

Origin of Place Names in District

Prepared by The Citizen's
District Staff of
Correspondents.

ADMASTON

Renfrew county was named after a village in Staffordshire, England. In the formative days in this district Old Country surveyors were employed to chart new municipalities and frequently they were permitted or invited to give the place its name. That is how Admaston became known as such and over in the north and south McNaughton Lines, paralleling the Bonnechere river, the surveyor, one McNaughton, perpetuated his own name.

The survey of Admaston was commenced in 1838, was completed in 1842, but John Campbell, John Bremner, Archibald Patterson and George Cardiff from Lanarkshire, Scotland, were there even before the survey had been ordered. Next came the Browns, Sullivans and Groves, then quickly followed the Irish families who named Mount St. Patrick and Shamrock.

Ferguslea in the same township was named by Ephraim Reid, who operated the first woolen mill, after his paternal home in Scotland.

The historic Opeongo Line, familiar in story, song and legend, a trail of the early lumbermen and the endless caravans that supplied the needs of the army of men and horses in the pine forests, wound its devious way through the lovely hills and dales of Admaston.

One of the first Good Templars societies in Canada was organized in Admaston and then came the Sons of Temperance including such names on the charter as David Graham, Robert Brown, Archibald Patterson, Henry Airth, James Brown, John Brown, George Brown, William Bayne, James Ferguson and Alexander Brown. They still have the original charter.

"Aunty" Patterson was the first postmistress and the second was Miss Margaret O'Dey, who died in Renfrew only last year.

The first local school was established early in the nineteenth century and George Brown of Admaston, who came from Glasgow, Scotland, was the first superintendent of schools in Renfrew county. The first eight teachers in the pioneer school were Sergt. Harry Airth, Harry Wolford, Rev. Thompson, George Berlanquet, Miss Halliday, Alex McTavish, Ann Graham and Ellen Lawton.

Certificate on
Leaving School.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF UPPER CANADA.

FEAR GOD, HONOUR THE KING.

Admaston April 2 1867

This is to Certify that Sarah A. Cardiff
was a scholar of high standing, and
exemplary conduct, in School No. 2
Admaston, Ontario,
Taught by Geo. Berlanquet,
Principal Teacher.

HONOR FOR ALL MEN. LOVE THE BRITISH QUEEN. REMEMBER THE SABBATH. BE NOT LATE. BE THOU FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH AND I WILL GIVE THEE A CROWN OF LIFE. ENTER NOT INTO THE STRAIT GATE THAT LEADETH UNTO DEATH AND I WILL GIVE THEE A CROWN OF LIFE. ENTER NOT INTO THE STRAIT GATE THAT LEADETH UNTO DEATH AND I WILL GIVE THEE A CROWN OF LIFE.

IN DAYS GONE BY . . . Certificate granted to Sarah A Cardiff in 1867 when she graduated from SS No 2 Admaston. She later taught in Admaston No 5, Northcote No 6 and in White Lake. Married in 1887 to Peter Pender, she had two children, Nellie (Mrs Mack Dick) of Renfrew and William. She died in 1930.