

Reports

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Jibb, 82; Valeda

Jibb, 83; Fred

on McIntosh, 82;
Willis, 71.; 86; Laura Bray,
Is, 71; Percival

35; Albert Willis,

er.

I BLEZARD,
Teacher.

School

ge, 68; Lenore
ilne, 60.klin, 69; Harol
Adams, 65; Kath-a McDonald, 46;
absent; Thursa

ite Macklin, 80;

Audrey Macklin,
ght, 66; Elmer
Adams, 36.

adge, 85.

Knox, 82; Lois

d Macklin, 72;
Reginald George,

46.

lin, 85; Anthony
Macklin, 59.Curtis, Shirley
clin, equal.

OWEN, Teacher.

Hamilton

Pass 60

Barnes, 71; Joe
Minn, 56.

n, 66.

ke, 71.

reer, 72; Marian
dymore, 55.nan, 85; Phyllis
et Behan, 79;Reta Green, 72;
52; Billy Finne-

80.

Walter McMinn.
CARRUTHERS.

Hamilton

78.

Grafton Historical Notes

(22)

By T. R. M.

The second storekeeper in Haldimand was Henry Ruttan. When a lad of fourteen he had left his home in Adolphistown and had gone to Kingston as assistant in a store "to learn the art and mystery of trade and commerce. During the War of 1812-14 he saw active service in the Incorporated Militia but when peace was declared he states briefly in his Autobiography that he went into business in the Township of Haldimand. The site of his store is usually connected with the Heenan property south of St. Mary's Church on the old Danforth Road. The present road from the Village corner to Benlock bridge was not built until 1857. No documentary evidence of Mr. Ruttan's mercantile trade has come to light. He was, however, Haldimand agent for an early Kingston newspaper previous to 1820 and it is probable that his supplies would have to be purchased at Kingston. He was living in Haldimand in 1820 and was elected to represent the country of Northumberland in the Assembly in that year. How long he continued to keep store is not known.

When the Cobourg Star began publication in 1831 references to early storekeepers begin to be more numerous. On Feb. 11, 1831, the following advertisement appeared:—"For Sale—That well known house where Mr. Watson lately kept store in Haldimand. John Grover."

In October 1831, the following notice was printed:—

"W. B. Watson takes this opportunity to thank his customers in Haldimand and Cramahe for their liberal patronage, and begs leave to inform them that his business shall be transacted on a more enlarged scale, and every description of goods suitable for town and country customers sold on as low terms as any of the stores in the surrounding villages, at his new store in Haldimand.

"N.B. All sorts of produce taken

reference to the Watsons is to be found.

As has been noted, John Taylor separated from Watson, and on Sept. 20, 1831, the following advertisement appeared:—

"The subscriber respectfully informs his Friends and the Public that he has opened store in Mr. Johnson Grover's New House near Mr. Pepper's Inn, in Haldimand where he intends constantly keeping on hand a general assortment of dry goods hardware and groceries which he will sell on very cheap terms for Cash or Produce.

"John Taylor."

For thirty years, until his death about the year 1860 John Taylor was one of the Village's most prominent citizens. During these years he continued to keep store, and he held the position of Postmaster from 1846. In later years his nephew William Taylor was associated with him. A large number of letters and accounts regarding the Taylor's business have been preserved and are in the possession of Major Gordon Taylor. At one time he owned a saw mill near Eddystone, and as the accounts show he supplied great quantities of lumber to Campbell and Pym when the Distillery was in a flourishing condition. He also contributed to the business of Grafton Harbour in its earlier years. It is probable that he was the builder of the present store of R. Lawless and sons, and both his name and that of his nephew William are connected with the building of the fine residence now owned by the Rev. William Teeple.

The Star of Dec. 30, 1835, has this advertisement:—

"Stoves! Stoves! !

"at the

"Grafton Cash Store.

"41 double and single stoves, fine 'Dundee' casting, 20, 24, 30 and 36 inch, for sale at this establishment low for Cash or Produce—Where also is kept constantly on hand an exten

Reta Green, 72;
52; Billy Finne-

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Walter McMinn.
CARRUTHERS.

Hamilton

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lson, 76.

Carruthers, 64;

3; Kathleen Mc-
McClung, absent.

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liberal patronage, and begs leave to inform them that his business shall be transacted on a more enlarged scale, and every description of goods suitable for town and country customers sold on as low terms as any of the stores in the surrounding villages, at his new store in Haldimand.

"N.B. All sorts of produce taken in payment."

W. B. Watson seems to have had a store previous to 1831. In that year he dissolved partnership with John Taylor and opened his new store. In 1833 he dissolved partnership with D. Watson and in October of that year Lot 6 with dwelling and store was offered for sale by D. and W. B. Watson. After this date no further

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"Stoves! Stoves! !

"at the

"Grafton Cash Store.

"41 double and single stoves, fine 'Dundee' casting, 20, 24, 30 and 36 inch, for sale at this establishment, low for Cash or Produce—Where also is kept constantly on hand an extensive assortment of Staple Dry Goods, Shelf and Heavy Hardware; Groceries, Liquors, Crockery, Cut and plain glassware, etc., etc., Exchanged only for Cash and Produce.

"James Lawless."

In 1837 Mr. Lawless paid his shop-keeper's license, but he offered his house and store for sale in 1843, and no further reference to his business

activities occurs after this date. Fortunately his letter book has been preserved and some items of interest regarding his experiences previous to coming to Grafton will be printed in a future issue.

Kenneth Mackenzie kept store for a short time in the 1840's, as there is record of his payment of shop-keeper's license in 1843. But as an advertisement of Feb. 2, 1845, shows, he had given up his business by that time. Benjamin Clarke moved into the store "ately occupied by Mr. MacKenzie" and solicited public patronage for his dry goods and groceries. The Clarke store, a branch of a Cobourg business, stood for many years.

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Mayor James Simpson, Toronto, addressed a men's meeting at Osh- C.C.F. meet
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