



## Muskoka Pioneer Dies in 92nd year

An esteemed pioneer of Muskoka in the person of Mr. George Kirk passed away at the advanced age of ninety-one years and eleven months.

Mr. Kirk had been in failing health for several months but was hospitalized for only one week. He died in Bracebridge Memorial Hospital at 5.30 a.m. on January 21, 1951.

The largely attended funeral was held on Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Service was held in the Reynolds Funeral Chapel with the Rev. H. A. McLeod officiating. Interment took place in the vault at St. Thomas' Church Cemetery with burial in Kirk Cemetery, Macaulay Township, in the spring. Pallbearers were Messrs. John Sloper, Robert Barron, James Campbell, Milton Shier, Sam Short, Ernest Kirk.

Mr. Kirk came to Canada with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Kirk at the age of six years, from Brignal, Yorkshire, England. They settled in Macaulay Township and the Kirk family have lived there ever since. The deceased was a farmer in this township all his life.

In April, 1896 he and Miss Amy Gaudin were married and to this union was born one daughter, Annie, (Mrs. S. D. Short) of Massey. Mrs. Kirk died in 1900 and in 1904 Mr. Kirk was united in marriage to Miss Catharine Ennis, daughter of another prominent Macaulay Township couple. Four children were born to this union.

Mr. Kirk was always active in the municipal work of the Township and for over thirty years he served as Assessor and Collector. For many years he was a valued member of the Board of Education. He was a staunch member of the Free Methodist Church and attended the services regularly until his death.

Besides his wife he leaves two daughters and three sons to mourn his death, Mrs. S. D. Short of Massey, Grace, (Mrs. R. G. Bateman) of Bellville, Dalton of Huntsville, Wilmund and Oscar of Bracebridge. Three brothers predeceased him, William, who was the founder of the William Kirk and Son Dry Good Store in Bracebridge, John and Edward of Bracebridge.



James Clark <sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> and <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>. Kept them /  
 One of the first settlers on Con. <sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> and <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>. Kept them /  
 Monsell P.O., a school trustee, a councilman, a keen  
 hunter and ardent Orangeman. He built his own stone  
 house and raised six children.



Tom, Maggie, John, Kate, Edward, Dick Ennis