

Mr. John Eldridge, an old and highly respected citizen of North Bruce passed away on Sunday week at his home in Amabel. He had suffered for several months with cancer of the stomach, and although everything had been done for him in medical treatment and nursing, it was impossible to stay the inroads of the deadly malady. During the last few days all pain had left him, and as the end approached, he dropped into a peaceful sleep which continued on until the last spark of life had fled. Mr. Eldridge was born in the village of Kent, Sussex, England, in the year 1837. He came out to Canada when 18 years of age and settled in London in which place he remained until he came up here. It was in London that he met and married Miss Bridget Costello, who survives him. In 1878 he came to the township of Amabel, and took up land, which farm he has resided on ever since. He leaves to mourn his loss, besides a widow, three sons and three daughters. John, who is living on an adjoining farm, Mrs. McClarty, Owen Sound, besides William, George, Lizzie and Annie, who are at home. Mr. Eldridge was a consistent adherent to the Roman Catholic faith, and one of its hardest and most faithful workers. The Hepworth church and also the one on the Sauguen reserve stand as monuments of his work, done for the cause of the church he so loved. The funeral, which was one of the largest ever known in this section of the country, took place Wednesday morning from his late residence to St. Mary's church, and thence to the Roman Catholic cemetery. —The Echo.

BORN

SHIERHOLTZ—At Port Elgin, on September 28th, the wife of Mr. A. O. Shierholtz, a son.

MACDOUGALL—On Sept. 27th, to Mr. and Mrs. Duncan MacDougall, 8th concession, Bruce, a son.

MARRIED

FOOTE—MCDONALD—At the residence of Dr. McLennan, Ripley, on September 23rd, by Rev. Mr. Bremner, Rev. James Foote, of Queen Hill, to Miss Winogene McDonald.

DIED

McKINNON—At Allenford, on Monday September 21, Myrtle Lillian McKinnon, aged 18 years, 6 months 19 days.

ELDRIDGE—In the Township of Amabel on Sunday, September 20, John Eldridge, aged 71 years. 1908

FIRE AT HEPWORTH

The worst fire to visit Hepworth for many years occurred on Sunday night last, destroying four buildings and causing a loss of several thousand dollars. It is impossible to estimate the total loss, as in some cases part of the contents of the interior was saved, but a conservative estimate is around \$10,000. The four buildings were entirely destroyed.

The Owen Sound Fire Brigade was called, and had it not been for their assistance, the loss would no doubt have been much greater.

The fire was on the west side of the street, the buildings destroyed being the grocery store of Messrs. Allison & Quinn, the Masonic building with the store underneath. This was occupied by Ray Cutting as a restaurant and grocery. Besides a small building owned and occupied by Mr. John Plante and was used as a shoe repair shop and the larger building on the corner owned and occupied by Mr. J. Johnston, the lower part of which was used by him as a sales office for farm implements, and he also kept a livery stable.

The fire was discovered about 9.15 on Sunday evening in the living quarters of the Allison & Quinn Store. Miss Allison, it is said, dropped a lamp on the floor and the place caught fire. She thought she had this extinguished, and left the room, but on her return some time later, found the place in flames. She gave the alarm at once, and help quickly arrived, but the fire spread so rapidly that little could be done, with the fire equipment on hand, and the Masonic building next to this was soon aflame. Fortunately, members of Burns Lodge, who were on hand, realized the seriousness of the situation, and immediately removed what they could of the books, etc. and some of their costly furniture. However, their splendid new silverware and dishes were destroyed.

Cuttings' restaurant and store in the lower part of the building were cleaned out, and soon the adjoining building was afire. The contents of this, the shoe repairing store were carried across the street fortunately and consequently saved, for the building was very soon totally burned, and before it could be prevented, the Johnston building was afire. This was a more substantial building, and did not burn so quickly, allowing time for the removal of the furnishing of Mr. and Mrs. Johnston from their dwelling which was in the upper storey.

It was soon after the Johnston building caught fire that the first stream of water from the big La France Fire Engine of the Owen Sound fire brigade was turned on the flames. There was not the slightest chance of saving the building, as it was too far gone, but the water had the effect of keeping the flames in check, and also preventing other buildings near by from catching fire, and the citizens of Hepworth particularly those whose residences were in close proximity were exceedingly thankful that this piece of fire fighting apparatus had come to their assistance. Water was poured on the flames until about 2 o'clock in the morning, when it was considered that all danger was past, although there were smouldering fires here and there from the razed buildings, there being nothing left standing but a brick chimney.

There was a great feeling of relief when the Owen Sound fire brigade arrived on the scene, as it gave people a feeling of security. Reeve Downs, on behalf of the municipality telephoned to Owen Sound for assistance and also to Wharton, but the latter had no apparatus which could be of any assistance although the fire chief drove down and assisted.

It is unknown at present the amount of insurance carried by those who suffered loss, but most of them were partially covered we understand. The loss is a severe one for the village, especially in view of the fact that there is little likelihood of any of these buildings being rebuilt.