

Mutt and Jeff



Good Luck and Hard Luck Overtook Jeff at Same Time

By "Bud" Fisher

Open Meeting Of The Brant Historical Society

Mrs. Brown Reads an Interesting Paper With Regard to Tecumseh—Material for Life of Joseph Brant at Ottawa.

The opening meeting of the Historical Society was held in the chambers of His Honor Judge Hardy, Thursday evening.

Communications received during the summer were read and reports of work done were given.

A letter to His Honor, was read from the Hon. Dr. Roche, regarding material for the "Life of Joseph Brant." The letter stated that much valuable material could be secured at Ottawa and that it would be a task too great to be accomplished except through an agent well equipped for such research work, who could spend at least three months in the Archives Building alone. If an agent is appointed by the Brant Historical Society to examine the records the archivist will render all assistance possible.

Mrs. Brown reported having received five valuable volumes later from Ottawa, being a synopsis of the matter there. By means of these the work may be accomplished in a week for ten days at Ottawa. A proper person will be sent later.

Mrs. Brown also reported having visited the Archives reference library in Toronto twice during the summer and the Reserve many times; had received five volumes of the work from the Provincial officials and one valuable volume, the MSS. copy of Sir Wm. Hunter, from the Albany State Library.

Mr. Passmore read a communication stating that the annual grant had been passed, also a letter requesting his presence at a council meeting of the O. H. S. in Toronto Oct. 27th.

A letter was read from the Provincial Archaeologist, requesting the Society to prepare a chart of Brant County, working upon it all the old Indian burial places. The chart is being prepared.

The Historian's report on Tecumseh was read and adopted.

A report was brought in, that through the efforts of Mr. Richard Sanderson, Mr. Fisher and Mr. Brown, who have been able to assist in the work of the Society, a report on the life of Joseph Brant, all of the War of 1812 pictures since Brant had been

made a County in 1859-63, had been secured.

The Secretary was instructed to return the thanks of the Society to these gentlemen for their successful efforts in securing the pictures. The pictures will be photographed and grouped and presented to the County to be hung in the Council Chambers. The matter was left with the committee, Major H. Leonard and His Honor, Judge Hardy, to consult with those interested, and complete the work.

Major Leonard reported having received an oil painting of Mr. S. G. Read, Ex-Mayor of the city and also one from Mayor Hartman. The gifts were gratefully acknowledged. In other cities, where the Mayors pictures have been secured, the pictures have been presented by the Mayors and hung separately. An effort will be made to secure all the pictures of the past Mayors of Brantford.

Major Leonard and Major Gordon Smith were appointed representatives of the Society to the Park Board for the beautification of the city.

A very old historical letter received from Mr. Henwood was acknowledged. Extracts from this letter will be published later. The Society is anxious to secure any historical letters for publication.

Major Smith made an interesting report on material for the Society. The Picture Committee reported having secured over sixty historical pictures during the summer.

Mr. Douglas, ex-warden of the City of Brant, that he had met, quite frequently, a very old Indian in Caledonia, who claimed to know where Tecumseh was buried. A nephew of Tecumseh and to Mr. Douglas further said that he had done business with him and had found him honest and he seemed disposed to believe that there was truth in the man's claims. On the strength of this, he resolved to investigate the matter. He lives on the Reserve, fifteen miles from Brantford.

Accompanied by Mr. Brown, visited his home and interviewed him. We made further enquiries regarding him from many of the Reserve and then returned home. There is little reliable published information regarding Tecumseh. What little could be found, I read and weighed what the man had asserted, and then visited him the second time and with his report to the society that insofar as he relates regarding his own life and regarding the relationship of his father to Tecumseh, I believe that the historical events which are available will prove his statements to be true, and since he has been a resident of Brant County for nearly seven (67) years, if his statements are true, that it becomes the duty of the society to assert his claims.

Without going into any historical details at the present time, the general reasons for believing his assertions to be true are: He was sexton of St. Luke's Church for twelve years and holds a certificate of character from the Rev. Mr. Strong for being "an honest and industrious man," also from the Rev. Mr. Barefoot. He is quick, sharp and shrewd and when aroused displays all the Shawnee fierceness, otherwise he is gentle, kind and hospitable and although unkempt one is conscious of an innate courage and courtesy, which bespeaks the man. He has an air of truth and sincerity about him which makes one believe, and so conscious is he of the truth of his own story that he thinks the world will believe it simply because he asserts it. A nature like this seldom deceives.

Historically speaking, the man can neither read nor write. He was unaware that any or many have claimed knowledge of Tecumseh's burial place. He knows little if anything of the published statements regarding Tecumseh. Then it would be an impossibility for the man to know what he does know unless he knew it from actual parts in real life. He speaks only of what he knows to be true. Regarding his own life, his documents, the records in the Indian department, which I received last summer and information received from several very old Indians since interviewing him have proven his every assertion to be true.

Regarding his father's relationship to Tecumseh, we have learned in "The Life of Brant" how difficult it is to trace the ancestry of the red man. It is more difficult to trace the ancestry of the Shawnee than the Six Nations Indian. They have less, if

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assume a false relationship when men were living who knew General Tecumseh well.

On my second visit, one fact alone which he revealed (had there not been so many stories told of Tecumseh which have made all people skeptical). This fact alone would be considered sufficient proof of the relationship of his father to Tecumseh.

As to his claims regarding a knowledge of Tecumseh's burial place. He asserts, for certain stated reasons, his father fled to Canada before Tecumseh crossed the border.

His father joined the John Brant and Colonel Norton troops, and later when Tecumseh crossed he joined his army and was in the battle when Tecumseh fell. The Tecumsehs then owned all the land in the vicinity of the Rond Eau. His father's mother returned to the battle field that night, found Tecumseh by the side of a mulberry tree and carried him by night many miles to the place where he is buried. His father when a very old man, over 100, in 1855, after exacting a promise of secrecy from him, took him to the grave. In 1858, he took his one sister and brother, who were living here in Brantford at the time, to see the grave (his sister was living with Mrs. Alger at the time, and later with Mrs. David Hart). Since 1858 he has not visited the grave. Judging from the locality in which he says he was buried, I would rather incline to think that the place would now be built over, and if so, there would be no way to prove his claim. It would have to be a matter of belief or disbelief, and since so many stories have been told regarding Tecumseh's burial place, I would recommend the secretary not to assert his claim to this knowledge.

At the same time it would be open to the secretary to offer to pay his way, for he himself to go to the grave to learn if it could be found. If not, the truth of his story must rest with his father's relationship to Tecumseh and his being in the battle when Tecumseh fell. If these statements are true then no statement of Indian history will divulge his burial place. It is a well known fact that Indians never leave their dead upon the battle field if it be possible at all to secure their bodies, and they never bury upon the battle field, at least not the Shawnee or Iroquois.

Burial and condolences are religious rites with them and no greater offence can be given the Indian than to proceed with any task or work until these rites are performed. Sir Wm. Johnston, who, perhaps, knew the Indian best of all white men, was often in critical times put to sore trial over this characteristic of the Indian. If Tecumseh's brother and his mother were near at the time of the battle, then they buried him. Time will establish this truth.

When asked why his father kept it secret and enacted a promise from him to do so, he replied with all the Shawnee fierceness in him, "Because of the way the British (Proctor) had treated Tecumseh."

He expressed a strong desire to go to Thamesville to the unveiling of the monument. "If I don't go the Tecumseh family will not be represented," he said.

I have made arrangements to have his deposition taken before a Justice of the Peace, as soon as he can come to town. Some statements he has made, of records, have been made of the events, may be proved by records in the Pennsylvania archives or war department library at Washington. This will necessitate research work. When his deposition and these records are secured his statements will be published as soon as possible in order to give any responsible person or persons who may be in a position to know the truth, an opportunity to dispute his claims or disprove his assertions. While the man is here, to speak for himself.

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AROUND THE WORLD TOUR WILL COMMENCE TODAY

CHICAGO, Oct. 18.—The White Sox ball club, Chicago champions, left yesterday for Cincinnati, where today they will meet the New York Nationals in the first game of a baseball tour of the world. The local players left aboard a special train which is to be their home almost continuously until they board the steamer at Vancouver, November 20, for Japan. President Comiskey and a large number of rooters accompanied

the team to Cincinnati. Games have been scheduled to take place almost daily before the teams embark on the Pacific coast.

The Tourists Are Off.
NEW YORK, Oct. 18.—A number of National League players, including members of the New York Giants, left this city yesterday, under the direction of John J. McGraw, for Chicago, where on Sunday, in connection with the White Sox squad they will officially start the round-the-world baseball tour. The eastern party will meet the White Sox in Cincinnati today for the first of the exhibition games of the American schedule, several of the players were accompanied by their wives. Newspaper baseball writers, photographers, and trainers completed the party.

A civic commission was proposed for the Toronto street railway.

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The Inside H Embracing Operati 7—WH

NIPPING A NE

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(Editor's Note:—In order to avoid any possible misunderstanding of these narratives to persons of these names and in many instances have substituted the real ones.)

Paquale Leonf came near one of the smoothest black tains in this country. But he failed at the very outset would have been, had it not getting started, one of the cessful blackmailing and ro spritacles that ever emanated evil minds of the Italian B men who live by terrorizing low countrymen in America.

Leonf ran a little private the accommodation of his trymen in Elizabeth street, an Italian quarter of New. He made no pretense of do business, and was not a tor and patron against the great capital of his own started in as a steamship ing tickets for a couple of that make a specialty of cheaper class of passenger tween New York and the lean ports. That was ten years ago. Here to be re began.

From a seller of steamsh Leonf began to branch out, he was running a little employment agency in conjunc his original business. He sa every body concerned with his in this, and soon the Italian who had found work through fee began to entrust to him of conveying safely to the back in Italy part of the fund by the newcomers in Amer.

The private bank was the the newly arrived Italian to trust their hard-earned un any of the strange barter strange hand. Leonf was one a son of their own beloved, had welcomed them upon the at Ellis Island, he had bro on the bay and found them the crowded quarters of the Work they had secured thro and their steps in the new been generally guided by h What more natural than t should turn to him when th to accumulate little suns o which they wished to save.

Leonf took care of their m great satisfaction to them, considerable profit to himse. E and influence, and the pros his little private bank so that the state bank exam nothing to do with it grew March, 1911, he had an depa Elizabeth street office, over placed in his care by his countrymen.

I had never heard of Leonf came to the office of the Protective Agency and asked for tion.

"It is the Black Hand," Leonf said, "after me." "They have threatened me," quale Leonf, whom all good trust—these had men have th that they shall take my life to give them \$25,000."

He dove into his pocket as and showed us a letter writt len and addressed to him. "I it read."

"Dear Prosperous Brother," "Many of the countrymen a work. Times are not as rich as they are with you. They have much should help the have little or nothing. Bro have much; we have nothing should be glad to help. T many of us. That we all sho little you must give much, not much to you, who has a brother, you must have \$2 give us in two weeks when w it, or we will remove you as to your poor countrymen."

"The Beautiful Se It was a typical Black Hat except that the amount was yond the usual demand.

CUSTOM IS DEEPLY F
Easy to Understand Why Au Find It Hard to Put Down Hunting.

In an article in Harper's on cent journey among the Dyak heo, Mary Blair Beebe tells of the practice of head h practice which still prevails these savage people despite forts to put it down.

"I was told later that a culre mad for days after head. I realized the influ and wisdom with which the rajah of Sarawak—Sir Jam Sir Charles Brooke—have at