

Found in the attic

Two nineteenth century manuscripts relating to the early history of the village of Stirling have recently been given to the curator of the Stirling Historical Society.

The first document is an order from the District Council Session, and dated February 15, 1885. It reads:

It is ordered by the District Council of the District of Victoria in Sessions Assembled:

That the District Surveyor be instructed to proceed to Rawdon, and make out a plan and specifications of the bridge to be erected across Rawdon Creek, and to advertise for competition on a certain day, say the first day of March, so that materials may be got on the spot for the erection of said bridge before the snow leaves, and that Edward Fidler and Joseph R. Bush, Esquire, be a committee to raise the sum of twenty five pounds by subscription to defray the expense of said work, and further to assist the Surveyor and that the clerk do notify them accordingly.

Peter O'Reilly
District Clerk

as moved by Mr. Cumming and seconded by Mr. Parker.

The second item is a personal letter addressed to Francis Maconnell at Rawdon West post office at Fidlers Mill. It was written at Whitby on December 29th, 1849. The language is that of the time and is printed here as it was written.

Francis Maconnell and Caty Maconnell both of you are in our affections with respect to you both feeling it our duty to write to you to let you know that we are in tolerable good health at present hoping these few lines will find you all in the same we thank you for the kind letter you wrote to us which appeared to be full of joy for Francis killing two Dear which joy prohibited you from the newes which we wanted you never let us know how you got home or how the rest of our Friends wear tell James Lake that Samuel and his family is all well and that he talkes of coming down this winter and if they do your Aunt Olive will come along with them and tell, William B. Hough that his Uncle came to my house and he said he would write down to them give our compliments Brother Wess and to William and his wife and John Clark and his wife and to all enquiring friends So no more at present but we remain your affectionate Uncle and Aunt - We want your answer to this - James McNutt Olive McNutt.

Both these pieces of paper contain names still familiar to residents of Stirling village, and have been preserved in their original envelopes.