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Coming from Toronto, 1950, I wrote the following, -

In September of 1950, just one hundred years after the great storm that swept across Cartwright (recorded on page 53, On the Shores of Scugog) I came from Bowmanville north to Port Perry, along the roads that our fore-fathers travelled so long ago. I found it a very pleasant country of quiet holms, and gently rolling hills and valleys. The road was of smooth asphalt (asphalt) and usually was flanked (flanked) by huge maples and noble elms. Many of them planted a hundred, or so, years ago.

-1 I found Port Perry a beautiful location, the main street running gradually to the lake front. On the lake a number of boats, some of them sail boats, lay at anchor, and the distant blue vistas of a lovely lake stretched away across to Scugog Island, and beyond.

Port Perry is not old fashioned, or out-moded, but rather smug and contented. The house which my father, John Joseph Hambley built in 1896, is standing white and sedate with some large hard maples in front of it. These are trees which he planted somewhere around 1896, or 1898, and they are the glory of their street. The old rink where we children played is now gone.

There was no sign of the old negro ex-slave, who used to drive his cow, up and down the street, to pasture, I suppose, when I was a small boy. Old John Rolph has gone. Names like Bigelow, and Archer and Brock, can still be seen on sign here and there. I stood beside the statue of (I forget the name of this man) standing near Lake Scugog.

Here is a little poem that I wrote about my visit to the old 'Home Town' and lake.

George Henry Hambley.

(At this time of writing, March 10th 1979, I found this) (The above letter), which I had written in the last blank page of the fine old book, "On the Shores of Scugog". (by Samuel Farmer. I had forgotten that it was there.)
G.H.H.

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Mrs Moore, I have just taken down from my library shelf this old school reader used by my father in 1869. I will get a photostat copy of the front page of it. You can see by this copy that he wasn't very strong on spelling. He would be about 14 years old the year that he got this book. Notice where he marks it "School Section No. 4".

Now I look up Samuel Farmer's book, "On The Shores Of Scugog" and on page 32, he tells of the beginnings of the schools, Of the fourth school being built, Farmer says, "In 1844 a school was built on the 2nd concession, near the gravelled road". But he doesn't mention the name of this school, Could this be the school, named Phirley, where my father attended?
(father)

GH