

Grafton Historical Notes

(13) By T. R. M.

Last week's "Notes" reminded the reader of the stirring times preceding the election of June 1836 and the Rebellion of 1837. Henry Ruttan, one of the nominees at the Grafton meeting was the successful candidate for Northumberland and subsequently became speaker of the House. The Cobourg "World" of Sept. 2, 1893 has an account of a campaign "dodger" used during this election, containing a speech made by Mr. Ruttan in uncompromising defence of the Anglican attitude toward the thorny Clergy Reserve question. A proposal had been advanced that the Church of Scotland should have a share of the Reserves, but Mr. Ruttan was of the opinion that such a measure would, if acted upon "be attended with the most diabolical results!!! (Cries of hear, hear, hear!) He, (Mr. Ruttan) would join in no address of this kind requesting His Majesty, King William IV to take away the rights of his subjects of the Established Church!"

Throughout his long life Mr. Ruttan was in close touch with military affairs. He served with the Northumberland Militia during the War of 1812, being wounded at the battle of Lundy's Lane. In 1824, as an extant manuscript Regimental Order proves, he commanded the first regiment of Northumberland Militia. The Order is addressed at Haldimand on Oct. 8th., 1824. At that time Mr. Ruttan lived in Haldimand, having opened a store here after the war. In 1837 he was connected with the third regiment of the Militia. In a letter or order, issued from the Regimental headquarters at Colborne, and printed in the Cobourg Star of Dec. 1837, he uttered a warning to all malcontents. "It cannot be denied—that there are those amongst us some of whom may even belong to the Regiment, who are suspected of disaffection to the government. . . They are known and marked."

who have threatened to invade our peaceful shores." "Vehement and prolonged cheering" greeted him at the conclusion of his speech.

A crisis even more fateful for Canada's future than the Rebellion itself took place in 1849 when the Baldwin-Lafontaine ministry introduced a bill to indemnify the French Canadians for the losses which they had suffered during the Rebellion. There was no denying the justice of the act as any impartial Canadian history text book will show. But to the ultra-loyal of Canada West, such an enactment was gall and wormwood and seemed to put a premium on disloyalty, for in their eyes the French-Canadians were not a loyal race. Again the Union Jack was waved on high through the Newcastle District and petitions poured in to Lord Elgin from Peterboro, Port Hope, Cobourg, Grafton and other centres requesting the Governor-General to refuse his assent to the bill. The "Cobourg Star" of Feb. 28, 1849 has this account.

"Make Way for Grafton"

"Scarce had we chronicled the brilliant result of the Cobourg meeting when we were called upon to report for the Graftonians. We accordingly proceeded thither on Saturday last, to attend a Township meeting convened by James G. Rogers, Esq., at the call of several respectable Freeholders. About 2 o'clock the meeting took place at Arkland's Hotel. We should say there were about 200 present, among whom we recognized many old familiar faces of the first settlers, those hardy pioneers before whose stalwart arms and sharp axes the forest has been swept away."

Several motions were brought forward, including the following:

"Moved by Mr. Ewing, seconded by Ephraim Doolittle, a patriarch and a Reformer:—Resolved that this meeting had hitherto cherished an ardent expectation that the occurrences

FINAL SESS ANNUAL M APPLE G

A. FULTON PRES SUME OF SEASON ING IN GREAT

At the annual convention of the Northumberland and Durham Fruit Growers' Association held last week, the final session was held in Grafton, Ontario Sales in Great Britain.

Mr. Fulton gave a helpful resume of the present marketing of Ontario apples in Great Britain. While shipments to the United Kingdom had been less than in previous years, the amount, from conditions prevailing it had been found to be profitable for local shippers to the Canadian market.

The speaker referred to the situation in France, Germany and other countries formerly large importers of apples. He told that in some countries, due to quota importations and high duties it had been impossible to sell apples in these countries.

In regard to the English market there were sufficient quantities available to provide for several years at prices were exceeding much so, that there was a possibility of Canadian export at satisfactory prices for the remainder of the season.

Comparing marketing in Canada with the Old Country comparison he said there was a lack of standardization of grades and prices in the Old Country compared with Canada. He felt that there should be a concerted effort to simplify the system of regulation away with unnecessary kind of supervision. It was a pressure both in Canada and in Great Britain that there was considerable overlapping in the jurisdiction of the various Boards.

Mr. Fulton pointed out a very difficult matter in the Fruit Act acceptable to the various districts of Canada. The British Columbia had a Control Board that had

r \$13
a to-
of be
ed, in
nents
0 p.c.
was
ut of
nittee
ce of
, \$11
man
sup-
these
bene-
demn
Third
ne or
leted.
nent
agree-
of the
been
pared
in the
the
August
ial in-
e, and
ies to
apples
onally.
inclined
gains,
i that
o vote
at the
that it
al sui-
ie con-
last
raid to
Ottawa
deliber-
them
was re-
om as-
e, the
limited
per-
wed so
ct, Mr.
ne fact
discus-
at nine
return
Liberal
be im-
orse the
ng the
with all
British
promis-
i to of-

on Oct. 8th., 1824. At that time
Mr. Ruttan lived in Haldimand,
having opened a store here after the
war. In 1837 he was connected with
the third regiment of the Militia. In
a letter or order, issued from the
Regimental headquarters at Col-
borne, and printed in the Cobourg
Star of Dec. 1837, he uttered a warn-
ing to all malcontents. "It cannot
be denied—that there are those
amongst us some of whom may even
belong to the Regiment, who are
suspected of disaffection to the
government. . . They are known and
marked."

During the troubled month of Dec-
ember 1837 Haldimand remained
overwhelmingly loyal. Captain Jas.
Rogers commanded a local troop of
volunteer cavalry. A note in the
"Star" of Jan. 3, 1838 states:—"The
discomfiture of the radicals of Hal-
dimand at the township meeting on
Monday last was gratifying to every
loyal subject. That the 'School-
master' of loyalty is now abroad
cannot be questioned. The rebels dare
not show themselves while loyalists
are at their post. James G. Rogers,
Esq. was unanimously elected Town-
ship Clerk, and R. Hare, E. Barnum
and N. Noble, Esquires were elected
Township Commissioners. So much
for Haldimand, and more can yet be
done."

Again on Jan. 17, 1838 the "Star"
has an account of a loyal meeting
held at Arkland's Tavern, Grafton.
"The large room at Arklands not be-
ing capacious enough to contain a
fifth part of those present, they ad-
joined to the open space in front
of the Tavern where they were ad-
dressed from the steps of the piazza."
Hearty cheers were given for the
Queen, Sir Francis Bond Head, the
Haldimand Volunteers and Northum-
berland Militia and for "Captain
MacDonald and the gallant troops
now serving on the Niagara." As
at the meeting mentioned in last
week's "Notes", George Manners was
again appointed chairman and Don-
ald McTavish, Secretary, Manners
who had lived in the United States
from 1817 to 1836 made an "animat-
ing energetic and truly eloquent
speech" in which he tried to allay
anti-American feeling aroused during
the Rebellion—"Let me conjure you
not to identify the whole population
of the United States with those . . .

meeting took place at Arkland's
Hotel. We should say there were
about 200 present, among whom we
recognized many old familiar faces
of the first settlers, those hardy
pioneers before whose stalwart arms
and sharp axes the forest has been
swept away."

Several motions were brought for-
ward, including the following:

"Moved by Mr. Ewing, seconded by
Ephraim Doolittle, a patriarch and a
Reformer:—Resolved that this meet-
ing had hitherto cherished an ardent
expectation that the occurrences
which characterized the years 1837-
38, were to have been buried in
oblivion, and they therefore regard
with astonishment and regret the
measure now proposed by the present
ministry for the payment of Rebellion
losses in Lower Canada, consequent
on the troubles at that time.

Moved by Hamlet Vernon, second-
ed by Mr. Wilson:—That the Loyal
inhabitants of Lower Canada who
have sustained losses during the Re-
bellion are entitled to compensation
but that Lower Canada, not having
been called upon to pay any of the
Rebellion losses of Upper Canada, it
would be the grossest injustice to the
people of this part of the Province
to compel them to pay any portion of
the Rebellion losses of Lower Can-
ada." Messrs. Rogers, Vernon, New-
man and Grover were appointed to
draft a petition to His Excellency
Lord Elgin to withhold his assent to
any bill having for its object the
payment of any losses sustained dur-
ing the rebellion, out of the Con-
solidated Revenue.

These problems, which exercised
the men of three generations ago so
strongly, seem very far removed
from us today. Haldimand, like Ox-
ford, seems to have been the home of
lost causes. The Clergy Reserve
question was settled without "dialo-
gical results." French-Canadians are
now regarded as good citizens. The
party opposing the government is
now no longer dubbed "disloyal" but
on the contrary it is "His Majesty's
loyal Opposition". Modern political
questions demand as much acuteness
as those of the Forties, and present
day citizens might do well to emulate
the enthusiasm while striving to
avoid the restricted outlook of their
ancestors.

He felt that there was
termined effort to simpl
any system of regula
away with unnecessary
kind of supervision. It
pression both in Canada
that there was consi
lapping in the jurisdic
lan Boards.

Mr. Fulton pointed out
a very difficult matter
Fruit Act acceptable to
districts of Canada. Th
British Columbia had
Control Board that n
very high standard for
while in Nova Scotia it
at liberty to export wit
of regulations.

Following the remar
ton there was a discuss
olution was adopted
vote favoring abollish
Fruit Export Board
having its duties con
jurisdiction of the Fru
the regulations of the I

The first speaker at
day morning session
E. E. Palmer of the C
The professor dealt wit
tical phases of orchar
pruning and cultivation
was followed by a leng

At the banquet held
Church Sunday Scho
guest speaker was P
anan of Guelph, whos
much appreciated. Ch
sang a solo and about
fifty were present.

Important Reso

The final session in
was devoted to consi
number of resolutions
portance, some of whic
interest to the entire c
request to the Provinch
of Agriculture to enfor
tions of the Apple M
Act of 1933. This Act
compulsory spraying
trees within 300 yards
applying for certificac
moval before 1st. July.

A proposal to form a
Committee for the co
members of this Asso
Committee to act as
House and would facili

A request to the I
Board of the Federal I
culture that where the
infestation of Apple M
orchard inspection of thi
considered final; and
should be another inspe
ing time by the local
equal importance and e

Ministers and Churches

Trinity United Church of Canada

Rev. J. B. Rhodes, M.A., Minister
Mr. Alfred Mortimer, Organist
11.00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
2.00 p.m. — Young People's Bible

A Grafton 107-18/19