

Interesting Records Tell Story Of Rednerville Church

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Gazette Correspondent

It has just been my privilege to attend the anniversary service at Rednerville Church, commemorating one hundred years of activity of the congregation of that edifice. Rednerville in the very rare case where you may no know, is a quiet little hamlet on the northern shore line of Prince Edward County. I say quiet because that definition suits its activities better than any other adjective in my vocabulary—that is, for approximately ten months in the year. For the other two, it takes on an entirely different aspect, becoming a veritable hive of industry when outsiders come in to assist in the processing of up to fourteen hundred bushels of tomatoes per day. Then during the peak of the ripening season which lasts from August 15 to early in October, sees almost an endless stream of cars, trucks, tractors and waggons, horses and waggons or what have you, taking bushels and bushels of red ripe tomatoes to the canning factory down by the Bay of Quinte.

To the west one can drive for miles over a concrete road and pass through some of the finest apple orchards in Ontario. The orchards extend to the east also but the type of road differs vastly. Hundreds of acres of rich farm lands lie to the south also and these make a decided contribution to the business life of the village which consists of a garage, a general store, an ice cream parlour and tobacco stand and of course the canning factory.

On the seventh day however, the centre of interest lies elsewhere, it is the day when the villagers gather together at the only church in the vicinity to worship the God of their forefathers—the church which was built one hundred years ago.

Early Records

It is indeed fortunate that records have been discovered to give us a fairly accurate account of the business transactions in connection with its building.

The original meeting, according to a very old, mottled green account book, was held in Rednerville School House on October 14, 1848.

Marshal B. Roblin was elected secretary-treasurer and his penmanship and accounts would compare very favourably with the best kept books of to-day.

A double entry system was used and only a very few accounts were left unclosed and as there were apparently no auditors in those days we can in no way vouch for the accuracy of the accounts left open.

Apparently there was a certain amount of banking business done in those days as one entry reads November 10, 1849. Discount on bank note 9 sh. 5 d. The dollar system had not yet come into being at that time.

A committee of five collectors, including James Redner, Hector Howell, George Savage, Phillip Roblin and a man named Fasset was appointed to taken donations which consisted of just about anything a person had to give.

I took a particular personal interest in the account of my grandfather, Richard Redner, who donated five pounds made up as follows:

November 26, 1848 — To amt. of subscription £5.

June 1849, by bill four and cheese, £1 1 sh. 3d.

March, 1850, by cash to A. M. Roblin, £2 10 sh.

June, 1850, by cash to P. Roblin, £1 8 sh. 9d.

James Peck was credited with £1 for 1,000 bricks.

The donations ranged from 15 pounds by Phillip Roblin down to several of 5 shillings and the predominating names amongst the donors were Redners and Roblins, six of each.

The contract for the building was let to George Savage for the sum of 400 pounds and Joseph Todd did the stone masonry work for which he received eighty pounds.

The building committee met on May 25th, 1849, and voted to allow George Savage an additional £5 for extra work on steeple and also a further sum of sixteen shillings and ten pence half penny for extra work in obtaining doors. Settlement was made with contractors some time in advance of due date and the sum of six

pounds was deducted for interest.

By the beginning of 1852 the church owed only 64 pounds to Marshal B. Roblin and a motion was put on the books to take a further subscription to finish paying off that amount.

Solidly Constructed

The church is constructed of grey stone taken undoubtedly from the side of the hill near by, and a wall is also built in the centre under the floor to give it added strength. The stringers are all cedar poles ten inches in diameter and the original floor still in use is of inch and a quarter pine ten inches wide. Some years after completion, the steeple was removed and a tower put in its place but no records are at hand to show when this was done.

About the beginning of the century the chancel was added and in 1938 the bell was donated by Chas. L. Babcock.

The original Bible, which is still in excellent condition was printed in 1847 and donated by Chas. Biggar at the dedication of the church in February 1850.

The hall (formerly a church at Demorestville) was purchased and moved to its present location in 1938 and for the past six years has been used as a school for the younger grades.

To quote Rev. Mr. MacKay: "May we look forward to still greater progress during the years that lie before us".

Laivunu, Peter
Lout, Tobias
Locklin, Joel
Loveless, Peter
Locklin, James
Lauder, William
Lauder, George
Lauder, John
Morden, John W.
Morden, John W.
Morden, J. I.
Morser, William
McMullen, Daniel
McGulough, Henry
McArthur, Samuel

Wiggins, Thomas
Wallbridge, Asa E.
Wright, Frederick
White, William
Whitler, J. L.
Williams, David
Wilkins, E. D. L.
Wicket, James
Washburn, F. E.
Williams, C. J.
Way, John B.
Way, Henry
Way, John
Young, E. W.
Young, Robert

Original List of Subscribers To Building Fund

The following is a list of subscribers who donated: labour, stone, lumber, timbers, drawing of stone, brick, peas, flour, wagon woodwork, shoe-making, jacks, clover seed, glass, fence-moving, hoppers and box making, cheese, wood, lamps, pipes and elbows, lime, oats, mutton, potatoes, hay, shingles, proceeds of a grocery sale at Launch of Vessel and money.

Anderson, John
Anderson, William, Sr.
Anderson, Levi
Allison, John W.
Anderson, William, Jr.
Ainsworth, Henry
Adams, Samuel
Austin, James
Alley, William
Alley, Thomas
Allison, Rev. Cyrison
Brickman, William
Brickman, Peter
Baughan, James
Butlin, William
Brant, James
Biggar, Charles
Biggar, James L.
Brickman, James
Babcock, James
Blakeney, William
Benson, John
Brown, Hiram C.
Babcock, John
Babcock, William
Bush, Arnold
Barber, A. T.
Brock, Samuel
Baughan, James
Bigelow, Charles
Ballantyne, Simon
Blanchard, John
Bowerman, Thomas
Burr, William
Bush, William, Jr.
Brickman, Benjamin
Brown, William
Blake, John R.

Cunningham, Thomas
Crouter, Edward
Cunningham, Geo.
Chase, Andrew
Clute, R. R.
Conner, William
Clapp, Durlin
Carnrike, Jacob
Cory A.
Clark, James W.
Cunningham, E.
Costly, William
Clute, R. J.
Cunningham, Henry
Consaul, Allen
Carter, Nicholas
Conger, R. B.
Campbell, Robert
Curry, Reuben C.
Dempsey, Peter, Jr.
Dempsey, Peter, Sr.
Dempsey, Isaac
Dempsey, William, Sr.
Dempsey, William, Jr.
Dolman, James
Jelong, William
Dempsey, Thomas
Dempsey, Mary Ann
Drury, George

Fox, Rynard
Findlay, Robert
Flint, Billie
Frederick, Martin
Fones, W. A.
Fogarty, John J.
Giles, William
Gibson, David
Gerow, William
Gerow, James
Glenn, David
Glenn, Charles
Glenn, Robert
Giles, Thomas
Gatchill, Jeremiah
German, John
Hermon, William
Herrington, S. W.
Harrison, G. C.
Holton, E. W.
Howard, Thomas R.
Howe, Rufus
Howell, John
Hickinson, William
Huyck, William
Halton, C. P.
Henese, James R.
Howell, Hector
Hicks, Royal C.
Huyck, Selim
Howe, Simon
Herrington, Stillman
Herrington, Jane
Higgins, Benjamin
Johnston, James
Jaquis, James
Johnston, W. A.
Jackson, John
Ireland, William
Kempt, John I.
Loveless, Hiram
Lewis, E. W.
Lusk, John
Lambert, E. D.

McGroth, Thomas G.
Marsh, Abram
Meacham, Simon
Moon, Daniel
Moon, William
Miller, Henry
McDonald, John
Mabee, Aanson G.
McTaggart, William
Mitchell, Francis
Maidins, James
Nix, Skoham
Nix, Harmon
Osborn, John I.
Onderdonk, John
Osborne, John B.
Platt, John
Peterson, James
Potter, John
Parliament, Jacob
Pierston, David
Peck, James W.
Post, Jacob
Peterson, A. F.
Peterson, Thomas W.
Peck, John
Parliament, Henry
Peterson, Wagelet
Post, Abraham
Peterson, Samuel
Pulver, John
Peck, James
Purdy, Ruliff
Peterson, William John
Pulver, Elizabeth
Parr, Anthony
Peterson, Nickless
Parliament, Samuel
Roblin, Phillip
Roblin, M. B.
Redner, James
Roblin, Ryan
Roblin, Owen
Redner, Henry
Rose, John
Roblin, John P.
Roblin, Mary
Rop, B. B.
Redner, Lewis
Redner, William
Richard, Redner
Rose, Daniel
Redick, Sylvester
Redick, John
Rose, Hiram
Rose, William
Robson, Samuel
Redick, Thomas
Russell, John
Raynor, Jotham
Richmond, C. C.
Roblin, George
Russill, Smith
Rose, George
Redner, Petter
Stevens, D. B.
Sherriff, R. N.
Snider, Peter
Sager, John
Snider, Henry W.
Simons, Martha
Stafford, William
Stapleton, William
Snider, W. F.
Sager, Henry
Savage, George
Sager, John W.
Stapleton, John
Searls, Abraham
Smith, A. L.
Sorivyer, M.
Spragh, Darwin
Sprung, David
Sprung, Richard
Smith, Jacob
Todd, Joseph
Tice, Jacob
Vanastine, Phillip
Vanderhyden, Peter
Valleau, Peter
Williams, Phillips
Wolever, Isaac
Wright, George W.
Williams, Isaac
Wallbridge, S. S.
Weese, William F.
Weese, James W.
Weese, C. B.
Wood, John
Wannamaker, William W.
Weller, Benjamin
Wright, Arthur
Weese, James I.
Wannamaker, Andrew F.
Way, George R.
Way, Mary
Walk, Amos
Whittier, Clark
Whittier, W. W.
Walt, Smith
Wilson, Isaac
Wiggins, Simon