Pioneering in Simcoe

(By Mrs. Alex. McGowan)

In the year 1828, John Weldrick was born in Yorkshire, England, and at the age of twenty-three was married to Rachel E. Shipley. Having spent a week with their friends, they set sail for America, and, after a rough voyage of six weeks and three days on the ocean, landed at New York, then came by rail to Muddy York, now the city of Toronto.

Soon after they applied to the magistrate for work, a kind hearted Scotchman came and took them out to Scarboro, where they lived for two years. Hearing of the free land in Osprey township, father and another man went by stage to Barrie, taking with them an axe, a pair of blankets, half a bag of food, a flint and steel and a lead pencil; as they had to walk about fifty miles, this was all they could carry. When the sun began to get low in the west they would start to gather wood for the night and strike the flint and steel to start their fire, one keeping watch while the other slept. Once they saw the eyes of some beast staring at them, and heard the sticks breaking as it walked away. As soon as the sun was up to guide them, they pressed further into the forest. At last they came to a concession blaze and a nice creek, and, being tired and hungry, they decided to go no further. While the other man was building a fire, as it was father's axe he started to build his shanty. It was made ten feet by twelve, for they had to lift the logs. He cut hemlock the right length, split and peeled them for the roof. He split up cedar, and, with leather-wood bark, bound it, and hung it for a door. He then carried stones for a fireplace, and clay from the creek with a piece of bark. Thus, three days were spent, and, as their provisions were getting lower, he went around three hundred acres, chopped off the bark from trees at intervals, and wrote his name with the pencil. Then they gathered up their traps and started back. It was near midnight when they got to Stayner, nad two days later, footsore and hungry, they laneed home. The next winter father bought a yoke of oxen, one cow, a sleigh, a 1-inch and a 2-inch auger, two axes, and what household goods the oxen could draw. With my mother and a baby girl, they started again for the wilderness. The journey took three days. They stayed at Barrie and Stayner. From the latter point there was only the blaze to go by, and the sleigh upset about six times, throwing them into the snow. Mother often told us how thankful she was when father said, "Yonder is the shanty!" He soon made a roaring fire, carried in two boxes for a table and the ox yoke for a seat Thus, the first white woman, as far as we know, ate her first supper in Osprey.

Father then cut down some brouse for the cattle, tied them to the sleigh at the door, and started to make a bedstead by boring holes in the logs, using a crotched stick for the third post, sharpening the other end and driving it down into the mud floor. Cedar branches formed the mattress; on these were put their blankets, and they were soon fast asleep. But when they awoke in the morning the baby was sick, and with all that distance between them and a doctor! Mother only had a bottle of castor oil, one of goose oil, and water. For three days she sat by, wringing out flannels and laying them around the baby's neck and breast, or bathing her feet in warm water, anxiously asking God to spare her baby. Thus she gained her first experience in nursing.

After two months, father had to leave them alone and go back to Barrie for flour and provisions; butter was then ten cents per pound, and sugar fifteen. As the snow was deep, he was four days away, and mother's heart leaped for joy when the woods resounded with his singing, away in the distance. Father had to chop every day to get a field ready for seeding, and mother had to take the baby and go away out from the cabin, for fear a tree might fall on the shanty. Father would draw the fallen trees into heaps and set fire to them, and often they had to stay up all night to keep the fire from spreading into the bush. Father made a plow, all of wood, and as he had not time to make a harrow, he used the top of a small elm tree to drag the first year. Later he made a drag by boring two-inch holes through a crotch stick, and making elm pegs, and driving them in for harrow teeth. He took bent saplings for runners and made a "jumper" for drawing in the grain, which was all cut with the sickle. He sharpened the end of a small pole, put on a cross piece about two feet long, drove pegs in, and mother raked with it, and bound the grain They made a stack, and covered it with beaver-meadow hay, and in the winter he made a flail with two sticks tied together with leather-wood bark and every evening would thresh out some of the wheat on the shanty floor by the light of the fireplace.

Mother was a year and two months without seeing a white woman, but one day in the summer two Indian women, carrying a papoose, stole cautiously near and nearer the shanty Mother was so pleased to see them she opened the door, when they turned to flee, but stopped as she held up her baby, smiled and beckoned to them. They came part way back. She got a piece of bread, held it out to them, but they would not let their baby eat it until she fed a piece of it to her own child. They came again, and brought some baskets with them. They would hold them out to mother, point at their mouths, and making a mournful noise to tell her they wanted bread, for which they gave her a basket. They picked up some cow-cabbage and ate it; the youngest ran down to the creek and got some water cress, came back and gave some to the papoose, and ate some herself. Then they came another day and brought two men carrying guns; but when mother and father went out, they lifted them off their shoulders, and laid them across their feet, which meant peace. The old woman carried their baby to mother. She took it in her arms and gave it a kiss, and that seemed to please them greatly, for, throwing their arms up, they all laughed. They all peeped in at the door for mother's baby, and when she brought it, they gave it a basket, beautifully made and painted, about the size of a bowl. And mother taught them to say "white baby." They showed her the elm mushrooms, which are good food, and often only for these our family would not have had enough to eat, for the frost was so bad that they could scarcely grow potatoes, and the wheat was often frozen, so that the bread was black and sticky and a little sweet.

In the spring a man brought his bride and settled about two miles from our home. Father left mother alone and went out for them about twenty miles, kept them over night and got two dollars for it; thus the first money was earned. Then father went and got the same woman to come to nurse mother when her boy was born, the first one in Osprey, and they gave her back the two dollars for that service. She only stayed two days, for, she said, her husband might burn himself with the teapot;

Several families moved in the next year. The wolves were dreadfully bad then, and in two years more a large pack came. The cattle were bawling; father lit a torch and ran out; they gathered around him; he got upon a stump so they could not trample him; they had the three-year old heifer down, and the hind quarters nearly stripped bare; but they are afraid of fire and ran away howling. The heifer bawled when father got to her, and died. They were worse after that. The snow had piled up at the back of the shanty, and one night they got on the roof. Father and mother sprang out of bed to stir the fire to keep them from coming down the chimney. One day in the spring, father had been over two miles away, helping a man to log a fallow. When he got about half way home he heard a "whe-e-ett" and soon another voice coming nearer. He mounted Lamb, one of the oxen, and, as they were afraid, they started to run, and then to gallop, as the wolves came nearer. He hung on tight by the yoke, but they had a long hill to climb, and were very tired. There was a large pack, about twenty or more, howling and gaining on him; he unhooked the logging chain, unwound it from the yoke, so that it trailed and kept the wolves from biting the oxens' heels. He yelled, and mother having heard them, lit two torches and ran to meet father, waving the torches. Lamb and Lion had turned around to fight, but when they saw mother they ran to her. She could hardly keep them out of her way, and when she opened the shanty door they ran in and nearly broke it. Father took off the yoke and let them stay in all night. My parents thought, by the sound of the wolves in the night, that they were trying to break into the log stable where the cow and calf were. The first sheep that our people got were torn to pieces by the wolves.

Then sickness came and their first boy, seven years old, leaned his head on omther's breast and said: "Mammie, I am going to live with Jesus." She asked, "How do you know, George?" He looked up, smiling, and said, "Oh, Jesus came in the night and he took hold of my hand and said, 'Come with me.' " He died that night. The other three were sick with measles. There was no minister to bury little brother.

One night, while hunting the cows, mother got frightened by hearing a growl. She turned and ran, then thought she was lost, and an awful fear came over her, for father was away working and the three children were alone, the babe in the cradle, the others tied to the bed. She held up her hands, looked to the sky, and said, "Great God, will you take me back to my children?" Then she remembered where she was, got on to another foot-path, and ran half a mile home.

These are some of the hardships the first settlers had to go through to make good homes for us.

Rev. H. S. Fiddes, United Church, Durham, is ill, but hopes to be able to resume his pastoral work in a few weeks.

Earl Vessie has been appointed as school caretaker at Rocky Saugeen at a salary of $110 per annum.

Meafordites are agitating for the establishment of an hospital.

FARM FOR QUICK SALE

114 acres in the Towrship of Proton nearly all cleared, good buildings, two miles from Proton Station, will sell with last year's crop or without; or would consider a small property in exchange.

R. T. WRAGGETT,
R. R. No. 1 Proton Station.

For Cold WEATHER

MEN'S FELT SHOES & OVERSHOES

BEN'S, BOY'S & LADIES' UNDERWEAR
(Coton, Wool or Mixed Material)

MEN'S HEAVY SOCKS

A. E. HAW CEYLON, Ont.

Store open on Wednesday and Saturday evenings

THE STORE WITH SERVICE

F. T. HILL & CO., Ltd.
Markdale, Ontario

OUR BUYING POWER SAVES YOU A LOT OF MONEY

Special Purchase & Sale

Men's High Class 2-pant Suit

THE MANUFACTURER NEEDED THE MONEY AND, AS WE ARE CASH BUYERS, EXPLAINS THE VERY LOW PRICE. ALL SIZES IN THE LOT. DO NOT FAIL TO PROCURE ONE. THEY WILL NOT LAST LONG AT THIS PRICE

Regular Value up to $25 - Selling at $15.75

Men's Overcoats $16.75

15 only, Men's Overcoats in all the newest shades and cloths, sizes 34 to 46 in this lot. reg. value up to $24.50, selling at $16.75

Men's Overcoats $19.75

20 only, men's hikh calss Overcoats in all the newest shades and cloths. Sold regularily from $28.50 to $32.50. Selling at $19.75

Boy's Overcoats $6.75

15 only, Boy's Overcoats, all the newest shades and cloths, all sizes, regular value up to $11.95 Selling at $6.75

Little Gent's Overcoats for $3.95

10 only, little gent's Overcoats, beautiful cloths regular value $5.75, Selling at $3.95

Flour and Feed

Snowdrift Flour, pure Manitoba Hard Wheat, every bag guarnteed, per cwt. $3.95
Goldies' Best A Blended Flour, every bag guarnteed, per cwt. $3.65
Shorts, per bag $1.75
Bran, per bag $1.75

Grocery Department

10 pounds granulated sugar ..... 59c.
Jelly Powders, assorted flavors, 5 for ..... 25c.
Fig Bar Biscuits, reg 25c. ..... 19c.
Snider's Catsup, reg. size 25c. for ..... 19c.
Toilet Soap, reg. 10c. line, 4 for ..... 23c.
Stuart's Jam, 16 oz., Respberry and Strawberry, reg. size 25c., 2 jars for ..... 35c.
Campbell's Soup, assort. flavors, reg 15c. selling at 2 for ..... 21c.
Aylmer Soups, assorted flavors, reg. 10c. line, selling for 4 jars ..... 29c.

Shoe Department News

Men, Ladies, Boys and Girls, we have just what you are looking for in skating or hockey shoes and at alomst any price you want to pay. Among those lines we are featuring McPherson's double lightning hitch, also their professional hockey boot, in genuine elk.

Also the men and boys will be fitted very reasonable with all rubber laced or leather topped of the best kuality that money can buy. Among many lines you will find the famous Miners Invincible attached to the well known John Bull top as that Dominion white rolled edge botom in Men's 15 inch John Bull at $6.35 and Men's 12 inch JohnBu ll and white sole at $5.45

F. T. HILL & Co., Limited, Markdale

Health Service
- of the -
CANADIAN MEDICAL ASSOC.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

During the past few years, a great deal has been learned concerning the prevention of disease and the improvement of health. To-day we have a fund of knowledge which, if we were to use it, would result in less sickness, fewer deaths and better health, thereby increasing the well-being of mankind. The problem that faces public health workers is, first of all, to see that this knowledge is imparted to every individual, and then, that it is put into every-day practice.

The most successful method of carrying the health message to the individual is through the Public Health Nurse. She might well be called the Health Teacher of the community, because that is what she is By word of mouth she imparts health knowledge; by demonstration she shows how to put such knowledge into practice; by encouragement she helps through difficult times that require perseverence by planing with the mother, she aids securing proper food for the family

Because her work is done mostly with individuals it is not seen by the masses Because it is not seen, because it does not advertise itself, there is not the general appreciation of it that there should be. It is not known, as it deserves to be, that the education of mothers as to the care of their babies, by public health nurses, is the greatest factor in the reduction of infant deaths. Mothers do not know by instinct how to care for their babies; they must be taught. Friendly neighbors and the woman who knows all about babies because "she has buried six" do not make good teachers. The Public Health Nurse is trained, she has modern knowledge to impart.

The citizen who desires to have the babies in his community protected from disease and their health promoted, should see that there is a sufficient number of Public Health Nurses to serve the community in which he lives.

Small Advertisements

LOST, FOUND & STRAYED

LOST — In town, on Monday, December 31st, small gold watch with Maple Leaf fob.—Finder please leave at this office and receive reward.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—Oat chop, $1.40 per hundred weight.—A. C. Muir, Ceylon.

FOR SALE—Good set of logging sleighs.—Lorne Wright, Eugenia.

FOR SALE— 10 Bred-to-lay Rocks and 6 White Leghorns, all yearlings. $1 each.—S. Myers, Flesherton.

FOR SALE — Cow 9 years old due this month.—Wilfred Magee, Eugenia, Phone Feversham.

FOR SALE — Durham Bull, 6 months old, will exchange for heifer or steer. — H. Patton, Flesherton, Phone 42 r 5.

FOR SALE — Two young cows, due in January; hard and mixed wood also one 11-inch grain chopper.—A. Harrison, Phone 41 r 4, Flesherton.

MISCELLANEOUS

NOTICE—Chopping done on Tuesdays and Saturdays. — Graham Bros. Eugenia, Ont.

NOTICE — No tresspassing, hunting or trapping on lots 154-55-56, 2nd range E. T. & S. R., Artemesia. —S. McMullen, Flesherton, R. R. 2.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

All parties are hereby notified that all trespassers on lots 24, 9th Con., 15, 16 and 17, on South street north lots 15, 16 and 17, on St. Arnaud st., south, and lots 18 and 19, on Raglan street, Eugenia, will positively be prosecuted.

—J. H. DUCKETT.

FARM FOR SALE

Lot 192 and 193, Con. 1, Proton township, S. W. of Highway no. 10, 100 acres of which 95 is already cleared and workable, good buildings.

ROBT. R. LEE,
PROTON STATION,
Phone Dundalk 83 r 31.

FARM FOR SALE

Lot 13, Con. 12, Osprey Township, 100 acres; 70 acres good arable land, balance hardwood bush and pasture. Good barn and driving shed, log house, 30 rods from school, good well and windmill. Telephne available; rural mail delivery. Apply to

WM. L. KAITTING, Feversham,
or H. W. KERNAHAN, Maxwell.

BULL FOR SERVICE

Shorthorn bull, Cedardale Duke No. 189,318, for service on lots 134-35, E. Toronto Line, Artemesia. Terms: $2.00; if paid before January 1, 1929, only $1.50.

—ALEX. MILLER,
R. R. No. 5 Markdale.

BOAR FOR SERVICE

Registered Yorkshire Boar for service—Edgely Bright Vim, No. 99,996 —Property of Saugeen Bacon Hog Club. Terms $1.00.

—C. HINDLE,
Proton Station

BOAR FOR SERVICE

Registered Yorkshire Boar for service by Flesherton Bacon Hog Club, the property of the Ontario Department of Agriculture.

—G. STEWART, Secretary.

FARM FOR SALE

200 acre farm in the township of Osprey, 100 acres under cultivation remainder good pasture and excellent bush; 2 frame bank barns, one with hard water, fine spring creek; 2 frame houses with hard and soft water.

—JAS. McKENZIE,
Phone. FEVERSHAM.

FARM FOR SALE

200 acres, lots 24 and 25, con. 6, Osprey, situated on County road no. 52, 160 acres under cultivation, balance pasture and hardwood bush. First class grain farm, well fenced, barn 48x74, straw shed, 40x30, cement stables, blacksmith shop, garage and work shop, 10 roomed cement blocked house, nearly new, good cistern, telephone, well and wind mill water piped to the barn, 60 rods from school. Priced reasonable.

E. C. PEDLAR,
SINGHAMPTON, R. R. 1.
'Phone Feversham 1 r 2-y.

SHORTHORN BULL FOR SERVICE

Registered Shorthorn bull for service at lot 5, Con. 9, Osprey, "Merry Marquis" No. 179,135; Sire, Bonnie Marquis 142,381; Dam, Red Butterfly 131,078. Terms — Purebreds $5.00. grades $2.00. Cows not returned will be charge full price.

—S. R. HAWKINS, Eugenia.

MIDDLEBRO & BURNS

Barristers, etc.

Ofices — Owen Sound, Durham and Flesherton. Flesherton every Saturday afternoon and evening.

GEO E. DUNCAN
DUNDALK
LICENSED AUCTIONEER

For the County of Grey. Terms: 1 per cent. Satisfaction guarnteed Dates made at The Advance office.

BULL FOR SERVICE

For service on lot 30, Con. 13, Artemesia, Durham Bull Royal Lad No. 178,773. Terms:-$2 if paid before January 1929, otherwise $2.50.

—DUNCAN WILLIAMS, Eugenia.

BUSINESS CARDS

Dr. E. C. Murray, L. D. S., dental surgeon, honor graduate at Toronto and Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario. Gas administered for teeth extraction. Office at residence Toronto Street, Flesherton.

Prince Arthur Lodge, 333, A.F. & A.M. meets in the Masonic Hall, Armstrong Block, Flesherton every Friday on or before the full moon. W. G. Watson, W. M., C. F Lawrence, Secretary

Lucas & Henry, Barristers, Solicitors, etc., I. B. Lucas, K. C., W. D. Henry, B.A. Offices, Markdale Lucas Block, Phone 2. Branch offices at Dundalk and Durham.

Telford & Birnie, Barristers, solicitors, etc, Offices Grey and Bruce Block, Owen Sound; Standard Bank Block, Flesherton, (Saturdays.) W. P. Telford, Jr., J. F. P. Birnie.

Wm. Kaitting, Licensed Auctioneer for the counties of Grey and Bruce. Farm and stock sales a specialty. Terms moderate, satisfaction guarantee may be had at the Advance Office, or Central telephone office, Feversham, or by addressing me at Proton.