andrew Arthurs, John W. Manson and Manassah Campbell.

**CREWSON'S CORNERS:** A large number from here attended the social assembly in Eden Mills Hall on Thursday last.

**GEORGETOWN:** Reeve F. J. Barber

**STEWARTTOWN:** Council reeve Robert Stewart; Councillors F. Near, Richard Graham, D. Cook and D. Campbell.

**DUBLIN:** Christmas entertainment on Dec 19th was a great success - teacher Fred Nixon assisted by Messrs. Arthurs and Somerville, former pupils, now teachers.

**ACTON:** New Council: J. B. Pearson, Reeve; Councillors J.A. Henderson, Robert Wallace, John Clarke, and John Williams.

Wedding in new home of Mr. and Mrs. Joel Leslie on 1st Con. Erin, of Alice E. Leslie and Edward Pearen of Erin.

**FAREWELL TO OUR BOYS - Presentation and goodbye to Sergeants Moore and Gould**

**Tuesday Evening.** A hastily called meeting of citizens was held in the town hall on Tuesday evening to afford an opportunity of saying good-bye to sergeants W.J. Moore and W.J. Gould, on the eve of their departure for South Africa as artillery-men in the Second Canadian Contingent.

W.J. Moore is son of Principal T.T. Moore of Acton Public School. It is 21 years ago this week that he arrived in Acton with his father's family. He has since travelled through Australia, New Zealand, the East Indies, Borneo, Siam and a number of the coast cities of China and India. He has been a member of the Fusiliers at Montreal and put in a long term with Halton Battalion.

Mr. W. J. Gould is a native of Hanover. Both his parents are dead, and he has made his home at Acton

for several years.

**Acton Free Press: 11 January 1900**

### **HALTON BOYS OFF FOR SOUTH AFRICA**

#### **Eight Soldierly Young Fellows Gone to Fight for Queen and Country.**

The trim little County of Halton has always been remarked for its loyalty and in the Canadian contingents for South Africa has sent a very creditable quota. We have now six well drilled and competent soldiers on the field and en route to South Africa, as follows:

Sergt R. J. Cunningham, of Campbellville, on the 1<sup>st</sup> Contingent.

Color Sergt. W. J. Moore, Acton

Color Sergt. W. J. Gould, Acton

Lieut. Jas. Ballantyne, Georgetown, with D Battery, Guelph Division, 2<sup>nd</sup> Contingent.

Lieut. R. S. Hope, Trafalgar

Pte. W. J. Williamson, Burlington with Hamilton Field Battery, 2<sup>nd</sup> Contingent

Bugler W. H. Greenwood, Oakville, with Toronto Dragoons, 2<sup>nd</sup> Contingent.

The boys were all given a loyal send off by their respective communities.

In addition to the presentations to Col. Sergts. Moore and Gould at the town hall, before their departure, referred to in last issue of the *Free Press*, Dr. John M. Macdonald presented each of them with one of the latest military surgical kits, and Mr. Neil Keith, who was home from Winnipeg, handed them each a \$5 bill.

**BALLINAFAD:** Colds seem to be the order of the day. George Campbell jr. sold a fine horse last week to a man in Toronto for the neat sum of \$130.

**Acton Free Press: 18 January, 1900**

**BALLINAFAD:** Induction services will be held in Ballinafad next Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> inst., at 2 o'clock when Rev. George Milne will be inducted into the pastorate of Knox Church, Ballinafad and Melville Church, Caledon. Good sleighing has come at last.

**GEORGETOWN:** The citizens generally are indignant at the discharge without cause of Mr. George Kennedy, the efficient clerk of Esquesing township council. The council at the first meeting granted \$25 as a testimonial to Lieut. Ballantyne, who is in the 2<sup>nd</sup> contingent for South Africa.

The Fire Brigade had but two calls last year. Fire losses \$1100. The brigade has 36 members.

The Farewell to Mr. J. P. Bell of the Bank of Hamilton, who has been promoted to Berlin, held Tuesday evening of last week, was a most cordial send-off.

**ERIN:** Our village is now putting on airs with its newly installed electric light. The citizens are delighted with the effect produced. Mr. Ernest Pearson, of Acton is engaged on the electric light system here.

**ACTON FREE PRESS: 25 January 1900**

**HORNBY:** Miss Annie Sprowl married Mr. James Tavernor at residence of Mr. Thos. Alderson, trafalgar. The happy couple were driven to the Hornby Station, where they took the evening train for their new home...

**CHURCHILL:** The stereoptician entertainment and lecture last Thursday evening was interesting and well attended.