

ans] tended to politely avoid each other." Research has failed to uncover Mrs. McAvoy's first name, her husband's name, children if she had any, or what eventually happened to the lady; even her last resting place is a mystery.

The Presbyterian manse was completed in 1860. Was the Reverend Buchan still boarding with Doctor Boulter who was married? Was Mrs. McAvoy also Dr. Boulter's housekeeper? It is known that after Mrs. McAvoy's attempt on his life, the reverend employed a Miss Young as his housekeeper until his death.

Alexander Buchan died Sunday, July 18, 1875, at the age of 80, after a "protracted illness." The bulk of his estate, which was estimated to be around \$3,000,

was left to Queen's College to help in the training of young Presbyterian ministers. His monument stands to this day in the northwest portion of the Stirling cemetery close to the access road and not far from where his good friend Dr. Boulter is buried. But this cemetery was not established until July 8, 1878, almost exactly three years after the Reverend Buchan's passing. Was Buchan first buried in Stirling's original burying ground established in 1847 on the corners of Victoria Street and Edward Street, behind the first township/town hall? Were his remains later re-interred in the new cemetery?

Alexander Buchan's replacement was the Reverend James M. Gray.

## WHITTONS HOLD FAMILY REUNION

*from unknown and undated newspaper.*

Mr. and Mrs. James Whitton settled in Quebec after coming from Yorkshire, England, in 1840. Swindled out of their property in Quebec, the family travelled with depleted savings to Northumberland County.

In 1849 the Whitton family moved to Seymour Township in Northumberland County and kept what they called "Whitton's Inn" on the farm of the late Andrew Watson now owned by Mr. John A. Murray.

Shortly afterward they moved to the farm between Concessions 6 and 7. The house was roughcast three-storey with an underground basement used for a summer kitchen and also a room for a cheese vat where Mrs. Whitton along with a Miss Badgley made the first cheese in Northumberland County.

About 1883 Mr. Whitton sold his farm to the late John Glassford, of Kingston, and moved to Campbellford. There was a family of 15 children, eight boys and seven girls. Part of the family received their education in a log cabin school situated near Burnbrae Church with Thomas Hume as teacher. The rest attended the old stone school at Burnbrae between Concessions 6 and 7. This school later burned down.

Mrs. Whitton died August 5, 1868, and Mr. Whitton, November 19, 1887.

From this little cheese vat in the basement of their home where Mrs. Whitton and Miss Badgley began cheese making which product soon received a reputation on the market, sprang up two of the first cheese factories in the district.

These progressive farmers aimed to carry on this business on a larger scale and Mr. James Whitton, Mr. Wm. Hume and James Cleugh organized a joint

stock company. This was the origin of Brae Cheese Factory.

The first cheese maker was an American expert who turned out high grade cheese. James Whitton, the young son of James Whitton, one of the organizers of the company went into the factory to learn the business. Six weeks later the American gave up his position leaving the young man to carry on alone. In a short time he was able to turn out a cheese of high quality for the market.

About the year 1874 another joint stock company was formed and a cheese factory put up at Wellmans Corners in Hastings County. A wagon was engaged to gather the milk, some of which was hauled a distance of ten miles. The highest revenue received in any one year was \$15 for each cow maintained and as this represented a loss the factory was closed, but was reopened again and in 1879, James Whitton, Jr., became manager. For 31 years he was in charge of Plum Grove factory at Wellman's Corners.

The cheese factory known as Brae factory was the first ever started in Northumberland County just as the one at Wellman's Corners was the first ever started in Hastings County.



James Whitton

### Memorial Service Held:

On Sunday morning a memorial service was held at the church at Burnbrae where Mr. and Mrs. Whitton and their family attended church for many years. The church was well filled, the usual Sunday morning congregation being greatly augmented by the descendants of the late Mr. and Mrs. Whitton.

During the course of the service the Reverend W.D. Turner referred to them and their great interest in that church. He said, "He thought it a very fitting climax