

Post Offices - New Settlements and Settlers - Stores

One of the first Good Templars Societies in Canada was being organized in Admaston in 1865. The meetings were held in the Good Templars Hall, a building owned by one - George Brown. This hall was later used as the meeting place for the Sons of Temperance.

The date of the opening of the first Post Office, Admaston, is not available. The first Post Office was kept at Arch. Patterson's ~~XX "XXXX"~~ ~~Property~~, ~~as she was formerly known~~, in the house now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. James Murphy, situated directly across Road No.80 from the school in S.S. No.2. That Post Office served a large district. People came from as far away as the farm of Harold Briscoe, then known as "Dickies". The mail came once a week, on Saturday, and one person came on horseback or on foot for his neighbour's mail as well as his own. Some years later that Post Office was kept by Miss Margaret O'Dey at her home on the 5th concession near the farm of Harvey Mayhew. Next the office was moved to the home of Mrs. Frank Saunders, not far north of the first office. Mrs. Saunders was Post Mistress until the office was closed. Mr. Henry Kuseler is the present owner of the property.

About the year 1887 the Balsam Hill Post Office was opened at the home of Peter Campbell, now the home of Dougall Campbell on Lot 22, Concession 4. That Post Office was closed shortly after the establishment of Rural Mail Route, Number 2, Renfrew, about the year 1910.

During all those years the settlement of Admaston had been spreading westward towards the present Admaston Station between which point and the original settlements made by Bremmer, Patterson, Cardiff and Campbell, was an extensive settlement made by several families of Browns. In fact almost all of the block of land between S.S.2 and Admaston Station, excepting farms now owned by Duncan Box and John Box and bounded by what is now Concession 5 and County Road 80, was owned by families of this name.

Northward from the original settlement the farms of Proctors, Bromleys and between Concession 4 and the Bonnechere River the farms then owned by Scotts and Wilsons now owned by Hass and A. Blackwell, were settled and included in the community. Northward still to what was and still is known as the "Brule", the clearings extended. In the "Brule" section a different soil was found, also the lack of hardwood forest. Fire had burnt over that section of land, and getting into the ground, had burned off most of the top soil leaving the clay sub soil. This soil was free of stones; the forest mostly pine, spruce, hemlock and balsam. Early settlers in the "Brule" section were Wilsons, Weir's, Miller's, Stokes, Pender's, Naismith's, Dickies, Black's, Bain's, Bowes, McDonald's, McIntyre's, Leckie's, Potter's, McDougall's, Forrest's, Walker's.

All those families comprised the one community; most worshipped at the same church. Their children attended school in the adjoining sections of No.2 and No.5, where the present schools were built in 1876 and 1877.

In 1888 the Sons of Temperance organized Division Number 157, and the weekly meetings of that organization were the centre of community life