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Trish Hopkins
525 Ritson Rd. North
Oshawa, Ontario L1G 5R4

Dear Trish Hopkins:

In reply to my query to the Stratford-Perth Archives in 1998, I was forwarded a copy of your letter sent there in March, 1994. (I, too, was requesting an obituary for (James Mahaffy and his wife) Sarah McLaughlin. I received the same response from them that you would have, that no newspaper obituary exists in their records.

I have obtained a copy of Sarah McLaughlin's death registration from the Family History Centre in Salt Lake City; however, it provides no further clues, as we both have her date of death, and her birthplace was recorded only as "Ireland".

Last week, I received a reply from the Whitby-Oshawa Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society to an inquiry that I sent some time ago. Though the information provided related to the Mahaffys, it leads me to speculate about a particular McLaughlin family in the Darlington area as being the one Sarah may have belonged to. I have had the same difficulty as you, of course, in that Sarah had left home by the 1851 census. However, with the names of the sisters that your letter provides, I will try to locate the family in parish records in Ireland. I am operating on several hunches here, particularly in choosing the parishes I will be checking out.

I have children at home, so I may not take a day out in the summer to work on this, but I'll be at the FHC in September, for sure, to see what I can find.

I would be happy to share any information with you that I hope to discover this Fall. (Perhaps you have already covered this ground, since your letter was written five years ago. In that case, any help you could send this way would be greatly appreciated!)

In the meantime, I would appreciate your contacting me to confirm that you are at the same address. Also, if you have a birth date for Jane or Martha, it would be helpful to me in my search in Ireland. Thanks!

Perhaps I should explain my connection to the McLaughlin family. My maternal Grandmother was the youngest child of James and Sarah (McLaughlin) Mahaffy's oldest son.

I hope to hear from you, Trish!

Your (very!) distant cousin,

Linda

Linda Reid