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The Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley

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Cover photo: Trent Valley Archives, Fonds 18, Dyer fonds, #85 [see page 32 for comments]

Fairview Heritage Centre
567 Carnegie Avenue
Peterborough Ontario K9L 1N1

(705) 745-4404

info@trentvalleyarchives.com
www.trentvalleyarchives.com

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***Fairview Heritage Centre
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Peterborough ON K9L 1N1
(705) 745-4404
info@trentvalleyarchives.com***

www.trentvalleyarchives.com

Editor:

Elwood Jones, ejones@trentu.ca

Editorial Board:

***Keith Dinsdale
Andre Dorfman
Fraser Dunford
Rae Fleming
Don Willcock***

Advertising accepted

The *Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley* is published by the Trent Valley Archives, for its members.

We welcome articles relating to local and family history, and to archives, or to the methods by which one may pursue these. Reviews of books or institutions are encouraged. We also include information about the activities of our various committees and projects.

The information and opinions expressed are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the Trent Valley Archives or its directors.

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***Trent Valley Archives
Trent Valley Ancestral
Research***

***Your five counties archives centre
Archives * Heritage * Genealogy***

***Fairview Heritage Centre
567 Carnegie Avenue
Peterborough ON K9L 1N1
(705) 745-4404
info@trentvalleyarchives.com***

www.trentvalleyarchives.com

Trent Valley Archives was founded in 1988, and incorporated in 1989. It is a public advocacy group promoting the preservation, identification and care of archives. It has also advocated more liberal access to archival collections, and a recognition that freedom of information laws should be exactly that. In particular it favours the development of public regional and county archives, or barring that strong municipal archives. It realizes that reorganizations of governments lead to inadvertent destruction of records and offers help in meeting such difficulties.

It encourages businesses and organizations to include archiving as a part of their records management programs. It assists individuals in keeping archives or find-ing suitable homes. It has accepted archival documents and fonds when necessary and the move to the Fairview Heritage Centre was partly prompted by the need to make its holdings accessible.

Our holdings include microfilm records of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Peterborough, St John's Anglican Church Archives, and the censuses of the five counties for 1871 and for all census years in Peterborough county, 1851 to 1901.

Other significant collections include Lakefield newspapers since 1949, the radio archives of Frank Schoales, and the personal archives of Howard Pammett, J. Alex Edmison, Archie Tolmie, Albert Hope, and others. Recently, we have been adding the following archival records: Delledone collection on Lakefield's history; the Anson House archives, 1862 to the present; the Dyer family papers related to the history of Peterborough, recreational activities (including a magnificent archive related to pigeon racing in the 1960s and 1970s). There are now 35 collections of archival records relating to various aspects of Victoria and Peterborough counties.

In addition to the Research Room Library, the Trent Valley Archives has books, journals and newsletters relating to archival organizations, the history and function of archives, and issues surrounding freedom of information, legislation relating to municipal government, Hansard for the 1980s, Journals of the House of Commons and Senate, for the 1980s, and other books relating to farming, public history, architectural and other issues.

The Trent Valley Archives Ancestral Research Committee oversees our many ventures in family history, and researching the many queries that we receive. Our Reading Room houses a significant library of local books, cemetery records, family histories, and some of our microfilm collections. Our growing Genealogy Program computer database contains over 132,000 names, mainly connected to original families of the Trent Valley.

The Irish Heritage Research Centre has a fine and growing collection of pamphlets, magazines and other materials relating to research on Irish migration and family history on both sides of the Atlantic. The Trent Valley Archives now has holdings that relate to child migration, as well.

New materials are being added all the time. Membership in the Trent Valley Archives continues to grow.

Membership

The reading room is open to members from Monday to Friday, 10 to 4:30, and other times by appointment. Annual memberships, \$40. Special rates for university students can be arranged. The major benefits of membership are unlimited use of the reading room at the Fairview Heritage Centre, subscription to Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley, invitations to special events, and opportunities to help in the diverse work of the Trent Valley Archives, of the Trent Valley Archives Ancestral Research committee, of the Irish Heritage committee and various other heritage activities.

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Manager's Report

Keith Dinsdale

Research Division Report

The Queries staff has been most efficient in solving the problems and search requests that have been sent in and this is probably due to the large number of donated family histories and source material that has been accumulated. We have received many letters and calls of thanks. As volunteers this cheers us up.

One donation was a disk of 22,000 names, what a help! Our genealogy

program is well over 130,000 names and the 4-drawer cabinet is becoming quite full of material from this region.

We now have an 866 pentium 3 computer for members to access the holdings (compared to the old 286 we had seven years ago); it is lightening for the internet also. TVA is also on inter-loan with the National and Ontario Archives, so it will not be as necessary to make those terribly expensive trips to Ottawa and Toronto.

All members please notify us of any change to your e-mail and postal addresses.

Many Thanks Dept

1. To Jean Amm for her work on the Cournoyea newspaper collection., and the donation of the book on Northern Ontario.
2. To Cy Monkman for the Yorkshire material [the largest and prettiest county in the UK]
3. To Martha Kidd, Rena Darling, J. Coursey, Kay O'Brien, Rosemary McConkey and others who have donated valuable reference material.
4. To Bill Amell and the volunteers who went through over 3000 boxes to find and finally return all the OGS material that had been in our care. [We are lending the Kawartha branch OGS two microfiche readers for their new location at the De la Fosse library]
5. To the media: Katchawanooka Herald, Peterborough Examiner, Peterborough This Week and Prime Time for their coverage of TVA, the Fairview Heritage Centre and CAP.

Cap Division Report

Karri Fraser and Phil Smith have done an excellent job in getting the 11 computers, scanners and printers up and running for the growing number of users with a high percentage of the learners using their new skills to start doing family history both in the research room and on the internet.

Property Report

Very shortly we will be receiving a 600 cubic foot collection of invaluable research material and the collections are

being rearranged to accommodate it. An architect has been engaged to draft specifications to protect and preserve this historic building and its collections. Hopefully our applications for grants will cover most of the costs but donations are always welcomed and tax receipts issues.

The grounds are looking quite nice, thanks to Don's green thumb. And parking lot renovations should be done soon.

The Never Give Up Department

Last October a member in Seattle sent a request to find all we could on the Walsh / Doran family of Hastings county. Our research here came up with very little and the Tweed Heritage Centre likewise could offer little assistance. The file was put in the out basket and subsequently forgotten until the member renewed the inquiry in May. The staff member, somewhat disheartened, sent what there was. That night he and his wife went to an Irish Club pub nite. While having a pint, listening to the good music and chatting, one of the McGuinness sisters mentioned receiving a letter from Seattle, requesting family history information. "Oh no," our staff member said, "I just got off the phone with her this afternoon and she was really upset that we couldn't find anything on her Walsh / Doran family." The McGuinness sister said that was their family. The next morning the lady from Seattle was informed of the miracle, and was very excited about finding these family connections. And the sisters were inspired to start digging.

Story Two. Rick had been searching for over two years in our files, in the Archives of Ontario, and elsewhere in the area and had almost given up on ever finding an early marriage. As a last resort he decided to check out other denominations and check not only for the groom but also for the bride. While we were having the official opening of the CAP centre he was doing his research over in one corner when he jumped up from his chair saying "I found it! I found it!" The groom's name he had been looking for was MEARS married to a Grizelle but in the church record it was shown as HEARN married to a Grizelle. Because the entries were

handwritten it was quite easy to mistakenly transcribe from the licence.

Stay tuned for the next issue and you will be amazed to learn that one of the largest family names in the area has been incorrect for over 100 years.

Books

on Genealogy and Local History and general interest

We carry an amazing array of books and other items related to local history, family history and genealogy. We have some out-of-print titles and we are always willing to help those seeking an elusive title. Ask us about archival supplies for the preservation of your photos, letters and memorabilia. Browsers welcome.

We carry, for example, all the works of Sherrell Branton Latooze, the writer and storyteller based in Bowmanville. She undertook to write the history of Durham county one piece at a time, and from 1996 to 1998 succeeded in doing so. Most titles are available individually, but the boxed set of seven books has the histories of Cavan, Cartwright, Manvers, Hope, Darlington and Clarke townships, as well as an index volume. The set is special to members for \$127.80; those available separately sell for \$18.95. The books are strongest on churches, schools, taverns, roads, the military, industry and the geographic areas.

In addition to the brief histories series, Latooze has written other books which we are carrying. She compiled *Hotels, Inns and Taverns of Old Durham County* (n.d.), *The Crew of the Flagship* (1988), and *Putting Flesh on the bones of your Devon and Cornwall ancestors* (2000); prices on these titles range between \$10 and \$13.

Trent Valley Archives Books
Fairview Heritage Centre
567 Carnegie Avenue
Peterborough ON K9L 1N1

(705) 745-4404
tinfo@trentvalleyarchives.com
www.trentvalleyarchives.com

The Diaries of John A. Geddes, General Storekeeper

by R B Fleming

One of the recent acquisitions of Queen's University Archives is a collection of papers that demonstrate the value of local records. The ledgers and diaries of general storekeeper John A Geddes are in many ways similar to the kind of records collected by the Trent Valley Archives. So uneventful do they seem to the untrained eye that they are often consigned to the recycling bin. And yet beneath their surface swirl currents of information that deal not only with the day-to-day events in a community, but with national and international affairs. Therefore these papers are of the utmost importance in lifting the veil on the social, economic and psychological lives of our ancestors.

Of the large collection of Geddes papers, easily the most interesting are the diaries kept by John Geddes. Beginning in 1907, when he worked in the lumber industry in order to save money to invest in a store, and stretching to mid-20th century, Geddes noted details of prices, shopping habits, local dances, births, deaths, weddings and news of the world. While demonstrating the value of local documents, Geddes' diaries provide an insight into the important roles once played by general stores and by their owners in the daily lives of our ancestors.

As well as selling daily necessities such as clothing, shoes, sugar, kerosene and anything else needed by the community but not grown on farms or made in villages, the store provided a meeting place for the community. Often stores had

a dance hall on the second floor of the building. Geddes had a large storehouse, probably at the back of his store, and it was there that he held many a community dance. On 20 June 1925, he noted: "Had dance in Store House. Big crowd out, some from Carleton Place, here." It's a simple enough entry, but it tells us something about how and where the local folk from near and far — Carleton Place was quite a distance away in 1925, perhaps an hour or two from Snow Road — entertained themselves in rural Ontario. Geddes does not say whether or not he charged an admission fee, nor whether or not he sold the ice cream that the dancers enjoyed. In September of the same year, he reported that attendance was down at his dance, perhaps because he "had no ice cream". He does not say whether or not the store itself was open during the dance, but even if he sold nothing that evening, the dance was one way of building good public relations, which no doubt resulted in improved sales or at least in maintaining customer loyalty.

Stores across the country were important centres of information, which included tales of local events such as the wedding of Geddes' son in 1939, an event recorded in his diary on 12 July. "Got aunt Viola and uncle Jack to keep store," he adds. No doubt his aunt and uncle had many a discussion of the big day in Renfrew, where the wedding took place. No doubt during the following weeks the storekeeper and his wife recounted tales of the event and the journey to and from Renfrew.

In the evenings, the store was also a gathering place for people, mostly men. The absence of women in the evening suggests that it was they who tended to household duties including putting the children to bed. "Harry Budd, Laurence and Mervin Brownlee in during evening," Geddes reported on 13 September 1939, "And stayed until 10-20... Radio reports say Warsaw is yet holding out and that Poles are driving Germans back." The news about Polish resistance and success probably tells us more about what the storekeeper and his customers wanted to hear than what was actually transpiring in Warsaw.

The entry conjures up a picture of the four

men, the storekeeper and his three customers/visitors standing around in silence while the war reports come in, probably on a rather crackly reception, on the store's radio, which may have been a large floor model typical of the 1930s. Some of the men may have been smoking pipes (in archives across Canada, there are many photographs of men smoking pipes and gossiping in general stores, often around the proverbial pot bellied stove, and indeed Geddes notes that he did light the fire in the store stove that evening), and the storekeeper may have sold them pipe and chewing tobacco that evening, and perhaps a few groceries that their wives or housekeepers had written down on a list. In between reports of the German entry into Warsaw, the men probably discussed the beginnings of the war in Europe, and perhaps its impact on young Canadian soldiers. In 1939, war was imagined as stalemate, trenches and the deaths of millions of men. The Great War, which had created these images, had concluded a mere twenty years earlier. The bombing of civilians must have struck the men as odd. (The Geddes diary, cryptic and suggestive as most diaries tend to be, encourages reader speculation.)

In 1944, as the war was turning in favour of the Allies, the Geddes diaries mention one of the many roles played by general stores. Stores had hefty safes, a word that has altered over time, but which until at least the mid-1950s referred to the heavy steel boxes with combination locks built into the huge doors, in which the storekeeper kept money overnight, and surplus money during the day. The safe was sometimes used by customers as a safety deposit box. The store in effect became a bank. Because stores almost always had cash on hand, the storekeeper cashed cheques. On 16 August 1944, with one eye (and ear) on the Allied invasion of southern France, Geddes reported that the "CPR gang got all their cheques today and I had quite a time getting them signed and cashed," in all about \$600.00 worth of cheques, a considerable sum of money for a storekeeper to have on hand, the result, no doubt, of several days sales. The area probably had at least one small bank, but

in the evening, when workmen were finished their work, the banks were closed. Since general stores did not close until late in the evening, and Timothy Eaton, a general storekeeper before founding his retailing empire in Toronto about 1870, was typical of most storekeepers when he reported that his store in St Mary's, Ontario, never closed until the last customer was served and the last story was told.

In the mid-20th century, one storekeeper near Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, was once awakened in the middle of the night. Neighbours had just received news of the sudden death of a relative in northern Manitoba, and they wanted to start the long drive immediately. They were short of cash and gas. And where better (where else!) to turn but the general storekeeper? The storekeeper opened his safe, lent them the money and served them gas. They "put it on the bill," a common expression in all (English speaking) general stores, and headed north to Thompson, Manitoba for the funeral.

The fact that the storekeeper kept cash on the premises made the store attractive to robbers. Some of them came armed. During the early 1930s, John Diefenbaker was called upon to defend a young man who killed a storekeeper in Saskatchewan during an attempted robbery. The man was about to elope with his pregnant girlfriend, and they desperately needed some money. It was one of the rare cases that defeated the brilliant defense lawyer and future Prime Minister. The young man was hanged in 1934.

Given all these banking roles, it is not surprising that banks often used existing stores as a branch, rather than building a separate building. In 1900 a general store in Lévis, Québec, because the first branch of the *Caisse Desjardins*. The storekeeper thus was also a banker, a role that he had been playing for years anyway, and at the same time an economic dynasty in French Canada was born, thanks in part to a general store in Lévis.

There are other general store roles not mentioned by Geddes, and perhaps not performed in his store. Historian Jean Cole notes in her history of South Monaghan that one storekeeper in the area south of Peterborough played the role of

local justice of the peace, and his customers were often the unofficial jury.

The storekeeper often acted as a welfare agent. In the days before state welfare, which dates mostly to the 1940s, the store "carried" many members of the community in tough times, especially during the Depression of the 1930s, and often in good times, because the collecting of an old debt was almost always on the honour system, and many customers were not honourable. Most retired general storekeepers today, or their children, will tell you that the greatest irritant was old debts. If pressed too hard to pay, a customer could always go off and shop at the store in the next village. In one Nova Scotia store, when a storekeeper asked politely for payment, the customer told him, "You'll see Ireland on a foggy day before I pay you that bill."

Storekeepers served their communities in other ways not mentioned by Geddes. They sat on township councils. They often organized the local fire department, and provided a place to store the engine. Because they were thought to be "doin'" nothing anyway" they were asked to serve as pall bearers and witnesses at weddings. Or to change a fuse for a nervous neighbour.

Indeed service to the community was so imbued into one old storekeeper in Somerset, Manitoba, that his final act was a mime. On his deathbed, he reached up and grabbed a piece of string hanging from an imagined cast iron holder above his head. Then he wrapped a parcel, rolled it over, tied the string securely and snapped it with his slim gnarled fingers. His children stood mesmerized. They could imagine the parcel. Having wrapped up his life and broken the cord, he departed this world.

Today, general stores are barely remembered. Many of them have been converted into homes or apartments. A few have been moved to museums, where there are no pungent smells or no bad debts. Many stores have been abandoned or destroyed by fire. A few, very few, continue as general stores, where amazingly food and clothing are still "put on the bill" and where gossip is exchanged while the storekeeper waits on the customer.

The Geddes store at Snow Road Station no longer functions as a store, except in the imagination of researchers at Queen's University Archives where the general store of John A Geddes comes alive amidst the boxes and papers and the high ceilings of the reading room. Out of those papers, especially the storekeeper's diary, emerge customers who once shopped, told stories and danced. Importantly these diaries preserve the voice of one of the thousands of storekeepers across Canada who for centuries served their communities, and, at least in Geddes' case, recorded them for posterity.

Importantly too the Trent Valley Archives is home to many collections of papers that await researchers with historical skill and inquisitive imaginations.

(Queen's University Archives, A. Arch 5140, Geddes Snow Road Station Fonds)

The Parochial Registers of Scotland

by Bob Dunford

The Trent Valley Archives, as an aid for researching genealogists, has recently acquired the *Key to the Parochial Registers of Scotland*. This great work was originally published in 1872 in Edinburgh and covers from earliest times through 1854. The information contained within was compiled by V. Ben Bloxham who is an instructor at Brigham Young University.

Key to the Parochial Registers of Scotland is an absolute goldmine, exceptionally well-organized. There are 33 counties in Scotland and each is identified by its name and also a number. Six counties have been renamed, e.g. Edinburghshire is now Midlothian. Each parish of the Church of Scotland was assigned a number which was determined by arranging the parishes in alphabetical order within their respective counties and then numbering them consecutively throughout all of Scotland. These numbers are a means of reference and are often needed when searching

census, parochial registers and statutory registers.

Each register could contain information related to births, marriages and deaths. The author details the condition of each register. For instance, in the county of Ross and Cromarty, the parish of Lochs has no registers prior to 1831 and between 1831 and 1854, only entries births and marriages, not deaths, appear. With this knowledge, time is not spent trying to find the death of an individual in this particular parish register.

For the parish register of Stevenson, in the county of Ayrshire, we learn that there are irregular entries for births between November 1718 and May 1737. It also contains several imperfect pages for the same time period. In September 1811, two pages contain about ninety irregular entries for 1720-1814. Someone was trying to bring the records up-to-date. We also learn that very few mothers' names are recorded between November 1746 and February 1770.

I guarantee that if you are researching ancestors from Scotland this book will be highly valued!

Queries

Bill Amell and Marguerite Young

We get many inquiries from our members and we are happy to oblige in what-ever ways possible. When requested we pass the questions to our readers in this popular column. If you have responses to these queries we would welcome hearing from you at the Fairview Heritage Centre, so we can add the information to our growing files. It is always great to hear from satisfied customers, too.

Direct your queries to Bill Amell or Marguerite Young at the Fairview Heritage Centre, 567 Carnegie Avenue, Peterborough ON K9L 1N1.

Carey / Carew

This member interested in her Carey ancestry. There is some folklore that the surname was originally Carew. Grand

parents were John Henry Carey (19-3-35) and Helen McBride. He was a fireman in Peterborough and a son of George Carey (1860-1905) and Mary Webster. The next generation was George Carey sr (1820-93) and Catherine Logan who resided in Otonabee twp, near Keene and raised a large family: Mary, Esther, John, Redmond, Margaret, George, James, and Catherine.

In the four censuses, 1851-81, the family surname is Carew. In the Peterborough Historical Atlas, 1875, George and John Carew were at Con IX lot 17 in Otonabee twp. In the 1891 and 1901 censuses, the surname is Carey. Is there an explanation for this variation in family surname about 1890?

George Carey sr was born about 1820 in Ireland. We would appreciate comments on whether he arrived in Canada as an 1825 Robinson settler.

Loretta M. Kane
19 - 12880 Railway Avenue
Richmond BC V7B 6G2

Cooney

Searching maternal ancestry. Patrick Cooney emigrated from Droughadea (Drogheda, Co Louth?) Ireland and came to Canada about 1830. He married Elizabeth Ward and resided in Montreal for awhile; then moved to New York state where he worked on the estate of Martin Van Buren, US president 1837-41. A short time prior to the US Civil War the Cooney family returned to Canada.

During 1861 census, the family was listed in N Monaghan twp, Peterborough co ON: Patrick Cooney 50, nurseryman, Elizabeth 46, John 23, Francis 16. A decade later they still lived there near the town of Peterborough.

John W. Cooney married Mary Ann O'Callaghan of Norwood in 1870. they had a couple of children and moved to Montana. Their son Francis H. became state governor in 1933. His obituary "Old Norwood Boy" was published in the *Peterborough Examiner*, 16 Dec 1935 [and appeared in the *Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley*, II, 1 (June 1998) 2.]

Member searching for grave site of Patrick Cooney and his wife Elizabeth Ward somewhere in Ontario.

Dana L. Kiehl
4732 Dorsey Hall Dr #901
Ellicott City MD 21042 USA

Hamel

According to the book *Genealogie de la famille Hamel*, Jean-B Hamel b. 1831 at St Nicolas along south shore of the St Lawrence River a few miles west of Quebec City, son of Jean-B Hamel and Julienne Filtreau.

During 1861 census Jean-B Hamel, age 23, and his wife Mary Quinn, age 22, resided in Otonabee twp, Peterborough co. Apparently no marriages were recorded between June 1861 and Oct 1861 in the marriage register for St Peter's RC Parish. This omission is a mystery as many baptisms were recorded at that time.

They had several children during the next two decades: Julia Anne, Catherine, Mary Jane, John, Elizabeth, Sophia, Maria, Richard John (aka James), Francis, Frederick and William Joseph. By 1881 census the family had moved to Chandos twp and resided near Clyesdale. Julia Hamel married Robert Donoghue in 1885. She was the only sibling to marry in this region. By 1891 the oldest seven children had gone to the USA. Parents and two sons still resided in Chandos twp during 1901 census.; all left by WWI.

Seeking burial whereabouts of Mary and Jean-B Hamel.

William D. Amell
423 London St
Peterborough ON K9H 3A2

Reilly

Seeks information regarding maternal ancestry. James Reilly and wife Catherine Delmer were born in Ireland. Their children were all born in Ontario: Peter 1829, John 1831, Thomas 1835, Ann 1837 and James 1839. His baptism recorded in parish register at St James

RC Church in Colgan ON. James Reilly Sr died in 1856. The family resided on a farm in Adjala twp, Simcoe co, near Alliston ON.

John Reilly married Ellen Quirk circa 1860. A decade later, Peter Reilly married Bridget Quirk, sister to Ellen. The two families moved to Crystal ND, where they were listed in 1880 census and in 1885.

A few years later Peter moved his family a hundred miles back across the Red River to Badger MN. They were the pioneers of that town. Peter died during a blizzard in 1892 and was buried at Hallock MN. His wife Bridget survived until 1922 and buried at Badger MN. Three sons: James, Peter and Edward remained bachelors and buried there also.

Another son, William Reilly (b Ontario) married Charlotte Lofgren in Minnesota and moved to British Columbia. Grandfather died in 1956 and buried at Nakusp along the Columbia River.

Seeking information as to whereabouts of Catherine (Delmer) Reilly, daughter Ann married James Ferguson and her brothers Thomas and James Reilly. They left prior to 1861 census for Adjala twp.

Mrs Jean Madsen
PO Box 58
Proctor BC V0G 1V0

Manly P. Hall

An author based with the *Los Angeles Times* inquired recently about Peterborough in 1901. It turned out that he is preparing a biography of Manly P. Hall, a noted California author. We were able to establish that he was born of Caesarean section in Nicholls Hospital, Peterborough, 18 March 1901. His father, William Hall (born 8 November 1872) was a dentist in Norwood and in Peterborough between 1899 and 1903. In Peterborough, he was a partner with Robert F. Morrow and then with Richard Nimmo. When the 1901 census was taken in April 1901, William Hall was living alone in the Oriental Hotel. We also learned that he was a Baptist born in rural

Ontario.

We would be interested in learning more about William Hall's family. We also would like to know something about Louisa Hall, the mother.

If you can help, please contact Elwood Jones at ejones@trentu.ca or (705) 743-0231.

Don Cournoyea Collection

I

Worked on Pioneer Farm Like a Man Woman Relates on 91st Birthday

An Examiner reporter called on Mrs Ellen Conroy at her home on the 8th concession of Otonabee township on Thursday afternoon. It was her 91st birthday. // "Young man," she warned at the door, "I've paid up my newspaper subscription for the next year." // "But I want to talk to you about your birthday," said the reporter. And that put an entirely different face on the reason for the call.

Mrs Conroy was as sharp as a tack. She continued sewing on a patchwork quilt during the interview and reviewed her long busy life with many facets of good Irish humour. Born on the boundary line (Otonabee-Douro), she was the eldest daughter of Patrick Heffernan and Elizabeth Slattery and is now the only living member of a family of nine children. // She was married to Patrick Conroy at St Joseph's church, Douro, by the late Rev Daniel O'Connell and raised 13 children. It was a hard life, she said, but her husband who died 12 years ago, was a "sociable man" and together with their large family and numerous friends, there was no lack of mighty fine gatherings.

"I worked on the farm like a man," she said, "and did everything but cradling." // The reporter was a bit nonplussed at this coming from a woman who had raised 13 children until she explained that she

referred to cutting grain in the pioneer fashion. Mrs Conroy still likes to be outside around the barns and her garden and potted plants on her living room window sills, revealed her love of growing things.

Four sons and a daughter are still living. They are Mrs Timothy Garvey (Elizabeth), Mrs Loretta Allan and Mrs Thomas O'Connor (Pearl), all of Peterborough, and Mrs Gregory Thomas (Carrie) and a son James, both of Victoria.

"Are not prices awful now?" she asked. "I used to sell eggs for seven cents a dozen and butter for 15 cents a pound. And made a bit of profit, too."

Mrs Conroy has a family living in part of her home now and finds them good company. A birthday party was not planned for her but she said, regardless of that, everyone was very kind to her. The reporter left her waving at the open doorway in the cold February sunshine with her throaty chuckles ringing in his ears. He could not help but think that it really took something to be bright, happy and busy at 91. Her Irish ancestry, no doubt. #

Peterborough Examiner, 16 February 1951

II

Blacksmithed for 50 years George Worboy retires

Nearly 50 years ago, George Worboy picked up a blacksmith's hammer to give it a try. He laid down the hammer last week. / For 30 of those years he has been working with the CGE. Still young looking at 70, he expects to spend a busy retirement doing a number of carpentry jobs for his wife in their home at 586 Sherbrooke St. and gardening and fishing in summer.

Born in Blaenaven, South Wales, Mr Worboy came to Canada with his mother when he was seven years old to join his father waiting for them.

On the way across the Atlantic the propeller was sheared off and dropped to the bottom. The ship sat anchored for

three days until it was towed into Halifax. // They stopped off at Peterborough but went on to Otonabee to farm. Mr Worboy decided after a time that he would rather do something else than farm. // A blacksmith talked him into apprenticing as a smithy. // "I was still not convinced that I would like blacksmithing but thought I would at least give it a try. I have been at it ever since," Mr Worboy said. // He first worked in a small shop that turned out a wide range of general work, including carriages, wheelbarrows, horseshoes and others. // He later went to work for the Peter Hamilton Co. farm implement manufacturers, and stayed there 17 years.

In 1921 he moved to the CGE blacksmith shop. At that time the shop was booming and Mr Worboy and the 13 other blacksmiths sweating at six forges could not keep up with the work. When he got home at night he was too tired to take part in any sport or do anything else. // As the years went by the shop changed. // "If someone told me 15 years ago that blacksmithing was going to be almost a thing of the past, I would have taken little notice of such a statement. Today the burners, welders and bending machines of the structural steel department do much of the work we thought could only be handled in a blacksmith shop. #

Peterborough Examiner, 14 February 1951

III

Bank Block \$150,000 Building Sale

Noel Rishor and Max Rishor, brothers, became owners Monday [12 February 1951] of the Bank of Commerce block at the southwest corner of Hunter and Water streets. // Announcement of the purchase was verified several months ago, but the details of the transfer were not completed until Tuesday. It is understood that Rishor brothers paid more than \$150,000 for the property, which at present comprises 28 tenancies. There is no vacancy in the entire building of 96 foot frontage on Hunter St and 192 feet on Water St.

In its extent of space and ground footage this is the largest down town property turn over in present memory. Some of those

George St business and realty parcels no doubt involved larger amounts of money in their change of ownership.

The details of this Rishor property were mentioned when the rumor of the sale was first reported. It embraces the Fiske and Soden stores on Hunter St, with the Bank of Commerce, and on Water St it extends all the way down to, but not inclusive of the Goodfellow and Dougherty plumbing and heating shop.

On the ground floor on that street are Hopkins' Motor Sales, Reid's Transfer at the rear; V.M. Eastwood, insurance office; Sackville Insurance and Realty Agencies; Archibald and Richmond, plumbers; Dixon and Hurley, insurance; W.F. Huycke, K.C., law office; McColl and Turner, accountants.

Offices on the second floor include: Carley and Standish, law offices; Empire Life Insurance Co.; Pierce and Pierce, surveyors; Meredith Dental Laboratory; Dr B.R. Smyth, dentist; Dr C.H. Fulford, dentist; Credit Associates; and the quarters of First Church of Christ Scientist. // The Masonic Hall occupies the third floor. There are also six apartments in the block.

The main corner building was originally in the title of Senator George A. Cox, who transferred it to the Toronto Savings Loan Company. Originally, there may have been a hotel in the corner part of the property, but that goes back into the 1880s, beyond present memory.

Apparently the transfer by Senator Cox was made in 1886. There has been no change in the title since then.

The Bank of Commerce was removed from the southwest corner of Brock and George Streets to its present location. It is understood that the original vault there is now used by Victoria and Grey Trust Co.

The new owners, Noel and Max Rishor, are young Peterborough men whose experience is the basis of their confidence in the future of Peterborough and in their present investment.

Peterborough Examiner, 14 February 1951

Old Peterborough Protestant Home

Elwood H. Jones

Many in Peterborough know that the Peterborough Protestant Home was once in the Old Stone Brewery, around the corner from the Hutchison House Museum, another of the town's rare 1830s stone structures. It was, from 1870 to 1912, the second of three Peterborough Protestant Homes. The first was a rambling old building at Bethune and Sherbrooke that disappeared in the late nineteenth century. The third was the grand old building renamed Anson House in 1931. Recent research has uncovered much about all three Protestant Homes.

Remarkably, the Peterborough Protestant Home never had a capital debt. Its friends and managers had innovative approaches. For the first home, R.A. Morrow, then a very young man, allowed the organization rent-free use for five years. For the second home, Sheriff James Hall gave trustees a 99 year lease, which his descendants converted to a gift. For the third home, Charlotte Nicholls left a bequest for \$10,000 that was matched by the City of Peterborough. Modern voluntary organizations could learn much from our innovative predecessors.

For over forty years, the second Peterborough Protestant Home, which opened officially on Monday, 18 July 1870, was in a former factory building perched on the side of a hill overlooking the winding Jackson Creek, and for much of its life was adjacent to the Midland Railway line to Lindsay. At the time it was considered "neatly and comfortably fitted up with all the necessary accommodations for the comfort of its inmates." The Ladies Committee, composed of the volunteer managers of this property, marvelled at the "complete metamorphosis" which changed the soap and candle factory into

"a light, clean, thoroughly ventilated, well arranged Home suited to the wants of those for whom it is designed." The rooms were neat and airy; there was a well, cisterns, new fences and woodsheds; and, the lot was levelled as much as was possible. A new verandah was installed on the east side of the building, ideal for sitting on cool summer evenings, and for watching trains at any time. Jackson Creek, as it is now known, although industrialized both to the west and downtown, was in this stretch quite scenic. The Home even had a cow, which added a pastoral touch.

Victorians had many ideas about the poor, and none were very flattering. Charity was considered good for the giver, but not for the receiver. Still, most were willing to help those who truly were in difficulty for reasons not of their own making. Widows and orphans always topped the list, and sympathy was extended to single-parent families, and to the aged poor. The Protestant Home evolved into a home for the aged by the end of the century, but in its early years it always had children.

By the early 1880s, the Home had about fifteen residents at a time. They were young and old. Mrs Lowry, a blind woman who was one of the first residents in 1865 lived in the two Homes until she died in 1884. There was an old man who was paralysed, and the town paid for him to have an attendant also at the Home. One lad spent fourteen years at the Home before leaving in 1883 having learned a trade, received wages and in later months paid for board; the staff and volunteers were proud of his accomplishments. There were sad cases, as well. One old and infirm couple with no family or relatives left for the country, only to return a few months later, homeless; farmers in that neighbourhood paid three months room and board but the lady died within two weeks because of the exposure and starvation she had experienced in the previous few months. One young girl, suffering from a hip disease, was ordered by her doctor to go to a hospital. One young man died of consumption (later known as tuberculosis) within a month of entering the Home, and another man died the day he arrived. A young infant, aged two months, died in the Home where she

had come because her mother had died in childbirth. Peterborough lacked a hospital, but stories such as this inspired the establishment of a small hospital at Moira Hall, and later the Nicholls Hospital. The Protestant Home served as an infirmary in the absence of hospitals, and it seems that Charlotte Nicholls, Peterborough's notable philanthropist, drew upon the experience of the Protestant Home as she became our pre-eminent advocate of a hospital.

The Peterborough Protestant Home had been operating for about twenty years before its leaders asked John Carnegie, the local MPP, whose name is attached to the street from the zoo to the Fairview Heritage Centre, if they were eligible for a government grant such as had been given to other charitable homes in the province. In fact, it was performing an essential service not otherwise duplicated in this region, and government support was made retroactive to 1 October 1885. With the grants came regular semi-annual visits from government inspectors, and their reports give glimpses of changing expectations. On the first visit, 27 May 1886, the inspector found 14 people, all of whom by age or infirmity "belong to the class eligible for admission into institutions devoted to the care of the destitute." He described the home as "large and substantially built" and capable with good alterations of housing several more people. It was well-managed, with care and consideration for the inmates, and because the property had been given to its trustees, its permanence was assured. However, by May 1887, the inspector considered the building was "not suited for the purposes for which it is used."

Even so, he thought that the residents, "Although very old and some of them quite helpless, appeared to be as happy and comfortable as it is possible to be in such a state." By age, we know that one was over 90, no fewer than five were between the ages of 80 and 90, and four others were over 70; on the young side, there were four girls. Two of the residents were almost completely bedridden, one palsied and two partially paralysed. Some people had very short stays, of perhaps a day or two, especially until the Home in 1887 made it a policy not to receive

emigrant servants. Often, the Home was a refuge for young people who needed jobs. The secretary said it was “sheltering the lonely, helpless and homeless, [and providing] a quiet, comfortable haven to not a few weary ones.” Interestingly, in 1891, this home for the old and infirm had 16 people over 60, and 16 below 30, including 7 under 10. In the summer of 1894, apparently all 17 residents were old. However, usually at any given moment in the 1890s only about two-thirds of the residents were over 60. Over time it became exclusively a home for the aged.

The Board considered ways to increase the capacity of the Home. By raising the roof of the building, perhaps at a cost of \$600, it was possible to create separate wards for men and for women. This was done by the spring of 1888, and a fence was put across the front of the yard. The building now had separate wings for the males and the females, each served by a separate bathroom and a staircase. By the early 1890s, the new provincial inspector, T.F. Chamberlain, thought “the structural arrangements ...[still] are really not fitted for the use that is made of it.” he ladies “appear to be quite taken up with the work being done here, and are looking forward with great interest to the procuring of new and larger premises in the near future.”

It was twenty years before a new building was built, but changes continued to be made in this sixty-year-old building. Water came from a well and a cistern, but by the early 1900s, it was tied to the town water system. Lighting was by coal oil until electric lighting was added in 1897. Ventilating pipes were added to improve the air quality. Hot water heating was added in 1895. There were repeated calls to replace the outdoor closets, or outhouses, with modern water closets, or toilets, but I cannot confirm that happened before the Protestant Home moved to its splendid new building.

The ladies managing the Protestant Home had dreamed of a new building ever since 1891 when Charlotte Nicholls had left \$10,000 for the purpose. Several things had to happen. The old building’s

99 year lease had to be changed. Sheriff Hall’s descendants, notably E.D.H. Hall and Sandford Fleming’s wife, donated the property to the Peterborough Protestant Home. The new Ontario government, led by Sir James Whitney, Ontario’s first Conservative premier, stressed the need for modern buildings serving the poor and the aged. Nearly every county, including Peterborough, built a House of Refuge. The government believed that people who got help, should be willing to work for their keep; anything else was an abuse of taxpayers. On the other hand, they wanted local taxpayers to take more responsibility for local social welfare, and services for the poor, infirm and aged. There were stricter fire regulations, new standards of ventilation, sunlight and space requirements; for example, each resident in such homes had to have 600 cubic feet of space. As well, the government wanted buildings to be clean, free of vermin, and supplied with nurses. The government added many conditions to its grants, and the old stone brewery, with low ceilings, lots of shade, and situated on low-lying land by a creek, could not meet the conditions; in 1910 and 1911 it lost its provincial grant.

In 1912, the incredibly attractive and well-designed third Peterborough Protestant Home opened on a hill-top property which provided spectacular views of Peterborough, the Otonabee and the surrounding countryside. The city acquired the former Hilliard farm because taxes had not been paid, and the city became a formal partner in the next phase of the Home’s history. Clearly, ventilation and fresh air were more important than convenience to the city centre. Coincidentally, this smart, enduringly attractive, building was designed by Sandford Smith, a descendent of Sheriff Hall. The new building met all the provincial standards, and the government grant was restored retroactively.

And the old stone brewery, now four attractive townhouses, retains its charm. It can be seen best by walkers who take the public steps from Stewart Street down to Jackson’s creek or who view it from the fine trailway that follows the old railway line.

[Originally appeared in *Prime Time*, June 2001]

The Gypsies that visited Peterborough in 1909

Elwood H. Jones

[Editor’s note: The Peterborough Historical Society, 270 Brock Street, Peterborough Ontario K9H 2P9, recently published Elwood Jones, *The Gypsies that visited Peterborough in 1909*, available through the Fairview Heritage Centre Bookshop and elsewhere for \$3.50. This is a summary of that work, but has left out much of the detail, footnotes and photographs. This summary first appeared in *In the Kawarthas* for 2001. While descendants prefer to be known as Roma, the author prefers “gypsies” for this story for several reasons. The spirit of travel is so easily conveyed across time. If one wishes to understand how people viewed each other, it is important to see what messages were conveyed in the choice of words. As the photographs of Fred L. Roy have been so identified with this group, and photographs of Roma are rare, it has been commonplace to refer to these travellers as the “Peterborough Gypsies.” No term captures precisely all the connotations and historians need all the help possible as they try to understand people in the past. The author believes that the diversity of people who become visible for a brief moment in history provides many opportunities for reflection. He learned more than he thought possible about people who lived in Peterborough, the travellers and the local officials. On both sides suspicion gave way to caution and to tolerance and to respect.]

Newspaper reports circulated in June 1909 that the gypsies had been a disturbing presence. In Bobcaygeon it was reported that “The men are engaged mostly in horse trading while the women tell fortunes and pick up all the loose change they can find in their victims’ pockets.” Reports from Omeme described them as a “band of thieving vagrants, impertinent and lawless,” who “plundered gardens, picked pockets and

stole articles out of the stores." Calls were raised to punish them severely, either by making them leave the country or else by requiring them to earn an honest living.

The papers reported very specific damages. William Brown and William Kennedy, both of Emily, each had a lamb stolen "to make broth for a gypsy pot." The gypsies allegedly stole fowl from Mrs Pogue, a colt, since recovered, from Richard Nurse, and onions from William Brandon's garden. Everett Mitchell's wire fence was broken down so the gypsies' horses could "wander over his crops." Several people reported losses of cash or purses, and Mrs S. Mahood lost a parcel of goods which was removed from her buggy. The gypsies claimed that some other group had done these things, and indeed there were reports of other bands in the area, including one camped in south-end Peterborough.

When the group reached Peterborough county, they encamped along the roadside at Fowler's Corners where they were met by a delegation of officials from Peterborough. Warden R.N. Scott took the lead and was joined by High Constable Cochrane, Provincial Detectives Miller and Greer, Peterborough constables Newhall and McGinty, Lindsay police chief Vincent and perhaps other county officials. As early press reports stressed that the gypsies were terrorizing the countryside, the police were surprised to find they had only two rifles and no revolvers.

The gypsy parade was led to the yard of the Peterborough jail, cleverly nicknamed Castle Nesbitt, after the 65 year old jail keeper, Henderson Nesbitt. The men were charged, and put in the jail. The women and children and dogs were left in the jail yard. The horses were placed in sheds there, and the women and children slept in the waggons.

Queen Rosie was very upset with the arrangements. The gypsies claimed this was the first time any of them had been jailed. Nor were they prepared to accept makeshift arrangements. When officials suggested that they could tent in the jail yard, they "threatened to slash the tent to

shreds should it be erected."

This particular gypsy band appears to have numbered about 60 people, 27 horses, several dogs, and 13 or 15 caravan waggons. There were 13 men: Peter Sterio, Chris Sterio, Thomas Johns, Andrew Johns, John Auctoris, J. Mendier, Castrae John, Stephen Mitchell, George Mitchell, Nichol Mitchell, Stephen George, Andrew George, and Peter Dawling. Rosie George, the gypsy queen, was the group's leader because her husband, Michael George, was in Washington. Local officials treated Stephen George as the chief. E. Blake Robertson, Assistant Superintendent of Immigration, visiting Peterborough after the gypsies had left, said that the records had been checked and that, but for a couple of exceptions, all of the group were naturalized Canadians and had to be given the "same consideration as is given to Canadian citizens." That was unknown on 21 June.

Sheila and Matt Salo, American ethnographers specializing in the Roma, have used immigration records to piece together an interesting itinerary. The family, with Italian citizenship, travelled to Brazil, where Rosie was born in 1893. They were in Mexico City by 1896, in New Orleans by 1901, in Honolulu by 1903, and in Texas by August 1903. They reached Canada by September 1906, and were in Ottawa in 1907. In 1908 they attempted to visit relatives in Chicago but, because they were considered "professional beggars," were refused entry to the United States at Niagara Falls, Detroit, and probably Sault Ste Marie. They were returning to Ottawa to learn if Michael George had arranged permission for them to enter the United States.

While the general public was prohibited from the jail yard, Fred Roy was admitted to take photographs. Reporters from the town's three papers - the *Examiner*, the *Review* and the *Times* - were also admitted. The diversity of the newspaper coverage gives historians different perspectives for recreating the events surrounding the gypsies. Indeed, virtually every detail of their movements is covered in one newspaper or another. As well, Mrs Macfarlane Wilson, whose husband ran

Peterborough's fine gift store, the China Hall, filed a report in Toronto's *Saturday Globe*.

The gypsies were remanded for a week so that the provincial detectives could gather information to send to immigration authorities. No one seemed concerned about holding people so long without laying charges. However, there was considerable concern that tax dollars were being used to cover the costs of detaining the gypsies. In addition to feeding the men and horses, the county supplied constables to protect people's gardens. It was estimated that the cost to the county was about \$225, only half of which was covered eventually by \$125 of the \$150 fine. Warden R.N. Scott and the grand jury felt the provincial authorities should have helped with the expenses as the "course of action was made necessary in the interest of the safety of the general public of the district." In particular, Scott placed the blame on provincial Detective Greer and felt that the county had been abandoned by him.

Meanwhile, at the end of the first day, the women, children and animals had moved from the jail yard to a new park, then referred to as the South End Park, but later known as King Edward Park. The county was happy to be freed of the responsibility for feeding and housing a large part of the group. Queen Rosie welcomed the more congenial surroundings; here she could feel somewhat in charge. Local officials arranged for the move of the rest of the band to the South End Park.

Instantly, the gypsy encampment became the top attraction in Peterborough. Public curiosity was insatiable. Hundreds of people came to the camp by carriage, by automobile and on foot. The gypsies found it hard to prepare supper with so many peering in their pots, and pleaded with people to mind their own business and give them a chance to have supper. Some gypsy women threw rice and water at the intruders; gypsy children snatched hair ribbons from visiting girls. "In spite of the entreaties, however, the crowd remained, and each family hearth was surrounded by a circle of curious sightseers, who watched with interest the

culinary arrangements of the gypsies.” The *Examiner* reporter noted the gypsies had purchased bread, pork, water melon, cucumbers, onions, bananas and tomatoes, and the evening meal centred on “the funny smelling stew.” Later in the evening, Police Constable Newhall visited the camp and drove the crowd back so the gypsies could get some sleep.

People watched the gypsies and peered into their tents and caravans. Local women were astonished to see gypsy women drinking beer. Many commented on the commitment to tobacco; the men smoked cigars and boys as young as four smoked cigarettes. Most local people commented that the camp was filthy, that children wore a single piece of clothing, that no one wore shoes, and that the women dressed in a flashy, gaudy and ugly style. Some commented on the primitive cooking arrangements, but allowing that the gypsies were camping, they seemed both adept and astute. The *Review* reporter observed that “The revenue comes from horse-trading, barter of articles, fortune-telling and palmistry work, for all the world over there are fools who believe that the future may be read and truthfully by a gypsy.” This same reporter asserted that the people of Peterborough had been too hospitable, and they should have “invited” the gypsies to move elsewhere. “The curious thing,” he added, “is that this people adopt their form of living, not from necessity, but choice.”

Some local citizens displayed boorish behaviour. The *Times* reporter was shocked, for example, by the obnoxious behaviour of a “Mr. Fresh Alex,” a fat 50 year old, who butted in on the gypsies on the eve of the gypsy wedding. Happily, he was punched by a couple of gypsies, and was seen heading downtown “fully convinced that he was not as funny as he used to be.” Earlier in the week a local youth became too familiar with a gypsy woman. He was told off in vociferous language and then “was given a severe drubbing” which onlookers felt was deserved. Several local men were reportedly drunk and disorderly on the gypsy camp grounds.

There were also complaints about Gypsy

behaviour. Several apparently went to a local theatre hoping to see for free a movie about gypsies which had just closed the previous night. The “Italian fruit man” said that while he served one customer, the gypsies took enough fruit “to start an opposition fruit stand in the camp.”

The Roma men appeared in Magistrate Edmison’s court room on 28 June, facing two charges: “One for loitering on the roadside and obstructing the highway, interfering with passengers, and the other one was for allowing vehicles to stand on the road in the Township of Smith for a period of more than three hours.” They were represented by F.D. Kerr and G.N. Gordon; the prosecutor was Crown Attorney R.E. Wood. By coincidence, a Dr Pelkey, was in town from Ottawa representing the Pacific Medicine Company. He was enlisted as their interpreter, even though he had no sympathy for them. Pelkey, who had spent 15 years in Mexico, said the gypsies were of the lowest class in Mexico and spoke in an Italian patois; some spoke English “to some extent”. One key witness was Robert Maitland, a grocer on the Fourth Line of Smith who refused to sell bread to the gypsies, because one gypsy, Castor John, apparently responded with indecent language. The gypsies were fined \$150, plus the costs of the Crown Attorney and their lawyers; the judge had added \$25 to reimburse the people around Omemee. He also ordered them to leave the county as quickly as possible. They protested having to leave so hastily, and were allowed to stay longer if it were at no cost to local tax payers.

According to Mrs Wilson, Magistrate Edmison allowed the gypsies to stay in Peterborough three extra days so they could celebrate their first wedding since coming to Canada four years earlier. The bride was reported to be Chief George’s 14 year old daughter, while the groom was initially identified as John Stoke, a wealthy 25 year old prairie rancher. Stoke was apparently a leader of what was identified in the local press as the Bulgarian gypsy band which had been camped on the other side of George Street, across from the park. Stoke rented the exhibition grounds for three days, and hired police “to keep back the crowd

which will no doubt gather, and to prevent any rowdyism.” A canopy was erected to shelter the 57th Regiment band which played festive music. Fireworks set the tone, and the wedding crowd danced, sang, drank and feasted. “As the band tore off ‘Rainbow’ several gypsy men and gypsy fairies minueted through some of the characteristic dances of Gypsyland and apparently enjoyed the festivities to the full measure.”

Throughout the celebrations, nobody from the press actually saw a wedding ritual. The *Times*’ rather condescending and unreliable report of the festivities was the most detailed. Its reporter mistakenly thought, “It was the celebration of the marriage of their queen to the chief of the other band which was camped near the end of George Street.” He judged the band music, dancing, and singing to be of a “poor order” but thought everything had been done to ensure “every member a good time in a true Gypsy sense.” He believed, however, that traditionally gypsies could be very religious at gatherings between the tribes, quite in contrast to “the roaming and seedy individuals who are causing such a sensation in Peterborough just now.”

The *Review* reporter described the gypsy wedding as “a ceremony new to Peterborough and almost savage in its primitive color...” For him, the event was not a celebration, but an orgy of singing, dancing and rejoicing. Even the wedding fashions he considered to be grotesque, gaudy and unalluring. Although he never discovered who had performed the marriage ceremony, he was certain that J. Stoke was the groom, and that the bride of “14 summers” was a daughter of Chief Michael George.

The *Examiner* reporter was fascinated that so many had been to the wedding and yet no one knew what had happened. The reporter knew that the 57th Regiment Band had played pretty steadily, that the gypsies continuously danced the fandango, and that the supposed wedding couple were more brightly dressed than the guests. He asked different people when the wedding would occur and received different stories each time. One young girl, who looked a lot like Rosie, claimed to be the queen.

After he pressed her to “say something which had the semblance of truth,” she said there had been no wedding, they just wanted some fun. An older woman said there had been a wedding, solemnized in a church, not on the grounds.

The matter of who actually got married remained an interesting question that was resolved to local satisfaction later in the summer. Three weeks after leaving Peterborough, the Mexican Gypsies were camped in Hull and the Bulgarian Gypsies, on Wellington Street, in Ottawa. A dispute arose between the two camps and the Bulgarians claimed that no wedding had taken place. A series of escapades and charges and counter-charges followed, largely resolved in the courts of Hull and Ottawa. The Mexican men were reportedly engaged in the buying and selling of horses, and the Mexican women had “not been telling fortunes or doing anything that would bring them into the hands of the police.” The Crown Attorney estimated their wealth at \$30,000 and considered them well-off financially. While in the Ottawa area, they travelled in cars and taxis owned by N. Charbonneau. Because they had papers showing they were Canadians, their lawyer claimed that they could not be treated as vagrants. The Bulgarians, for their part, made copperware which they sold to leading hotels such as the Russell House and the Windsor, and to the House of Commons.

The Bulgarians claimed that the Mexicans had abducted Katrina Alexis (also known as Katrina Miguel). In their version, she had been hired out to Stephen George until she had been allegedly abused. She returned to her home, and from there was kidnapped by the Mexicans. The Mexicans claimed that Katrina Alexis was the adopted child of Miguel Alexis and his wife; her natural father was a poor man who lived in Russia.

Queen Rosie returned to Peterborough to recruit three police officers, Constables George Mitchell, Thomas Williams and Darcy Dunlop, as witnesses. She was prepared to play their travel and expenses, and to reimburse them for two dollars a day. She charged that the

Bulgarian gypsies were guilty of perjury, and of stealing the young bride’s wedding gifts of bangles and rings valued at \$150. Queen Rosie told the local press that a “younger man of her camp fell in love with a girl of the other tribe.” During the trials, the attorney for the Mexicans was able to establish the salient points. A wedding, arranged by the parents, had taken place in Peterborough between Katrina Miguel, 12, and Spero Sterrio, 12, the son of Christo Sterrio. The reporter noted, “The consent of the pair, according to Bohemian rules, was not necessary, so long as the parents were agreed as to the convenience, financial and otherwise, of the match.” Evidently, the tribal heads agreed that Queen Rosie should pay a \$1,000 dowry. Evidence produced at the perjury trial included a big brass tray, upon which the Mexican gypsies had placed \$1,000 before the wedding. The day after the wedding, also following custom, the leaders drank wine from a wine bottle that at the trial was covered with a silken cloth, and adorned with a string of gold coins.

The Mexican gypsies only sojourned in Peterborough from 21 June until 2 July 1909. However, the stories of that ten-day stay remained part of the local lore for long after. Still, given my initial assumption that there were limits on what could be learned about outsiders who took pride in keeping secrets from others, we learned more than seemed possible about the Mexican gypsies.

Happily, the gypsies won supporters in Peterborough, especially among local authorities, but the beginnings were ominous. They were the object of extraordinary prejudice as well as curiosity. They were inconvenienced intolerably, and yet no one seemed to care. While Fred Roy’s photos allow us direct access to the Peterborough gypsies of 1909, we learn more about Peterborough people for whom we have no photographs. Against the changing background in those short weeks we witnessed a great variety of local responses. People were always curious and suspicious about others who traveled in bands. Mostly, their distrust turned to respect for the colourful visitors who brightened that distant summer. After, the

gypsy wedding local people were more sympathetic to the Roma who were seen as fun-loving, exciting, exotic and strange.

Howard Pammett’s Peterborough Irish : serialization, part six Scott’s Plains and Peterborough

[The Trent Valley Archives is pleased to reprint Howard Pammett’s 1933 Queen’s thesis. The work remains the most solid study, and although much has happened in the intervening 70 years, the rich archival texture of the work commands respect. The Robinson papers are now in the Peterborough Centennial Museum and Archives. There has been considerable pertinent work on the study of immigration, settlement, family life, and Peterborough. We know considerably more about many of the families that are usually referred to as the Peter Robinson settlers. The Trent Valley Archives has sought ways to celebrate the descendants of this famed migration. TVA is the home to Howard Pammett’s excellent historical library, and also to some of his private papers.]

In this sixth excerpt, Howard Pammett discusses the history of Peterborough before the arrival of the Robinson settlers. This is a continuation of the discussion of the wider district. Here, he is concerned with the site that became Peterborough. We then add chapter six which is a discussion of the difficulties in getting the Irish emigrants from Kingston to Scott’s Plains. Pammett is critical of Robinson’s leadership, but identifies with the hard-working settlers.

Again, we are thankful to Alice Mackenzie who has typed the entire manuscript, and whose efforts have made it possible to share Pammett’s thesis with a wider audience.

The Trent Valley Archives plans to publish a fine edition of Pammett’s work and it is hoped that making parts of it available to our readers in this way will spark interest in the bigger project and perhaps bring useful comments from researchers and friends. The numbers in

parentheses will direct the impatient to the pertinent page of the thesis.]

Chapter Five (Part 2) Early Settlement North of Rice Lake

Town of Peterborough

In 1818 Samuel Wilmot, surveyor, wrote to the Surveyor-General, for warding a rough map of the township of Monaghan:

27th March, 1818, Sir: I take the liberty of recommending the lots 14, 15, 16 in the 13th concession of Monaghan for a government reserve, lying at the head of navigable waters of the large river at the Carrying Place. It is a beautiful high site for a village, and a good situation at the head of navigable water for a waterworks..."¹

In 1817 he had been ordered to survey the township of Monaghan for Buchanan's Irish from New York, and had sent in a partial map of the township on which he had named the North (now Otonabee) River, which he thought flowed west through the township of Manvers. He was to complete his survey in the winter of 1818, and to explore the river which he described. The above letter resulted. Thus the town plot was reserved, with its mill site, although nobody had any vision of the city to come.

Charles Fothergill of York and Smith's Creek [Port Hope], a shrewd merchant and miller, saw the advantages of the mill site in a growing settlement, and on 11th Feb. 1819 obtained a 99 year lease on the site. Lease to Charles Fothergill... all that parcel of land in the township of Monaghan in county of Northumberland in District of Newcastle -- being the mill seat situate on part of a certain plot of ground reserved for the site of a town in the township of Monaghan, together with 10 acres of land adjacent thereto, for the term of 99 years at the yearly rent of 5 shillings to be paid annually to the Receiver-General which said parcel of land is composed of parts of lots 14 and 15 in 13th

concession and part of lot 15 in the 12th concession of the township of Monaghan... [details of plot] ...Reserving for a road one chain in width to the landing with space for each street in the future town which may lead toward the river: with free access to the beach by all vessels, boats and persons not interfering with the present mill and dwelling house. Thos. Ridout, Surveyor-General."²

On 13 February 1823, he received the patent for 10 acres, "mill site on town reservation, part of lots 14 and 15 conc. 13 and part of lot 15, concession 12...surrendered May 20th, 1829."³ Apparently Government broke the lease monopoly when it was seen that a town was growing around the mill at the head of navigation, and that no amount of influence could hold such a valuable town plot from settlement.

In May 1819, a party of men came up the Otonabee in a rowboat {148} from Rice Lake, having crossed over from Smith's Creek: Adam Scott, Charles Fothergill, Thomas Ward, John Farrelly, John Edmison, and Barnabas Fletcher. Fothergill and Ward were merchant speculators, Farrelly was a surveyor, Scott was a miller, Bletcher was a farmer, and Edmison was an emigrant intending to settle in Smith township. They were mostly from Smith's Creek, and were looking for good lands and mill sites close to the recent settlers in Smith and Otonabee; Fothergill was bringing up Scott to look over his mill site lease at the head of navigation on the Otonabee. They came across Little Lake landing above Spaulding's Bay, and prepared to spend the night beside the river at the point which later became the Steamboat Landing. Scott by discharging his gun lighted a fire; after supper they lay down around the fire under the trees for the night. Next morning Edmison and Ward went six miles overland along the Communication Road (the old Indian portage trail) to Chemong Lake, where Ward had acquired a large grant on the site of the village of Bridgenorth, which he wished to explore. They had their meals with some of the "colony" settlers just recently located along the Communication Road. Edmison stayed in Smith to take up his lot, but Ward rejoined the others on the bank of the Otonabee, where he found them

discussing possible locations for pond and dam and flume and mill on the riverbank. On the same evening the party went down the river, across Rice Lake, and back overland to Smith's Creek, well satisfied with their labour.⁴

Early in 1820, Adam Scott and his son came up again, to build a mill on the site of Peterborough, which they were to run for Fothergill. Adam Scott had been born in Edinburgh in 1796, and in 1812 he came out to Delaware County in New York State, where he became a millwright. In 1818 he came to Smith's Creek and built a sawmill there, but left it in 1820 to start anew in the backwoods. They decided against trying to control the rapids of the Otonabee, and instead {149} dammed up the waters of the creek which still traverses the town, conveying the water to their mill on the bank of the Otonabee by a short flume.⁵ The aptness of their choice of location is shown by the fact that as late as 1867 there was a large frame mill in operation on the same site, at the corner of King and Water streets,⁶ and even yet there is a flour-mill there, though not run now by water. Their flume led from the millpond formed by damming the creek, to their mill on the steep bank of the river at the foot of the present King Street. Scott first built a rough log shanty 18 by 20 feet covered with black ash bark, to accommodate his family until they could build the mill. This small crude mill was of rough boards and about 24 by 18 feet, containing a small upright saw of the "up and down" variety, and a poor run of very common millstones quarried nearby for grinding grain. An undershot millwheel in the flume provided the power, but as the creek was often dry and usually nearly so, the mill was often inactive; when it did run, it had little power to saw lumber of any thickness or to saw it well, and the grain ground was very poorly done. Scott then erected a frame house, a low square cottage-roofed structure made with rough lumber from the mill. Later, when the emigrants arrived, he began a primitive distillery in his house, to make a living when his inefficient mill did not pay

A daughter Jeannette was born in 1820, the first white child in the place. Scott himself was six feet four inches tall, weighing 260 pounds and immensely strong. The late Thomas Choate, himself

the first settler in the village of Warsaw, recounted a story which proved the strength of that pioneer miller who started Peterborough. In March 1821, Thomas was a boy of 11 years, brought by his father, Jacob Choate, a farmer living near Smith's Creek, to visit some English settler friends near Chemong Lake in Smith, and to bring them some needed supplies. They came up through the bush on a blazed but {150} uncut snowroad on a sleigh, as there was ten inches of snow on the ground. Ten miles north of Smith's Creek they met Adam Scott trudging along toward that village with the 250-pound crankshaft of iron from his mill, which had been somehow broken, taking it to have it repaired in the foundry there. He rested the burden on a corner of the sleigh and chatted with Mr. Choate, a friend of former days, for a few moments, and then hoisted his enormous burden on his shoulder again and trudged away to finish his 30-mile journey through the forest, his woolen stockings hanging down over his boots, far below his corduroy breeches. The Choates called at Scott's house on their way back from Smith township, and found his wife had not even a candle in the house, so poor were they. They met Scott on his way home with the mended crankshaft (let us hope upon the OTHER shoulder!) in triumph after his long journey, a brave worthy pioneer who triumphed over difficulties ten times as great as any of the complaining but prospering (through patronage) Rubidges and Stewarts and Traills, etc.⁷.

Before the dam was constructed below Little Lake some decades later, the river above the lake was in spring a raging torrent, and in summer and autumn quite shallow, and Scott often crossed it on stilts to reach his oxen, pastured on the eastern plain, now the suburb of Ashburnham, at the same time that the Stewarts were complaining that it was impossible to cross the river (after 1823). Scott's house was situated on the west side of Water Street, about midway between Charlotte and King Streets (now); it was demolished in later years when factories were built through that section. Parts of the flume of the old Scott mill were dug up when the foundations of the Grand Opera House and Turner's factory were being built at

the corner of George and King Streets toward the end of the century.

Scott did not prosper with his mill, because it was very inefficient and undependable. Many settlers continued to carry their {151} grain to Smith's Creek, where they could exchange part of it for supplies, or to the mill on Galloway's Creek in Cavan, or to Keeler's mill in Asphodel. But Scott's Plains became a centre for trade and a public asset for Smith, Douro, Emily, North Monaghan, and other more northerly townships. There is a story that Scott was offered a grant of land around his mill, but refused it, thinking the land too low and swampy for much use; but in view of Fothergill's lease and patent, and of Scott's lack of influence, we may brand the tale as untrue. His wife died in 1825 of fever brought up from Kingston by the Irish emigrants, and in 1827 he gave up his position as miller for Fothergill, discouraged, and went to farm near Port Hope, later moving in 1829 to Cavan, where he was a millwright again; he died in February 1838. There is another story that Robinson asked him to accept the Immigration Agency at Peterborough in 1827, but that he declined and McDonell was appointed; but with any knowledge of Robinson and patronage conditions of the time, this story may be seen as absolutely impossible, when influential officeseekers were crowding around Robinson like parasitical flies where-ever he went at the time. This pioneer miller, who founded the city and showed a fine example of fortitude and endurance among very great hardships, is now entirely forgotten, and not even a memorial or a street retains his name, while streets are named after his quite unimportant successors who took the "public eye" by purse and power in the Peterborough of 1825-1875, such as McDonell, Stewart, Reid, Burnham, and Rubidge; these were builders of super-structures perhaps, but not founders.

We may picture Scott's Plains in the summer of 1825, before it was awakened to life by the tide of incoming Irish emigrants. None had then any vision of its future, beyond hoping that they might get a good mill, a bridge, and perhaps a store and a tavern there. The ground west of the creek to Rubidge Street and north to McDonnell Street (in the present city) was densely covered with pine trees, with

{152} a few beech and maple. Between the creek and the Otonabee River was a flat plain with a few stunted pine and oak trees, and small bushes; its open spaces bore traces of the occasional campfires of Indians and white hunters from the lakefront. The site, as we have noticed, was ideal for a city, and commented upon as such by the surveyors and early settlers. The soil in general was dry and gravelly, and the terrace was twenty feet above the river, with a fine creek running from the northwest through the woods to enter the river near the southern end of the plain, below Scott's mill. Wild animals came boldly to the river to drink, and bears especially were numerous and troublesome, attacking farm animals close to the cabins. The old Indian portage trail to Chemong Lake was beginning to lose its primeval appearance, as the settlers along the Communication Road hewed out their road allowances. It began at the foot of the present Simcoe Street on the riverbank, where the bank shelved down, went north-west to leave the city at the western end of Park Hill Road (Smith Street), and continued northwest through Smith township to the lake, 6 miles, cutting off the long water journey through the lower Kawarthas. The courthouse hill had a fine growth of tall oaks, a few of which still remain; the margins of the river down to Simcoe Street had also some of these tall oaks. The town site was flat toward the south, and hilly to the north, but since then most of the hills and depressions have been levelled up gradually. Wild flowers, huckleberry and other bushes, and stunted trees, grew in profusion on the plains, and especially on the courthouse hill. There were some willows along the river, and the margins of the creek were also low and swampy until they were filled up later when buildings were erected along its course. At the southeast corner of the present Hunter and George Streets (where the Bank of Toronto now stands), there was a low wet spot which formed a stagnant pool in wet seasons. {153}

Mrs. Stewart was enthusiastic over the wild beauty of this plain when she saw it first in 1823, and Mrs. Traill found the scene only a little changed in 1832:

I must give you some account of Peterborough, which in situation is superior to any I have yet seen in the

Upper Province....It is situated on a fine elevated plain, just above the small lake where the river is divided by two low wooded islets...These plains form a beautiful natural park, finely diversified with hill and dale covered with a lovely greensward, enamelled with a variety of the most exquisite flowers, and with groups of feathery pines, balsams, oaks, poplars, and silver birches. The views from these plains are delightful, whichever way you turn your eyes...The plains descend with a steep declivity toward the river, which rushes with considerable impetuosity. Fancy a long narrow valley separating the east and west portions of the town into two distinct villages. The Otonabee bank (east) rises to a loftier elevation than the Monaghan(west) side, and commands an extensive view over the intervening valley... There are many beautiful walks toward the Smithtown hills, and along the bank that overlooks the river. The summit of this ridge is sterile, and is thickly set with loose blocks of red and grey granite, interspersed with large masses of limestone scattered in every direction; they are mostly smooth and rounded, as if by the action of water....The oaks that grow on this high bank are rather larger and more flourishing than those in the valleys and more fertile parts...⁸

About 1800 the block of land which constitutes the present suburb of Ashburn-ham, long a separate village, on the east or Otonabee bank of the river, was by tradition given to an English military officer by Government. This officer tired of the wilderness and is said to have sold it all to Zaccheus Burnham of Cobourg about 1804 for \$20 and a horse to ride to more civilized parts. Burnham sold the land only for high prices, and to him must go the blame for the small growth of Ashburnham as compared with the main part of the town. In the early days the "Scotch village" of Ashburnham was thought to be the part which would grow much faster in the future than Peterbor-ough, and this failed mostly because of the speculative policy which seized and held large blocks of land in the northwest corner of

Otonabee, preferring future unearned profits to present settlement. Mrs. Traill noted in 1832:"This is called Peterborough East, and is in the hands of two or three individuals of large capital, from whom the townlots are purchased..."⁹ Again Governmental favouritism and corruption worked to the harmful disadvantage {154} of industrious actual settlement and development.

This is the proper place to mention the survey of the townplot of Peterbor-ough, although it was not surveyed until, and because, the emigrants had arrived in the autumn of 1825. Richard Birdsall surveyed the Government Reserve in North Monaghan by an order from Thomas Ridout, Surveyor-General, dated 18 October 1825:

It being desirable that a survey be made of the town plot in Monaghan with the least possible delay, I herewith transmit to you a diagram plan showing the manner in which the same is to be laid out. Should you be willing to execute the survey thereof at the rate of 4 1/2 acres for every 100 acres surveyed, to be taken by ballot of such town lots as remain after the usual reserves for public purposes, and excepting the tract within the said town plott, now under lease, copy of which is herewith sent you; observing that with regard to the percentage it is equal to the highest that has been given by Government to any contractor for surveys... The lines must be sufficiently opened, so that they may be traced with certainty, laying down on your plan and also inserting in your field-notes everything worthy of remark and also noticing on your plan such places as appear to you most suitable for public purposes, such as church, parsonage, burial ground, court-house, etc. The streets passing west from the river Otonabee through the tract under lease are excepted therein, and are to be opened to the river, but not to be laid out into lots within the limits of that tract; and although the diagram does not show any allowance for a street on the bank of the river, yet you will in the survey leave one chain in width back from the bank of said river along the whole front of the town, excepting only in front of the leased

tract....¹⁰

The survey was completed the same autumn, doubtless with the aid of Irish emigrant chainmen. The original boundaries of the town were named: Smith Street [now Park Hill Road] on the north, Townsend Street on the south, Park Street on the west, and the river on the east. The "Scotch village" extended east to Concession Street [now Armour Road], and the town later spread west to Monaghan Road. Of course the city has now greatly outgrown all those century-old limits. Birdsall named five streets after his family, Elizabeth, Sophia, Maria, Charlotte and Birdsall Streets. Britain was honoured by King, Queen, George and Hunter Streets. The three parts of the British Isles were remembered in London, Dublin and Edinburgh Streets. Colonial officers were remembered in Brock, Hunter, Murray, Dalhousie, {155} Alymer, Simcoe and Gilmour Streets; Wolfe Street and Lundy's Land are also self-evident. Local magnates naturally took most of the street-names for themselves: Stewart Street, McDonnell Street, Reid Street, Rubidge Street, Burnham Street, Rogers Street, Mark Street (for Mark Burnham), Boswell Street, Crawford Street, Benson Street, Harvey Street, Walton Street, Bethune Street, Weller Street, etc.etc¹¹. Robinson Street, a very short street in Ashburnham, is a memory of one founder. The records reveal that on 3 April 1826, Birdsall for his work received patents for 18 lots in the town as his 4 1/2 % of the surveyed town plot. Water Street, supposed to be laid along the riverbank, was actually back from it for most of its length, but was the main thoroughfare of the town in the early years, and all the first buildings were erected upon it as the main street.

Thus we see in 1825 the district north of the Rice Lake and the town plot of the city of Peterborough; the district was very much in need of the 2000 Irish emigrants with their reviving influence. While the number settled in the district must have been much over the 500 recorded by Rubidge in 1838-48, since the Land Board alone made 610 locations in those townships (not counting those cancelled or given up) and Government made many more, between 1818 and 1825, yet the district was languishing from lack of markets, roads, mills, and the trade and

capital which make a settlement flourish and go with increasing settlement as a natural corollary. Rubidge, Reid and Stewart were all in 1825 thinking of giving up the struggle which they found tiring for their gentle hands, and if conditions were bad for them with their large resources, they must have been almost unbearable for the backbone of settlement, the ordinary pioneers on 50 to 200 acres, whose hardships we have touched upon only incidentally; they usually suffered and triumphed in silence, so that we have little record of them.

Chapter Six Moving the Emigrants to Scott's Plains.

We must pause here to consider where Peter Robinson had been loitering since the middle of May. He left Cork on 24 May when the *John Barry* was about to sail, arrived in London on the 27th "to make the necessary pecuniary arrangements"¹², got to Liverpool on 8 June, and sailed on the *Panther* on the 9th for New York. "On my arrival at New York after a voyage of 50 days, I found that they had all landed their passengers and about half the number had arrived at Kingston, where they were in tents..."¹³ By his own reckoning, he arrived at New York on 29 July, therefore, yet in his official report he stated that he arrived at Niagara overland on 28 July, truly a swift flight! The reason for the long journey by New York was either that he could find no ship going to Quebec, or more probably that he preferred the greater luxury and higher society of the ships going to New York. Robinson must be severely censured for this delay, which prejudiced the whole success of his expedition. He should at least have arrived with his emigrants, and led them himself all the way. Better still, he should have come in advance and made efficient preparations for their conveyance to, and reception at, Quebec, Montreal, Prescott, Kingston, Cobourg, Scott's Plains, and the townships to be settled. Then, they would have been settled upon their lands before the end of

August, instead of late October and November, and have been completely settled in before winter descended.

When Robinson reached Niagara, Maitland informed him that he had appointed Colonel Burke as deputy-superintendent of the emigrants, and that Doctor Reade had been left at Prescott to forward the late arrivals.¹⁴

Having delivered Lord Bathurst's dispatches to His Excellency Sir Peregrine Maitland and received the warmest assurances of support in forwarding the settlement of the emigrants, as had indeed been strongly manifested in the measure which had already been adopted by His Excellency in setting apart for their reception the townships in rear of the Rice Lake, which consist of as fine land as any in the province...¹⁵

On 30 July, he went to York to secure {157} from the Surveyor-General all available information concerning the townships where the Irish were to be located. He then proceeded to Cobourg by waggon, arriving there on 3 August, and hired Mr Alexander McDonell, the nephew of Bishop McDonell, as guide and assistant.

Although I felt impatient to proceed to Kingston to see the settlers yet on consideration I thought I should forward my object more by viewing the lands on which they were to be located, ascertaining the means of communication and the proper place for the depot of stores and provisions... Having employed Mr. McDonell an intelligent and respectable young man [as] well acquainted with the country as my guide, I explored the different rivers and avenues of access to the lands allotted for the emigrants and was highly gratified in discovering greater facilities of communication that I had anticipated and that the tract was in every respect highly eligible. I found that we could get our provisions and stores forwarded half the way by water and that there was a central situation at the head of the Otonabee River highly convenient for a depot...¹⁶

Most of this is highly-coloured rhetoric. Lieutenant Alexander McDonell of Glengarry, his "guide", we have already

heard of in London; it is doubtful that he had ever been in the district. The Otonabee-Trent was only river system in the district to "explore." There was only one "avenue of access" and it was used by all previous travellers; that was the route overland from Cobourg to Rice Lake, and thence across the lake and up the Otonabee by boat. The lower Trent River, below Rice Lake, had too many rapids to be navigable. The overland route from Smith's Creek (Port Hope) overland was almost impassable except on snow roads in winter. Anyone on the lakefront could have told Robinson all this without his six days of "exploration" for avenues and depots. Robinson, in his letter of 15 March 1826 to Horton, claimed credit for having "originally selected the most eligible situation" for his emigrants;¹⁷ however, his later official Report gave the credit to Maitland.¹⁸ Robinson, in the school of Strachan and the Family Compact, had well learned the art of drawing up a convincing, yet unreliable, Report; it was vague and had innumerable inaccuracies and perversions. {158}

Mrs. Stewart, 13 August 1825, noted: Last week we had a visit from Mr. Robinson, who has been employed by Government to bring over emigrants. He has just arrived with 2000, some of whom he is to place in this township. They are expected to arrive at Scott's Mills tonight, and they are to encamp on the Plains until he can place them on their portions of land. Only the heads of families, 350 in number, are to come up at present. This causes a great sensation.¹⁹

The first emigrants, only a small group, were not brought up to the depot for two weeks, but Robinson was probably making wild promises wherever he went. He spent six days "in exploring the woods" and satisfying himself as to the quality and situation of the land. Without initiating the least preparation for the arrival of the emigrants at the selected depot at Scott's Plains, Robinson finally went to Kingston, arriving there on 10 August to rescue the long-suffering Irish emigrants.

As the emigrants had reached Kingston between 2 and 30 July, most had been there a month before Robinson arrived. Robinson claimed "Everything possible had been done for their benefit

by H. E. Sir P. Maitland...²⁰ However, Maitland had done nothing except to appoint Colonel Burke, who apparently did very little for the emigrants. Except to note his appointment, there is not one word about him in all the Reports and correspondence about the expedition. There was no preparation and little care for the emigrants at Kingston. Unfortunately, during the very hot and sultry season it was often 100° in the shade. Mosquitoes were very bothersome because of the high water in the back-country and the rainy season. Stupidly, the emigrant camp was located upon the marshy flats at the mouth of the Rideau river. The inevitable result was an epidemic of ague, dysentery and malaria, which swept rapidly through the settlement of thin-blooded unhardened Irish. Rumours flew fast over the provinces, and went to England and Ireland on every ship. Colonel Talbot informed John Beverley Robinson at Niagara, in the presence of Maitland, that 30 Irish were dying every day. Another wrote to Horton maliciously that most of the emigrants would be dead soon.²¹ John B. Robinson hastened to deny these {159} rumours "that whole families were swept away by sickness." He maintained that "the mortality, on the contrary, was surprisingly small"; there had been, he said, 300 cases of fever and 33 deaths before Peter's arrival at Kingston. In one day there were 11 funerals at Kingston. As Doctor Reade was at Prescott until the end of July, there was no doctor with the 1900 emigrants at all. Local doctors were called in occasionally, as the following bill indicates:²²

To the Honble. Peter Robinson, Cobourg. Kingston, 22 Jan. 1826
 To strict attendance upon the sick Irish emigrants from 26 July to 19Aug. 1825 at 10s. per diem.....£12,0.
 To attendance and medicine to Mrs. Buckley, 19th-30th Aug.,5s.
 To attending all night and delivering Mrs. Connel with medicine subsequently..... 1,0.
 Dr. to W. Scott, Kingston. £14,5s.
 Incidentally, this bill seems never to have been paid. Much more willing and considerate aid was given freely by the

Roman Catholic priests, and the Sisters of Mercy from the Kingston convent, who nursed the sick and consoled the bereaved and dying.

Robinson attempted to excuse the long delay in Kingston, asserting repeatedly that "the settlers were much better off encamped in the open country during the greatest heat of the weather, where they were not only less liable to contract disease, but were also exempt from being tormented by the flies which swarm in the woods during the summer months."²³ "They were quite well, or indeed better at Kingston, than they would have been in the woods at that season."²⁴ "The prevailing sickness, the ague and fever, was at that time as prevalent among the old settlers as ourselves."²⁵ "I found them as comfortable as could reasonably be expected, some of them suffering from the ague and fever, owing to the intense heat of the weather, though not in a greater proportion than the inhabitants of the province generally."²⁶ "the weather continuing excessively hot, I did fear we should have lost more than we have."²⁷ There is a slight amount of truth and much prevarication in these excuses. Most new settlers, for a year or two, had fever and ague in some slight degree, due to changes in climate, water, food, and other conditions. Robinson knew full well from his life in Upper Canada that in that season the old settlers were little affected by the ague and fever. Rather than loafing on the swamps of the Rideau mouth, it would have been better for the emigrants to spend the hot weather {160} in the woods working on their own lands. The sooner they were on their lots and working at clearing away the trees, the sooner they would recover from the epidemic, which was caused as much by Robinson's mistakes regarding food, idleness and the location at Kingston, as by the low vitality, newness to the province, and the intense heat and wetness of the season. No excuses can disguise Robinson's incapacity as a superintendent of emigration.

Two emigrants settled in Kingston: John Daly, Junior, and one other man. Of the 33 deaths there it was noted that the following died by 24 September, when all had left Kingston: of Timothy Ryan's family one man and one woman, the latter on 26 July; of William Flynn's family, one

child on 24 August; of Tobias Swytzer's family, one child on 24 August; of Patrick Lynch's family, one woman on 24 August; of William Sullivan's family, one man on 31 August; of Cornelius Flynn's family one child on 3 September; and, of James Handlan's family, one child on 14 September.²⁸ Several who went from Kingston to Lower Canada will be mentioned later. It is noteworthy that none deserted from Kingston in spite of the hardships and sickness and the many rumours to that effect. The charges that Bastable tried to get them to desert will be discussed later.

On 11 August, Robinson accompanied 500 emigrants on a steamer to Cobourg, a distance of 92 miles, where they landed the next day.²⁹ Cobourg, the point of entry to the back country, in 1824 had about 100 inhabitants. It was the principal town of the District of Newcastle, and the seat of the Land Board. Kingston, where the Irish had been tented but not contented for a month, had a population of almost 5000, and {161} was considered a rival of York, the largest city in Upper Canada.³⁰ The steamer made weekly voyages to bring up the other emigrants, and by the middle of September, all were in Cobourg. When Robinson arrived in Cobourg on 12 August with the first contingent, he discovered, for the first time, that heavy rains had made the trail from Cobourg to Rice Lake almost impassable; his first task was to repair this road so that wagons could carry the baggage and provisions to Rice Lake:

In this work I received every assistance from the magistrates of the District, who gave me £50 from the District funds, and this sum together with the labour of our people enabled me to improve the road in 10 days so much that our provisions and baggage could be sent across with ease; and 3 large boats were transported on wheels from Lake Ontario to the Rice Lake.³¹

Dr Reade stayed with the sick at Cobourg. Colonel Burke moved emigrants weekly from Kingston. When all had reached Cobourg he then took charge there. Burke was sick and came with the other sick from Cobourg to Scott's Plains. The first 500, or those of them who were healthy, walked the 12 miles to Rice Lake, while their baggage was taken by ox-carts, to

Sully, the end of the first stage of the inland journey. Sully, later renamed Harwood, on the southeast shore of the lake, consisted of a tavern and a couple of squalid houses in 1825. The trail from Cobourg to Sully was over a succession of high hills, one 700 feet high, and deep ravines, more picturesque than easy to walk. The well-cultivated farms and open fields and flourishing orchards around Cobourg became fewer and fewer as they approached Rice Lake, where clearings became fewer and the road consequently worse.

Robinson now discovered that the Otonabee was too shallow at that season to float his three boats, when loaded, over the shoals and so he spent another 8 days at Sully constructing a scow 60 feet long and 8 feet wide, which "carrying an immense burden could be more easily worked up the stream than one of half the size carrying comparatively nothing..."³² This scow was flat-bottomed and drew only a few inches of water when fully loaded; it was propelled by eight or ten {162}rowers, who had poles to push it over the shoals. It could carry 30 persons and their baggage, and these could aid in towing it up the rapids and over the shallows of the 24 miles of Otonabee river to the depot at Scott's Plains. Probably the carpenters, nailers, coopers, and blacksmiths brought among the emigrants proved themselves useful at this point. This was the same scow in which Catharine Parr Traill ascended the last few miles of the Otonabee with her husband in 1832. She recounted how "the first attempt to connect the Rice Lake with Peterborough was by a large scow propelled by horsepower. This fails through bad management; the vessel became unmanageable, the horses escaped and made for an island in Rice Lake..."³³ After this calamity the scow was kept for the last four miles of rapids below Peterborough, where the first steamer had not sufficient power to ascend.

During the delay at Sully, one Irish emigrant ventured out on the lake in a skiff and was drowned. When the first settlers were ready to continue toward their lands, Robinson reported: "The first party I ascended the river with consisted of 20 men of the country hired as axemen, and 30 of the healthiest of the

settlers (Irish) not one of these men escaped the ague and fever, and two died."³⁴ The journey from Sully to Scott's Plains could be made in one day with hard rowing, but there was an island about five miles below the town which for generations was called "Robinson's Island", where some parties of emigrants are said to have spent their first night north of Rice Lake en route to the depot. Their landing-place at Scott's Plains, also used by the Scott party five years earlier, was just above Spaulding Bay, at the foot of the present Wolfe Street; the spot was later made into a steamboat pier, and just to the north of it was a flat grassy area known as the "Steamboat Green", the scene of much of the life and activity of the early town.³⁵ Although the dates in the Report are very vague, this first party of emigrants must have reached the depot on or shortly after 1 September 1825. The last of about 60 daily scow loads reached Scott's Plains about the end of October. {163}

As mentioned, Colonel Burke was in charge at Cobourg, forwarding groups of emigrants from Kingston and on to Sully, while Doctor Reade took care of the sick at Cobourg. The emigrants settled in tents on the beach at Cobourg until it was their turn came to go inland. Their conduct while in Cobourg seems to have been exemplary. This was made clear in the Address of the magistrates, clergy, and other "Chief Inhabitants of Northumberland County" which was presented to Maitland in the following winter, as he passed through Cobourg to Scott's Plains.

Your Excellency's intention of visiting the settlements which have been recently formed in the northern townships manifests the interest you are pleased to take in the prosperity of the province.... We avail ourselves of this opportunity to assure Your Excellency of our gratitude to the Government of the mother country for the generosity which it has ever evinced towards this colony, and particularly for promoting emigration of many useful European settlers to our district under the superintendency of the Honourable Peter Robinson. We cannot refrain from bearing testimony to the good conduct of those settlers during their residence at

Cobourg, which was of sufficient length to enable us to estimate their general character, and to warrant an expectation of their becoming a valuable acquisition to the province.³⁶

However, Thomas Stark was dismissed at Cobourg; he was readmitted at the depot. On 24 October, Patrick Lewis, with his wife and two children, deserted to the United States in a schooner. James Fitzgibbon, in a letter written later, mentions it with several misstatements:

...While at Kingston they were tampered with and many of them recommended to go to the United States, but not one did so; that while waiting at Cobourg until accommodations were provided for them north of Rice Lake, two families embarked in a schooner and went to the United States, and one family returned to Kingston. It was known that those who went to the United States had relatives there. These 3 families left Cobourg in September...³⁷

Except for the Lewis family, however, no one deserted at Cobourg. Several returned to Lower Canada. James Gould, wife and 4 children, returned to Montreal, as did Grace Oakley, who went back to Montreal to join her brother John, also on 24 August. William Fitzgerald returned to Lower Canada, as did Cornelius Callaghan, son of John Callaghan. One woman joined George Buck's family in Cobourg.³⁸ {164} As deaths and births were not usually dated in the Returns, it is not possible to estimate the numbers who came up to Scott's Plains, but it must have been about 1900, if births equalled deaths on the trip from Kingston to Scott's Plains. William Cunningham, son of James Cunningham, remained in Cobourg. About 1942 had reached Kingston. After that, 49 had left the expedition (33 deaths at Kingston, 2 others remained there, 4 deserted at Cobourg, 1 settled there, 9 returned to Lower Canada) and only one had joined. This is approximately correct as the Statement of Emigrants on 1 March 1826 recorded 1878 settlers in the Newcastle District: 621 men, 512 women, and 745 children.³⁹

As one scow load after another was brought up the rushing Otonabee, Scott's Plains must have presented a lively colourful panorama. After landing with

baggage, utensils, and provisions, the emigrants immediately set to work constructing rude temporary huts made from rough slabs from the mill, bark, branches, and sods. These sheltered them until they could settle on their lands after their shanties had been built thereon. These temporary huts were probably built behind the town plot on what was later called "the squatters' ground." This was situated "in the direction of the Cavan and Emily roads",⁴⁰ the latter of which roads was built afterwards by the emigrants. One of these emigrants left a description of the scene:

On the plain beside the river might be seen the older of our number engaged in the 'discoorsin' so dear to the hearts of the Irish, while cheerily mounting to the sky were the thin blue trails of smoke issuing from our cabins, where the pretty colleens were preparing the wholesome food provided by Mr. Robinson for the 'bhoys' who were busy felling the giant timbers of the encircling forest. Then you might see them tripping gaily down to the river, their water pitchers cleverly balanced on their pretty heads; and I've never seen handsomer girls. Of course they weren't dressed well; they wore just homemade flannel dresses, spun and dyed by their own hands; and such merry eyes of true Irish blue. Yes, my wife Kathleen was one of those very girls.⁴¹

"But there were other and sadder sights and sounds: the mother crooning over her fever-stricken child some Irish lullaby; or at the burial of a dead son or brother, that wildest of all human cries of grief, the Irish 'keen' startling the echoes of {165}the lonely hills..."⁴² Thus the depot was a lively place, the more so as Birdsall was surveying it in October and November at the time.

In this same time Mrs. Stewart wrote:

The arrival of the poor immigrants from Ireland has given us some variety. They are encamped on the "Plains" about 2½ miles off. Their huts look very odd, being made with poles standing up, boughs or branches of trees interwoven, and mud plastered over this. They live in these till log shanties are ready for

their families in Douro (and elsewhere). These huts already cause the "Plains" to be called a village... Doctor Reade has come as the emigrants' doctor; the doctor is liked among the poor Irish; he is a very humane, hospitable, friendly little man. The poor creatures suffered a great deal, and many died.... The mill at Scott's is again stopped. We have recourse again to grind the wheat by hand-mill... The wheat is winnowed by sifting in the wind. The bread is coarse and black, besides we have barrelled pork and pea soup.... Mr. Stewart is at present in York; he goes down the river in the scow, which is used to bring the immigrants and provisions from Rice Lake.⁴³

Samuel Strickland, arriving from Darlington township in the autumn of 1825, noted the new village.

"I travelled east along the Kingston road for 25 miles to the boundary line between the townships of Hope and Hamilton. After this I walked 27 miles through Cavan and Monaghan to the town of Peterborough, which at that time contained one log house and a very poor sawmill erected some 5 or 6 years before by one Adam Scott to provide the new settlement of Smith with lumber. I found several hundreds of Mr. Robinson's emigrants camped on the plains. Many had built themselves huts of pine and spruce boughs; some with slabs and others with logs of trees. Three or 4 government storehouses and a house for the Honourable Peter Robinson were in course of erection. I had letters of introduction to that gentleman, and also to the Honourable T.A. Stewart and Robert Reid.... As I did not like the appearance of the lodgings I was likely to obtain in the new town, I went on to Mr. Stewart's house and presented my credentials.⁴⁴

As mentioned above, five buildings were erected by Robinson, being begun as soon as he arrived with the first party of emigrants and axemen. These were to serve as headquarters for the settlement project. The largest of them, long known as "Government House", was the residence of Peter Robinson, Alexander McDonell and John Smith the surveyor, and in this house visiting celebrities were

entertained, it being for several years the only comfortable and "gentlemanly" residence in the frontier town. It was built of logs, with square gables and shingled roof, 40 feet long by 20 feet wide, with a door near the middle of the front, partly concealed by a wooden porch. {166} There were two windows in front and three in rear, and the interior was divided into three rooms of nearly equal size by two log partitions running from front to back. The front door opened into the middle room, the chief reception room, and doors opened from this into the two side rooms. Robinson slept in the east room which was also his private office, containing books, papers and maps. The west room was a kitchen. In the interior, the logs were all hewed to a level, and the crevices both inside and out were carefully filled with mortar and "chinks". This backwoods mansion faced south on the southeast corner of Simcoe and Water Streets, about 30 feet from the former and 40 feet from the latter. A large area north across Simcoe Street behind the house was fenced in as a garden, and several small sheds and stables were built between the house and the riverbank.⁴⁵

Four smaller log houses were erected farther south, standing in a row facing east on Water Street, along the eastern edge of the present Market Square. The largest and northernmost was the Market Weigh-scale House; it was about 18 by 20 feet, while the others were a little smaller. The northern one was used as a residence by Doctor Reade, and as a temporary church in which the first priests celebrated mass for the emigrants. Mrs. Stewart commented:

You must know that all these houses which sound so grand are merely log houses, and little better than the cabins at home.... Dr. Reade's house is a very small, miserable, inconvenient place, but is only a temporary one. The Government House is the best I ever saw for a log house.⁴⁶

The two central cabins were used as storehouses for the provisions and supplies to be issued to the emigrants, and the southern cabin was Robinson's general office, where he supervised the location and rationing of the settlers, aided by his chief clerk, Richard Thornhill (brought out as an "emigrant") and others. That all these houses were of logs shows the

uselessness of the Scott mill. Just when it would have been of immense value {167} to the settlers and of great profit to Scott, it was stopped by low water, due to the small flow coming from the back country at that time.

Scott had found more lucrative employment. Being a canny man, and knowing the weakness of the Irish for raw whisky, he had started a primitive distillery in his house, which was located west of Water Street midway between King and Charlotte Streets, quite close to the government offices. Being too poor to buy a metallic "worm" for his still, Scott used a long wooden tube cooled by the application of water, through which the vapour was passed. There was no method of purifying the spirit. This coarse, raw, disagreeable whisky had a brisk sale, however, and Scott was well repaid for his business ability. The regular price was 10 to 15c. a gallon, or a gallon was given for a pound of meat or flour, which the Irish had in excess due to the generosity of Robinson. However bad the whisky was, it satisfied the not-too-dainty taste of the emigrants, accustomed to "mountain-dew poteen", and was more quickly intoxicating than civilized liquor.

True to our Irish blood, we felt the need of a stimulant, of a cheering draught to partake to help us in our work. Our inward dissatisfaction in this respect was at length given vent to in words and consequently an enterprising man started the distillery. It was a good financial venture, but OH! such whisky!⁴⁷

Robinson sent a few letters at this period which throw some new light on the situation. On 25 August he wrote to Hillier that although he had been slightly unwell, and that the weather had been unhealthy, "there have been few cases of illness among the settlers who are in highest spirits on being so near their destination."⁴⁸ On 6 October, when he wrote to his brother John, he expected to have a surveyor come soon to confer with him on the survey of the town plot at the head of the Otonabee, {168} at "the prettiest place I ever saw"; he suggested that it might be called "Wilmot Horton". There were signs of trouble when he continued: "There is no saying what difficulty I may meet with; I exact

the strictest obedience; there are many idle rascals exciting the people to disobedience, but I am determined to carry a high hand at the depot."⁴⁹ On 21 October, he wrote to his brother again, mentioning Bastable's attempts to get them to complain, and the mischief that this tampering has done; the settlers were behaving well now, but he found out that some were reporting all that passed to Bastable in Kingston by letter; "it is provoking to work hard and then to be misrepresented."⁵⁰ Reade wrote to Peter Robinson from Monaghan on 2 December from Monaghan, when Robinson apparently was absent, warning him of Bastable's plots to excite discontent among the emigrants, and the mischief it had done and might do.⁵¹

Bastable was one of the group, interested in the emigrant trade from Ireland, who separately offered their services 1822-5 to bring out the assisted emigrants from Ireland, and became bitter enemies when Robinson was chosen instead; the group contained Bastable, Astle, A.C. Buchanan, Cockburn, Bannister, E.A. Talbot, and several others, more or less qualified, but all eager to get a government position. As early as 17 February 1823, Bastable was pestering Horton for an interview to present his claims to lead emigration to Canada and a year later again was back in London, having settled his family in Kingston, Upper Canada, to beg for lands and positions in the colonies, claiming significant connections with Lord Ennismore and others in south Ireland, and with Mackenzie and Oldham in Montreal. Horton, in August 1824, dryly informed Maitland that Bastable was to have lands in proportion to his capital.⁵² We next hear of him in letters from Robinson and Reade in the autumn of 1825, as having stirred up trouble among the emigrants in Kingston and Cobourg. There seems much truth in these charges, especially when we learn that Bastable {169} was supported by Dalhousie, a bitter enemy of Maitland and assisted emigration of Irish to Upper Canada. But on 15 May 1827, Charles Grant (seemingly a radical member of the Assembly) wrote to Horton to defend Bastable, enclosing a statement by Bishop McDonell certifying that he was sure that Bastable was innocent, and a letter of Rev.

W. Fraser to Bastable in Kingston, 27 February 1826, that he "had visited the emigrants daily and was satisfied that the charge against Bastable of trying to induce them to go to the United States unfounded." There was also enclosed a letter from Hillier to Bastable telling him to submit his case to Maitland, disclaiming knowledge of "affidavits from Irish emigrants that he had held out inducements for them to go to the United States" In June, Bastable visited London to probe the matter, declaring that "but for his exertions not 1/5th of the Irish would have remained." He enclosed a letter from himself to Hillier stating that some emigrants had been induced to make affidavits that he (Bastable) had held out encouragements to them to go to the United States, which he vigorously denied. In July and August 1829, he was again in London, pestering Murray and Sidmouth for land grants and a position as leader of the new assisted emigrations which he hoped would be started. Sidmouth wrote to Richmond recommending him to a position, enclosing a letter from Dalhousie to Bastable regretting that he had neither office nor lands to give "fit for the acceptance of a gentleman". In May and June 1835 we find A. Bastable again in London fawning on the new Colonial Secretary, Glenelg, and begging for lands in Canada, and being met with contemptuous silence.⁵³ Bastable's part in stirring up the emigrants between July 1825 in Kingston and December in Scott's Plains was probably quite minor. Nor do we know how far he was encouraged and supported by Dalhousie.

Surgeon Connin of the *Fortitude* decided to settle among the {170} emigrants in Otonabee, and in August wrote to Robinson when both were in Cobourg: 5th August, 1825.

Dear Sir,

I would be very much obliged if you would be kind enough to give me your opinion re the drawing of my grant of land viz 800 acres. Major Hillier suggested to me that perhaps you would allow me lands among those set aside for the emigrants and as I thought you might locate some of them in Otonabee, I selectly attached to that township except for its vicinity to the great leading road, Cobourg and

Lake Ontario, whereby supplies might be obtained with greater facility than to townships more remote. If I can be any use to you in assisting with emigrants my services are freely at your command, as I would be very glad to do anything to promote the success of the Expedition in which I see you so much interested..

East 1/2 lot 23 & lot 26 in 11th conc.....300 acres.

Francis Lots 21 & 18 in 14th concession.....400

East 1/2 lot 24 in 5th concession.....100

Connin, Surgeon R.N.

The reason they are so detached is that the other parts are already occupied, still in that township 6000 acres remain for location; I have not applied for these yet but merely mark them on the map of the township...⁵⁴

Connin received his grants in Otonabee, for he wrote in December to Robinson as follows:

Hon. Peter Robinson, Peterboro,
Tues. morning, 9th December, 1825.
Dear Sir,

I request you will have the goodness to send by the bearer Edward Boswell the money you promised to send me when I had the pleasure of seeing you last, or an order on Mr. Bethune; If my occasions did not require it you would not be troubled in this manner, but I hope it is sufficient to say my house is finished...
F. Connin.⁵⁵

Honble. P. Robinson, Peterboro.
Otonabee, 16th December 1825.

I received the check on Mr. Bethune for which I am extremely obliged, enclosed you have the receipts perfected as you desired. As for my viewing any documents connected with this I have not the least feeling of curiosity on that point. I am myself most perfectly satisfied.⁵⁶

The very important fact to be noticed regarding these two notes is that they were addressed to Robinson at "Peterboro" in December 1825. The village was named, months before the name was officially used. Connin obtained the lots designated above, apparently without difficulty, and the grants were issued to him for his 800 acres on 23 February 1830.⁵⁷ Thus, two competent surgeons from the transports settled among the emigrants; they could not complain of lack of medical

attention, although some of them did.

[End part six]

Irish Research: Hickey family

Heber Genealogies

[Rev William Hickey ("Martin Doyle"), well-known for his efforts to elevate the condition of the peasantry of Ireland, was eldest son of Rev Ambrose Hickey, rector of Murragh, co. Cork. He was born about 1787, graduated at St John's College, Cambridge, and subsequently took the degree of M.A. in the University of Dublin. He was ordained a clergyman of the Established Church in 1811, and appointed to the curacy of Dunleckny, co. Carlow. In 1820 he was inducted into the rectory of Bannow, co. Wexford, and in 1834 to Mulrankin, where he ministered the remainder of his life. As a parochial clergyman he was esteemed alike by Catholics and Protestants. He commenced his career as a writer in 1817, his first work being a pamphlet on the *State of the poor in Ireland*. Afterwards followed a series of letters under the pseudonym of "Martin Doyle," under which he continued to write. He wrote numerous works; his latest production, published a few years before his death, was *Notes and Gleanings of the County of Wexford*. In all his writings he took the broadest philanthropic views, studiously avoiding religious and political controversy. He was awarded a gold medal by the Royal Dublin Society, in recognition of his services to Ireland, and enjoyed a pension from the Literary Fund. He was a man of an eminently charitable and feeling nature, and died comparatively poor, 24 October 1875, aged 87.]

Einsioda, brother of Maolclochach who is No 101 on the "McNamara" pedigree was the ancestor of O'h-Iocaigh, and MacIocaigh anglicised Hickey and Hickie.

101. Einsioda: son of Cuilean
102. Ainiochadagh: his son
103. Iocaigh; his son and MacIocaigh
104. Michliagh, his son
105. Erc: his son
106. Donall O'Hickey; his son; first assumed this surname
107. Deaghadh, his son
108. Acdh: his son

-
109. Cormac; his son
 110. James: his son
 111. Cormac (2) his son
 112. Teige: his son
 113. Owen: his son
 114. Muireadhagh: his son
 115. John: his son
 116. Aedh (or Hugh): his son
 117. John (2) his son
 118. John (3) O’Hickey

The O’Hickey’s were formerly chiefs of a district in the vicinity of Killaloe, County Clare, also of a cantal in the barony of Upper Connelle, in the County of Limerick. They were hereditary physicians to the O’Briens, Kings of Thomond; to the MacNamaras, lords of Hy-Caisin; and to the O’Kennedys of Ormond; and several of them are said to have compiled and translated valuable medical works, amongst others Nichol O’Hickey, the translator into Irish of a Latin Medical Work called “The Rose,” known also as the “Book of the O’Boulgers.” The O’Hickies possessed a copy of “The Lily,” a celebrated Medical Work, compiled in AD 1304, of which several transcripts are known to exist.

1. James Hickie, Esq, of County Clare, whose estates were seized on by the English in 1652.
2. William, his son
3. William (2), his son
4. Michael: his son
5. William (3) his son
6. William (4) his son
7. William Creagh Hickey, Esq, JP: his son; the representative of his family, living at Killelton, County Kerry in 1864.

Ellis Island Database

During its first 54 hours of operation, the Ellis Island Database had 26 million visitors, an average rate of 27000 hits per second. The figure does not include the countless people who received error messages and could not access the site. The information came from Peg Zitko at the Statue of Liberty - Ellis Island Foundation Inc. and was reported in Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter.

Peterborough Photographers, 1847-1900

by Fraser Dunford

	half decade beginning	1846	1851	1856	1861	1866	1871	1876	1881	1886	1891	1896	
Barrie, William J / Hunter Pbo						xx							
Booth, Donald W / Norwood											xxx	xxx	
Brumwell, Jacob H. / Pbo					x								
Burgis, C J / Lakefield										xxx			
Byers, Harry J / George St / Pbo											xx	xxxxx	+
Byers, Harry J / Water St / Pbo											x		
Callender, FG / Pbo	xxx												
Carson, John / Norwood						x							
Clarke, Ed / at Mr Barrie's						x							
Cox, George A.				x									
Cunningham, A / Havelock												xxxx	+
Cunningham, A / Norwood												xx	+
Early, George J / Pbo										xxxxx	xxxx		
Early, Thomas G / Pbo										xxxxx	xx		
Ervins, R D / Pbo			x										
Esterbrook, Thomas / Pbo								x	xxxx				
Esterbrook, Thos Mr & Mrs / Pbo									xxxxx	x			
Esterbrook, Thomas Mrs / Pbo									xx	x			
Ewing / Cobourg & Pbo													
Ewing / Port Hope & Pbo							x						
Ewing, Robt D / Pbo					xxxx	x							
Fife, Mrs W B / Norwood					x								
Forbes, George / Simcoe Pbo						xx							
Ford, A E / Pbo												xxxx	
Forsyth, James / Lakefield									x				
Forsyth, John / Simcoe Pbo						xx	xxxxx						
Fuller, John B / Norwood										x			
Green, Garnet / Lakefield												xxx	
Green, Garnet / Pbo												xxxx	+
Green, J W & Son / Pbo												xx	+
Green, Peter H / Pbo										xxx	xxxxx	xx	
Hall / Hunter Pbo						x							
Hamil & Ball / Pbo										x			
Insley, L / Albert House Pbo	x												
Johnston, T & Co / Pbo						x							
Kennedy, James C / Pbo				x									
Lawes, Charles / Pbo										x			
Lazier, H / Pbo				x									
Lendrum, Wm G / Havelock													x
Little & Lawrence / Norwood											x		
Little, James / Pbo							x	xxxxx	xxxxx				
McClelland, Joseph / Pbo										xxx			
McFadden, Wm / Pbo									x	xxxxx	xxx		
McNeely, Isaac / Pbo				x									
Meade, Richard / Pbo								x					
Miller, J / Pbo												x	

Milne, R / Pbo	x											
Nelson, John / George St / Pbo				x								
Peck's Pbo				xxx								
Petch & Raymond / Pbo	x											
Phillips, Peter / Hastings					x							
Platt, C H / Havelock									x	x		
Rosebush, J A / Glen Alda								xxx				
Roy / Hunter Pbo										xxxxx		+
Roy, R M (Robert M) / Pbo										xxxxx		+
Royal Art Studio / Pbo									x			
Smith, Robert / Pbo				x	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx					
Spencely, Joseph			x									
Sproule, George B / Pbo				xx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xx	
Terrill, L H / Pbo									x			
Thompson, R Mrs / Pbo									x			
Thomson, R & Son / Pbo				xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	+
Welch & Munro / Pbo										x		
Whiten, G E / Hunter Pbo											xxxx	+
Total in the half decade	4	2	6	4	12	8	6	10	15	13	16	
	1846	1851	1856	1861	1866	1871	1876	1881	1886	1891	1896	

The foregoing table shows when each photographer in Peterborough county was active between 1847 and 1900. Each row is a photographer; each column is a half-decade. The cross in the final column indicates a photographic firm that was continuing into the new century.

This project is part of an ongoing project to collect photographs that will help identify when particular photographers were active, and the styles they used in printing their photos. This will help date pictures that are undated in many collections, including those in the Trent Valley Archives and other local archives.

If you have photographs taken by any of these photographers, and especially those for which you have useful information that permits dating, please contact Fraser Dunford by email <fraser.dunford@sympatico.ca> or by phone, 654-4418. Or you may contact the Trent Valley Archives.

The accompanying advertisement for R.D. Ewing's is based on the advertisement that appeared in Dr Poole's *The Early Settlement of Peterborough County*, first published in 1867. On the next page we feature a list and an ad for Green & Son which appeared in *Farmers and Business Directory for the counties of Durham, Haliburton, Northumberland, Peterboro' and Victoria* vol. XII (Ingersoll, Union Publishing Co, 1901)

PHOTOGRAPHIC AND FINE ART GALLERY
 WALTON STREET HUNTER STREET
 PORT HOPE, PETERBORO',

R. D. EWING,
 CARD PICTURES, LANDSCAPES,
PICTURES ENLARGED & COLORED

Mr Ewing begs to state that his Galleries have been
Pronounced by Competent Judges
 THE MOST
 Artistically Lighted and Fitted
 OF ANY IN THE PROVINCE.

Specialty,
ENLARGING PORTRAITS
 OF
DECEASED PERSONS

ANY SIZE UP TO LIFE.
 THOROUGHLY COLOURED IN OIL

January, 1867

GREEN & SON, Photographers,

The Finest Studio in the Town. Up-to-date Photography Only

Visits Lakefield Friday Afternoon

“ Havelock from 1st to 15th each Month

“ Bobcaygeon from 16th to 30th each Month

South Side of Hunter St., Peterboro.

PHOTOGRAPHERS 1901

Freeland, Geo P
Bowmanville

Tait & Co	Bowmanville
Ryan R W	Bracebridge
Timms P T	Bracebridge
Persey Wm	Burks Falls
Richmond J L	Campbellford
Huston W J	Cobourg
Stanton J H	Fenelon Falls
Leach J Miss	Fort William
Stevens S	Fort William
Peters Henry	Gore Bay
Wismer J L	Gore Bay
Barke J F	Gravenhurst
Cunningham A.	Hastings
Green & Son	Havelock
Huntsville Photo	Huntsville
Green J W & Son	Lakefield
Andrus M	Lindsay
Fowler & Co	Lindsay
Morton M Miss	Lindsay
Oliver I H	Lindsay
Williamson Eli	Lindsay
Charron Bruno	Mattawa
Tait & Co	Millbrook
Brooks R J	North Bay
Andrews M	Omeme
Boyd W J	Parry Sound
Byers H J	Peterborough
Green & Son	Peterborough
Roy R M	Peterborough
Hamly E T	Port Hope
Neal E B	Port Hope
Bell W J	Sault Ste Marie
Dunlop Wm	Sault Ste Marie
Young A E	Sault Ste Marie
Robson Thomas	Sturgeon Falls
Thompson M B & Co	Sudbury
Faulkner J C	Sundridge
Gillespie George	Thessalon

Northwest Photo
Thessalon
Barrett Richard Trout
Creek

PCMA Acquires War-time Military Records

Jim Leonard announced that the PCMA City Archives have acquired the *Peterborough Examiner's* biographical files prepared for 3,500 World War II military recruits from the Peterborough area. For each individual, the files record name, rank, branch of the service, parents' names, home address, date of enlistment, as well as information about wounds and honours. Each packet contained a zinc plate lithographic portrait which could be printed to illustrate stories about those killed-in-action, or other noteworthy events.

The preparation of the files was done in co-operation with the Roy Studio. As a result, some of the photos are also available in the Kidd collection of wartime portraits, and in the Balsillie collection of Roy Studio prints, both of which are also in the PCMA City Archives.

The press release gives the example of Pte Roy Thomas Hawthorne, a city public works employee. He enlisted in February 1943, trained at Morrow Park and Camp Borden, went overseas in July 1943, was posted with the 48th Highlanders, and was killed-in-action in the Caen sector, 8 August 1944. His parents, Mr & Mrs Percy Hawthorne lived at 266 Aylmer St.

For further information, contact Jim Leonard at the PCMA City Archives, P.O. Box 143, Peterborough K9J 6Y5, or by phone (705) 743-5180.

The City Archives has a rich collection of archival documents. It began with the initiatives of Anne Heideman and Marianne Mackenzie about thirty years ago, and has steadily grown. In addition to the fine photographic collections, it

has several years of early assessment rolls, and other records from the City. As well, it has some fine private archival holdings. Its collection policy is to collect public records of the city, as well as private papers and records of individuals, organizations, and local businesses connected to Peterborough. The City of Peterborough is its sponsoring agency.

The brochure defines archival as unique, original, irreplaceable materials no longer required on a day-to-day basis. "Archival material must, however, be of permanent historical value - worthy of long-term preservation."

New Elgin County Archives Established

[Brian Masschaele tells the editor of his new position and suggests ideas of value to those who believe, as he does, that we need strong county archives throughout Ontario. The Trent Valley Archives began in 1989, committed to the idea that strong county or regional archives were essential to the study of history in east central Ontario.]

You are quite correct that the issue of a county archives has been pecculating here since at least 1989. At that time, a number of county and township records were transferred to the fourth floor of the county building where they have basically sat ever since along with an extremely large and valuable photo collection. All records were at least inventoried at a basic level. I have been hired to build an entirely new facility and program to manage these records and others still out in the field.

The plan here is to develop a total county archives encompassing both private and public records along the lines of the Simcoe County model, a program I am intimately familiar with as a past archivist. A support association - the Elgin St. Thomas Archives Association - has been in place for three

years and has been a crucial supporter and lobbying agent to get the archives going. This group represents a good cross section of the community, including strong representation from the local business and legal communities in addition to the traditional stalwarts of local historical societies and the like.

The current county council made the most significant move in allocating sufficient resources in 2000 to move ahead. I was hired in March of 2001 and am now in the process of developing the program, including specifications for a new facility in the county building and a mandate for the program. My duties will essentially have two components; the acquisition and access to public and private archival records pertaining to the county's development as well as active records management duties. The focus here will always be on public access and creating a total community resource.

Our current Warden, Duncan McPhail, says "Council is firmly committed to archives. The future is very bright."

Peterborough and Kawartha Lakes and a number of other jurisdictions need to do something similar. I spent a lot of my energy as advisor promoting the concept of total regional/county archives in the province. I want to see an Ontario county record office system! I even tried to lobby for provincial government support through the Archives of Ontario and various ministries given the serious implications of local amalgamations and the fate of records. I must admit I was very frustrated by the lack of provincial resolve on this issue, something which maybe you and your friends in the academic community can advocate better. I can tell you as a result of my tenure as archives advisor that a lot of the really good "stuff" about the history of this province is still awaiting a proper home.

Brian Masschaele, Archivist

AAO Meets in Black Creek Village

Digitization was the theme of the 2001 AAO conference, held at Black Creek Village, 14 and 15 June.

Dr Tom Axworthy gave a fascinating discussion about *Historica*, and its projects to make Canadian history more accessible. They took *Encyclopedia Canadiana* and the *Dictionary of Canadian Biography* to the classroom via CD Rom, and now the web. They have begun a program of community grants to history projects which encourage critical inquiry, transmit stories and engage the community. They hope to make their web-site the gateway to other great history sites.

These are all pretty important objectives. Over the years, local historical societies and museums have tried to bring history alive through field trips and special projects. *Historica* wants the community (both in schools and in the wider world) to have solid bases of information, and is hopeful that the internet can be the avenue to that access. I also like their willingness to bring value added to projects that local groups develop. However, that leaves the onus on local groups to come up with special projects that depend upon their established infrastructure. That is not always easy. However, I love the idea that history is about details and well-crafted stories. Axworthy was a kindred spirit.

A group from the Toronto Public Library showed how they were developing a virtual reference library at <http://vrl.tpl.toronto.on.ca> Known as *Historicity* - the history of the city - the group is finding ways to define neighbourhoods and make the library more accessible.

Jon Schmitz, a Trent University grad

among other things, spoke about the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario past members database. He argued against systematically destroying paper. Keeping paper ensures higher quality for the digital records. Paper records have a long shelf life, and in many cases are required for legal purposes. He made a refreshing defence of understanding how things were done rather than the reinventing the wheel. He also defended the importance of the best copy as opposed to the original.

A team from the National Archives of Canada explained how they were able to help the Canadian Nursing Association protect its archives. The CNA archives has gone to the NAC and to the Canadian Museum of Civilization. The NAC is developing a web base for displaying artifacts, photos and documents.

Bruce Vallillee spoke of how he had developed a company to help archives who wished to preserve their historic documents in digital forms. He speaks from a long experience in matters technical, but his passion for archives is catching.

The AAO Board of Directors wants a consultation process with the provincial government on archives and municipal restructuring. There is concern that restructuring did not give due attention to the care and management of records in the former municipalities.

The AAO offices are in Coach House at 376 Rusholme Road in Toronto.

Reach by phone (416) 533-9592 or by email Archeion@aaofis.utoronto.ca Web <http://archeion-aaofis.utoronto.ca>

Archival Continuing Education

There are at least two routes open to people who wish to pursue archival studies in Ontario. The AAO has developed a professional development schedule that allows people to get the core courses in three years while still employed. During 2001-2, it offers

courses ARCH 1000 to ARCH 1004; in the following year, ARCH 1005 to ARCH 1008; and in the third year, ARCH 1010 to ARCH 1013. The courses begin with Introduction to the Management of Small Archives, and then looks at Arrangement and Description, Records Management, Acquisition and Reference Room and Public Service. In the second year, the courses are on Archival Appraisal, Inventories and Finding Aids, and Media Collections. In the third year, the courses are on Conservation, Access to Information and Privacy, Legal Aspects and Rules for Archival Description.

There are also plans for advanced courses on most of these areas, as well as on ARCHEION, Fundraising, and Oral History. There will also be seminars on Health and Safety, Volunteer Management, Disaster Planning, Grant Writing and Artifacts.

Algonquin College in Ottawa offers courses leading to a certificate in Archives / Records Management in as few as fifteen months. Jane Boyko, the Program Co-ordinator can be reached at boykoj@algonquincollege.com for more information.

Students wishing to get a university degree in Archives can do so through the Faculty of Information Services at the University of Toronto. Contact Dr Barbara Craig. Elsewhere in Canada, there are strong programs at UBC and at Manitoba. The University of Windsor no longer offers the archives option in its History MA.

Trent Valley Archives: A. B. Tolmie Fonds

Fonds 3 A.B. Tolmie Fonds 10.5 cu ft

Archie Tolmie and his wife, the former Evelyn Murray, were natives of the Woodville area of Victoria county. They raised four children mainly in Halifax, where Tolmie worked for CIL (Canadian Industries Limited). Archie and Evelyn

retired to Peterborough, where they found a nice home on the water and where Archie resolved to write the history of Victoria County. He set about systematically to collect the information that he needed, and in the process discovered more than was manageable for the book. He hoped that his collection might permit someone else to write the history he never completed, and perhaps that might yet happen. Whatever else, his research collection is most comprehensive and filled with surprises for historians of families and areas connected to Victoria County. It is certainly our best collection on the county (now known as the City of Kawartha Lakes).

The fonds is arranged by Archie's system. When the information overflowed he started another series. As a result, researchers will have to look widely to find information, but the list of file titles is most helpful. The TVA has begun indexing family names associated with some of the more dense files, and those can be consulted in the research room. Some restrictions apply.

Special thanks to Don Willcock, Chris Parker and Marianne Mackenzie for arranging and describing this fonds.

We hope in future issues to print the finding aids of other important holdings.

Volume 1 Files 1-55

file on Archie Tolmie, local historian, *Peterborough Common Press*, 13 January 1976

- 1
- 2 Railways
- 3 Upper Kawarthas - Trent Canal
- 4 Scugog
- 5 Indians
- 6 Women's Institutes
- 7 Electoral Districts
- 8 CIL Agrichemigrams
- 9 C.I.L.
- 10 Eldon Township Index
- 11 Icelanders
- 12 Christianity
- 13 Temperance
- 14 Marriages _ Anglican
- 15 Catholicism

- 16 Russellites
- 17 Salvation Army
- 18 Baptists
- 19 Methodists
- 20 Presbyterians
- 21 Glenarm Church, Woodville
- 21A Presbyterians in Canada
- 22 Humour and Superstition
- 23 Thurston Church
- 24 Lighting
- 25 Telephones
- 26 Mail
- 27 Local Press
- 28 Glenarm
- 29 Free Church - Woodville
- 29A Christmas Carols
- 30 Queen's University
- 31 United Church
- 32 Trent - Kawartha
- 33 Local railways
- 34 Fenelon
- 34A I Fenelon Bexley (red binder)
- 34B Fenelon photographs
- 34C 291A Fenelon Falls newspapers
- 34D Fenelon - telephones, lighting
- 35 Islay School
- 36 Dunsford family
- 37 Kirkfield
- 38 Bennet and Burleigh
- 39 Fenelon photographs
- 40 Brock Township & Cannington
- 41 Pioneer - clearing and settling
- 42 Woodville
[E. Murray history of Woodville]
- 43 Bolsover and Lorneville
- 44 Hartley and Palestine, Bolsover, Victoria Road
- 45 Thorah
- 46 Victoria Road plus Sandringham
- 47 Eldon
[Jean MacKay historical sketch]
- 48 Pioneers of Eldon - Hugh Ray
- 49 Woodville Presbyterian Church
[by R.A. MacKay]
- 50 Fenelon (50A)
- 51 Passenger Pigeons
- 52 Pleasant Point (L.E. Frost)
- 53 Irish Question, by Ramsay Muir
- 54 Scottish Question, by Gordon Macdonald
- 55 English Question, Ramsay Muir

Volume 2 Files 56 to 94

- 56 Major General Sam Hughes
- 57 Military
- 58 Societies
- 59 Provincial Politics

- 60 Farming organizations
- 60A Junior Farmers
- 61 Political pre 1791
- 62 Mariposa
- 63 Pilgrim Fathers
- 64 Maple products
- 65 Farmers, political
- 66 Indians
- 67 Money
- 68 Ross Hospital
- 69 Agriculture
- 70 Glenarm & Fenelon
- 70A Lumbering
- 71 Grand Island
- 72 Scrap Book #1
- 72A Scrap Book #3
- 73 Barnardo Boys
- 74 Robinson settlers
- 75
- 76 Fenelon Falls Gazette centennial
- 77 Manvers Township
- 78 Emily Township
- 79 Huston papers
- 80 Lindsay and Ops
- 80A Lindsay - newspaper clippings
- 81 Goose Lake
- 82 Family Compact
- 83 Early Victoria county
- 84 Sugar beet factory
- 85 Victoria Manor
- 86 Naming Peterborough
- 87 Sports - Hunting
88W.J. Junkins, Notes on Fenelon Falls, 1933
- 89 Fenelon Falls 1880s
- 90 Organizations - Societies
- 91 Colborne District
- 92 Roads and Highways
- 93 Verulam and Harvey
- 93A Pioneers - Little Lake Cemetery
- 923B United Empire Loyalists
-- Our Heritage
- 93C David Thompson, explorer
- 93D Early Canadian History
- 94 Tables - Political

Volume 3 Files 95-143

- 95 Recipes
- 96 United Counties
- 97 Fenelon Falls municipality
- 98 Shanties
- 99 Fenelon pioneers
- 100
- 101 Political Persons
- 102 Political - federal and provincial
- 103 Royal lineage
- 104A Ontario

- 104B Victoria District Local Government
- 105A Prime Ministers
- 105B Political
- 106 G.W. Brown, *Canadian Nation*
- 107 Catharine Parr Traill; Victoria Dist.
- 108 Long Point
- 109 Early Surveys, organizations
- 110 Local autonomy
- 111 Local interest items
- 112 Fenelon Crown Deeds
- 113 Local markets
- 114 Education in Victoria County
- 115 Peterborough
- 116 British Columbia
- 117 Stoddart family
- 118 Boy Scouts
- 119 RC Diocese of Peterborough
- 120 Bexley
- 121 Leslie Frost and Sam Hughes
- 122 Henry VIII and Catharine Parr
- 123 Toronto
- 124 Peterborough Planning
- 125 Cape Breton
- 126 Quebec
- 127 Indian lands
- 128 Historical notes
- 129 Peterborough
- 130 Used for reference
- 131 Miscellaneous
- 132 Post-Mercury 1939 and 1978
- 133 New constitution for Canada
- 134 Maps
- 135 Fenelon Twp Voters List 1968
- 136 Mariposa School Register 1904
- 137 Mariposa School Register 1908
- 138 Mariposa School Register 1912
- 139 Mariposa School Register 1919
- 140 Mariposa School Register 1925
- 141 Mariposa School Register 1928
- 142 CASS Glengarry Tour, 1982
- 143 Research notebook

Volume 4 Scribblers series 100-2700

- 1 Index to Scribblers
- 2 100 Fenelon Falls
- 3 200 Fenelon Township
- 4 300 Electoral hist Victoria Co
- 5 400 Fenelon Falls - religion and political
- 6 500 Miscellaneous data
- 7 600 Victoria County
- 8 700 Pioneers - Miscellaneous
- 9 800 Gleanings from Weekly Oats, 1905-1916
- 10 900 Area organizations

- 11 1000 Fenelon Falls
- 12 1100 Woodville and Eldon
- 13 1200 Eldon and Mariposa
- 14 1300 Eldon - Assessment roll for 1877
- 15 1400 Mariposa
- 16 1400 Peterborough Architectural Heritage, Shopper's Market, 30 June 1982
- 17 1500 Trent Valley Canal
- 18 1600 Trent Valley
- 19 1600 [Fenelon Falls - names]
- 20 1700 Fenelon Falls
- 21 1800 Political - federal
- 22 1900 [Poetry and sayings]
- 23 2000 Pioneers
- 24 2100 Fenelon Township
- 25 2200 Fenelon Falls
Miscellaneous data
- 26
- 27 OGS, Kawartha Branch, Bulletin, vol 4, no 4 (1979)
- 28 1474L "Dearly Beloved" by Eileen Garipey and Cindy Carter, museum exhibit on wedding costumes
- 29 1174 Ontario Summer Games, Peterborough 1980
- 30 CIL
- 31 Coins and coinage
- 32 Burns Lodge, Masonic
- 33 Rotary
- 34 Rotary - Halifax
- 35 2300 Military
- 36 2400 Woodville
- 37 2500 Victoria
- 38 2600 Lindsay Post articles
- 39 2700 Fenelon and Mariposa assessment rolls

Volume 5 Scribblers series 2800-6200

- 1 2800
- 2 2900
- 3 3000
- 4 3100
- 5 3200
- 6 3300 Lindsay and Ops
- 7 3400 Political federal
- 8 3500 Political federal
- 9 3600 Political provincial
- 10 3700 Liquor question
- 11 3800
- 12 3900 Education
- 13 4000 Miscellaneous
- 14 4100
- 15 4200 Woodville Presbyterian Church, historical presentation,

1965		23 B17 Indians	Volume 8	F to R; Families
16 4300 Municipal affairs, township and county		24 B18 Railways	1 F Glenarm Church Data	
17 4400 Miscellaneous		25 B19 Pioneers Days - Guillet	2 F MacEacherns	
18 4500		26 B20 Railroads	3 G MacKay	
19 4600		27 B21 Gaelic	4 H Carmichael	
20 4700 Fenelon Falls, Eldon, Woodville	Volume 7		5 I Ferguson	
21 4800	E	B22A to	6 J Graham	
22 4900	1 Genealogy -		7 K Brown	
23 5000	miscellaneous		8 L MacLeod	
24 5100 Our Forest Home and other early writings	2 B22A Education		9 M Campbells	
25 5200	3 B22B Education		10 N Baptisms and Weddings: Cemeteries, Glenarm, Mansegrove	
26 5300 Assessment rolls, Eldon 1877; Mariposa 1851-1853, 1877; location of churches, schools, roads 1877	4 B23A Religion		11 O Cemetery records: South Eldon; Glenarm, Smith's, Woodville, Zion, Argyle, Bolsover	
27 5400 Fenelon Falls	5 B23B Local churches		12 O Cemeteries	
28 5500 United Counties of Peterborough and Victoria	6 B23C Religion		13 R Graham papers: Graham, Ferguson, Nicholson, Tolmie	
29 5600 Woodville and Junior Farmers	7 B24 Political		14 R Graham papers: Campbell, Nicholson, Graham, Ferguson	
30 5700 Woodville and Eldon	8 B25 The Press			
31 5800 Victoria County personalities	9 B26 Telephones		Families Series	
32 5900 Victoria County in the Legislative Assembly	10 B27 Victoria county		15 Families: R. Graham's papers	
33 6000 Roads and stages	11 B28 Politics - press clippings		16 Murray	
34 6100 Education	12 B29 Money		17 Nicholson	
35 6200 Woodville and Eldon	13 B34 Miscellaneous		18 Campbell	
	14 B35 Newspapers; Chatham Daily News; Ottawa Journal; Peterborough Examiner 1864 reprint and 1970		19 Ptolemy: ancient Celtic	
Volume 6		15 B37 Canadian Post, 10 October 1861 (reprint)	20 Islay MacEacherns	
A1 to B21		16 B38 Halifax Chronicle-Herald (Centennial Edition)	21 MacEacherns - Islay, Scottish	
1 Religion		17 B39 Peterborough Examiner - Centennial Edition	22 McIntyre	
2 A1 Religions of Canada		18 B40 Lindsay Post historic stories	23 Murray family	
3 A1 Religions of the World		19 B41 Political - electoral districts	24 Tolmie	
4 A2 Church History		20 B42 Lindsay - railway town	25 Tolmie	
5 A3 Miscellaneous religion		21 A Murchisons	26 Painters: Roger Savage, Ken Tolmie	
6 A4 Indians		22 B Murchison II	27 Painting	
7 B1 Education: sugarmaking, recipes		23 B Families: Ferguson, Campbell, Graham, McMillan, McLeod, Murchison, Junkin, Grant, Nicholson, MacKay, Gilchrist, Smith	28 Tolmie chart	
8 B2 Mail, telephone, light		24 C MacCrimmon	29 Cemetery note book	
9 B3 Fenelon Township		25 C Ferguson, Nicholson, Brown	30 Tolmie	
10 B4 Fenelon and Fenelon Falls - Junkin		26 D' Baptisms Fenelon Register 1; MacKay fam; Moynes, Campbell, Cunningham, Grant; Jamie-son; Little Lake Cemetery; Fred Bell, Calgary	31 Tolmie Scotland	
11 B5 Agriculture			32 Tolmie - 2 photos, 1 negative	
12 B6 Lindsay and Ops			33 Photo album - photos removed (see photos in next file)	
13 B7 Omemee and Emily			Volume 9	
14 B8 Icelanders			1 Photos removed from album	
15 B9 Sports and Hunting			2 Tolmie family - photo	
16 B10 Liquor and temperance			3 School reports - Tolmie family	
17 B11 Gypsies and metis			4 School reports - Tolmie family	
18 B12 Political - federal			5 School reports - Tolmie family	
19 B13 Verulam and Somerville			6 Publishing	
20 B14 Pioneers			7 Committees	
21 B15 Kawartha and Trent			8 Miscellaneous correspondence	
22 B16 Scottish and Irish				

- 9 R.W. Tolmie - notebook
- 10 CIL Publications
- 11 Photo album - c 1909-1911
- 12 Autograph album, 1927
- 13 Travel publications
- 14 English genealogical conference pamphlet, 1981
- 15 Lindsay, Bobcaygeon - newspaper clippings
- 16 CIL photographs
- 17 Rotary Club binder (empty)
- 18 Ray Smith's Canada, Maclean's, May 1972
- 19 Rotary Club, Halifax
- 20 Rotary Club Spokesman of Halifax, 1960-62
- 21 CIL
- 22 St John's United Church, Halifax
- 23 Voter's List, Peterborough poll 108, 1968
- 24 Trinity Church, Peterborough
- 25 Trinity United Church, Peterborough
- 26 St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Bolsover, 1979
- 27 Methodist Church Quarterly Tickets, 1893, 1897
- 28 Tolmie Golden Wedding Anniversary, 1980: letter from Mayor Cam Wasson
- 29 Unsorted items
- 30 Unsorted items
- 31 Tolmie Golden Wedding Anniversary, 1980

Volume 10

- 1 Unsorted items
- 2 Photos (2)
- 3 Unsorted items
- 4 Tolmie Golden Wedding Anniversary, 1980
- 5 Miscellaneous
- 6 Architecture of Old Peterborough, Peterborough Examiner, 17 July 1980
- 7 Dr William Dunlop will, 1842 (transcription)
- 8 Maps of Lindsay and Peterborough
- 9 Household accounts, fuel, Peterborough
- 10 Mortgage notes, Dartmouth home
- 11 Income Tax
- 12 Income Tax
- 13 Photographs (4)
- 14 School taxes correspondence, Spryfield NS
- 15 House documents, 42 Brule Street,

- Dartmouth NS
- 16 Notebook on household expenses, 1930s
- 17 Investments
- 18 Masonic Lodge
- 19 Mortgage, 427 Windsor Street, Halifax
- 20 Miscellaneous
- 21 Civil Defence certificate, 1945
- 22 Unsorted photos and historical documents

Volume 11 [4 inch box]

- 1 Matted photo, family gathering at a farm
- 2 Matted photo, military unit
- 3 Matted photo, military unit
- 4 Matted photo, military unit
- 5 New Zealand
- 6 Notebook for Christmas cards and coin trading
- 7 Photo, A.B. Tolmie, 1959, for Halifax Rotary
- 8 Matted photo, Sarah Murchison and Effie Sinclair, aunts
- 9 Firearm permit, 1954
- 10 Fenelon Falls Bylaw 161, to incorporate as a village, 1874 (photostat)
- 11 Our Family History (blank commercial publication)
- 12 Peterborough Profile '80, 1980
- 13 Atlantic Insight, September 1980
- 14 Examiner, Weekend Magazine, 7 April 1979
- 15 Peterborough Board of Museum Management, 1985
- 16 Matted photo, Mother, father, daughter, baby (by James H. Stanton, Fenelon Falls)
- 17 Matted photo, highway
- 18 Matted photo, Angus McKay and Anne Spence
- 19 Index Note Cards related to family history

Volume 12 [2 inch flat box]

- 1 The Romance of Magic Island [LP record]
- 2 Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, [LP record], Exclusive to Robert Simpson Co.
- 3 Matted photo, husband and wife [by Thomas A. Jones, Toronto]
- 4 Auckland Today [outsize photo brochure]

- 5 Glenarm Cemetery, layout

Anson House History launching

The study of the Peterborough Protestant Home reveals very much about changing tastes, about material comforts, about volunteers, about Peterborough and about attitudes towards the aged, the infirm and the poor. These ideas are explored in a new book that developed with the co-operation of a history class at Trent University, the Anson House Millennium Committee and the Trent Valley Archives (in the Fairview Heritage Centre).

The book will be launched officially at a special reception on the evening of 26 September to be held at Anson House, 136 Anson Street, Peterborough. Anson Street is a block long, from Water St to Hilliard St.

We hope that members of the Trent Valley Archives will attend that night and bring interested friends. The book will also be available through our Book Service.

Pathway of Fame

On 21 July 2001, the Peterborough Pathway of Fame added the following 14 names:

- Harry Sherry
- Wally Macht
- John Muir
- Dr Barclay McKone
- Alta Whitfield
- Judy Gibson
- Gerry O'Connor
- Washboard Hank Fisher
- Kountry Klassics
- Brian D. Switzer
- Ernie Victor
- George Franks
- Dennis Sweeting
- Bruce Knapp

Honourees are now given a special pin which it is hoped they will wear for

special occasions.

In memoriam: Olga Dyer

Elwood Jones

Olga May Dyer (1912-2001) passed away on 27 June. The daughter of Edward A. Sanderson and Agnes Tully and the wife of the Frank Dyer, she is survived by her only son, Bruce, and his wife, Heather.

Mrs Dyer was a mine of information about Peterborough, and provided great assistance to Bruce and I when we were writing *Peterborough: the Electric City*. For example, she objected to our observation that Peterborough was built on seven hills, like Rome. She noted rightly that Peterborough was more like a saucer; flat at the centre, and surrounded by drumlins. It is an interesting perspective, though not as funny. The images that we choose to depict the past can sometimes obscure as much as they illuminate.

Olga Dyer was, in the 1940s, the first secretary of what became the United Way in Peterborough. She also worked for many years in the sheriff's office. Her papers, in the Trent Valley Archives, are a great source of information about the Sanderson and Tully families as well as her immediate family. In addition to interesting correspondence and cards, the papers contain interesting photographs and ephemera, including theatre bills and tickets, as well as the graduation materials linked to PCVS, and the Peterborough Business College.

Two of our first three covers featured children from Mrs Dyer's collection, and there are many other well-identified photos in the Dyer fonds. We are preparing the finding aid to share that with our readers in a future issue.

Donations in memory of Mrs Dyer have been received by the Trent Valley Archives and will be used to purchase archival materials to protect her papers.

She will be missed, and we send our condolences to Bruce and Heather. She

had a long and rewarding life, and we are grateful that her life touched ours.

Recently Noted Publications

Ken Brown has compiled *The Invention of the Board Canoe: the Peterborough stories from their sources* (Canadian Canoe Museum, 2001) This attractive booklet builds on Ken's meticulous research into the origins of the Peterborough Canoe, and the history of the Canadian Canoe Company. Every community seems to have several accounts of the origins of the board canoe, and there is no reason why there could not have been multiple origins. Most developments are modifications rather than inventions. Whatever might be said about invention, Peterborough proved superior in developing a solid local industry. Ken developed this information for museum exhibits.

Marjorie Rasmussen-Shephard has lovingly shared her memories of 20 paying jobs in 35 years, and 25 moves. She titled the book *Moments in Time: My Family "Picture Memories."* She has used pictures to organize her stories, and to jog her memory. It is a clever book, and might serve as a model for others who wondered how to share their memories with family and friends. However, not all will be as engaging as this little gem. This very rare title is not being sold; instead, people gave donations to Doctors without Borders.

The *Peterborough Examiner*, 9 July 2001, had a very impressive article about the Trent Valley Archives written by Sheryl Loucks entitled "Preserving History ... Trent Valley Archives growing in leaps and bounds." She had talked to Frank Schoales about his radio collection, and the early days of CHEX radio. She discussed some of the history of the centennial school which is now known as the Fairview Heritage Centre. She talked about our new Computer Access Program (CAP) site which will make the internet and computers accessible to many area people. She talked about the early history of the Trent Valley Archives, and its lobbying

efforts for strong regional archives in Ontario, and especially in east central Ontario. There was a description of our archival and genealogical resources, and our impressive and growing computer database containing over 132,000 local names. As well, she interviewed Martha Ann Kidd about the importance of archives, and sharing memories of when her dining room doubled as our board room. The need for vigilance in the issues of regional archives; of rights of access and freedom of information; and promotion of archives remains.

We were particularly pleased to see that the *Peterborough Examiner* is covering archival stories more frequently. We noted the coverage of the City Archives. As well, it covered the opening of the new Fisher Gauge archives and historical facilities which opened with an exhibit in June. The Avro Arrow exhibit at the PCMA was also well-covered. The Canadian Canoe Museum is proving very popular since the opening of nine new exhibits, and the introduction of new education features. We like to see the success of these heritage facilities.

The St John's Parish Archives was featured, 20 July, in a story about the church celebrating its 175th anniversary year. Archbishop Michael Peers is guest preacher on 9 September. Elwood Jones will talk about the Beck family and the history of St John's on 21 October.

Prime Time's long-running historical column has featured some very interesting stories, and we also ran an advertisement for three months to draw attention to our web-site and the *Heritage Gazette*.

Don Barrie, a volunteer with the Peterborough and District Sports Hall of Fame, continues to write terrific articles on the history of local sport. On 9 June, he discussed the emergence in 1951 of Peterborough as a lacrosse centre. He ranged over the 1860s and 1870s in a fine article on 21 July.

Congratulations to Don Willcock who was given a Peterborough Civic Award in June.

Trent Valley Archives Trent Valley Ancestral Research

*Your five counties archives centre
Archives * Heritage * Genealogy
Serving Peterborough, Victoria, Haliburton,
Durham and Northumberland and area*

*Research Room and Book Room
Public access to internet
open 10-4 daily except Sunday
Owned and operated by volunteers
with a love of history and families.
Memberships only \$40 a year.*

Visitors always welcome

FAIRVIEW HERITAGE CENTRE

**567 Carnegie Avenue
Peterborough ON K9L 1N1
Turn at the zoo; 1.6 km**

**(705) 745-4404
info@trentvalleyarchives.com
www.trentvalleyarchives.com**

Cover picture:

When Lord Dufferin visited Blairton in summer of 1874

We chose this photo for a variety of reasons. It is from the Dyer fonds, and seemed an appropriate choice to remember the late Olga Dyer. As well, it featured the very nifty mark of James Little, one of Peterborough's best photographers, and so complemented Fraser Dunford's neat effort to identify the photographers of 19th century Peterborough and area. Not so evident to readers is the indelible pencil notation which we believe says, "August 1874. Compliments of Lt.G.'s Camping party. per Bert." Photos which can be placed in context are a great boon to historians. During the summer of 1874, the Governor-General of Canada, Lord Dufferin and his wife, visited Cobourg, Hastings and Blairton,

and this photo appears to have been taken in connection with that trip.

Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley

The Trent Valley Archives publishes the Heritage Gazette, successor to the Trent Valley Archives News, as a forum for celebrating history, family history, ancestral research, genealogy, and archives in eastern central Ontario. The Trent Valley runs from the Georgian Bay to the Bay of Quinte, and the historical Newcastle District runs from Cobourg to Haliburton. It is available only as a benefit of membership (\$40 per year), and is published four times a year in May, August, November and February.

We are interested in news, upcoming events, stories about the past, present and future, family histories, great finds, upcoming events, and any efforts to make sense of the history of the area, or to preserve its archival heritage. Some of the important items of continuing interest will be shared on our website. www.trentvalleyarchives.com

To contact the editor:

Elwood Jones
ejones@pipcom.com
(705) 743-0231

FAIRVIEW HERITAGE CENTRE

**567 Carnegie Avenue
Peterborough ON K9L 1N1**

(705) 745-4404
info@trentvalleyarchives.com
www.trentvalleyarchives.com

Trent Valley Archives
Trent Valley Ancestral Research
Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley

Fairview Heritage Centre
567 Carnegie Avenue
Peterborough ON K9L 1N1

(705) 745-4404
info@trentvalleyarchives.com
www.trentvalleyarchives.com

Managers: Keith Dinsdale and Bill Amell

astounding, and we are proud to be where the action is.
See you soon!

The **Fairview Heritage Centre** will be open six days a week during the summer. Come out and see what is new in ancestral research, local archives and the world wide web.

Fairview Heritage Centre

There is always something happening at the Fairview Heritage Centre, so we hope to see you during the summer. Drop in for sure.

Our traditional anniversary weekend is the first weekend in June.

We are working hard on developing the descriptions and finding aids for our many archival and photographic collections. If you would like to help, just contact a member of the Board of Directors or drop by.

The Community Access Program is open to all members of the community. We expect to develop support for people interested in doing historical and genealogical research on the world wide web. The developments in this area have been

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- 12.(1) "Emig. to Can. 1825"
13. (2) Rep. Emig. Comm. 1826, App.4, Robinson to Horton, 15 March 1826.
- 14.(2) Report of Emig. Comm. 1826, App.4, Robinson to Horton, Mar. 1826.
- 15.1) Report to Colonial Office "Emigration to Canada 1825" Pet.L.C.
- 16.(1) Stewart, p. 46.
- 17.(2) "Emigration to Canada 1825"
- 18.(3) C.O.42/380 and Series Q343 Can. Arch., J.B. Robinson to Horton, Jan.22,1826.
- 19.(1) J.B. Robinson to Horton, Jany. 1826.
- 20.(2) Mem. of Surgeons etc. P.L.C.
- 21.(3) "Emig. to Canada 1825"
- 22.(2) Mem. of Surgeons etc. P.L.C.
- 23.(3) "Emig. to Canada 1825"
24. Robinson to Horton, App 4, Emig Comm Rep, 1826

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- 25.(3)"Emig. to Canada 1825"
- 26.(3)"Emig. to Canada 1825"
- 27.(4)Rob. to Horton, App.4, Emig. Comm. Rep. 1826.
- 28.(1)Statement of Provisions etc. by Quarters, Ont.Arch.
- 29.(2)Letter to Horton gave 120 miles, Report gave 100 miles.
30. Langton, "Early Days in Upper Canada" xxxviii
31. Report to Col Office, "Emigration to Canada 1825"
- 32.(2)Report to Col.Office "Emigration to Canada 1825".
- 33.(1)Traill "Backwoods of Canada" pp.89-93; "Pearls & Pebbles" p.xxiv
- 34.(2)Robinson's Report, and Letter to Horton
- 35.(3)Interview with Norman Edmison and wife, Smith township.
- 36.(1)Emig.Report 1826, App.7, p.298.
- 37.(2)Ibid, app.4, p. 286.
- 38.(3)Return of Emigrants 1825, and Statement of Provisions &c. by Quarters
- 39.(1)Distribution State of Emigrants March 1, 1826, Ont. Arch.
- 40.2)Traill, p.111.
41. (3)Smithson "How Peterboro Originated".
- 42.(1)Mulvaney, pp.262-5, following Smithson's tale which he quotes with NO
acknowledgment.
- 43.(2)Stewart, pp. 47-8.
- 44.(3)Strickland, p.88.
- 45.(1)Poole, pp.15-6, and others; also attached sketches.
- 46.2)Stewart, pp.51-2.
- 47.(1)Smithson "How Peterboro Originated"
- 48.2)Series Q343, Can.Arch. Robinson to Hillier, Monaghan, Aug.25th,1825.
- 49.(1)Series Q 343, of dates above.
- 50.(1)Series Q343, of dates above.

51.(1)Series Q343, of dates above.

52. (2)Series Q167,337,339, etc.

53.(1)Can.Arch.Series Q345,192,353,388, etc.

54.(1)Memoranda and Accounts of the Surgeons to Robinson, P.L.C.

55.(1)Memoranda and Accounts of the Surgeons to Robinson, P.L.C.

56.(1)Memoranda and Accounts of the Surgeons to Robinson, P.L.C.

57.(2)Land Patents of Peterborough County, Registrar's Office.