

"The Humber"

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Village Directory.

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ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—Service at 3 p.m., except the third Sunday of every month, when the service and sacrament are held at 11 a.m. Sunday school at 1:30 p.m. Rev. R. Shanklin, Rector.

METHODIST CHURCH OF CANADA.—Services at 10:30 a.m., and 6:30 p.m., and Sunday school, at 2:30 p.m. General Prayer Meeting every Thursday evening and Young People's Prayer meeting every Friday evening in the Lecture Room. Revs. Peter Addison, and W. H. Barkwell, B.A., pastors.

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ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.—Services in order as follows: Thornhill at 9 a.m., and Richmond Hill at 10:30 a.m.; the following Sunday at Richmond Hill at 9 a.m., and Thornhill at 10:30 a.m., alternating with Markham every third Sunday.

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RICHMOND LODGE, A. F. & A. M., No. 23, G.R.C.—Meets in the Lodge Room, Masonic Hall on the Monday on or before full moon, at 8 o'clock p.m. Isaac Crosby, W. M.

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Dr. Geo. Langstaff
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Nov. 6th, '82-4f.

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THE HUMBER

And Its Tributaries.

Some account of the Early Settlement and Industries on the West Branch.

By William Watson, Esq. Weston.

ETOWCOKE.—Following up the West Branch from its entrance into the Humber, the first object of interest was a log school-house, standing a few rods northwest from where the Albion road crosses the stream. This school was probably commenced as early as 1810, and continued until a year or so previous to the opening of the "Martin hemlock-log school," mentioned in paper No. 4. Mr. John C. Devins, a member of this Society, now in his 76th year, attended this school when about five years of age. Some thirty-five years ago Mr. William Grubb, on whose land the school-house stood, ploughed over the site, thus obliterating all trace of what may very justly be termed one of the pioneer schools of the country. It was some years anterior to the school in Weston. About the year 1832 Mr. Grubb, sen., built a distillery a little south of the school-house, which some years after was leased to a Mr. Bennet, who converted it into a brewery. The business was finally abandoned about the year 1845. In 1819 Mr. John McVean became the owner of lot 31, con. A, 100 acres, on which he started a distillery the following year in a small log building. The business was managed by an old Scotchman named Reid. In the year 1832 Messrs. Edward and Thomas Musson erected a saw mill, a few rods above the distillery, in which Mr. McVean had an interest. This mill was in operation some eighteen or twenty years. Every vestige of both distillery and saw mill long since disappeared. The farm now belongs to Mr. Andrew Barber. A short distance from here, on the allowance of road near where Mollet creek enters the West Branch is a mound called "hog's back," about one hundred feet long by thirty broad at the base. It is nearly as high as the surrounding hills, and from appearance equally as old. As to how or when this mound was formed I venture no opinion.

GORE OF TORONTO.—In the year 1818, Scotchman named Archibald McVean, emigrated with his family to Canada, and the following year settled on lot No. 2, con. 7. They were the first white settlers in that Township which was then simply a wilderness, only partly surveyed, and destitute of roads, save the scarcely perceptible Indian trails. In 1821, the McVeans, commenced the manufacture of pearlsh, which was continued for about ten years. In the year 1832 they built a saw mill, which, after being run about ten years was abandoned. Three years after the starting of the saw mill their business was increased by the erection of a flour mill, which, about 1842, was sold to Mr. Proudfoot, of Toronto, for many years president of the Bank of Upper Canada. This mill was for a time owned and operated by Mr. Joseph Walker and Mr. John Clark, the former of whom some years later gave name and origin to the present town of Walkerton. After some time the mill again reverted to Mr. Proudfoot, and in 1850 was destroyed by fire. Mr. McVean and two of his sons, Peter & Archibald, at one time owned 700 acres of land, nearly all in a block. Archibald the youngest and only surviving son, now over 78 years of age, owns 100 acres still. He for many years, took an active part in the affairs of the Municipality, and was for 15 years a member of the Township council. In the year 1837 Mr. Thomas Burrell, an Englishman, built a tannery, and sometime afterwards a distillery also. Both of these long since passed out of existence. About 1842 Mr. Burrell, purchased 10 acres of lot 12, con. 7, on which he erected a flour mill, but the water proving insufficient, a new mill, 2½ storeys high, with two run of stones, was built on lot 11, 100 acres, which Mr. Burrell had purchased. The former mill stood on a small stream; the latter stands below where this stream has joined another, yet in low water, steam power has to be employed. This mill now belongs to Mr. Christopher Burrell, a son of Mr. Thomas Burrell, it is still in operation, chiefly doing custom work, and growing in public favor. Mr. Burrell also ran a carding mill which proved quite an acquisition to the surrounding neighborhood during its continuance. On lot 27, con. 7 a Mr. Foster, had a saw mill which was in operated for several years. It long since became a thing of the past.

CHINGUACOUSY.—In the year 1831 Mr. Samuel Stanley, started a flour mill, on lot 13, con. C, built of logs, which was a great convenience to the early settlers. After some time Mr. Stanley sold out to a Mr. Pearen, and a few years later the property was purchased by Mr. William Alderson. The mill was soon after destroyed by fire. When Mr. Anderson, erected a much larger one (frame) 2½ storeys high, with two run of stones. This is the last mill on the stream, and

in dry weather a steam engine has to be employed as an auxiliary. The place still bears the name of Stanley's Mills. Except that it is considerably diminished in size. The West Branch flows as of yore. All its surroundings however are changed. Where once the forest towered in all its primeval grandeur undisturbed save by the whoop of the Aborigines or the cries of the beasts that prowled through its solitudes, are now to be seen fertile meadows, and fields of golden grain, with substantial and handsome residences dotting the landscape at frequent intervals.

SUMMARY.

Mills, &c., erected at various times on the Humber and each of its Tributaries, and those still standing:

MILLS, &c.	SAW MILLS		FLOUR MILLS		DISTILLARIES		BREWERIES		WOOLLEN MILLS	
	ERECTED	STILL	ERECTED	STILL	ERECTED	STILL	ERECTED	STILL	ERECTED	STILL
Main Humber	53	14	33	15	9	3	1	1	16	7
Little Humber	22	4	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1
Black Creek	10	..	1	..	1	1	1
West Branch	3	..	4	2	3	1	1	1	1	1
	88	18	41	20	14	5	4	4	19	8

Were all re-erection included the number of saw mills would considerably exceed a hundred. There were also six tanneries, two still in operation, mill for grinding bones, one pot-ash and one pearlsh business, a barley mill, an oat mill, a plaster mill, and a Government dock at the head of still water near Humber Mouth. Then and now. In my boyhood the waters of the Humber was so pure and clear as to be extensively used for domestic purposes. Now it is most of the time quite turbid in appearance, especially above the location of the mill dam. A recent traveller when here some year or two ago, compared the water of the Humber, in the neighborhood of Weston to that of the famed and historical "Yellow Tiber." Where mill dams are not numerous the water is still comparatively clear. Among the early settlers there was a legend to the effect, that those who had once drank of the water of the Humber, (no matter how far they might wander from it in their journeyings through life,) would be sure to return and drink once more ere departing to that country "from whence no traveller returns." To an old colored man named Morgan, generally called "King of the Humber," who many years ago resided near Lambton, is given the credit of having thus charmed the water of the Humber. That Morgan lived near Lambton; that he was called king of the Humber, and also that his wife; called queen, was drowned in a wash-tub, are facts well known to several persons still living. But for the legend the reader must think for himself.

And now, in closing this my last paper on the Humber, permit me to say that it was with diffidence I commenced the work. Had I fully anticipated all the difficulties which I have encountered in endeavoring to obtain reliable information about the different persons, places &c., I scarcely think I should have ventured upon such an undertaking. However, it is finished, and though I could wish very much that some person with greater ability and a more facile pen than mine had undertaken such an in-

teresting subject. Still I must say that I have taken pleasure in the task, although, at times, it caused me much anxiety. Though the papers may not have been as interesting as many could have made them, I trust they will be found tolerably reliable in all points. I take opportunity of thanking those parties who kindly assisted me in procuring information in various parts of the work. Allow me to thank my fellow pioneers who from time to time, as I read my papers before them, encouraged me by their sympathizing and appreciative attention, and also the reporters of the Toronto Dailies and others who favorably noticed, and gave my productions to the public.

MISCELLANY.

—Hamilton was visited by an earthquake at one o'clock on Sunday morning.

Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator is pleasant to take; sure and effectual in destroying worms.

—There are signs of serious trouble with the Indians again in the Western States.

Why go limping and whining about your corns, when a 25 cent bottle of Holloway's Corn Cure will remove them.

—A Brockville bank Clerk has committed suicide on account of financial difficulties.

A WONDERFUL CHANGE.—Rev. W. E. Gilford, while pastor of M. E. Church, Bothwell, suffered from chronic dyspepsia so badly as to render his life almost a burden. Three bottles of Burdock Blood Bitters cured him.

—An after-church scene in Montreal, on Sunday evening, was the sound of the thrashing of a masher by a handy husband.

N. McRea, Wyebridge, writes "I have sold large quantities of Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil; it is used for colds, sore throat, croup, &c., and in fact for affection of the throat it works like magic. It is a sure cure for burns, wounds, and bruises."

—Large quantities of dynamite and other explosives are being shipped from Vienna to various parts of Russia.

Diphtheria—that terrible scourge of the present day—attacks chiefly those whose vitality is low and blood impure. The timely use of Burdock Blood Bitters forestalls the evils of impure blood, and saves doctor's bills. Sample bottles 10 cents.

—Mr. McCarthy's Railway Commission bill was thrown out of the Railway Committee yesterday by a vote of 76 to 12.

NEVER ALLOW IT.—Never allow the bowels to remain in a torpid condition, as it leads to serious results, and ill health is sure to follow. Burdock Blood Bitters is the most perfect regulator of the bowels, and the best blood purifier known.

—The Missouri Legislature has passed a bill providing that no railroad company shall advance freights without giving twenty days' public notice.

Mental depression, headache, and nervous debility, are speedily remedied by that excellent blood-purifying tonic, Burdock Blood Bitters. The editor of the Mitchell Recorder states, that he was cured of biliousness, liver derangement, and sick headache, by the use of this medicine.

—Lord Radolph Churchill in a letter strongly advocates the claims of the Marquis of Salisbury to the leadership of the Tory party in the Imperial Parliament.

HIGHLY SATISFACTORY.—Impure blood and low vitality are the great sources of most diseases of which Burdock Blood Bitters is the specific. S. Ferrin, Drugist, of Lindsay, writes that Burdock Blood Bitters give more general satisfaction than any other blood purifier in the market.

—It is rumored that the Imperial troops are to be withdrawn from Halifax, and the fortifications and ordnance there handed over to the Dominion Government.

Mrs. O'Hearn, River Street, Toronto, uses Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil for her cows for Cracked and Sore Teats; she thinks there is nothing like it. She also used it when her horses had the Epizootic with the very best results. Do not be persuaded to take any other Oil in place of Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil.

—A society has been formed at Calcutta for the purpose of preventing the proposed amendments to the Indian Law produced giving native judges power to try Europeans.

Amos Hudgin, Toronto, writes: "I have been a sufferer from Dyspepsia for the past six years. All the remedies I tried proved useless, until Northrop & Lyman's Vegetable Discovery and Dyspeptic Cure was brought under my notice. I have used two bottles with the best results, and can with confidence recommend it to those afflicted in like manner."