

The Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley

Volume 9, number 4, February 2005

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Cover photo: A valentine from the McDougall Commonplace book. [Trent Valley Archives]

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President's Report

2004 was a banner year

Wow, 2004 was a banner year for Trent Valley Archives. As our 15th year drew to a close and the Board of Directors approved the 2005 budget the reality of our growth and successes were nothing short of amazing. E-mail requests for archival material and family history research have hit an all time high, as has membership, donations and volunteer help. The past four years of serving on the Board of Directors for TVA I have been pleased to be a partner in a team that believes that service to the members and community is of the utmost importance to the ongoing role of an archives. No longer should an archives be assumed as a dead repository of paper, accessibility and promotion of local history brings pride and appreciation of our great heritage to all of us.

The great Peterborough Flood left us stronger and more determined to continue with our mandate of preservation of our past. Luckily we came through it with very little loss, thanks to a banner effort from our volunteers and staff. Material that we did lose has been replaced as it was still available in it's original form such as back issues of magazines. Other damage was only to inventory such as boxes and machinery. The Hudson's Bay Company, the City of Peterborough Disaster Relief Fund and member support covered our losses. Our heartfelt thanks to all with a special appreciation to our alarm system that alerted the 'high water' signal at 4:27 am before major problems could have occurred.

In April of 2004 we were the recipients of an Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant for upgrading of equipment and adding new research resources. The results of our improved facility are certainly making a difference to our ability to service our community at large. Several new collections have been arranged, described and opened to researchers. The new fonds have been very diverse and include the Gerry Stephenson canoe history, Township of North Kawartha, and the immense Upper Canada Documents Project.

You might ask how an archive services a community? Aside from preservation of historical material, we are committed to making the material accessible and encouraging everyone to take advantage of the opportunity to enhance their curiosity and knowledge concerning our heritage. "Scrap booking" has become a very popular hobby, ponder the thought about how

your Scrapbook could be enhanced by adding background information about the house Grandpa built, a map where the homestead was located, when and where your military relative trained and traveled, the old school house and a wealth of provenance for your visual story. The possibilities are endless.

TVA's outreach program continues. This year we have been assisting the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 52, Peterborough with the sponsorship of a full time Curator/Archivist funded by HRDC. The very capable Heather Aiton-Landry has done an excellent job and is currently finishing the archival portion at the centre. Two major papers are near completion by Trent University students using our collections.

Kudos go to our resident full time archivist Diane Robnik for her hard work and dedication to the collections and the membership.

Welcome to Basia Baklinski, our conservator in residence. She is joining Keith and Gina for workshops during Archival Awareness Week, 5 to 9 April. Hope to see you then.

Our tours of Little Lake Cemetery last summer will continue again this year with many new additions to the repertoire. 'Ghosts walks of Peterborough' was sold out during the week of Halloween, these also are scheduled during 'full moon spooky nights' during the summer. Thank you to all the volunteers that make these endeavours so successful; events like this not only help to sustain our work, but add to the diversity of 'things to do and see' within our region.

Check out the publication news in this issue, we are busy at the 'print shop'. My term at the helm will be passed on to capable hands following the Annual General Meeting in April. I will be continuing with the graphic and web departments as Past President.

Thank you for the wonderful opportunity to serve,

Susan Dorfman-Kyle

THE LIFE OF WILLIAM ROXBURGH OF NORWOOD

*His son, Frank Roxburgh,
1 December 1908*

Editor's note: Thanks to Andre Dorfman for arranging this feature, and thanks to the descendants, Sally McComb and Shelagh Landsmann, who lent this excellent family biography. It is based on a superb diary which we hope to see someday. All genealogists and family historians could wish for such a fine telling of a family legend.

William Ewing Roxburgh was born in a small stone cottage in Galston, Ayrshire, Scotland, on 10 November 1834, the youngest child of Wm. Roxburgh and Janet Ewing. The family's eight children all died in early childhood, except the subject of this sketch and his sister Helen, who died at the age of twelve, and whom he always remembered. His father died in 1834, before his birth. When his mother died in April 1848, the lad of fourteen years was left without father or mother, brothers or sisters. William Ewing survived and possessed a sound and vigorous constitution. He was educated at the Bar School, Galston, under Mr. McNaught, and later at the school at Mauchline, where he studied and assisted in teaching under Mr. H.W. Kilgour. On a visit to his birthplace in 1888, Roxburgh met his old friend who had been teaching for 40 years in Mauchline, and saw the roll of the Bar School for 1844 with his own name in the list of pupils.

When left an orphan at the age of 14, he was befriended by his uncle, James Ewing and taken into his home. James Ewing and Janet Ewing Roxburgh were two of a large family of eleven, the children of Robert Ewing and Helen Douglas, both of whom died in 1825. His aunt, Mrs. John Scott, a third child of this family, also showed him attention and sympathy.

James Ewing was forester to the Duke of Portland, and lived at "Burnhouse" within half a mile of Galston, where he had oversight of "Cessnock Castle" and the Scottish portion of the Duke's estate. William Ewing Roxburgh moved to "Burnhouse" in the Spring of 1848. James Ewing and Jennie Wilson, his wife, had seven children, Robert, Hugh, Ellen, Margaret, Isabella, William and Jane, and it was with these cousins the young man was to be associated, more or less, for the remainder of his life.

From his diary we learn that he went to Glasgow to work for a Mr. Ferguson on 12 September 1848, and from his

references to keeping the ledger and the stock book, we conclude that he was engaged as a bookkeeper. He lodged with a Mrs. Sharp, 16 Douglas Street. During his apprenticeship in Glasgow, which lasted for over a year, he made frequent visits to "Burnhouse" and always returned with his box filled with clean clothes, and little gifts of cakes, scones, eggs, etc. He seems to have corresponded regularly with Hugh and Ellen, who were nearest his own age, and there is mention of an occasional letter to his uncle. The diary of 1848-49 reveals two of his life-long pleasures: his love of flowers and recording the ever-changing weather. During the early years he suffered frequently from "sore Headaches", but otherwise his health seems to have been all that could be desired. In these youthful days he was interested already in the church, in the Sunday sermons, in the singing class, and in the Literary Society.

In January 1851, he was employed with a Mr. Blackwood, a draper in the town of Ayr. "Burnhouse" was still his home, and frequently mentioned his weekend visits there, and of letters and gifts passing between them. He began to read through Proverbs, "one chapter every night," and he made a duty of early rising, recording in his diary on one occasion when he rose at 8 o'clock instead of 6, "he had lost two hours, one eighth of a day." During these years, he was studying French and Latin, and reading works on philosophy, logic, astronomy and geography. On 4 January 1851 he noted: "Today has passed without adding anything to my stock of knowledge." He took great pride in his library, and boasted of possessing twenty books on various subjects.

When Mr. Blackwood died suddenly in 1851, the business passed into the hands of Smith and Gardiner, and with the new firm the young clerk continued for an indefinite time, no record being available after the end of the year.

Towards the close of the year 1854 he was employed with a Mr. Nichol of Greenock, who was evidently engaged in the shipping business; reference is made to the firm undertaking to raise schooners that had foundered in the Clyde. While employed in Greenock, he found lodgings with a Mrs. Scott, No. 6 Roxburgh Street, he and a Mr. Taylor having engaged a bedroom and parlor between them. At this time he was reading such works as "Eclipse of Faith", "Dicks Christian Philosopher" and "Ovid's Metamorphosis". At "Rev.J.B. Smith's in the evening, - conversed with him about

joining the membership of the church", and on the 25 March, a communion Sabbath, he went to the Lord's table for the first time. Thus at the age of 20, on the threshold of life, he identified himself definitely with the Christian Church.

In April 1855 he told Mr. Nichol, his employer, that he thought of emigrating to America. This contemplated change was brought about the the following way. When James Ewing died in 1854, the Duke of Portland offered the position of forester to his second son, Hugh Ewing. As the young man did not feel equal to the responsibility, and declined, the family had to leave "Burnhouse". The three boys with their cousin, William E. Roxburgh then proposed trying their fortune in Australia, leaving the mother and sisters comfortably settled in Scotland. Mr. Ewing, however, dreading the thought of the family scattering, offered to take the girls and emigrate with them, if they would go to Canada, and so it was determined. The household effects and family possessions were disposed of and on 31 May 1855, Roxburgh and the family of James Ewing left Glasgow, on the sailing ship "Chieftain," bound across the broad Atlantic for the Port of Quebec, in Canada. It was seven days before the ship lost sight of Scotland, the boys going ashore every day for a week, as the vessel made her way slowly down the Clyde. On account of the ship's Captain taking sick, a new commander came aboard in the person of Captain Manson. Passing along the North Coast of Ireland, the ship found a favorable wind, and was out upon the open sea. Sea sickness took possession of the whole party as the wind freshened, and the ship rolled. His diary of the 13 June reads as follows: "Felt horribly squeamish, couldn't manage any breakfast, was on the quarter deck about half an hour, but after unburdening my stomach over the ship's side, was obliged to disappear below and ensconce myself in bed for a day. All were afflicted with the same dreadful malady, and such a scene! At every extra roll of the ship, from some pale cheek and trembling lip would come the doleful sound, O dear, followed by a squash, squash on the floor". Next day he writes, "At dinner tasted a little of a cranberry tart that was sent in from the cabin, but my stomach, quite indignant at the intrusion (not having seen anything within its domains since yesterday

morning), very speedily dispatched it over the Bulwarks; so went everything else that attempted to force itself within its precincts." The ship was old and out of repair and almost every day something gave way in connection with the rigging. Whales and porpoises, iceburghs and fogs divided the interest with passing ships, homeward bound. At least, after a long two months' voyage, the vessel reported at the port of Quebec, and on the 24 July the party transporting the luggage to the steamer "England", went aboard the steamer "Crescent", went bound for Montreal. At Montreal the fine steamer "Banshee" was taken as far as Kingston, and the last stage of the voyage was made aboard the "Magnet" to Cobourg. Of the points visited on the way he says "Do not think much of Quebec". "Montreal is altogether a fine city and rapidly increasing," "the lake of the Thousand Islands is by far the most beautiful I have ever seen." "Kingston seems to be almost at a standstill, - grass growing in the middle of the street." "Cobourg is a rising place, built principally of brick, and limestone."

On Saturday, 28 July the party left Cobourg by rail and came to Harwood and Keene, crossing Rice Lake on an old trestle bridge. They were making for the home of John Stevenson in Asphodel, an acquaintance of earlier days in Scotland, and this their destination was finally reached from Keene about the first of August 1855. There was a stage for the ladies and children and wagons and teams for the luggage and men.

Negotiations were at once set on foot to procure some land in the neighborhood, and in September of that same year, the Ewings purchased 400 acres of land from a Mr. Campbell of Warkworth, at £3,000. This land was situated near the present village of Westwood the farm now occupied by John Breckenridge, and was named by the new owners "Welbeck," after the English estate of the Duke of Portland. In the meantime Wm. E. Roxburgh on 6 September engaged with Buck and Stewart of Norwood, and on the 12th of the month he went to Norwood to Buck and Stewart's Store. Thus he began his business life in Canada within two months of his arrival, in the village with which he was to be so closely identified until the close of his career. He still looked upon home of the Ewings as his home, and to "Welbeck" he returned almost every Saturday night to spend the Sabbath, frequently walking the seven miles that separates Norwood from Westwood.

Probably during the following year 1856, he began business with the Ewing brothers in Westwood, in a building on a site where the present post office stands. Ewings and Roxburgh bought out the business that was formerly conducted by the Meikles. David Meikle with his wife, Elizabeth Steel and their children, Mary, Eliza and James had come to the country from Glasgow, Scotland in 1854, having been induced to take the step on account of Meikle's failing health, and because the business at Westwood was offered them by Henry Fowlds, who had eloped from Scotland with Jean Steel, Mrs. Meikle's sister, and settled in the country earlier. When the Westwood store passed into the possession of Ewings and Roxburgh, Mrs. Meikle and her daughters began a small dressmaking establishment next door, Meikle's mental powers failing to such an extent, that he became unable to continue longer as the main support of the family. It was at this time that the subject of this history formed the acquaintanceship of his future wife, Mrs. Meikle's second daughter, Eliza Jane Kempt.

Ewings and Roxburgh did not prosper in business; being unacquainted with the conditions of the new land, and having to do a large credit business, they got some worthless accounts. How long this losing venture continued is uncertain, but we know that on 17 December 1858, William Roxburgh engaged George Reid as clerk in his general store at Keene, at a salary of £60. While at Keene Roxburgh was a faithful attendant of the church services; the Rev. Francis Andrews was the minister. He belonged to a singing school, and also attended a dancing school on Tuesdays and Fridays, a Miss Sinclair being his partner. His associates at this period included J.L. Reid and Dr. McCrae of Keene; he frequently took jaunts with them to different parts of the neighborhood. The following is from his diary of 12 January 1859: "Tonight Jno. L. Reid and I made up a little bit of an escapade, he to go and see his -ahem- and I see mine. Shutting time found us carrying out our arrangements. Got out the horse and cutterhorse ran off before we got it hitched-caught it at Short's Corner started - 9 o'clock found J.L. in Hughies' and half past nine found me in Westwood chattering with Mrs. M. and E., and latterly with E. alone, -got home to Keene at daybreak - both highly pleased with our success - no one knew of our being out." There were a great many all night outings during these early months in Keene, as the disturber of his

heart's affections was living about twelve miles away. Like many another young man at such a time, his musings occasionally shaped themselves in verse. The following is found in his diary of this date:

"Liza"

My Liza's the sweetest and dearest,
Of all the dear girls of the West.
Of all my dear friends she's the nearest.
Of all my good angels the best.
She's - laughing - the dear little creature
While I can do nothing but sigh,
But there's beauty in every feature
and love in her merry blue eye.
I'm sure there was ne'er such a beauty
As Liza, the pride of my life,
And I think as a matter of duty
I must make dearest Liza my wife
She's laughing - the dear little creature
While I can do nothing but sigh,
But there's beauty in every feature
And love in her merry blue eye.

On 3 August 1860 he returned to Norwood to make it his home for the rest of his days. He entered into a partnership with Thomas Buck in a general business, in a store that stood on a corner of the lot now [1908] occupied by F.H. Bert, on Belmont Street. Roxburgh and Buck had as clerks James Buck and Wm. H. Stephenson. The business increased rapidly, the farmer bringing in pork, lard, butter, eggs, potash, etc., to have them exchanged for clothing and groceries.

In October 1860 he married Eliza Jane Kempt Meikle of Westwood. Born in Glasgow, Scotland, on 17 March 1837, she was now a young woman of 23. She was named for her cousin, George Kempt, the architect of Sir Walter Scott's monument in Edinburgh. The Rev. Francois Andrews performed the wedding ceremony, and James Raddon of Norwood made the wedding cake. Soon after, Mrs. Meikle came to live with her daughter in Norwood as James Meikle was in Toronto with a boot and shoe firm by the name of Hamilton, and Mary Meikle was a school teacher. The Roxburghs lived in a house adjoining the store. In the fall of 1861 Mary Meikle married her cousin, William Fowlds of Hastings; the two families were closely associated for many years. On 27 August 1861, Mrs. Roxburgh gave birth to a son, William James. This little ray of sunshine unfortunately died after six months and eighteen days. A second son, David Meikle, born 21

February 1863 died 11 November 1864, aged but 20 months and 21 days.

In 1863 Roxburgh bought out Buck's share in the partnership of the prospering business. James Calder, now [1908] of the Norwood post office, his first clerk, was joined by James Meikle and Andrew McMillan. In these early days Mrs. Roxburgh faithfully bore her share of the burden, not only as a mother in the home, but as a helper in the store, and in the packing of butter and making candles, long after the store closed.

The Roxburghs were faithful supporters of the Presbyterian Church at Norwood. They were connected with the choir from 1863; William Roxburgh was the choir master and a tenor, while his wife was a soprano. Roxburgh was appointed Secretary Treasurer of the Congregation in 1861. His connection with the Sabbath School as a teacher and Superintendent dated from 1860, perhaps

18 November the following year, a little sister, Edith Elizabeth was added to the family circle. These two children survived the critical days of early childhood and for a number of years provided a world of joy for their loving parents.

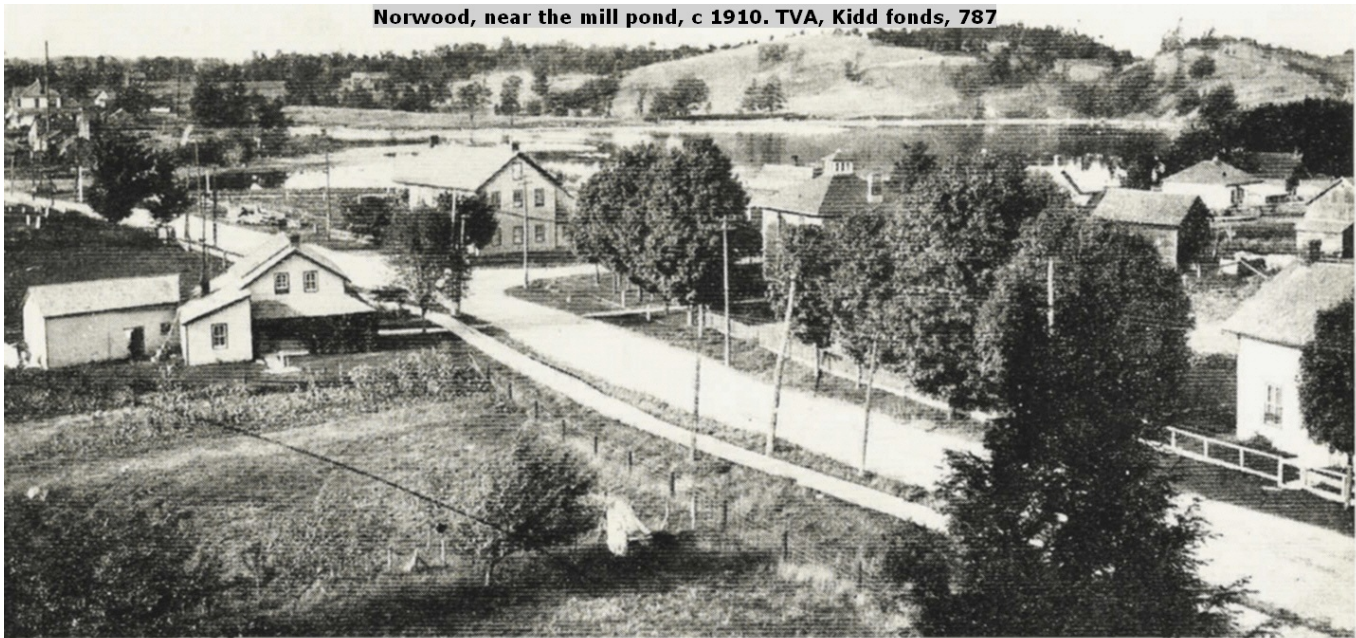
In 1868 Roxburgh was elected Secretary Treasurer of the East Peterboro Agriculture Society, and partly due to his tact, courtesy and direction, the Norwood Fair had great success and high reputation. Because of his business-like handling of the finances and management of the show, one of the provincial agricultural papers considered him an ideal Exhibition Secretary.

In 1869 a meeting was held in Norwood for the purpose of Organizing a lodge of A.F. and A.M. He was appointed chairman and in the branch which was formed he was one of the charter members, and became the first Worshipful Master, serving in that

was used as a store, while the part that fronted on Colborne Street was turned into a dwelling for the increasing needs of the family. Beyond the dwelling on Colborne Street the new owner soon developed a garden of great beauty. Roxburgh had a passion for flowers and during these busy and strenuous years, he always managed to spend the hours before and after the business of the day in his garden.

Frank Douglas was born on 19 July 1871; a little baby girl who had arrived earlier only lived for a day. Six days later, Roxburgh and J.B. Pearce set out on a trip to the Red River. Mr. Butterfield, the village Postmaster, drove the travellers to Colborne, from whence they went by G.T.R. to Toronto. Next day they continued by rail to Sarnia, then three days by the steamer "F.B. Wade", to Milwaukee, visiting the island of Mackinac en route. After a

Norwood, near the mill pond, c 1910. TVA, Kidd fonds, 787



from 1855. The Rev. James Bowie of the Free Church of Scotland was the minister during these early years.

Roxburgh was influential in other spheres in the early sixties. In 1864 he was appointed the County Council representative on the School Board, and later succeeded Dr. Poole as Secretary. He was active in the incorporation of the village, and was elected a member of the first council. On 14 January 1864 he was appointed an issuer of provincial Marriage Licenses.

On 11 February 1865 a third son, Harold William, was born to this home. On

capacity for nine years.

The Norwood business enjoyed expansion during the 1860s. A branch store was started in Blairton and put in charge of James Meikle, sometime during this decade, and towards the close of this period a move was made to a better stand. Probably in 1870 Roxburgh bought out the business of James Foley, on the corner of Colborne and Peterboro Streets, in the heart of the village. The change brought increased business, as he was now in the best location in the village. The corner portion of the large, roughcast structure

Sunday in Milwaukee, they proceeded by the Milwaukee and St. Paul R.R. to St. Paul, crossing the Mississippi by the steamer "McGregor". Roxburgh gratified a long cherished dream of being "on the Mississippi floating" and seeing for the first time the boundless prairie and its fields of waving grain across Minnesota. After a day at St. Paul, the journey was continued by the Northern Pacific through Minneapolis and for 160 miles beyond, to the terminus of the road, at Morris, a town only a week old at the time of the arrival of the travellers. From Morris the

journey was made by a stage drawn by four splendid horses, replaced at intervals. Hudson's Bay carts and trains, Indian and prairie game of all kinds, were objects of great interest to the travellers. After four days of driving with a merry party, they reached Frog Point on the Red River in North Dakota, and there took the flat bottomed, stern wheeled steamer "Selkirk" to Fort Garry. The tortuous journey of 400 miles took six days as the boat frequently stuck on the bottom; they reached Winnipeg finally on 12 August. After a few days in Winnipeg, they secured a pony and wagon at the rate of \$2 per day, and accompanied by Mr. Mulvey of the "Manitoba Liberal", drove to Portage LaPrairie. They met with survey camps and had an occasional shot at prairie game, by the way. After a day at the Portage, the return journey was made. Roxburgh met a great many old and new friends in the West during this visit, and was so hopeful of the future of the country that he bought a farm in 1875 and lots in Portage La Prairie in 1881 and Winnipeg in 1882. About the first of September the wanderers arrived in Norwood after their long journey by boat, stage and rail. They determined to dispose of their eastern business, and together cast their lot with the West; this momentous change might have been made but for the decided objections by Mrs. Meikle.

During the 1870s, Roxburgh experienced his greatest prosperity, recognition and usefulness. His business rapidly expanded, as he launched out with his customary enterprise into the handling of butter, wool, salt, pork and grain, in addition to the regular trade of the store. John Clark, Alfred Bird, and Frank Sandy were his assistants in the store during these years, while he kept a stable man, and a number of horses, "Kate", "Prince", and later "Jack", being among his drivers. On 13 July 1874 he secured the agency for the Dominion Telegraph Company and had the instruments installed.

On 7 July 1874 he set out on his first visit home to Scotland, in company with J.A. Butterfield, Post Master, and John Moore, High School teacher, Norwood. They crossed from Port Hope to Charlotte and Rochester, thence by rail to Albany, then down the Hudson to New York. They sailed from New York by the steamer "California"; the steamer being crowded, he occupied a compartment with two jolly Scots and a German. As usual, he had his share of sea-sickness, which he describes in his best literary style: "The assumption of the perpendicular meant a renewed demand for food for the

fishes; having already been so largely drawn upon, had little more to part with, but what did remain, I hurriedly rushed on deck to offer".

He was only in Scotland about two weeks altogether. He spent most of his time visiting old friends and relatives, the family of his cousin, Wm. Roxburgh, summering at Millport, the Marshalls of Greenock, the Turners of Glasgow, Mrs. Capt. Mason, and the Camerons. After a stormy voyage he arrived again in New York on 20 August 1874, and was back in Norwood, refreshed and satisfied after a seven weeks absence.

In 1875, he was elected an elder of the Norwood congregation; later he became the Session Clerk, and the representative elder to the Presbytery and Synod. From this time, he was chosen a commissioner from the Peterboro Presbytery to the General Assembly almost every year, and as he became better known in the Supreme Court of the Church, he served several years on the Sabbath School Committee. On one occasion he was chosen with three or four others, to convey fraternal greetings from the Assembly to the Anglican Synod and the Methodist General Conference. The Rev. T.F. Fotheringham, M.A., D.D., pastor of the Norwood congregation, 1875 to 1881, considered Roxburgh "a tower of strength to the church, a man of deep and fervent piety, remarkable for his tact and courtesy, one who was never tired in working for the church."

In the spring of 1875 Roxburgh and others applied for a charter and, on 20 April, received the letters patent, incorporating the Norwood cheese factory.

Home was always the centre of his delight. Beatrice Jane was born a week before Xmas in 1873, and John Ewing. 18 February 1876. The family altar, established from the very first, and the celebration of Xmas with Santa Claus, plum-pudding and turkey contributed in making the home a true and very happy one.

In 1877 Roxburgh decided to dispose of the corner business which had contributed so largely to his commercial standing to P.W. Reynolds. He established an office in his home, and turned his attention to the collection of accounts, and the improvement of his property. He soon built a splendid brick block on Peterboro Street, and two of his clerks began business as Clark and McMillan. In the other half of this block Miss M.P. Williams conducted a millinery establishment. For several years his

office was in an upper room of this building.

In the federal election of 1878, the year of Sir John MacDonald's National Policy, the Liberal Convention chose him to contest East Peterboro. His Conservative opponent, with whom he had always the finest personal relations, was John Burnham, of Ashburnham. A strenuous campaign was waged, many joint meetings being held, and the result was in doubt till the last ballot was counted; Burnham was elected by a majority of 26. The disagreeable features of a political campaign were very trying to his sensitive, retiring nature, and he never desired to enter a contest again. He was a life long Liberal, read the "Globe" from his first coming to the country, and served his party as President of the Association and County Returning Officer on different occasions.

On 29 February 1880, Herbert Bruce was born but lived only a day. About the first of the year, Harold, the eldest child, now a lad of fifteen, took ill with inflammatory rheumatism. He was a bright boy, making rapid progress in the High School, as well as in music, and very popular. He recovered from the first attack, but in April was taken down again. The disease made rapid headway, and finally reached the heart, and 4 May 1880 he passed away. His journal had no entry for the next two months; the silence more eloquently than words, expressed the grief of the parents. There were other domestic worries during this year, when three of the children, Frank, Beatrice and Jack were taken down with measles.

In the outside world, Roxburgh continued to be very active. He was appointed Grand Organist of the Grand Lodge A.F. and A.M. At this time the Canadian Pacific Railway Company contemplated building the Ontario and Quebec branch, which might pass in the vicinity of Norwood.

In company with J.B. Pearce, he began canvassing and speaking in the surrounding districts, with a view to inducing the railway company to favor Norwood. He proudly records in his diary that Norwood voted in favor of the railway without a single "nay". Roxburgh entered into partnership with Robt. Ferguson and Thos. Rork to supply cedar ties for a section of this road. An engine in one of the mills of the back country exploded and one man was killed, and others injured. This led to a litigation with P.W. Reynolds, who supplied the engine, and the suit went

to the higher courts before it was finally settled in Roxburgh's favor. This unfortunate experience caused him days and nights of anxious worry, and led to a lingering coolness between the two families. To the delight of the villagers the first construction train passed through in 1883. On 30 June 1884, Roxburgh and thirty others travelled by the first passenger train through to Peterboro.

In 1880, the Roxburgh family, in company with Thos. Fraser and family, went to "Idle Wild" in Rice Lake. The following year, the family spent the holidays at "Boshink", Stoney Lake, and this was the beginning of the yearly outing at the "lake" which proved to be an important and enjoyable element in the family history. In 1883, after a few days at Boshink, the camp was moved to Otter Island in order to be present at the A.C.A. meet, which was being held off Juniper Island, the party being composed of Mr. Roxburgh, Edith, Frank and Beatrice.

During 1883 Roxburgh purchased Samuel Griffin's splendid brick residence on Peterboro Street for \$7000, procuring at the same time about \$300 worth of furniture and fixtures. The family moved to the new house which was henceforth known as "Cessnock"; the first supper in the new home was on the evening of 3 April. It was a family milestone for the family move from the old roughcast house adjoining the corner store, to this palatial dwelling, with its spacious surrounding. The beauty, seclusion and breadth of the new environment affected the character and tone of every member of the family. A month later, Gerald Steel, was born 4 May. In the fall Edith, in company with Miss Louise Fowlds of Hastings, went to Toronto to attend Mrs. Melville's Ladies College on John Street.

[end part one]

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Anniversaries 2005

This year of propitious anniversaries reminds us of the different ways people have impact. In Peterborough and Ashburnham, a city committee is working on lavish plans to celebrate the centenary of Peterborough's incorporation as a city, 1 July 1905. This had been preceded by the amalgamation of the two municipalities eighteen months earlier, and also by the opening of the Lift Lock 9 July 1904. In this issue we are presenting some information about Ashburnham's history, as well as stories related to the union of the village on the east side of the Otonabee with the larger town of Peterborough.

This is also the centenary of the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan, and a Peterborough native, Sir Frederick W. Haultain was the central player in that drama. He was premier of the North West Territories when the moves to create provinces occurred. He lost the election in Saskatchewan, and so became the first Leader of the Opposition. But his fame continued and he served as Chief Justice of the province and also as Chancellor of the University of Saskatchewan. When we were doing the Little Lake Cemetery tours, we visited the plots of several members of this distinguished family, and it was observed that Peterborough set its mark upon many parts of Canada precisely because during the 1890s its people took their skills everywhere west. Peterborough had been a leading centre of lumbering, electricity and manufacturing much earlier than elsewhere in Canada. We will do stories later in the year on these themes.

It is also evident that Peterborough was the beneficiary of people moving from elsewhere to here. Among the early settlers in this region were half-pay officers who had served in the Napoleonic Wars. Several had served with Nelson on the Victory at the Battle of Trafalgar, a significant moment two hundred years ago. We will celebrate this with special features in our August issue.

Wherever we are, we are connected backwards and forwards by the countless people who come in and out. Many of them leave their footprints boldly for us to see.

We also have good reasons to celebrate.

Built Over 80 Years Ago McAllister's Flour Mill is now Being Dismantled

Peterborough Examiner
17 May 1930

Another of the city's landmarks is to be razed to make way for progress. The old Otonabee Mill better known lately as the McAllister Mill is being dismantled by the Quaker Oats Company...Built in 1848, when milling was a struggling industry and the city but a straggling hamlet, the old mill has long since served its period of influence...Once back in the sixties and seventies, this mill was one of the finest in the province with an output of 250 barrels of flour a day something to brag in those days. Although the Quaker plant here now has a capacity of more than 4000 barrels. It was first mill in the district to install the "roller" system of grinding and it helped grind the first car load of hard what brought here from the prairies of Manitoba thirty-nine years ago. For years, it ground into flour much of the wheat, grown on the farms of the county. Old residents recalling those days, speak of the times when the farmers wagons loaded heavy with grain, stretched more than a quarter of a mile on either side of the mills doors, waiting their turn to be unloaded. But more than two decades ago, its glory faded and its wheels were idled. Rapid advances were made in milling methods and the old mill was left hopelessly antiquated...For a brief time in 1916 the old mill did spring into life again, it was during the re-construction period of the Quaker Oats plant following the devastating fire which reduced the great plant to a heap of smouldering ruins. The Quaker Oats Co. used it during those hard pressed times of war for puffing wheat and as a feed plant...The old mill rears its bulk upon the east bank of the river just across from the lofty Quaker Oats plant. The two make a distinct contrast between the "old" and the new. The Quaker plant is a giant hive of industry. Its busy hum reaches across to the old mill where only the ghosts of the past remain. Power was then cheap...

Editor's note This is a sample of one of the articles appearing in Diane Robnik's new guide *The Mills of Peterborough County*; available exclusively from the Trent Valley Archives, \$20.

SOME EARLY HISTORY Recalled by the Removal of an Old Landmark AN EARLY INDUSTRY

Mowry's Foundry Now to be Removed for the Quaker Oats Co's Works Saw Some of Peterborough's First Threshing Machines Made – A Famous Axe Factory

Undated item before 3 December 1903)

The march of progress cancels old landmarks. Buildings, especially, have their uses, serve the purposes for which they were erected, become behind the times and are torn down and disappear. This is especially the case where a hamlet grows to the size of a village, increases to the importance of a town, and is finally merged in the boundaries of a city.

After an interval of sixty years, a part of the town that was, three score years ago, a scene of great activity will have gathered in the buildings covering the ground a host of people plying their avocations. At the time referred to the east end of Hunter-st., at the river, was the busiest place in Peterborough, and the centre of business and a place where drinks abounded. Time has changed these things, and for many years the locality has been a commons, used for piling of timber and wood. Now the Quaker Oats Cereal Co have a host of [] men busy erecting one of the finest plants in Canada.

In the early history of the town the river crossing was ever an important place. Here the traveller secured his first drink, and departing, poured out a last libation. For this the facilities were many. On both sides of the river stood houses of entertainment, whose doors were never locked. And the bridge was a point to which all roads led, and a thriving trade resulted.

Across the river, on the Ashburnham shore, stands the Mowry found. The intention of the Cereal Company is to remove the building to make room for larger structures. Offers have been invited for the materials, and its removal will obliterate a landmark that very few indeed of our people will remember the erection of. Possibly somewhat of its history may not be uninteresting. It was built on the instalment plan. First one part, then a lean-to, then an addition, then a roof to cover the

whole, then a foundry, and so on. The fittings inside are quaint. There may be seen the old wooden main shafting, with iron spindles turning in wooden boxes. Wooden pulleys cut in a slice from the end of a log. These things were the only kind procurable at the time and answered the purpose very well indeed.

The door sill of the building is now about six feet below the level of the street. At the time of its erection, the building was level with the road, and nearly so with the first bridge crossing the river. The bridge was carried on five piers, and was built by Horace Perry. It was not raised very far above the water, and at that time was not so required to accommodate the rafts of timber. Such square timber as passed down the river was not cribbed. That was an after development, and began in 1853. The late Charles Perry was the first timber owner to send down rafts and our esteemed fellow citizen, Mr Edward Phelan, captained and piled the first raft of timber that ran the river from Lakefield to the Little lake. It was a local event of some interest and a crowd collected to see the raft shoot the slide at the Martyn and at Hall's dams.

Mercello Mowry came to the Scotch village (afterwards Ashburnham) in 1834, from Providence, R. I. For three years previously he lived in the township of Douro, but, recognizing the scanty school facilities, and being concerned for the education of his four sons, moved into the village. He first bought a shop and began the manufacture of axes and edge tools. He was a famous axe maker, Mowry's axes being the favorite with the choppers in the bush. Two years after a building 18 by 24 feet was added, and the manufacture of wagons and sleighs commenced.

In the fall of the year following occurred an event the changed the character and added to the variety of manufacture. A man named Forsythe brought in from Port Hope the first grain separator that had been seen in the district, and set it up and in operation on the ground now covered by Lipsett's hotel yard, in Ashburnham. The property to the north was farm land worked by the late Asa Downer. Mr Mowry spend the day studying the merits of the new machine and at once set to work and developed a large trade in threshing machines. To prepare the castings a foundry was required, and this was built in 1846, and a steam engine purchased from Helm, of Cobourg, along with a lathe.

Previous to this, some effort had been made to use water power from the river, and a sort of dam had been built angling up the

river, but the head developed was not sufficient to furnish the power required, although Mr Mowry had taken a lease from the Rev Mark Burnham of the water privilege for 50 years. Power [] increasing demand, the dam [] Rodgers' dam was built, [] stands, by Mr Z Burnham [] operating the water privilege for the Burnham estate for £600.

[] Rodgers' saw mill was built in [] stone flour mill in 1847 [] Mr Burnham for the late [].

[] small Mowry foundry [] what was considered at the time, great things. All the [] two large engines for the sawn lumber mill that stood on the shore of the Little lake, just where the tea house now stands, near the entrance lock of the Trent Valley Canal, and all the wheels, casting and iron work for the original Red Mills at Nassau, owned by the late Charles Perry, were supplied by the late Charles Perry, were supplied by the Mowrys. These things are not of much magnitude nowadays, but at that time they were esteemed works of the very first consequence.

Of the original buildings lining the east side of the river, next to the old foundry, none remain. P J Ayers, in 1855, built, and went into the manufacture of axes. Daniel Doran, in 1857, erected a fairly large woollen mill, and farther up there was planing mills and shops. It was the centre of manufacture for the district.

Engaged with him in the business Mr Mowry had his four sons, the quartette making up a strong team. All of his sons are living, being Messrs Aldus and Richard Mowry, of town, Mr Bradley Mowry, Gravenhurst, and Mr John Mowry, Toronto.

On the Peterborough side of the river the original buildings have all been swept away. Prominent among these was McFadden's hotel, and Hall's Row, a terrace and semi-detached line of nine houses. In a small house up the Hunter-st hill lived Rosey O'Neil, a local character of that day. In the McFadden hotel, Mr George Hall lived and had his legal office, and Mr Charles Forrest, also, who was appointed the first judge for the district of Colborne.

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Fire Wiped Out Industries

Examiner, 3 October 1958

Most of the factories bordering on the water raceway that provided their operating power were built of wood, an easy prey to fires that wiped out many of them. In the evening of 23 August 1877, a group went up in flames: W Rombough's planing and sash factory, that also housed Henry Owens' pump works; the Wand planing mill and sash and door factory; Faint's carding mill, part of which was occupied by A Cope's wood turning plant.

The volunteer fire brigade was 15 minutes in getting into action, and had to concentrate its efforts in saving the Mowry foundry. Some of the firemen and many of the people were at a circus. An incendiary was suspected of starting that fire, partly because a week earlier a fire was discovered in time near the Cope residence, and apparently had been set by some one. Several of the factory owners who didn't carry insurance applied for tax relief at the next council meeting "because they had lost everything."

The same news report said R D Rogers owned all the buildings.

Ashburnham Chronology

8 September 1858

Ashburnham celebrated its incorporation as a village with a big bonfire.

10 January 1873

Ashburnham ratepayers voted 146 to 9 for merger; village passed bylaw; Peterborough town council approved and applied for private bill in Ontario legislature, but never passed.

4 February 1889

Deputation from town and village councils met and proposed merger; village plebescite failed because of opposition of key property holders

1894

A meeting recommended merger; village was concerned about the cost of a proposed Peterborough sewer which would cost \$160,000; Peterborough supported union by a vote of 236 to 89

1898

A joint committee of town and village agreed to merger, and recommended that \$10,000 be set aside to pay for sewer for the village in connection with the current sewer upgrade; the village was being pressed to upgrade both sewer and water

2 December 1903

Property owners in both Peterborough (273-163) and Ashburnham (99-79) voted for union; sewer plebescite carried by 17 votes

18 December 1903

Union proclaimed

1 July 1905

Peterborough became a city of about 15,000 inhabitants; Ashburnham became ward 5.

1923

City laid 2050 feet of pipe and put in a pumping station; cost \$8,391.

John J. McCabe Recalls Joseph Flavelle's Ashburnham Romance

Examiner, 3 October 1958

While the late Sir Joseph W. Flavelle was gaining business experience as a young man in Peterborough, he was also fashioning in Ashburnham his future family and home life.

"It is only a youngster's memory now, but I have a distinct recollection of Mr Flavelle when he was courting that daughter of the Ellsworth family, who lived at the southeast corner of Hunter and Burnham Sts.," John J McCabe, 293 Burnham St, recently told the Examiner.

That house has been replaced by a service station, but when it was built it was a substantial residence of clapboard construction, wide verandahs looking on Hunter and Burnham Sts., and on the hedge of lilac bushes that afforded privacy and ornament to the Ellsworth home. It was finally owned by the late David Conroy Sr.

Mr McCabe said a boy doesn't give much thought to the future, and his recollection is simply that the Ellsworths were a fine family, and Joseph Flavelle was already a well-known figure on both sides of the river.

"Eventually the daughter of the Ellsworths accepted the young man who was active in wholesale grain and produce, and their son, Sir Ellsworth Flavelle of Toronto today bears the name of his mother."

ONCE CLERKED IN STORE

Mr Flavelle was born in Peterborough, was a clerk in the James Best drygoods store, and branched out into business for himself in the former city hall block at Simcoe and Water Sts. His premises were immediately east of the Toronto-Dominion Bank. He dealt in such farm products as grain, pork and eggs. One young man who worked for him candling eggs at 25 cents a day was the late James Lynch, successful druggist on Hunter St., where his son, John, continues the business.

The late T H Hooper recalled a market day when Mr Flavelle, well dressed in a dark suit, climbed up onto a wagon load of grain bags to examine them before buying. Some man standing near Mr Hooper blurted: "Look at that whipper-snapper, dressed to kill, he'll never get anywhere. What does he know about wheat?"

When he was 29, J W Flavelle moved to Toronto into business with the Wm Davies Packing Co. He never turned back, but went on to affluence and knighthood, with the lifelong companionship of that daughter of the Ellsworths of Ashburnham. In his young manhood here he was a prominent member of George St Methodist Church, and an active temperance supporter.

SWANSTON BAKERY

"Another vivid memory of a lean winter when I had reached my early teens," Mr McCabe reminisced, "was the kindness of the Swanston family.

"They had a bakery at the northeast corner of Hunter St and Driscoll Terrace, and I got a job delivering bread. Work was very scarce. There wasn't much to do for men that winter but to try the shanties and lumbering away back in the woods.

"Even in those days of my time, and they were probably worse often enough in earlier years, money was scarce. You have to live through that condition to understand the tremendous contrast with recent years when money and credit have been plentiful. There were no government offices distributing welfare cheques to keep families going until work was available.

"In my rounds of delivering bread to customers, many of them couldn't pay me, not even the five cents a loaf. That went on, more or less of course, all through that winter, and Mr Swanston, grandfather of Max J Swanston, got along somehow. There was no pressure of collection, the bread went out everyday, and finally spring came. I often think of how the elders got along

in those years without any organized help. Perhaps there was some public charity in cases of illness.

SEQUEL TO STORY

"There's an interesting sequel to that story. One of those who didn't forget the Swanston kindness was Dick Dawson. He went to the Klondike at the time of the gold rush, made considerable money, and on a visit to Peterborough, one of his first calls was at the Swanston home. He told Mrs Swanston that he had never forgotten his experience as a youth in that Ashburnham winter and he wanted to do something for her in gratitude.

"Mr Dawson brought a hack around to the house, drove off over town with Mrs Swanston, and insisted in buying her a dress and hat.

"They drove around quite a while on their way back to Ashburnham, as Mr Dawson had planned, and when they entered the house the living room was completely refurnished, even to a new carpet. And I feel certain that Dick Dawson found more pleasure than the Swanston family in the amazed surprise of Mrs Swanston. Eventually, he went west again, and his way reciprocating a kindness was the talk of the village for quite awhile."

Jack McCabe's father had been a school teacher in Ireland with an education that obtained for him employment in the office of the foundry established by Marcello Mowry on the north side of Hunter St., down by the old iron bridge. In what are euphemistically called recessions today, meaning hard times in the early years of Ashburnham, and generally throughout the country, work was slack, business income likewise, and there weren't bank credits to fall back on: wages had to be reduced. Mr McCabe mentioned that his father getting three dollars a week for a time until business picked up again.

There were occasions when the Dickson Lumber Company had to resort to part payment of wages in kind – lumber and groceries.

AIDED COMMUNITY

As to those stringent periods in Ashburnham, Mr McCabe thought that they tended to strengthen the community spirit, neighborliness and the wish to help one another. Evidently it affected his own personality for he was born across the river, and built the first house on the Burnham property of which the colonial type house of the Rev Mark Burnham in the present Engleburn was the centre of a splendid estate. It was later the home of J B McAllister, subsequent owner of R D Rogers flour mill on the north side of Hunter St., now part of the Quaker Oats

park, and afterwards the residence of the late Judge E C S Huycke.

The Ashburnham tradition and attraction have survived in the memories and the spirit of Mr McCabe.

location, and this, they contend, cannot be successfully done unless the village and town unite.

WILL A UNION BE BENEFICIAL? SOME OF THE REASONS FOR SUPPORT AND OPPOSITION OF ANNEXATION

Peterborough Daily Examiner - Friday, 6 November 1903

On November 26th the vote of the ratepayers on the union of Ashburnham with Peterborough will be taken in both municipalities. This same question has been voted upon before, but never under conditions which make the union so desirable as at the present time. There is a growing feeling being evidenced by the residents of both municipalities affected, that it would be for the benefit of both were the present proposed union to be carried out. There are those in Ashburnham who oppose the union on the ground that the burden of the taxpayer in the village would be added to. There are others, however, and they appear to be in the majority, who believe that the greatest prosperity of the village cannot be attained, while remaining a separate municipality, and that the fullest development can only be reached by joining forces with the town, and both combining to make the town what nature destined it to be, the best manufacturing town in Canada.

There are a number of very desirable sites in Ashburnham for manufacturing establishments, giving, as they would, access to both railways, as well as with water shipping facilities. It is pointed out by the supporters of the union that should the two places unite, manufacturers might be induced to locate on those sites, whereas if the village remains as it is at present, it has not the influence nor the financial ability to attract to it manufacturing industries. Thus it would appear, that it is for the "general advantage" of both municipalities that the union be effected.

The supporters of the union, urge that now, when the town will have available for industrial purposes, a quantity of cheap electrical energy, is an opportune time to throw out lines to industries seeking advantageous

FOR A GREATER MUNICIPALITY ASHBURNHAM AND PETERBOROUGH VOTE IN FAVOUR OF UNION.

MAJORITY IN FORMER 20, WHILE IN THE TOWN IT WAS 168 – SMALL VOTE POLLED IN PETERBOROUGH – SEWAGE BYLAW PASSED IN ASHBURNHAM.

*Peterborough Daily Examiner - Friday,
27 November 1903*

Yesterday the electors of Ashburnham and Peterborough, by an aggregate majority of 188, voted in favour of a union of the two municipalities, and the building up of a greater town, in the interest of all sections, and in January next the Town Council will have representatives from five wards, instead of four. The majority in favour of union in the town was 168, and in Ashburnham 20. It was thought by some that the village would vote against union, in which case, of course, the relative positions of the two municipalities would remain unchanged, because it required a majority vote of the smaller municipality before the union could be consummated. For this reason the vote in Peterborough was small, but a very small proportion of those qualified to vote availing themselves of the opportunity. There are on the list in Peterborough 3200 names, of these only 378, or 11.8 per cent, expressed their opinion on the question by their vote. In Ashburnham, where only freeholders could vote, the proportion was much greater, nearly all those qualified to vote doing so.

Now that the electors have registered their votes, a majority being in favour of the union, the two councils, who are in perfect harmony, on the question, will take the necessary steps to bring into effect the wish of the electors as expressed yesterday, and on January 1st, 1904, the town of Peterborough will take on 1781 additional population, making the total 13,588, making the new municipality of Peterborough by all odds, the largest town in the Dominion of Canada. The new addition will be treated as a ward, and will be given all the privileges of the other four wards of the town.

In Ashburnham the ratepayers were also asked to vote on a bylaw to provide for the council to raise \$15,000 to provide for an outfall sewer from Elizabeth street to the Little Lake, with a septic tank. This bylaw was carried by a majority of 17. The north ward voted against it by a majority of 7, while the south ward gave it a majority of 24. Of course the vote on the bylaw will be of non-effect, since the

union carried. The sewer will be constructed by the town, and it was only to provide against a vote adverse to union that the sewer bylaw was submitted to the people.

DETAILS OF THE VOTE

In the different polling sub-divisions in Peterborough the vote was as follows:

POLLING DIV.	MAJORITY	
	FOR	AG'T
No. 1	19	21
No. 2	30	12
No. 3	59	18
No. 4	41	11
No. 5	55	15
No. 6	22	19
No. 7	47	9
	170	2
Total majority for union	168	

THE VOTE IN ASHBURNHAM

The following is the vote polled for union in the two different wards in the village:

POLLING DIV.	MAJORITY	
	FOR	AG'T
North Ward	56	41
South Ward	43	38
	99	79

THE VOTE FOR SEWAGE

The following is the vote polled for sewerage in the different wards in the village:

North Ward	41	48	7
South Ward	52	28	24
	93	76	17

Total majority for sewerage ... 17

ADVANCING PETERBOROUGH

*Peterborough Daily Examiner,
28 November 1903*

Now is the time for our Board of Trade and Aldermen to take all steps possible to have a new era of advance for Peterborough date from the November of 1903. With the addition of the Fifth Ward to the town, we now have the material status of a city, and should rise to a new sense of responsibility. This fact becoming known abroad, will give us a better standing in the country. The special industrial edition of the Examiner issued on Tuesday, has been very favourably commented upon by the press, who through it have gained new

ideas of the industrial possibilities and importance of the town. It now remains for the Council and the Board of Trade to supplement in a practical way, what has been done in making the advantages of Peterborough as a manufacturing centre take a practical direction and not only that but spread abroad beyond the limit of circulation of a local journal, the preeminent possibilities that Peterborough possesses of becoming one of the foremost industrial centres of the province. The superior advantages of Peterborough as a centre of industrial operation are emphasized by the fact that some western towns find it necessary to take some such action as this. A guarantee fund of, say, \$100,000, is organized, with the understanding that each guarantor is bound to take a certain amount of stock in any new concern seeking location. In Peterborough everything is ready for the really solid and established industry – the cheapest power in the Dominion, the cheapest sites, etc. This fact has its lesson. To strike while the iron is hot, is a venerable, but very apt injunction.

Queries

Diane Robnik

Beech

Researcher seeks information on the Beech family who lived in Victoria County in the 1840s. William Beech died in Burnt River in 1874 and is buried in St. Peter's Anglican Church Cemetery in Verulam. We are searching for the family from his son John T. Beech's first marriage.

Bletcher

Thomas Eastland, date of birth unknown, married Ann Bletcher (born circa. 1825) 12 February 1848 at St. John's Anglican Church in Port Hope. Ann Bletcher was a daughter of Barnabus Bletcher and Mary Smithson. Looking for the parents of Thomas Eastland.

Caldwell/Scott

Looking for information on the marriage of William Caldwell, born 14 September 1854, to Florence Scott, born 29 January 1858. Florence Scott was the eldest daughter of Gilbert Scott and Emily Ann Scott (nee Hopkins). The marriage likely occurred between 1880-1885.

Clark

Searching for John and Mary Clark(e) who immigrated in 1833 with at least one child, a son born at sea named Daniel Marron. (Marron was the ship's captain). They settled in the Peterborough area and I can't find them again until 1861. In that census, Daniel is married to Martha Holmes with two children. Looking for any information about the parents.

DeLancette/Little

Margaret DeLancette was living in Dysart township in 1881 with her daughter Charity Little and her family. The census shows that she was then 90, a widow, from Germany. Margaret's husband Louis, died in 1858 and is buried in New York. Looking to find the date of death and place of burial for Margaret. Charity Little was the wife of George Little, living in Dysart in the 1871 Census. Their children were Margaret, Fanny, Ellen, Eva and George Jr. Charity Little died on 21 April 1881 in Dysart, burial site unknown. The family also married into the Peavers. Any information on these matters would be appreciated.

Hartigan

Looking for information on James Haritgan who in 1840 at the age of 48, found employment on the canal at Port Hope. His family included Ellen Hartigan, Patrick, Bridget, Mary, Peggy and James Jr.

O'Donoghue

Nora Ann O'Donoghue was born in Lindsay in 1893 to Patrick O'Donoghue and Margaret (Murphy) O'Donoghue. Orphaned in 1898, she was raised in Douro by John and Ellen Young. In the 1901 censuse, her father, Patrick, is listed with a Mary Welsh and a step son, Albert Welsh. Nora had three other siblings all born in Lindsay: David, Charles, and William. Patrick apparently died by stepping through a fishing hole one winter night. Norah's mother or step-mother died in a rest home fire. Researcher is looking for dates and locations of these events - possibly happened in Lindsay.

There is a slight chance the family was from New York, but unable to confirm this as well.

VETERANS OF PETERBORO'

Mr John Stephenson, the Father of the Famous "Peterborough" Canoe, Which Took the Place of the Birch Bark Craft of the Indians, and the "Dug-Out" of the White Settlers.

Peterborough Examiner, 19 December 1912

Mr John Stephenson, of 371 Burnham street, Ashburnham, or East City, as it is now called, is another man past the eighty-first milestone who was born in Peterborough.

When seventeen years of age he went to Cobourg where he learned blacksmithing. Later on he returned to Peterborough and worked for Duncan McDonald, who kept a blacksmith and wood-working shop on the corner of George and Dublin streets.

Some years after he formed a partnership with his brother and brother-in-law, under the firm name of Craigie & Stephenson, and operated a lumber and planing mill on the east side of the river near the spot now occupied by Wand's Planing Mill. In the year 1866 they manufactured 100,000 feet of lumber, besides shingles, which they were in the habit of shipping to Albany whenever the demand in Peterborough ran low.

But while Mr Stephenson's name stood out prominently during the sixties and seventies as a manufacturer, it is as



John Stephenson 1912 (Roy Studio)

an inventor that he has impressed the citizens of the last generation. An inventor of original ideas – ideas that have had their birth in the common necessities of man, but nearly all along one line – that of the canoe and its associated enterprises.

Every great originating mind produces in some way a change in society; every great originating mind, whose exercise is controlled by duty, effects a beneficial change. This effect may be immediate or it may be remote. In Mr Stephenson's case it was almost immediate, and it came about in this way:

Being an ardent sportsman Mr Stephenson was to be found almost every fall in our back lakes in pursuit of game. Of course the chief, and at the same time, the most cumbersome part of every sportsman's equipment is the canoe. In the early days these were of two kinds: the birchbark, or the Indian, and the dug-out, of the white man, the former being much preferred on account of its lightness.

One fall several parties found their way into Koshy, a little lake east of Upper Stoney, and from there into Oak Lake, in search of deer. Mr Stephenson went with his uncle, Joseph Smith, Joseph Dunlop and Mr Bennett. Their canoe was a dug-out weighing about two hundred pounds, and proved quite a big lift over the portages, even for the four. But on the way out, through some rearrangement of the members of the parties, there were only two to carry the heavy canoe. Mr Stephenson happened to be one of them, and every time he took hold of that canoe he resolved that next fall he would have a lighter one, and every foot of the carry served but to impress this thought more firmly on his mind.

The greatest events of an age are the thoughts that find their way into action.

During the winter and spring that followed he was busily engaged producing a canoe that would be lighter than the old dug-out. In a little shed adjoining his mill he evolved the first board canoe, well nigh sixty years ago [1857]. Needless to say it created a great deal of interest, especially among the sportsmen of the town, and was scarcely finished when it was promptly purchased by an admirer. Once more he proceeded to build himself a canoe, but the same fate befell No 2; the same with No 3, and so on through the summer. In fact Mr Stephenson was so busy supplying the demand for his new craft that he was unable to go hunting that fall.

We next find him in a factory devoted exclusively to canoes at the foot of Lake [Burnham] street on Little Lake, but on

the arrival of the Ontario and Quebec Division of the CPR about 1880, his property was taken over by them, and he located on Elizabeth [Hunter] Street near the GTR track. Shortly after this the late Col J Z Rogers became interested in the enterprize and finally bought him out, and started to manufacture canoes on an extensive scale under the firm name of the Ontario Canoe Co, this being changed later to The Peterborough Canoe Co.

Mr Stephenson continued experimenting with different models and styles of craft, and it is to his inventive genius we owe many of the popular improvements in the canoes that have made Peterborough famous.

It is remarkable how people's minds are governed by association of ideas. To the traveller the name Peterborough suggests the Lift Lock; to the electrician the name pictures the Canadian General Electric Co; to the housewife it calls up the flavour of Quaker Oats; to the camper, hunter and sportsman, the mere mention of the word Peterborough implies "Peterborough Canoe."

The most important departure from the regular method of construction was the invention by Mr Stephenson of the Cedar Rib Canoe, recognized everywhere as the triumph of the canoe-building art. It combines strength, lightness, and durability. It is built of cedar strips about an inch wide, running from gunwale to gunwale with tongue-and-grooved joint. It is a scientific fact that the arch is the strongest form of construction, and this principle was adopted in this type of canoe, each rib being an inverted arch. This invention was sold to Mr Rogers and the Peterborough Canoe Co advertise it as one of their most popular lines, the "Strongest in the world."

In discussing the merits of the Peterborough Canoe in their catalogue, they say in part: "We first introduced the perfect canoe to Canadians. Not that we are the original and only pioneers of canoes, in the literal acceptance of the term, but pioneer builders of the perfect canoe, that gave the first great impetus to canoeing, and we succeeded in the business of the original builder of the Peterborough Canoes."

The "original builder" is the subject of our sketch.

How prone we are, sometimes, to forget those who have given the best of their lives to the furtherance of enterprises that have meant so much to the human race! How selfishly we go on enjoying the fruits of other men's exertions, never pausing to think of the

hardships encountered, and privations endured, by those who have "blazed the trail" in the laudable desire to make other lives happier, and more comfortable as a result of their incessant toil!

Some men invent one thing and then stop to enjoy the tangible fruits of their discovery, but, not so with Mr Stephenson; his mind is so active and so thoroughly engrossed in his work that he no sooner finishes one thing than he is head and heels into another. Lately he has been working on a machine for making paddles, one which turns out a paddle complete from the plank without a hand tool being used in its manufacture. This he has perfected and disposed of to Mr Rye. He is now engaged on a machine that will turn out an oar in the same manner.

If Mr Stephenson is spared to us for some years to come we look forward to some other inventions that may revolutionize the canoe business; but, no matter what his fertile brain may produce for our benefit, we will always remember him as "The Father of the Peterborough Canoe."

[Editor's note: This story and photo are in the TVA's Gerry Stephenson canoe history fonds. Part of the fonds was described in the Heritage Gazette for August 2004. The collection is now open to researchers. We have plans to publish the finding aid together with a story of Gerry Stephenson's odyssey to find the Maine connection of the famed Peterborough canoe.]

The unidentified clergyman was the Rev Herbert Symonds

On the cover of our last issue we ran the photograph of an unidentified clergyman who was expected to have some connection with the Reid family, one of the founding families in the Peterborough area. The Trent University Archives has a copy of the photo in their splendid holdings. Their photo, taken by the Roy Studio, Peterborough, is identified in pencil as "Rev. Herbert Symonds".

The Rev Herbert Symonds, Anglican clergyman (1860-1921). Symonds, the son of George and Hannah (nee Wright) Symonds was born in Rickingham-Inferior, Suffolk, 28 December 1860. He attended Albert Memorial College and Framingham College in England, and emigrated to Canada, 1881. He was educated at Trinity College, Toronto (BA 1886; MA 1887); ordained a deacon, 1885, and a priest, 1887. He graduated from Trinity with prizes in English and for Sermons. He received honorary doctorates from Queen's, 1901, and from McGill, 1910.

In March 1883, he married Emma Blackhall Boyd, the fourth daughter of Mossom Boyd, Bobcaygeon. Two of their sons, Herbert and Eric, both died in 1917.

Symonds was a lecturer (1887-1890) and then professor of divinity (1890-1892) at Trinity College; rector of St Luke's Ashburnham, 1892-1901; headmaster, Trinity College School, Port Hope, 1901-1903; and, vicar of Christ Church Cathedral, Montreal, 1903-1921. In Montreal he was active in Prisoners' Aid and the Children's Aid Society. He was first president of the Canadian Society of Christian Unity and attended the World's Missionary Congress, 1910, in Edinburgh, and the Anglican Congress in Halifax, 1910. He was a chaplain with the Prince of Wales Dragoons (and Fusiliers) from 1896. He was also a Freemason, and the Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

Symonds was a published author, a highly-regarded preacher and a leader of the Broad Church. His writings include *Trinity University and University Federation* (Toronto 1894); *Lectures on Christian Unity* (Toronto 1899); *The Anglican Church and the Doctrine of Apostolic Succession*, (1907); "The Outlook for Religious Faith" in J. O. Miller, ed., *The New Era in Canada* (Toronto 1917) 387-406; and contributions to newspapers and magazines. He died in Montreal, 24 May 1921.

This was a very exciting discovery. With the photo now identified, it is possible to pursue many avenues of research. For example, the Trent University Archives has the papers of the Mossom Martin Boyd family of

Bobcaygeon and these papers contain diaries by several members of the family. There are other diaries in their collection, notably of R. B. Rogers, which could have information. There are also significant Anglican archives that could have information including the archives of the Diocese of Toronto and of the Diocese of Montreal. He gave sermons at many churches, and so his name appears in the vestry book of St John's Anglican Church, Peterborough, which is housed in their parish archives. At the Trent Valley Archives, the registers of the Roy Studio identify when members of the Symonds family had photographs taken.

It is exciting when such connections are made. We had several suggestions from our members and we thank everybody for their interest. We are especially grateful to Jodi Aoki at the Trent University Archives. Her sharp eyes solved this mystery.

Reredos Memorial Dedicated to the Rev Herbert Symonds

The reredos at Christ Church Cathedral, 1444 Union, Montreal (Quebec) H3A 2B8 is dedicated to the memory of the Rev Herbert Symonds. This is the story of that reredos as found on the cathedral website.

.... The installation of a reredos had been discussed from time to time, but had always been opposed. Then, in 1873 it was proposed again, this time, to be erected in memory of Dean John Bethune. Alex Empey, one of the church wardens, had particularly interested himself in it, and the Select Vestry approved it. A design from a London firm was presented to a special meeting of the congregation and was accepted. However, at the annual meeting of the Vestry in 1874 the Rector, Rev. Maurice Baldwin said that he felt he must disallow it after all. He said that some highly placed church authorities in England had opposed the putting up of a reredos containing images of the human form; also, that with the extra ordinary

development of ritualism and 'the increasing tendency of the age to objective worship, such a reredos would be undesirable. It would offend the religious convictions of some and so precipitate a fatal rupture of the peace and harmony of the Church. He was, however, in favour of a plainer reredos. Mr. Empey regretfully withdrew his support of the idea, and the matter dropped until 1923, when the commemoration of those of the congregation who had fallen in the war of 1914-18 took the form of the present fine reredos and altar. The names of those who fell in the Second Great War have been added to tablets which form part of the reredos. The memorial was unveiled and dedicated on 16 December 1923.

The reredos is of Caen stone, on a platform of Italian marble. The altar slab is of Hopton Wood marble from Canterbury. In its centre ten stones are inlaid in the form of a cross, nine of which are visible. The stone in the stem of the cross is from the Anglican Cathedral of St. George the Martyr in Jerusalem. The right, or Epistle arm of the cross is from the cornice stone of the ancient Church of the Holy

Sepulchre built over the garden tomb of Joseph of Arimathea. The stone forming the left or Gospel arm came from the Garden of Gethsemane. The stone of the centre came from Calvary; the stone in the head of the cross came from the Mount of Olives. Under the Calvary stone is a piece of volcanic rock excavated from a spot subjacent to the catacombs of Rome where early Roman Christians met to worship. The Calvary stone transitions a hidden and persecuted Church to a

triumphant and revealed Church. At the extremities of the cross are four other stones symbolical of the spread of Christianity throughout the world. The stone which touches the apex came from the Hill of Armagh, Ireland, where St. Patrick built his church and monastery in 445 A.D. The stone which touches the left arm came from the Island of Iona, Scotland, where St. Columba raised his church, refectory and cells in 563 A.D. The stone which touches the right arm of the cross was derived from the oldest section of the monastery built at Canterbury in 603



~~A.D. by St. Augustine and his monks.~~ The stone at the base of the cross was cut from a foundation stone of St. Anne's chapel at Annapolis Royal, Canada, the oldest European settlement on the North American continent (north of the Gulf of Mexico). Beneath the Annapolis Royal stone is a small quantity of Flanders mud scraped from a photograph of a Canadian soldier, a French aviator, and a Belgian sergeant. It was found on Passchendaele Ridge in October, 1917, and sent to Canada. In one of the Lewis holes in the altar ashlar is a piece of 13th century oak panelling from one of the shell-torn sanctuary stalls in the former Ypres Cathedral. The ten stones were assembled by John M. Black, of Montreal, and were given by him to the Cathedral as a memorial to the Rev. Herbert Symonds, whose initiative and enterprise secured the funds necessary for the cost of the altar and reredos. The stones from the Holy Land were sent to Mr. Black by the Anglican Bishop in Jerusalem, the Right Rev. Rennie MacInnes; the stone from the Church of the Holy Sepulchre was a gift from the Greek patriarch of Jerusalem.

The memorial is one of the most beautiful works of its kind in Canada. It was designed by Mr. F. E. Howard, of Oxford, and was executed by the Warham Guild, of London. The figure groups and figures were cut by Mr. A. Miller, and the canopies, cornices and cresting by Mr. A. A. Miller, two famous English stoneworkers. The Memorial was set up by the Wallace Sandstone Quarries, of Phillipsburg, Que. It took more than two and a half years to complete.

Letter to the Editor

Bette Reid

First, let me say how impressed I am with the Gazette. So much work goes into it, and so much valuable information comes out. My cousin claims that of all the newsletters and regular publications received over some 30-40 years, the *Heritage Gazette* has provided the best quality and quantity of information. Congratulations.

What a pleasant surprise I found in opening the mail today and pulling the *Heritage Gazette* from its envelope! I had no idea the "project" you spoke of for the mystery reverend photograph was this issue's cover. Your teasing trick gave me quite a chuckle. Well done! And, with a little luck, someone will recognize him and solve our mystery. Thank you, Elwood. I look forward to some really good weekend reading.

I was browsing the TVA website the other day. My goodness you have all done a wonderful job at TVA. In that browse, I was reacquainted with the article about the Peterborough Relief Society. It has been quite awhile since the last read. The intertwining family connections are always so fascinating. Of course, the Mrs. Rolleston mentioned is Robert Reid's youngest daughter, Catherine, but Mrs. Boswell is also connected via marriage on our Godard side. The Godard's were another Peterborough family from around 1840 and mentioned in Susanna Moody's letters. Professor Roper's wife descended from my g-g-grandfather Godard's sister, Hannah Caddy. The six degrees of separation theory in action.

Dad's description of the barrage system is of historical significance, as the Canadian corps were the first in military history to have given officers in the field the discretion to make battle decisions. From the innovative tactics resulting, the name 'Crazy Canucks' was coined.

Shocking Suicide

Staffordshire Sentinel, 29 June 1872
thanks to Beryl Rooth

On Wednesday morning Mr George Tittensor, butcher, who has lately gone to live at the Old Boat and Horse Inn, Stubbs Gate, committed suicide. He got up at 5 o'clock, leaving his wife in bed, went downstairs and cut his throat with a knife. The same evening an inquest was held in front of Mr J Knight coroner.

Mr Lees of Stubbs Gate said: "A t about twenty past five this morning I heard screams of murder and ran out of my house. On hearing that the screams came from the Boat and Horse Inn, kept by deceased, I ran there. When I got in the house I saw George Tittensor sitting on the sofa, in the little parlour, bleeding dreadfully from the throat, with a knife in his hand. He did not speak. Mrs Tittensor and the son were in the house in a distracted state. I at once ran out again to fetch a doctor, and was away perhaps twenty nine minutes. When I returned Mr Tittensor was dead. I saw deceased the night before. I don't know whether he was drunk, he seemed hardly right. He had been drinking for a fortnight or three weeks." -

William Jackson said: "I heard the screams and ran to the Boat and Horse. I met the last witness coming out. When

I got to the little parlour Mr Tittensor was standing up with the knife in his right hand. He looked strangely and wildly at me, and I turned back to see if there was someone at hand to go in with me. As there was no one I went in. He had then turned partly round with his right hand towards me. I suddenly grasped his arm and the knife fell towards the sofa. I put him on the sofa, when he said, 'Go Tom'. He struggled, and I had a difficulty in holding him, he was so powerful. He bled dreadfully, particularly when he coughed. We held him on the sofa until he died, which would be about twenty minutes after I went in. He has just died when the last witness came back."

The foreman of the jury said that the deceased had evidently committed suicide while in a state of temporary insanity, through excessive drinking.

The jury unanimously agreed that deceased committed suicide while in a state of temporary insanity. The deceased left behind him eight children, four by his widow, and four by his former wife. The shocking event caused quite a painful sensation in the town.

[Editor's note: We are always pleased to share stories that have meant so much to our members. This story resonated in two ways. The Trent Valley Archives has been striving to identify local ghost stories. Each story is a gateway to understanding the past, especially when placed in its contexts. Family researchers visiting this tavern, which still stands, were able to solve a mystery of unexplained presences that people had experienced. They were surprised that someone from Canada could know so much that was valuable. Here's to Canada.]

Trent Valley Archives

567 Carnegie Avenue
Peterborough Ontario K9L 1N1
705-743-0231

www.trentvalleyarchives.com

Tuesday to Saturday, 10 - 4

Trent Valley Archives Thanks its Members

We wish to thank our members for the generous response to our financial appeal. As you know, ours is a

charitable non-profit organization and will issue charitable donation receipts for donations. We depend on donations from our members and friends. Your support helped us through an exciting year. Our research room with new library shelving and library tables is a pleasant place to do research. Our resources have grown, we have improved our humidity control. We now have a conservator on site. We have improved our machines for reading and printing microfilm and digital sources. We have added books, newspapers, microfilms and digital sources. None of this would be possible without support from various sources, but mostly you.

We need to increase our membership, which has been growing very steadily over the last couple of years. Donations from individuals totalled over \$11,000 last year. Our target this year is \$18,000 and with your help, we are optimistic of success.

For details contact Diane at the Trent Valley Archives: 705-743-0231 or admin@trentvalleyarchives.com

Thanks

Dr Kidd, formerly with the Royal Ontario Museum, had conducted research with the Blackfeet in Alberta, the Six Nations, the Serpent Mounds on Rice Lake, and Ste Marie among the Hurons. He was a great supporter of local historical research. His wife, Martha Ann Kidd, is Peterborough's leading expert on vintage architecture.

Archival Awareness Week

The TVA board cordially invites you to participate in the events of Archival Awareness Week, 5 to 9 April 2005. At press time, plans were on foot. We will celebrate Archives Awareness Day on Wednesday, 6 April. We will highlight the Martha Kidd fonds and the Gerry Stephenson Canoe History fonds. It will be a chance for people to see how important archives can be.

On other days that week, we will have workshops for genealogy, searching land records, conserving photographs and memorabilia.

For details, contact Diane.

Trent Valley Archives Notice of Annual General Meeting 28 April 2005, 7pm

The annual general meeting of the Trent Valley Archives will be held in the newly refurbished auditorium of the Peterborough Public Library, Thursday, 28 April 2005, beginning at 7 pm.

In addition to the normal business of the Trent Valley Archives and the Trust Fund, the members will consider a motion to create an additional category of membership to be called the Sustaining Member, at \$100 per year. The existing membership schedule will remain unchanged.

Following the short business meeting we are pleased to welcome Dr Paul Healy who will present an illustrated lecture based on his interview with Dr Ken Kidd, the founder of Trent University's Anthropology Department and Native Studies Program. The General Public is cordially invited.

Dr Healy, a former chair of the Department of Anthropology, is highly regarded for his archaeological research in Belize. He interviewed the late Dr Kidd some years ago.

Millbrook Rural Telephone Company Directory 1939

Aiken	Harvey	RR 3	Millbrook	207 r 31
Allen	John, Mrs		Millbrook	52
Allen	John E.		Millbrook	29 J
Allewell	John	RR 3	Millbrook	216 r111
Argue	H C		Millbrook	204 r 32
Armstrong	David	RR 2	Millbrook	217 r 4
Armstrong	Ernest	RR 1	Fraserville	204 r 121
Armstrong	Ed J		Millbrook	211 r 14
Armstrong	Gerald	RR 2	Millbrook	209 r 13
Armstrong	Jack	RR 1	Fraserville	204 r 13
Armstrong	James		Ida	206 r 21
Armstrong	J D	RR 1	Fraserville	205 r 13
Armstrong	Reg	RR 2	Millbrook	209 r 111
Armstrong	Thomas	RR 1	Fraserville	216 r 21
Armstrong	William	RR 1	Millbrook	219 r 14
Attwooll & Sheppard	millers		Millbrook	6 W
Attwooll & Sheppard	residence		Millbrook	6 J
Ball	Harry Mrs	RR 3	Millbrook	207 r 13
Ball	Herb Mrs	RR 3	Millbrook	207 r 5
Ball	Melville		Millbrook	30 W
Ball	W E	Implement Agent	Millbrook	53 W
Ball	W E	residence	Millbrook	53 J
Bank of Toronto			Millbrook	16
Belch	Nathaniel	RR 3	Millbrook	207 r 4
Belch	Wilbert	RR 1	Millbrook	219 r 22
Belch	William	RR 1	Millbrook	202 r 111
Bentley	P I	Hardware	Millbrook	48 W
Bentley	P I	residence	Millbrook	48 J
Berry	George	RR 1	Millbrook	203 r 33
Best	Mervin		Ida	206 r 15
Bigelow	Harold		Millbrook	89
Bingham	J H		Millbrook	90
Blakely	Henry		Pontypool	211 r 11
Bonner	George	RR 1	Millbrook	203 r 24
Bonner	Russell	RR 1	Millbrook	203 r 121
Bonneville	L M		Millbrook	63
Bothwell	George	RR 1	Fraserville	216 r 4
Boyd	Thomas		Ida	213 r 31
Boyles	Ernest		Cavan	214 r 33
Boyles	S C		Cavan	214 r 2
Brackenridge	N	RR 2	Millbrook	290 r 32
Bradburn	J Mrs		Cavan	201 r 33
Braithwaite	Harry		Cavan	201 r 22
Braithwaite	Joseph A		Millbrook	218 r 21
Bristow	William	RR 2	Millbrook	212 r 21
Brock	Oliver	RR 2	Millbrook	217 r 6
Brown	J Albert	RR 3	Millbrook	216 r 14
Brown	Keegan	RR 2	Millbrook	217 r 12
Brown	Raymond	RR 3	Millbrook	217 r 14
Brown	W W	RR 1	Millbrook	203 r 14
Brown	Wesley	RR 3	Millbrook	217 r 23
Burnham	G E	Grocer	Millbrook	23
Burnham	G E	residence	Millbrook	1
Burns	J H		Millbrook	216 r 2
Byam	L J		Millbrook	14
Byam	Lloyd		Millbrook	69 J
Byers	Albert		Cavan	215 r 111
Byers	Milford		Cavan	215 r 4
C N R Station			Millbrook	4
C P R Station			Cavan	218 r 33

Campbell	T A		Millbrook	96	W
Carley	O V		Cavan	201	r 3
Carr	R M		Cavan	214	r 111
Cathcart	John		Cavan	218	r 23
Cavan Township		J N McGill clerk	Millbrook	45	
Challice	Fred	RR 2	Millbrook	212	r 5
Challice	Leonard	RR 2	Millbrook	210	r 22
Challice	M E		Millbrook	205	r 11
Challice	Walter	Repair shop	Millbrook	7	w
Challice	William	RR 2	Millbrook	208	r 121
Chapman	M	Garage	Millbrook	36	W
Chapman	M	residence	Millbrook	21	W
Chiles	D K	Grocer	Millbrook	57	
Clarke	George		Millbrook	28	J
Clarke	J J	Fire alarm	Millbrook	46	J
Clarry	L S Mrs		Millbrook	39	
Cockshutt	Sales and Service Farm Equipment		Campbellcroft	210	r 13
Collins	Howard		Millbrook	51	
Commercial Hotel		Wes Hutchinson	Millbrook	20	P.O.
Connell	James		Pontypool	211	r 2
Coombe	W H	Grocer	Millbrook	22	
Coulter	Alf	RR 3	Millbrook	217	r 33
Crocker	William		Pontypool	211	r 24
Davidson	William		Cavan	201	r 4
Deyell	J T		Millbrook	18	F
Donaldson	Thomas	RR 1	Millbrook	202	r 15
Douglas	James Mrs		Cavan	201	r 24
Douglas	Thomas	RR 1	Fraserville	216	r 22
Douglas	William		Cavan	201	r 5
Eakins	J R		Millbrook	27	
Eakins	S E	Hardware	Millbrook	3	
Eakins	S E	residence	Millbrook	49	
Earl	Henry	RR 1	Millbrook	219	r 32
Earl	William	RR 2	Millbrook	208	r 21
Eastcott	James Mrs		Millbrook	31	
Edmunds	R H		Millbrook	75	
Edworthy	F L	Bakery	Millbrook	35	
Elgar	John	RR 2	Millbrook	208	r 4
Ellis	H E Dr	Veterinarian Surgn	Millbrook	56	
Elmer	William	RR 2	Millbrook	212	r 24
Elson	Wilfred	RR 1	Fraserville	205	r 2
Fair	Howard	RR 2	Millbrook	208	r 3
Fallis	Allie	RR 3	Millbrook	207	r 23
Fallis	Arthur	RR 3	Millbrook	207	r 11
Fallis	Clifford	RR 3	Millbrook	207	r 6
Fallis	Edgar L		Millbrook	204	r 3
Fallis	W Fred	RR 3	Millbrook	207	r 12
Fallis	Henry	RR 3	Millbrook	207	r 121
Fallis	Lavergne	RR 1	Fraserville	204	r 5
Fallis	Milton	RR 3	Millbrook	207	r 111
Fallis	Nellis		Millbrook	207	r 112
Fallis	Reg	RR 3	Millbrook	207	r 14
Fallis	Stewart	RR 3	Millbrook	207	r 24
Fallis	Walter	RR 3	Millbrook	211	r 5
Fallis	Wilfred	RR 3	Millbrook	207	r 15
Fee	Beatty		Ida	206	r 2
Fee	J W		Ida	206	r 33
Ferren	Roy		Cavan	214	r 31
Finn	M	Hydro Tower Linemn	Millbrook	7	J
Finnemore	M Miss		Millbrook	42	W
Finnemore	William		Millbrook	220	r 2
Finney	William		Ida	213	r 2
Ford	A	Butcher	Millbrook	24	

Fowler & Pendrie Francey	William	Dry Good Merchant RR 1	Millbrook Millbrook	8 219 r 12
Gardiner	Charles R	RR 2	Millbrook	212 r 3
Gardiner	Harvey J	RR 2	Millbrook	210 r 111
Gibson	L H	RR 2	Millbrook	210 r 2
Gillis	Ira		Cavan	206 r 4
Gillis	N		Cavan	215 r 3
Gilmour	A R	RR 2	Millbrook	212 r 12
Gilmour	Richard A	RR 2	Millbrook	212 r 4
Gilmour	V H		Campbellcroft	210 r 14
Godfrey	J	Trucker	Millbrook	69 M
Golf Club			Millbrook	68 M
Gray	Ivan L	Druggist	Millbrook	79
Gray	Ivan L	residence	Millbrook	37
Gray	West Mrs		Millbrook	71
Greer	J		Baillieboro	209 r 11
Hall	Clifford	RR 1	Millbrook	203 r 2
Hall	Stewart		Millbrook	18 J
Hall	Willis	RR 1	Millbrook	202 r 23
Hamilton	Sam	RR 3	Millbrook	217 r 2
Handley	John	Foundry	Ida	206 r 12
Hard	J	RR 2	Millbrook	217 r 31
Harkness	Teasdale		Ida	206 r 22
Heaps	Alfred		Millbrook	68 F
Henderson	Leonard	RR 3	Millbrook	207 r 22
Henderson	Robert		Ida	213 r 32
Henry	Howard	Farm Equipment	Campbellcroft	210 r 13
Hetherington	Estella Miss		Millbrook	34
Hetherington	George Mrs		Millbrook	65 M
Hibbard	Leonard		Cavan	215 r 22
Hobbs	L N Dr	Dentist	Millbrook	40
Hobbs	M E Dr		Millbrook	60
Howard	W R	Barrister	Millbrook	9 W
Howard	W R	residence	Millbrook	9 J
Howden	William		Cavan	218 r 5
Howson	J W		Cavan	218 r 14
Hubbard	Cecil	RR 3	Millbrook	217 r 111
Hubbard	Harold	RR 2	Millbrook	217 r 22
Hubbard	Henry	RR 3	Millbrook	217 r 24
Hudson	Clifford		Millbrook	216 r 6
Hunter	Aubrey	RR 1	Fraserville	220 r 11
Hunter	J D Mrs		Cavan	214 r 5
Hunter	V R		Cavan	218 r 111
Hutchinson	Edwin	RR 1	Millbrook	219 r 3
Hutchinson	James	RR 1	Millbrook	202 r 22
Hutchinson	William	RR 3	Millbrook	207 r 21
Hydro-Electric			Millbrook	33
Hydro-Electric	George Harrington	Manager	Millbrook	33
Jeffrey's Creamery			Millbrook	67
Jemison	A Dr	Dentist	Millbrook	43
Keegan	Howard Mrs		Cavan	214 r 3
Kellis	A Miss		Millbrook	11
Kennedy	Archie		Cavan	215 r 21
Kennedy Brothers		RR 2	Millbrook	223 r 3
Kennedy	James		Cavan	201 r 121
Kennedy	Sam		Millbrook	223 r 5
Kennedy	Vertile		Millbrook	210 r 32
Kerr	H A		Millbrook	64
Kidd	F A Mrs	Grocer	Millbrook	32
Kidd	George		Millbrook	42 J
Kinsman	William		Pontypool	211 r 3

Lackie	Hamilton	RR 1	Fraserville	220 r 32
Lamb	E	RR 1	Fraserville	204 r 6
Lancashire	G H	Auto Dealer	Millbrook	217 r 21
Larmer	J L	RR 1	Millbrook	202 r 11
Larmer	Wilbert I	RR 1	Fraserville	205 r 5
Larmer	William Mrs		Millbrook	21 F
Lewers	Fred	RR 1	Fraserville	220 r 31
Lough	Roy	Store	Ida	213 r 4
Lowe	Ira		Ida	206 r 13
Lowery	Norman	RR 3	Millbrook	216 r 24
Lunn	William	RR 2	Millbrook	208 r 14
Lunney	I Mrs		Campbellcroft	210 r 11
Madill	J	RR 5	Peterborough	205 r 3
Maitland	William	RR 1	Fraserville	216 r 13
Matchett	Richard	RR 1	Fraserville	204 r 21
McBrien	W		Millbrook	214 r 32
McCamus	J L	RR 2	Millbrook	208 r 11
McCamus	Robert		Ida	213 r 12
McCamus	William		Millbrook	65 J
McConkey	L M	Store	Mount Pleasant	206 r 23
McCullough	M	Store	Cavan	201 r 12
McDonald	R J	RR 2	Millbrook	219 r 4
McDowell	M		Millbrook	86
McFee	Howard	RR 1	Millbrook	223 r 2
McGee	W	Cavan	215 r 11	
McGill	J N		Millbrook	58
McGill	Stewart	RR 1	Millbrook	203 r 13
McKenzie	D A Rev		South Monaghan	203 r 3
McKnight	John	RR 3	Millbrook	216 r 11
McNeil	Leonard	RR 1	Fraserville	204 r 23
Might	James	RR 1	Millbrook	202 r 3
Millbrook Bakery			Millbrook	89
Millbrook Garage			Millbrook	80
Mirror-Reporter			Millbrook	19
Mitchell	John		Mount Pleasant	206 r 32
Moore	Edwin	RR 1	Fraserville	204 r 11
Moore	Lewis	RR 1	Millbrook	202 r 5
Morden	Clew		Ida 206	r 5
Morton	Herb		Cavan	215 r 13
Morton	John James		Cavan	215 r 15
Morton	L		Millbrook	91
Morton	Robert	RR 1	Fraserville	216 r 12
Nattrass	Ira	Millbrook	?	
Needham	Mae Miss	Millbrook	?	
Needler	A	Millbrook	38	
Nill		Mary Mrs	Cavan	218 r 31
Nill		William	Cavan	218 r 11
O'Brien	Mae Miss	Millbrook	94	
O'Brien	William	RR 1	Millbrook	202 r 4
Olan	Benjamin	RR 2	Millbrook	223 r 6
Olan	Lawrence	Trucker	Millbrook	21 J
Olan	Stanley	RR 1	Fraserville	205 r 12
Parks	T E	RR 1	Fraserville	205 r 4
Patterson	George	RR 2	Millbrook	212 r 2
Patterson	Harry	Millbrook	223 r 4	
Patton	D	RR 3	Millbrook	211 r 15
Patton	Herb	RR 3	Millbrook	217 r 11
Paul	James H		Ida 206	r 3

Perrin	J W Mrs		Cavan	214 r 4
Pethick	M	Millbrook	68 J	
Porter	Charles Mrs		Pontypool	211 r 31
Porter	W L		Pontypool	211 r 121
Powers	Sid		Pontypool	211 r 111
Pritchard	Leslie		Cavan	215 r 14
Pudsey	William		Cavan	214 r 23
Rae	L H Mrs		Millbrook	78
Raper	Benjamin		Millbrook	18 W
Reid	W A	Variety	Millbrook	36 J
Reynolds	W J	RR 1	Fraserville	204 r 12
Richards	E C	Police	Millbrook	46 W
Richards	Sam		Cavan	201 r 111
Richardson	T	RR 3	Millbrook	217 r 13
Robertson	R		Cavan	214 r 12
Roddy	James		Baillieboro	209 r 3
Rogers	Lewis		Pontypool	211 r 23
Russell	Herb		Millbrook	28 M
Rutherford	D		Baillieboro	209 r 11
Sanderson	Harvey		Millbrook	12
Scott	A J Mrs		Millbrook	28 W
Scott	Fred	Undertaker	Millbrook	10
Seaton	H Mrs		Millbrook	65 W
Seeney	Merton		Ida	213 r 21
Sharpe	Bruce		Ida	213 r 14
Sharpe	W R N		Ida	213 r 13
Simpson	W	Archdeacon	Millbrook	73
Sisco	A L Rev		Millbrook	44
Sisson	Bruce		Cavan	215 r 5
Sisson	James		Ida	206 r 11
Smith	A A Mrs		Millbrook	41
Smith	Charles		Cavan	214 r 121
Smith	Fred	Garage	Millbrook	72 J
Smith	Fred	residence	Millbrook	72 W
Smith	John		Cavan	214 r 22
Smith	Leonard		Millbrook	202 r 12
Smith	Robert		Millbrook	209 r 2
Smith	Russell		Millbrook	29 W
Snider	E		Cavan	218 r 13
Snider	J H		Cavan	201 r 14
Stanton	R E Mrs		Millbrook	96 J
Staples	Fred		Fraserville	204 r 31
Staples	R S		Cavan	215 r 21
Stewart	Percy		Ida	213 r 3
Stinson	F G		Millbrook	77
Stinson	Percy		Millbrook	59
Stuart	L J Dr	Dentist	Millbrook	25
Sutton	Austin	RR 3	Millbrook	207 r 2
Sutton	C B		Millbrook	69 W
Sutton	Lloyd	RR 1	Fraserville	204 r 2
Sutton	Reg		Ida	206 r 31
Swain	J C		Cavan	218 r 22
Syer	Eber	RR 1	Fraserville	204 r 4
Syer	M E Mrs		Millbrook	30 J
Syer	Ray		Cavan	214 r 13
Tate	Harold	RR 1	Millbrook	203 r 4
Thompson	Jack	RR 1	Millbrook	202 r 14
Thompson	Joseph	RR 1	Millbrook	202 r 2
Thorn	Arthur V		Millbrook	223 r 11
Thorn	George	RR 2	Millbrook	212 r 12
Thorn	Joe		Millbrook	223 r 12
Thorndyke	Charles		Millbrook	55
Tinney	Albert		Cavan	201 r 13

Tinney	Albert	Garage	Cavan	201 r 23
Tinney	Donald		Cavan	201 r 31
Tinney	Harry		Cavan	214 r 14
Tinney	William		Cavan	201 r 2
Todd	M	RR 3	Millbrook	211 r 4
Trew	Norman		Cavan	218 r 12
Trick	Herb		Millbrook	68 W
Trumpour	J R Rev		Cavan	201 r 21
Turner	H A Dr		Millbrook	84
Walsh	Wilbert	RR 3	Millbrook	207 r 3
Westall	William		Millbrook	88
Westmacott	C Mrs		Millbrook	47
White	David		Cavan	214 r 24
White	William		Ida	213 r 11
Widdis	Walter	RR 2	Millbrook	223 r 22
Windrum	Walter		Ida	213 r 23
Winslow	Clare		Ida	213 r 5
Winslow	Fred	RR 2	Millbrook	223 r 23
Winslow	L H		Millbrook	17
Wood	Fred R	RR 2	Millbrook	208 r 6
Wood	Richard	RR 3	Millbrook	211 r 21
Wood	Thomas Mrs		Baillieboro	209 r 21
Wood	W Harvey	RR 3	Millbrook	211 r 13
Wood	W T		Millbrook	15
Wood	Wesley	RR 3	Millbrook	211 r 32
Wood	Wilbert	RR 3	Millbrook	211 r 22
Wood	Willis	RR 2	Millbrook	208 r 12
Wragg	Wesley		Cavan	218 r 2
Wright	J W Dr		Millbrook	13
Wright	Robert D		Campbellcroft	210 r 15
Zealand	E		Campbellcroft	210 r 23

Telephone companies in 1939 Directory and the number of customers for each:

Dr A C Beatty Telephone System	162
Dunsford Telephone, Light & Power Co-Op Assn Ltd	133
Emily Municipal Telephone System	313
Ennismore Municipal Telephone System	84
Manvers Municipal Telephone System	293
Millbrook Rural Telephone Company Ltd	315
Orono Telephone Company Ltc	375
Port Hope Telephone Co Ltd	356
South Monaghan Municipal Telephone System	141

2172 total customers in this area

Nexicom is celebrating its venerable history. It is now clear that it is rooted in the efforts of Dr H A Turner of Millbrook who Larry Lamb, of the Millbrook Historical Society reports received permission to install telephone poles on local streets in 1898. Elwood Jones is writing the history with help from Don Willcock, Chris Minicola, Anne Marie Halliday and from others connected with the company, telephones or the Millbrook and Otonabee areas. People wishing to reserve a copy may do so by contacting Anne Marie Halliday amhalliday@nexicom.net.

This list was prepared from a copy of the telephone book given to the Trent Valley Archives by Randy Neals.

*Gooderham & Area History***Boyd Lumber Company Operations in Glamorgan Township, 1872-1892***Elva V. Bates*

In October, my grandson, Tom, and I went to Ottawa to visit the National Archives. We spent a combined total of over 20 hours researching the Boyd Papers as they pertain to the Boyd Lumber Company Operations in Glamorgan Township. Here is some of the information that we collected:

1872/73 " Wm Dunbar Log Book Season 1872 & 1873

Summary 14864 pieces
Cull saw logs 685 pieces
156549"

1875/76 - "Cost of wages of Wm. Dunbar - Glamorgan

- oxen & pigs killed at ?? \$135.00
- Logs @ \$1.10 + Crown dues 20 = \$1.30
- Timber @ 74 + Crown dues 11/4 = 81/4"

1877: Fire Damage Report 1877

Glamorgan: Con 3 Lots 22, 23, 24, 25 26 - burnt
Con 4 Lots 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 - burnt
Con 5 Lots 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 - burnt
Con 6 Lots 21, 22, 23, 24 - burnt south side of river
Con 7 Lots 23 - 33, inclusive - burnt

1885 - "Mr. John Barr Shanty For M. Boyd & Co.

Dr.

1885 To Anthony Hall

Oct. 8	418 ft. pine lumber	\$3.04
	282 Ft. hemlock	2.26
		\$5.60

Received payment in full... signed by Anthony Hall"

1885 - "Paid Adam Graham for board for the sum of none dollars and eighty cents - signed by A. graham" [note: T. Chittick (?) board at Bear Lake]

[It would appear that John Barr may have been Foreman in 1885]

1886 "Township of Glamorgan Mossom Boyd Timber estimates

Parcel 14 - Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, Con 15 Est to produce 600,000 ft. BM

Parcel 15 - Lots 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, Con 15 Est to produce 500,000 ft BM

Parcel 16 - Lots 11 - 19 , inclusive, Con 14; Lots 11 - 20, inclusive Con 15 Est to produce
4000,000 ft. BM

Parcel 17 - Lots 1 - 10 , inclusive, Con 14 - Est. to produce 2,000,000 ft. BM

Parcel 18 - Lots 1 - 10, inclusive Con 13. Est to produce 2,000,000 ft. BM

Parcel 19 - Lots 11 - 20, inclusive, Con 13, Est to produce 1,000,000 ft. BM

Parcel 20 - Lots 1 - 10 , Inclusive, Con 12. Est to produce 2,000,000

Parcel 21 - Lots 11 - 20, inclusive Con 12, Est 1,000,000 ft.

Parcel 22 - Lots 12 - 20, inclusive Con 10, Est. 6,000,000 ft.

Parcel 23 - all lots east of Bark Lake , Con 10 Est. 5,500,00 ft.

Parcel 24 - all lots west of Bark Lake, Con.10 Est 5,500,000 ft

Parcel 25 - all lots west of Bark Lake, Con 11 Est 5,500,000 ft

Parcel 26 - Lots 1 - 10 , Con 9 Est 4,000,000 ft.

Parcel 27 - Lots 11 - 20 . Con 9 Est. 4,000,000 ft.

Parcel 28 - Lots 1 - 10 Con 8 Est 2,500,000 ft

Parcel 29 - Lots 11 - 20 Con 8 Est. 2,500,00 ft.

The parcels in the foregoing Township are all tributary to the Burnt River waters in the north by the middle branch, and those in the south by the south branch, through Bark Creek. They are all within easy reach of Victoria Railway and the railway in course of construction from Snowdon Iron Mines to Bancroft passes a short distance from the southern boundary.

The area of this Township is 24 3/4 sq. miles"

July 2, 1891 - "... Thanks for offering a man to help, please send him soon, preferably one who speaks French...."

1892 - See paper file for Auction Sale - Glamorgan lands subsequently withdrawn due to no bids being received

"Cresswell's camp Feb. 1, 1892

Foreman Clerk Cook mate	4
2 gangs ?	6
3 teams skidding 5 x 3 + 1	16
3 loaders 1 dumper	4
4 teams hauling	4
Road cutters 6 repairing 2	6
1 handy man	1
Men	45
Teams 7 ½	

[The GOODERHAM & AREA HISTORY, NEWSLETTER NO. 21 (DECEMBER, 2004; JANUARY, FEBRUARY 2005) printed with permission of Elva V. Bates]

A document from our collections

1873. LAKEFIELD CIRCUIT 1873.

BIBLE CHRISTIAN PREACHERS' PLAN.

"Let the dead bury their dead, but go thou and preach the kingdom of God."—JESUS.

PLACES.	TIME.	SEPTEMBER.				OCTOBER.				NOVEMBER.					PREACHERS.	
		7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30		
LAKEFIELD, Tuesday.	6½ 7½	1 P	1B P	1 P	1 PE	1 P	1 P	1Q P	1 P	1 P	1 P	1 P	1 P	1 P	1 P	1. S. H. RICE, Lakefield. 2. R. Chown, Northey's. 3. D. Payne, English Line. 4. W. C. Sanders, Lakefield. 5. C. Whalley, Douro. 6. A. Watts, English Line. 7. W. Bryson, Douro.
NORTHEY'S, Wednesday.	10 7	1B 1	7 P	1 1E	2 P	1Q 1	3 P	1 P	6 P	1 P	7 P	1 P	2 P	1 P	1 P	8. J. Crow, English Line.
ENGLISH LINE, Tuesday.	10 7	6 P	1B 1	7 P	1 1E	3 P	1Q P	7 P	1 P	3 P	18 P	6 P	1 P	2 P	2 P	REFERENCES. Q Quarterly Collection. S—Sacrament. P—Prayer Meeting. B—Elders' Meeting. B—Beneficent Fund C.
DOURO, Wednesday.	2 7	7 P	1 1	3 P	1 1E	6 P	1Q 1	2 P	1 P	7 P	18 P	3 P	1B P	2 P	2 P	

CIRCUIT NOTICES.

The Second Local Preachers' and Business Quarterly Meetings will (D.V.) be held in Lakefield Church, on Tuesday, October 21st; the former to commence at 10 A.M., and the latter at 2 P.M. The Religious Service will also be held at Lakefield, on Sabbath, October 19th, to commence at 10 A.M. The Local Brethren are affectionately requested to fulfil their appointments. The OBSERVER, Bible Christian Hymn Books and Magazines, Sabbath School Libraries and Rewards, with other publications of a religious and moral character, may be obtained through the Pastor.

JESUS BY THE SEA.

Oh, I love to think of Jesus as he sat beside the sea;
Where the waves were only murmuring on the strand;
When he sat within the boat, on the silver wave afar,
Where he taught the waiting people on the land.
O, I love to think of Jesus by the sea;
O, I love to think of Jesus by the sea;
And I love the precious Word,
Which he spake to them that heard,
While he taught the waiting people by the sea.
O I love to think of Jesus as he walked upon the sea;
When the waves were rolling fearfully and grand;
How the winds and waves were still, at the bidding of his will,

While he brought his lov'd disciples safe to land.
O I love to think of Jesus by the sea,
How he walked upon the wave,
His beloved ones to save,
While he brought them safely o'er the stormy sea.
O I love to think of Jesus as he walk'd beside the sea;
Where the fishers spread their nets upon the shore;
How he bade them follow him and forsake the paths of sin,
And be his true disciples evermore.
O I love to think of Jesus by the sea,
And I long to leave my all,
At my dear Redeemer's call,
And his true disciple evermore to be.

Upper

Canada Collection

These features were taken from our Upper Canada Historical Collection. The Trent Valley Archives has thousands of documents accessible on our computers. The collection also contains a number of microfilms of documents such as the Colonial Office records, and early newspapers. We will do a description of the collection in an upcoming issue.]

PETER ROBINSON, JANUARY 1826, ON THE SETTLERS IN MONAGHAN

Monaghan
12th Jan'y 1826

My Dear Brother
I have only been waiting the arrival of some stores from Kingston for the Settlers, to pay you a short visit. Unfortunately the roads are at present almost impassable for sleighs or waggons and there appears some chance of their remaining so--I sent Richie of this department to Kingston 15 days ago, to receipt these articles and to accompany them up--He wrote me on the 4th to say that he then sent off 4 sleighs, & that Others were to leave there the following morning--The snow that fell on the [date illegible] was almost immediately succeed by torrents of rain--so that I fear I shall hear of my loads being strung along between Cobourg and Kingston--If no change takes place in the weather in a day or two I think I shall run up on horseback, for I must lose no time in examining into the state of the Emigrants of 23 & making my report--so that if I do not soon pay you a visit, I must put it off until I return from Perth.

Imprisoning Mr. Finn, has had a very settling effect and I hear of no threats since--The very reports of the proceedings of your [illegible] house garbled as they are by Mr. McKenzie &c. &c. are calculated to mislead our people who have not had an opportunity of witnessing the conduct of quondam members, who were found in the ranks of the Enemy, notwithstanding their pretensions of Loyalty to their King.

The Settlers are getting on remarkably well, and when, it is considered that I have no power to impose any regulations, other than by persuasion, Merely stopping their rations, the latter of which they can at

any time get, & wages besides, it speaks well in their favour--Fitzgibbons last communication pleases them very much--and they pride themselves upon their general good behaviour One of the men I had occasion to dismiss at Cobourg or rather who chose to quit Thomas Stark came to me lately & bro't letters from Cobourg, giving hi, the character of an industrious many & begging that I might be pleased to overlook his former bad conduct & reinstated him--He seems very contrite, and I think I shall--Let this emigration turn out as it may--I know I have done the utmost in my power for its success, and if I did not feel anxious beyond measure that His Lordship & Mr. Horton should be satisfied that I had done my best to promote a favorite measure of theirs--I could well have left a vast deal of unpleasant drudgery to be done by others. Besides the other evils I have to [illegible]--My health is constantly exposed, and hardly a person has escaped an attack of some one or other of the diseases, unquestionably imported with the settlers--

Mr. Ohara [?] the Priest, had a dangerous attack and is now ill in Cobourg--

Tolerable good evidence this of the Settlers being on their land--a long poem

But love so [illegible] Eve and the young ones--

Affectionately Your brother

P. Robinson

J. B. Robinson Esqr.

[Addendum to the above letter: "Both Mr. Stewart & Mr. Reade of Douro, very respectable gentlemen, who are constantly seeing the exertions made by the settlers & their condition came to me and offered to go to York to contradict the statement published in the Colonial Advocate --This I thought unnecessary as the truth would soon be known--by the return I am making out for the Governor."]

P. R.

[Trent Valley Archives, Upper Canada Project, transcription from National Archives of Canada, Microfilm No. B-309. The original is in the papers of the Colonial Office Secretary, COLONIAL OFFICE 42 / 380 / pp 241-242, Original Correspondence: Secretary of State. Upper Canada: 1826 Miscellaneous. Peter Robinson to John B. Robinson, 12 January 1826, enclosed in John B. Robinson to Robert Wilmot Horton, 22 January 1826. Comments on this letter appeared in Howard Pammett's thesis, part of which was published serially in *Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley*.]

EXCURSIONS NEAR COBOURG (June 1831)

Thomas Fowler, *The Journal of a Tour Through British America* (Aberdeen; 1832; pp. 191-95)

One day I procured a guide to take me half a dozen of miles into the forest, as I wanted to see how the settlements looked there. The road was tolerably good, but the dwellings were few and far between, so much so, that we were frequently without the sight of a human habitation. Farms along the lake shore, and for two or three miles back, have fifty or one hundred acres of cleared land; but, six or eight miles back, some of the farmers have not ten acres cleared, and there they are surrounded by the impervious forest, perhaps a mile or two from a human habitation, and sometimes more. The stately forest here contains some beautiful wood, such as oak, ash, elm, beech, walnut, maple, hickory, a species of cedar, and various other kinds; while the towering pines are frequently above a hundred feet high. Several trees of this latter kind were pointed out which contained six twelve feet long without a branch, and some thirty or forty feet of branches above. There were also many of the wooden troughs lying beside the maple trees, which had been used in the spring to catch the juice for making sugar. This operation is performed by making an incision in the tree about eighteen inches from the ground, and a chip of wood is fixed into the orifice to make the liquid drop into the wooden trough. Those who are waiting upon them go round every morning and empty the troughs into pails, then it is carried home, and, when a sufficient quantity is collected, they boil it to a certain consistency, then pour it into pans to cool, when it becomes a kind of deep brown lump sugar. The Indians generally use maple sugar, but few others. It is by no means fit for tea, as it has much of a turpentine flavour; but is sometimes used by the country people in fruit pies and sweetmeats.

Among the various farms which I noticed in this district, I observed, that fields situated in vales and lawns generally presented the appearance of excellent crops, but hilly land was less productive. When newly cleared, it may produce two or three good crops, but afterwards it falls off very much. The thin soil would no doubt be much improved if the farmers would put dung upon it, but they are all inclined to bestow their labour on making clearances, which they are sure will yield some good crops. However, it is

to be expected that the time will come when the farmers in this country will be glad to use dung as well as the farmers in Britain. One day after dinner, as I had gone out a little distance with an acquaintance, a neighbour in the place drove up in a neat one-horse waggon. He presently asked me to take a seat beside him, as he was going to Port Hope, and returning in the evening. I accepted with pleasure, and mounted the waggon immediately. The village of Port Hope is situated on the side of the lake, seven miles above Cobourg. The road all along is well settled, and the farms apparently good, with a considerable portion of cleared land, and each farm house is generally a fine two-story frame building. All the cleared land is enclosed with rough zigzag wooden fences – the verdant fields of grass are well stocked with horses, cattle, and sheep – the fields are luxuriant with wheat, rye, barley, oats, and potatoes – and, at each farm house is an orchard and garden, also about twenty hogs and as many geese; – so that the whole combined gives to the farms here a very rural appearance. At four in the afternoon we arrived at Allan's tavern, Port Hope. This village is pleasantly situated betwixt two mountains, at a short distance from the lake. There is a beautiful small river running through the middle of the village, the bottom of which appears like tables of rock; and the limpid waters of this delightful stream sweep over their bed with great velocity. The communication betwixt the two sides of the river is by a handsome wooden bridge, on a line with the main street. After we alighted, I went to the brow of the west mountain, to get a view of the village on that side, as I had seen it on the other as we approached. The main street runs east and west, nearly parallel to the lake, and intersected by the smaller streets at right angles, while on the brow of either mountain every house in the village can be seen. The English church stands on the east mountain, and overlooks the village towards the west. The edifice is a handsome frame building, surmounted with a neat belfry. The vestibule is on the west, and the walls resemble mountain snow. Opposite to this, on the brow of the west mountain, there is a neat frame building in progressive erection, and nearly completed. This is for a Catholic church; and it overlooks the village towards the east, where it is to be ornamented with a handsome tower. This settlement was commenced only fifteen years ago, and the village

already contains upwards of one hundred and twenty dwellings, which have principally risen within these last five years. The houses are chiefly frame buildings; and, from the number erecting and unfinished, the village appears to be rapidly increasing. Both mountains are adorned with beautiful white dwellings strewed around their sloping sides, each with some poplar or other trees in front, to serve the double purpose of shade and ornament – the deep green forest bounds the north, within half a mile of the village – the expanded lake is seen nearly equidistant on the south, and the smiling fields glowing in all the verdure of summer – while the mountain on each side of the village gives to the whole an agreeable relief; so that the view of Port Hope is varied, pleasing, and picturesque. We started from Allan's tavern about seven, and, as it became dark, the lightning began to flash along the lake, as it frequently does in the summer evenings, while the gathering clouds declared a fall of rain, which quickly came, after we alighted from the waggon.

In a few days after this, my landlady began to usurp rather an undue authority in the government of domestic affairs, which seemed to infringe on the privileges of the landlord. But he was a man of too independent a spirit to bear intrusion with either silence or resignation, and gave her to understand that he would be lord and master of his own house. The conversation which took place on this occasion was not exactly what one would choose to hear betwixt two such relatives; and, for all that my lady could say to justify her conduct, yet she was rewarded by some unpleasant aspersions, which apparently she did not relish well; and, indeed he squeezed too much lemon into the conversation for its being palatable; but, as she dearly bought it, I made her very welcome to it. After this my lady daily wore a cloud of displeasure on her brow, and sometimes would not vouchsafe to answer, when things were called for which had been neglected. I now began to get wearied of the country, especially when it rained, as I was confined in my room without company, and the weather was seldom dry more than three or four days during my stay here. However, being acquainted with some Scotch families in the village, I was easily prevailed upon to take lodging there; and, on the 12th July, I removed to Carpenter's hotel in Cobourg, where I found a comfortable residence and agreeable company.

AFRICAN COLONY AT WILBERFORCE, IN UPPER CANADA

Brockville Recorder, 31 June 1831

This colony was established in the early part of 1830, by colored people, emigrating from Ohio, who were obliged to seek a settlement *elsewhere* in consequence of a law in that State, which took effect the preceding June, "ordering every colored person in that State not possessing a certain amount of property therein named, or giving security to remove out of the State, under the penalty of being sold as slaves."

The colony originally consisted of about 200 persons, who purchased 800 acres of the Canada Company, on which the settlement has been made; and on which they erected 25 log houses. During the past year 1300 persons joined the settlement; and during the spring forty families, consisting of upwards of 200 persons, emigrated there from the City of New York – besides others from different parts of the United States. The number of emigrants arriving at the African settlement are constantly increasing. The colony has recently purchased from the Canada Company 2000 additional acres to meet the wants of the increasing population.

The number of persons in the settlement at present exceeds 2000, and there are 130 log houses. Timber has been cleared off of 500 acres of land, 350 of which is under cultivation.

Valentine

No tales of Love to you I send,
No hidden flame discover,
I glory in the Name of Friend,
Disclaiming that of Lover.

And now, while each fond sighing
Youth,
Repeats his Vow of Love and Truth,
Attend to this Advice of Mine—
With caution choose a Valentine.

[Trent Valley Archives, McDougall commonplace book; that was also the source for the cover illustration.]

Archives Profile

Former Queen's Archivist Ian Wilson, the National Librarian and Archivist of Canada, has a passion for preserving the past

Jean Bruce, MA

Last October 2003, Canada's National Archivist, Ian E. Wilson, Arts'67, MA'74, stood in the yard of the grim prison on Robben Island, where Nelson Mandela had been incarcerated for almost 20 years. Ian was in South Africa as President of the International Round Table of Archivists, to chair a meeting of national archivists from 67 countries, and presidents of many national and international archivists' associations. "Archives and Human Rights" was the Round Table conference theme.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu accompanied the archivists on their visit to Robben Island. There the group listened intently as Ahmed Kathrada, one of Mandela's staunch supporters and fellow prisoners, described their lengthy ordeal. "It was a powerful experience for all of us, as human beings as well as professionals," says Wilson, who studied African history at Queen's in the 1960s under the late Prof. Arthur Keppel-Jones.

In Canada and other democratic countries, official records preserved in national archives make it possible to hold governments accountable for their actions. At the National Archives, Wilson points out, Japanese Canadians can explore the record of how their families were treated in WWII. First Nations' land claims are based on government records. People concerned about the Canadian blood supply can search the records of the Krever ("tainted blood") Inquiry. "Without records, we have no rights," says Wilson. Emphatically. "We are the one place in government that's concerned with the long-term integrity and authenticity of the official record, and we get involved 'upstream' by working with departments and agencies."

One of the greatest challenges facing governments is how to preserve e-mail records of discussions leading up to important decisions. "Technologies become obsolescent so rapidly," says Wilson. "When you migrate from Word Perfect 1 to Word Perfect 6 or 7, you lose format and structure, you lose the integrity of the record. Somehow, we have to maintain the whole system, not individual e-mails, so that you

have the ability to search, to know who said what, when, where did it go, who added to it, who changed it." Large corporations and universities have similar problems. Says Wilson, "I'd guess that [former] Principal Leggett used e-mail a lot, whereas Queen's early Principals committed everything to paper."

Since 2000, Wilson has been Vice President of the International Council on Archives, as well as Chairman of the International Round Table. In 2003, when he was elected a Fellow of the Society of American Archivists (SAA), an unusual honour for a Canadian, tribute was paid to his "exemplary career," which began at Queen's Archives in 1966. Later, he became Provincial Archivist in Saskatchewan, then Archivist of Ontario. As an information management specialist, Wilson taught in the Faculties of Information Studies and of Graduate Studies at the U of T while he was Archivist of Ontario.

In 1981, he chaired and wrote the first of two groundbreaking reports for the Social Science and Humanities Research Council, on the future of Canadian Archives. Three years later, the second "Wilson Report" provided the blueprint for developing a Canadian Archival System, a network of more than 800 archives now linked together for many common purposes. As Archivist of Ontario and in the years since he became Canada's National Archivist in 1999, he has continued working to develop that network and to build and support the Association of Canadian Archivists.

In his own community, he is legendary for his tireless promotion of archives during his 23 years as a provincial archivist, frequently on the road to small communities across Saskatchewan and Ontario, speaking to local historical societies, genealogical societies, and service clubs about the importance of preserving records.

It's surprising to discover, given his long career as an archivist, that Wilson started out on a very different path. Born and raised in Montreal, he was fascinated with naval history in his youth, and attended the College Militaire St-Jean as a cadet, intending to join the Navy. But two years into the program, Wilson's choice of history rather than engineering or science as his field of study was neither comprehensible nor acceptable to his instructors. After "lengthy discussions," Wilson was summoned to Ottawa, where the Director of Naval Training told him: "If you really want to waste your life and study

history, fine, go to it, but we really need engineers."

His decision to switch to university meant working for a year to repay the cost of his military education and to earn some money towards his university tuition. Wilson entered Queen's in the fall of 1963, in the second year of the history and philosophy program. In the summers, his naval training proved useful: he worked on tour boats out of Kingston after passing an exam to become acting master of a commercial vessel on the St. Lawrence.

In 1966, his senior year, Wilson was hired as a part-time assistant archivist at Queen's, where he began his "exemplary career" by learning on the job. His excellent teachers included the late history professor Frederick W. Gibson, BA'36, who persuaded many important political figures to donate their papers to Queen's, and H. Pearson Gundy, retired University Librarian, and long-time collector of literary manuscripts.

The excitement of discoveries he made as a young archivist is something that Ian Wilson has never forgotten. When the late Dr. Hilda Neatby was engaged to write the history of Queen's, Wilson helped search the attics and basements of Queen's buildings for institutional records. One summer afternoon in 1968, he clambered up a ladder into the attic above the old reading room in the Douglas Library with historian/archivist John Archer, and there discovered various long-forgotten treasures. A roll of heavy paper, in a dusty corner, proved to be the original subscription list, opened in 1838, to establish a Presbyterian college in Kingston-later Queen's College. "John A. Macdonald subscribed for £50, and Oliver Mowat for £30," recalls Wilson.

He became Queen's senior archivist in 1970 and served as University Archivist, 1974-76. During those years, he made many significant acquisitions, including local and regional material that gave Queen's a public face as the archives of eastern Ontario. He recalls the thrill of finding "all the official records of the City of Kingston, piled on the floor of a former jail cell in City Hall." At Queen's, the papers were cleaned, arranged with descriptions, and made available to researchers. The City made Wilson an honorary staff member for his services and offered him a dollar a year. "They still owe me four dollars," he says wryly.

During his 10 years at Queen's, Wilson involved himself energetically in the larger community. He was a member, then hair, of

the Canadian Historical Association's Archives Section before becoming a founding member of the Association of Canadian Archivists and the new National Archival Appraisal Board. He was also on the executive, then chairman, of the Ontario Historical Society. From 1972, he was an active member of the Society of American Archivists.

Somehow, he found time in the early 1970's to write a "massive" MA thesis on the cultural role of the Public Archives of Canada, 1904-1935, when Arthur Doughty, Canada's second Dominion (later National) Archivist, headed the institution. To this day, Ian Wilson is fascinated by Doughty, his remarkable predecessor. Doughty was a formidable collector with a "holistic" approach to archives. He acquired documentary art, including portraits and drawings, photographs, maps, posters, pamphlets, books, and private papers as well as public records.

Wilson delights in the diversity of the national collection, to which later archivists added audio, video and film, postal archives, caricatures, and political cartoons. Determined to make this remarkable collection accessible to schoolchildren and the public at large, as well as scholars and journalists, Wilson is making great use of the Internet. Individual Canadians can now research historical immigration records, homestead registries, and WWI attestation (enlistment) papers online. "Arthur Doughty had to rely on travelling lecturers with lantern slides," Wilson notes.

He has followed in Doughty's footsteps, campaigning for larger quarters and more exhibition space—for the National Library as well as the National Archives. The two institutions, which have shared a building and some common services, for years, are now officially merged. The creation of Library and Archives Canada was announced in 2002, but the necessary legislation was not passed until March 2004. Two days before the federal election was called on May 23, the Act was proclaimed, and Ian Wilson was named interim Librarian and Archivist of Canada. The interim title was removed and his appointment became official in September.

Several months earlier, planning began for a new joint Library and Archives Canada campus in Gatineau, Quebec, near the Archives' state-of-the-art Preservation Centre. Wilson hopes that the shared building on Wellington Street will be renovated and become the new institution's

public presence in downtown Ottawa. Across the street, in the former American Embassy, a new National Portrait Gallery is now at the concept design stage. There are one million portraits in the former National Archives collection for the Gallery to raw upon.

In his "spare" time, Wilson was President of the Champlain Society for eight years, until recently. He's now writing a history of the National Archives with two collaborators: Glenn Wright, a senior archivist, and historian Terry Cook. Ian is married to another archivist, Ruth Dyck Wilson. He and his wife are long-time members of the Mennonite Church and supporters of its efforts to house and help refugees.

[This article written by Jean Bruce, Ottawa freelance writer, appeared in *Queen's Alumni Review*, Fall 2004, 18-19.]

TVA Publications Program Off and Running

The Trent Valley Archives has launched its publication program. Our titles are available exclusively from the Trent Valley Archives. Our plan is to keep expanding our titles to reflect the great wealth of our resources. As well, we are developing community-oriented initiatives that will be valued very widely. We are planning a fresh edition of Martha Kidd's *Peterborough's Architectural Heritage*. As well, we will publish, really for the first time, two major landmarks in the writing of Peterborough's history. F H Dobbin's index to the History of Peterborough was voluminous and is a major reference work, but it was never published, probably because World War I absorbed Dobbin's energies. We are also publishing Howard Pammett's study of the Irish who came to Peterborough in 1825. This was his MA thesis at Queen's University and we serialized much of the work in the *Heritage Gazette*. We are open to other suggestions from our members.

In *Sagas and Sketches: the Saga Rose World Cruise 2002* (2004), Martha Kidd and Beverly Hunter apply their great skills of observation in writing and sketching to fascinating places around the world. Martha is never far from Peterborough no matter where she travels, and we featured excerpts from her commentaries in the *Heritage Gazette* in 2002. 95 pages, \$20.

The Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley: Index to Contents, 1997-2004 from volume 1 to volume 9, 3 (2004)

identifies the people, places, ideas and events associated with the articles and special features that have appeared in the past eight years of our member magazine. We realize that titles do not always suggest the richness or subtleties of the articles, and this has been our main interest. It is not a nominal index, but a detailed guide to contents. 44 pages, \$15.

The Mills of Peterborough County has been a labour of love for Diane Robnik. She has gathered references to mills throughout the area and tried to match them with pictures from varied local archives. \$20.

History of the County of Peterborough: Biographical Notices [by C Pelham Mulvany and associates] Susan Kyle has carefully captured the contents of the biographies published in the 1884 edition. This is a very rare book, and the biographies are very interesting precisely because they have been written by the contributors working with Mulvany's local agents. Elwood Jones has written an introduction, and the book is great looking. 300 pages. \$60.

History of the County of Peterborough: Peterborough and Haliburton histories [by C Pelham Mulvany and associates] This is the compilation of the local histories written for the county of Peterborough (by Mulvany), for the townships of Peterborough (by Charles M Ryan), and for the county of Haliburton (by Charles R Stewart). This too comes with a special introduction and commentary. 325 pages. \$60. There is a special discount price for ordering the previous two titles as a set. \$100.

Death Notices From the Peterborough Examiner. Each volume is 132 pages, \$6.50. Compiled by the late Marianne Mackenzie, assisted by Alice Mackenzie and Don Mackenzie. We plan to publish the annual volumes for as many years as possible. Currently available are:

Death Notices From the Peterborough Examiner 1990. [and to 1994, 2002]

Trent Valley Archives
Publications Program
567 Carnegie Avenue
Peterborough ON K9L 1N1
Canada

Ontario Archival Awareness

Elwood Jones

Ontario has in recent years made great strides in the development of regional, county and municipal archives. The standard is still set by the Simcoe County Archives, which began in the 1960s and has long been considered integral to the local governments and to researchers in the area. The Metro Toronto archives built a state of the art building that proved exceptional value when Metro and the City were joined together; now all are housed in the building in the shadow of Casa Loma, as a consequence of amalgamation rather than of free choice. Amalgamation was an asset in the creation of Grey County's archives, now an integral part of Grey Roots. We have had opportunity to notice the good work being done in Niagara Region and Elgin County as well. The City of Kingston has developed archives after a slow start; the city archives were managed by Queen's University Archives for several years at a dollar a year.

In the City of Kawartha Lakes, formerly known as Victoria County, the amalgamation process, proved to be promising for archives. A records manager was appointed and she oversaw the retrofitting of a municipal building into an impressive archival facility. The building was quite large and had mobile shelving installed to ensure maximum efficiency in the use of space in the shelving area. There is also special shelving for outsized materials, a secure area for valuables, a good delivery area, and about four or five offices for staff. The research room is inadequate, but developments are occurring in that area, too. The finding aids are still on computer, and while provenance is an important sort field, the records are housed by shelf numbers. The plan is to upgrade the public service and reference work, and to add signage to welcome the public to 51 St Mary Street East. We hope the archives will move forward, hiring professional archival staff and expanding its outreach.

We are hoping that the County of Peterborough will move toward developing an authentic county archives presence, and we have offered our help in whatever way possible. For some time, the Trent Valley Archives has served some of the functions of a county archives and we are quite aware of the demands and the possibilities. The Peterborough County Land Records have been one of our most useful collections, and we are also managing

the archives of the Township of North Kawartha.

Several stories in recent months, such as those related to the Memorial Centre and the police, have underlined the importance of making the City of Peterborough Archives more integral to the operations of the city. The *Peterborough Examiner* has been the steady champion of more open access to municipal documents and their efforts are greatly appreciated in this quarter. Freedom of information legislation should not be used as a cover.

Archivists around the province have wondered if we need greater awareness of the importance of archivists in municipal government. In large parts of Ontario, people have high expectations about what an archives can be, and it begins by recognizing the importance of strong standards for archivists. Forty years ago, the only educational programs for archives were operated on an in-house basis at the Public Archives of Canada in Ottawa. Indeed I organized and taught the 1966 version of the six week course, and new archivists from across Canada attended. Today the standards are higher. There are now masters' programs in Archives, and both the provincial and national archival bodies run programs for improving skills and sharing information. The world of archives is very complex. One has to be an administrator with an understanding of how the various parts of the organization operate. In this case, we need to know how records were kept in each of the founding municipalities; how the units were reorganized and records management set in place; and how the impact of computers and the various moves affected the archival record.

Each of these elements, and others, requires knowledge of theory, expertise on recent developments in maintenance of temperature and humidity, preservation, disaster planning, public service, the impact of computers on organization theory, the use of computers within the archives, and countless other matters. Archivists can save money for their organizations and ensure a future for their pasts. The job of archivist is demanding intellectually and physically, and the dimensions of the job seem without limit. Organizations need to recruit people with good education, good sense of history and local developments, with good communication skills to a very wide audience, as well as understanding of archival principles and their application, of computer databases and their applicability, of good management and

administrative skills. Moreover, archivists become better with time, as their insights and abilities and experience mature.

Karin Foster in the current *Off the Record*, suggests that municipal archivists could host an open house for Archives Awareness Day, 6 April 2005, or during Archives Awareness Week, 3 to 9 April 2005. They might invite local municipal staff and politicians from the surrounding area to come to learn about their holdings and their operations. She thinks tours, power point presentations, question and answer periods can all be useful.

One thing is very clear. Ontario has developed some very good archives, but every area has developed quite differently. Partly this reflects the development of community awareness. Archives are rarely just about the institution that pays the bill. Archives are catalysts for a wide awareness of our hopes and expectations. Archives empower people in their regions to know and dream things that never seemed possible.

The Trent Valley Archives is promoting Archival Awareness Week for the Peterborough area. We hope that we can talk to people about the importance of local government archives at our open house on Wednesday, 6 April. That same day we will highlight two of our major private collections which will be officially open to researchers. The Martha Ann Kidd fonds is our pre-eminent source for research on Peterborough's buildings. We are hoping to republish her useful book, *Peterborough's Architectural History*. The Gerry Stevenson Canoe History fonds is a wide-ranging research collection of information about all aspects of canoeing history. Gerry's own researches placed his grandfather, John Stephenson of "Peterborough Canoe" fame in wider contexts. We will have other materials of general interest on hand. It should be a great day.

We also planning to have workshops on other days of that week: on genealogy; archival principles; historical building research; research in land records; and the conservation of photographs and memorabilia.

Archives can be powerhouses.

Departing Downtown: A Tale of Two Cities

Joan Murray, Hudson's Bay Company

This month saw the passing of a Zellers institution. Store 811, Kingston, formerly Store 038, closed its doors on October 2. Store 810, Peterborough, formerly store 005, which has served its community even longer, will close in January, 2005. They are just 2 of the Zellers locations currently going through this painful but inevitable process, but they share something very special. Both of these stores are located on the "Main Street" of their respective cities and their closures signal the end of an era.

The overall evolution of retailers from Main Street tenants to suburban staples has already been examined in a previous series of articles. Instead let's look at the history of these two specific stores as examples of a type quickly fading. While they opened over 20 years apart, in many respects their stories are the same. Both enjoyed the benefits of great locations when downtown was "the place" to shop, and both have faced the challenges of limited floor space and increasing competition from the suburbs.

Store 810 in Peterborough began its life as a Zellers in 1934. The main building, a three storey brick and steel structure with terra cotta facing, dates to 1913. At that time it was rebuilt following the collapse of the original structure on the site, an event known locally as the Turnbull Disaster. The Zellers space also included a second building, which at the time of this picture (1950), was used partly by Zellers but also housed a barber shop, a shoe repair shop and 5 living units on the upper floors.

Located on the northwest corner of George and Simcoe Streets, it was part of a 100 percent retail area and benefited from its high profile corner location. An S.S. Kresge store was right across the street and other neighbours included major retail players Metropolitan and F.W. Woolworth, as well as Tip Top Tailors and Laura Secord. Business was booming and the building was extended in 1953.

Jump ahead to the 1980s. The only major players left on the downtown strip are Zellers and Woolworths. Retailers Kmart, Woolco and Towers have all relocated to the more lucrative outlying areas. Moreover, Zellers hasn't undergone a facelift in quite a

while. In the words of former store manager Desmond McDermott *"the store was aged in its appearance and I'm not talking about its unique look outside..."* The new Zellers in Lindsay came to the rescue. At the time the most profitable store in the entire company, it was undergoing a renovation. Their not-so-old fixtures arrived in Peterborough where the old wooden counters were removed and replaced by those with a more contemporary look. Combined with an emphasis on merchandise presented in store flyers, sales took off, so much so that rival Woolworths eventually closed its doors.

In 1990, Zellers acquired Towers and soon after, the large Towers location on the edge of town became Peterborough's newest Zellers. It benefited greatly from the strong customer base provided by Store 810 but the edge that the downtown store had enjoyed as the only Zellers in town, was gone. As a result when the Best Value store concept was launched in 1998, Peterborough was converted to this format. Best Value stressed convenience and "simply better buys, every day". But the fit wasn't quite right for the downtown location and times were hard. In 2001, the signs on the store were changed again, this time to Zellers Select. Local customers, who hadn't realized that Best Value was Zellers, and thought Zellers had left the building, were happy to see it back.

The story in Kingston is roughly parallel. The store at 811 Princess Street was purchased by Federal 5-10-15¢ to \$1.00 Stores Limited in 1941 and operated by them until Federal was purchased by Zellers in 1952. In 1955, the store was torn down and replaced with a much enlarged and modern Zellers store. Business continued. In 1986, the store was considered for closure but indicators seemed positive so the store continued. In time it too became a Best Value, and then a Zellers Select. When the lease on the building expired in 2004, it was decided that it would not be renewed.

While many people prefer the selection and ease of shopping at larger Zellers locations, there are those who will miss the Zellers presence downtown. Customers who visit the stores daily for shopping and socialization have been saddened to hear of the closures while those live and work close by, especially seniors without cars, will surely miss the selection, service and convenience of shopping downtown. But retail is a business of change and the closure of stores like 810 and 811 is part of a natural process. With the cooperation of the store managers and former

associates, Hbc Heritage Services is able to preserve their stories for the future.

EDWARDIAN PETERBOROUGH

Invitation

14 May 2005

The Peterborough Historical Society's one-day conference on Edwardian Peterborough is marking the centennial of the incorporation of Peterborough as a city. The event features six talks, many illustrations, a video of Peterborough's history, and perhaps 20 exhibits arranged through a variety of local heritage organizations. The president of the Ontario Historical Society is the luncheon speaker, and the mayor is hosting a reception at the close of the day. The \$30 registration fee covers all events. To register and ensure a spot for this occasion simply write, with cheque attached, to Edwardian Peterborough



Peterborough

Conference
, Hutchison
House, 270
Brock
Street,
Peterborough
ON
K9H 2P6.

A t
press time,
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scheduled
talks were
Jennifer
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Horvath on Women in the Workplace; Jon Oldham on Vaudeville in Peterborough; Jo Ellen Brydon on the Gypsies in Peterborough; Brian Osborne as luncheon speaker; Christopher Greene on Edwardian Residential Architecture; James Benidickson on public works; and Don Willcock on Firefighters in Peterborough. Wally Macht's videos, "Imagine Peterborough" will be a continuous feature. The exhibits will be on Peterborough Street Cars, Albert Hope, Peterborough Fire Plan maps, the Burleigh Road, Peterborough at Play, Carnegie Library, Rail and Steam, Stony Lake, Chemong Park, Barnardo Children, Nicholls Hospital, the Balsillie Collection of Roy Studio Images, Women's Institutes, Jackson Creek, the Peterborough Lift Lock, tourism, Curve Lake and Hiawatha.

For further details contact the conference committee at history@nexicom.net.

News, Views & Reviews

Trent Talks Trails

Trent University is among the organizations being represented on a newly created Government of Ontario Minister's Advisory Committee on Trails.

Professor Emeritus John Marsh, director of Trent's Trail Studies Unit, has been asked to sit on the committee, whose members will provide expertise and attend consultation sessions in their communities. The committee will provide advice on key trail issues, such as economic sustainability, landowner concerns, safety, road rights-of-way, active living, environmental and cultural heritage impacts, and opportunities, and tourism development potential.

"The Trail Studies Unit has over 3,000 books, journal articles, research reports and theses on trails, so I can provide the committee with research findings that will help in developing the policy," says Prof. Marsh. "I will also raise awareness of the ongoing contribution universities, such as Trent, can make through their research and teaching to the appropriate planning and management of trails, and to training those responsible for them. Finally I have the opportunity to raise issues and seek solutions pertaining to trails, such as the Trans Canada Trail, in the Peterborough area."

Trent's Trail Studies Unit, established in 1992, has been recognized internationally and is the official resource centre of the Ontario Trails Council. It operates a resource centre, researches and consults, plans courses and conferences and produces interpretation materials. The Unit is located in room ESC B204 and is staffed and open for use during the academic term from Monday through Thursday. The Unit employs two students and many of its resources are available at: www.trentu.ca/trailstudies.

The development of an Ontario Trails Strategy is part of the ministry's ACTIVE2010 initiative, a new strategy to increase participation in sport and physical activity throughout Ontario. Its goal is to achieve higher physical activity rates and increased sport participation to improve the health of Ontarians and their quality of life.

[Thanks to Trent University website.]

De la Fosse *English Bloods*

Frederick de la Fosse, *English Bloods: In the Backwoods of Muskoka, 1878*, edited by Scott D. Shipman, Toronto, Natural Heritage Books, 2004; Pp xii, 207; illustrations; \$25

This is a welcome reprint of Roger Vardon's *English Bloods*, which was originally published by Ottawa's Graphic Press in 1930. The first edition featured an art deco cover that poked fun at an aristocratic Englishman attempting to farm in the Muskoka region some fifty years earlier. De la Fosse was well-established as Peterborough's public librarian and thought it prudent to write with a *nom de plume*. As well, he anonymized the names in order to protect the innocent.

Scott Shipman has spent several years of sleuthing to identify the names and to verify the general veracity of the story. This expanded edition has several photos from varied private sources as well as appendices. He has biographical information on de la Fosse and those who shared de la Fosse's farming adventure under the optimistic leadership of Charles Greville Hardon and Aemilius Baldwin: Richard Tothill, William Garrett, and Philip Graham Bell. As well, the handful of documents suggest that the experience was real.

De la Fosse was born in India (25 July 1860) but, following the death of his parents in 1868, raised in England by his maternal grandparents. He attended Wellington College and Chadstock College before abandoning academics to emigrate to Canada, arriving in May 1878. In 1886, he married Mary Janet Graham Bell (d 1921), a sister of one of the agricultural adventurers. The de la Fosses had four children; and de la Fosse married Amy Halliday in 1925. De la Fosse had a varied career, spending some years in Toronto, employed at Trinity College. They returned to farming in Stisted Township and moved to Lakefield around 1899. De la Fosse was a copy editor, 1907 to 1910, for the *Peterborough Examiner*, before winning the position of librarian at the new Peterborough Public Library, a position he held until 1946. He turned out to be a very popular librarian with great book sense and a love of literature. He died in Peterborough, 26 September 1950.

The book is a rewarding read, and fulfils its main objective. Pioneering life in Canada's backwoods was tough, required many special skills, but the human spirit triumphed. De la Fosse sees humour in the reflection of the past,

but even his disappointments are expressed positively. Maybe all reminiscences should remain unpublished for fifty years, or more.

The book is available at Titles Bookstore in Peterborough, and at other fine bookstores.

A History of the Municipality of Brighton

In March 2003, Brighton's Save Our Heritage Organization and the Municipality of Brighton undertook to compile a comprehensive, interesting and informative history of Brighton from the eighteenth century to the present. The hardcover history book (yet to be named) will contain approximately 400 pages and dozens of pictures. Brighton's History Book Committee, which is a cross section of Brightonians, history professionals and editorial experts, has assembled thousands of pages of information and countless photos; it seeks additional information and suggestions. The book costs, tax included, if ordered and paid before publication \$40; after, \$50. Contact Durene Swain, Treasurer, Brighton History Book, 96 Young Street, Box 578, Brighton, Ontario, K0K 1H0, or phone 613-475-2144.

Dreams for Sale

John M. Bowes, *Dreams for Sale: Make Me an Offer* (Ottawa, Easterner Publishing, 2002) PP v, 210, illustrated

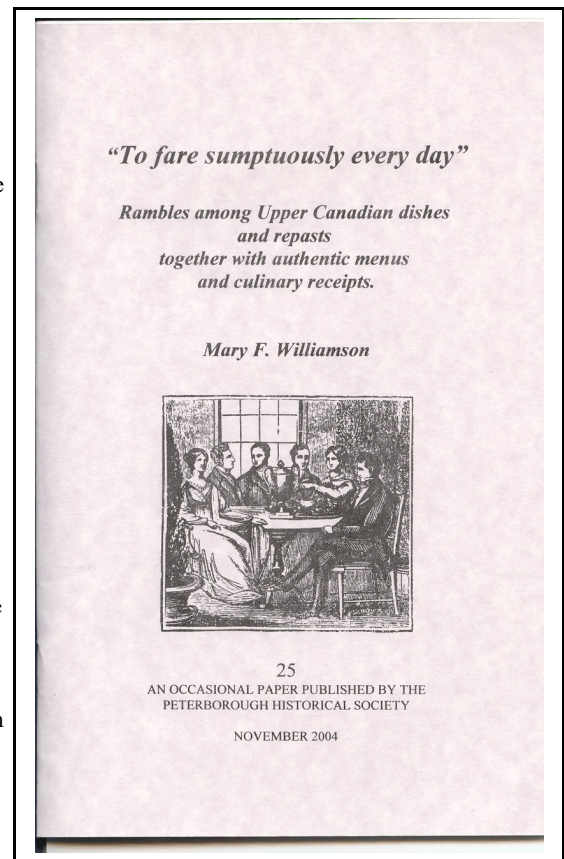
The world needs more books like this. John Bowes writes with a good tempo, and has a great story to tell. At the one level this is Horatio Alger times 2 or 3. John Bowes gives an insider's look at real estate and land development that gives the background to many stories that are part of the local culture, especially in Peterborough where most of his career took place. However, the book is almost archival, and is certainly a resource for historians. It provides a useful point of reference for the history of real estate, the firm of Bowes and Cocks, and Old Orchard Park. Bowes was also a developer linked with the coming of several enterprises, including Johnson & Johnson. The politics of land is fascinating, especially in this best memoir written about Peterborough ever. The layout is no match for the stories that unfold.

Peterborough Historical Society Occasional Papers

The Peterborough Historical Society annually publishes a paper, originally presented at one of the Society's monthly meetings, on an aspect of the history of Peterborough or its region. Copies of these papers are available in booklet form from the Society's office at Hutchison House, 270 Brock Street, Peterborough, ON, Canada K9H 2P9.

[Unless otherwise noted, all occasional papers are \$4.50]

1. *The Liflock Story*, by Alicia Perry (1980) OP
2. *Hutchison House*, by Jean Murray Cole (1981) \$1
3. *Railroads in the Peterborough Area from 1850*, by J.H. Turner (1982) OP
4. *Sir Sandford Fleming and the Unfolding of Canada: a philatelic study*, by R.E. Bowley (1983) OP
5. *Peterborough in the Hutchison-Fleming Era 1845-1846*, by Jean Murray Cole (1984) \$2.50
6. *Nineteenth Century Stencils Found in Ontario*, by Violet I. Scobie (1985) \$2.50
7. *Anne Langton: Pioneer Woman and Artist*, by Barbara Williams (1986) OP
8. *John Stephenson and the Famous "Peterborough" Canoes*, by Gerald F. Stephenson (1987)
9. *Heritage Preservation in Peterborough: the Cox Terrace and George A. Cox*, by Elwood H. Jones, Martha Ann Kidd, and Jon Hobbs (1988)
10. *Hockey in Peterborough*, by Don Barrie (1990) OP
11. *Sandford Fleming: no better inheritance*, by Jean Murray Cole (1990)
12. *Intermittent Ambition: Bridges over the Otonabee River since 1825*, by Elwood H. Jones (1991)
13. *From Campsite to Cottage: early Stoney Lake*, by Katharine N. Hooke (1992)
14. *From Douro to Dublin: the letters of Frances Stewart (1794-1872)*, by Joyce C. Lewis (1994)
15. *A Literary Discovery: the "western reminiscences" of F.M. de la Fosse, Peterborough's first librarian*, by Fern Rahmel (1994)
16. *Preserving Peterborough's Past: 150 years of Museums and History*, by Ken Doherty (1995)
17. *James McCarroll, alias Terry Finnegan: newspapers, controversy and literature in Victorian Canada*, by Michael Peterman (1996) \$5.00
18. *Peterborough Sixty Years Ago [from 1897]*, by J. Hampden Burnham (1997)
19. *Mining at Nepton*, by G. Robert Guillet (1998)
20. *"My old friend the Otonabee": Glimpses by Samuel Strickland, Catharine Parr Traill, and Susanna Moodie*, by Michael Peterman (1999)
21. *The Gypsies who visited Peterborough in 1909*, by Elwood H. Jones (2001)
22. *From Light, Lens and Heart: the Enduring Legacy of the Balsillie Collection of Roy Studio Images*, by Jim Leonard (2002)
23. *The Peterborough Potteries*, by Ken Brown (2003) [with *Peterborough Pottery Poster* \$10 extra]
24. *Short History of the Town of Peterborough 1901*, by Thomas A. S. Hay (2004)
25. *"To fare sumptuously every day": Rambles among Upper Canadian dishes and repasts together with authentic menus and culinary receipts*, by Mary F. Williamson (2004)



Peterborough Historical Society cooks up 25th Occasional Paper

Mary Williamson's story about food in nineteenth century Ontario has many references to central Ontario. The booklet has several engaging woodprints and even a few recipes. There are also several anecdotes. Mary Williamson is a culinary historian with a

keen eye to detail. She has generous quotes from Edward Talbot, Catharine Parr Traill, Susannah Moodie, and others. Captain Basil Hall, Peterborough's first tourist, gave precise directions about preparing sandwiches for tourists that began with a loaf of stale bread. She shares information about what people could have done to improve the menu. For example, what kind of fish or condiments are available? She also discusses cakes, and comments on how

innovations entered Upper Canada from the United States. In some respects the paper is an adventure to see how well we could learn about women and their food. Without doubt, quite a bit. She packs a lot of information into the book. Unlike Captain Hall, there is no stale bread.

This series has produced a new title annually since 1980, and plans to keep doing so. The cumulative effect is impressive.

Trent Valley Archives 2005 Walking Tours

The Trent Valley Archives is building on the great success of last year's cemetery tours and ghost walks by adding fresh programming and neat twists.

Cemetery Tours

The Little Lake Cemetery tours will be held each Wednesday evening in June, July and August, beginning at 7 pm from the Little Lake Chapel. There are three different tours each \$5; or \$12 for a three tour pass.

The Edwardian Peterborough tour will tie in with the Peterborough Centennial and highlight people who



cast insight on life one hundred years ago. The Tragic Tales of Loss and Misfortune tour recounts memories of suspicious and tragic deaths from the headless David Scollie to the lamented Peterborough strongman who died from a feat of strength. The Peterborough Sharpshooters will look at people who had different but colourful military connections. Organizers believe all three will be very popular as the stories are compelling, and the story-tellers recount them well.

Midnight Summer Ghost Walks

The ghost walks begin at the town's original cemetery and climax at the hanging grounds. In between, we hear many ghost stories capturing the range of experiences that have been felt and shared through the years. The walks begin at dusk and are led by costumed guides lighting the way with a lantern. The 90 minute tours run rain or shine, so dress for the weather. Tickets are \$10 and are only available in advance. The walks are held on Fridays at 9 and 9:30; Saturdays at 9, 9:30 and midnight. The full moon walks are slated for 20 and 21 May; 24 and 25

June; 22 and 23 July; 19 and 20 August; and 16 and 17 September.

Eerie Ashburnham

Ghost and Gore Hallowe'en Walks

The east side of the river beckons with its own stories with legends tied to the river, parks, and hills. These tours will run nightly from 24 to 30 October at 6 and 6:30. Tickets in advance, \$10.

Special Tours

Trent Valley Archives will arrange special group tours; call Diane at 745-4404 for details.

Peterborough 2005 Events Planned

The city is planning many events to coincide around its centennial of incorporation. Peterborough dates from 1825, when the townsite was surveyed, but became a city 1 July 1905. In between the city had grown to over 15,000 people by a process of amalgamation and population growth; its population nearly doubled every 20 years until 1920.

Trent Valley Archives is participating in different ways. The publications committee is planning a special publication project which will take more than a year. We have also committed to helping the *Peterborough Examiner's* planned special historical edition. As well, the *Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley* will have special features. In the current issue we have shared stories related to Ashburnham, which united with the town in December 1903, and made city status a natural consequence. In the May issue, we will feature stories more particular to the events of 1905, and to life in the Edwardian city. In August we will share news of the city's special celebrations.

We are also supporting the Peterborough Historical Society's Edwardian Conference, 15 May 2005, at Traill College. Members are encouraged to seize this opportunity to learn about the city's history. Several of the papers have connections with stories we have shared in part. As well, we will be doing an historical display highlighting the career of Albert Hope, and showcasing a fire insurance plan atlas for 1914. Some papers of Albert Hope are housed at the Trent Valley Archives, and the atlases came here with the Martha Kidd fonds. We have also offered to publish abstracts of the papers presented on that occasion, and perhaps more.

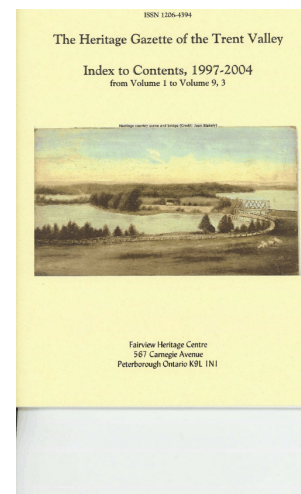
Trent Valley Archives Publishes Index to

Gazette

The Index to the first eight years of the *Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley* is available for \$15. Call Diane at 705-745-4404 or admin@trentvalleyarchives.com

The index is arranged by issue and contains a detailed listing of names and events associated with each article or feature that appeared. The very long lists have not identified each name. Researchers should be able to tell whether the reference will be pertinent because the context will be clear. The index was created to help the editor, but it became apparent that many articles are far richer in content than the title alone suggests. We hope others will find it of value.

We published the 44 page book in the format of the *Heritage Gazette* as we imagined people will want to keep it with their magazine. The colour picture that graces the cover was suggested by Keith Dinsdale and comes from the private collection of Jean Blakely. We thank her very much for sharing her painting of a railway bridge in Hastings County.



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