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"In Essentials, Unity; in Non-Essentials, Liberty; in all things, Charity."

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The Last Link.

To the Editor of THE LIBERAL:

SIR,—Mrs. Chamberlin, whose re-
mains were, on Tuesday, the 25th ult.,
committed to the cemetery, deserves
more than a passing notice. She was
the oldest and last link that connected
the present of our village with its past in
the first years of this century.

Dr. Scadding, in his "Toronto of Old,"
in speaking of Yonge street, says that
"Military associations hang about the
lands right and left of Richmond Hill." Among
its early settlers and later resi-
dents have been United Empire Loyalists,
French Refugees, army and navy officers,
many of whose descendants are among
us to-day.

Mrs. Chamberlin came of a military
family. Her grandfather, Captain James
Fulton had seen active service. Born in
Ireland, he was educated for a Presby-
terian minister. When about to gradu-
ate from the colleges he took place in
1776. Young Fulton, with more of a
predilection for a military than an eccl-
esiastical career, urged his father to
purchase for him a commission in the
army. One was obtained with the rank of
captain. He immediately raised a company
of dragoons, paying a guinea a head for
each man. Ordered by the War Depart-
ment he came to America. Fulton
fought in several skirmishes, and was
engaged in the battles of Brandywine and
Banker's Hill, continuing in active ser-
vice for seven years, without receiving a
scratch. After the cessation of hostil-
ities the situation of those who expressed
sympathy with the British Government
was made as uncomfortable as possible
by those who had fought for independ-
ence. The Canadian Government, by
liberal grants of land and other induc-
ements, encouraged all who desired to do
so to locate this side of line forty-nine.

Among those who accepted the invitation
was Captain James Fulton, who had re-
ceived promotion, 3000 acres of land and
a pension for life of a half crown a day.
The Captain first went to New Brun-
swick, then to the Bay of Quinte, where
he formed a connection with the family
of Judge Fairfield, and then came here.
On his arrival in this village he purchas-
ed what is now the Vanderburg farm of
another revolutionary hero, Captain
Lippincott, who retired to York (now
Toronto), and died at the home of his
son-in-law, Col. Denison, in 1826.

The home of the Fultons was cheery
and hospitable, and was the place of call
in this locality for many of the aristocracy
from the Capital. Bishop John Strachan,
whose parish then extended the whole
length of Yonge street, made it his rest-
place when on pastoral duty, and during
the American invasion, when York was
in the hands of the enemy, it was a place
of safety to Mrs. Strachan until her own
home was free of danger.

In the exciting scenes of 1812, our
village was represented at the front by
Col. David Bridgford and others, and in
the heat of the fray the old veteran,
Captain Fulton, was seen running around
the fort at York encouraging the officers
and distributing bread and cheese among
the soldiers. He was an eye witness of
the blowing up of the fort, April 27th,
1813: Captain James Fulton was the
first Justice of the Peace in our village,
was deservedly popular, and noted for
his splendid horsemanship and soldierly
bearing. He died on the farm, leaving
behind him considerable wealth, and was
buried in the sepulchre of the fathers of
Richmond Hill, and his son James reigned
in his stead. James Fulton, his suc-
cessor, the father of the subject of this
notice, was also called Captain, but as
his name does not come down to us in
connection with any important event, we
presume that it must have been in the
ranks of His Majesty's most loyal Militia
on training days. At the time of his
death he was filling a position under the
government.

Born March 6th, 1811, Mary Fulton
began her history in troublous times
and amid war's rude alarms, for the ex-
citing scenes of 1812 were nearing their
terrible activity when she was added to
the then sparse population of our village.
Her mother was a person of more than
ordinary intelligence, with a mind well
stored with the reminiscences of the past.
A woman well skilled in sickness and
disease, she was well known in the village
and townships, receiving calls and fees
the same as a medical practitioner.
Around the huge fire-place of those early
days the Fulton family had often gather-
ed and listened to the narratives of the
Captain's military exploits and to Mrs.
Fulton's recollections of the French
Refugees, to whose homes she had always
a ready access. These French noblemen
and ladies had fled from the horrors of
the Reign of Terror in France in 1793.
The British Crown, sympathizing with
the Monarchy, offered the fugitives
refuge in the shape of land in Canada.
This was set apart for that purpose in
1799. These unfortunate French noblemen
and ladies, for only such had to fly, oc-
cupied all the farms north of the village on

both sides of Yonge street up to Bond's
Lake. They all returned home on the
restoration of the Bourbons to the throne
of France in 1814, except some of the
St. Georges and the Sargeons (St. Johns).
Many were the incidents related of these
exiles from their distant homes and their
strange experiences in the involuntary
exchange of lawn and chateau in sunny
France for forest and shanty in, to them,
a frozen land. Their romantic histories,
narrow escapes, and singular disguises
when flying for their lives from a blood-
thirsty mob, were told so frequently
that the names of de Puisaye, the Shal-
lus (Shaloo), Marseuil and de Farcy and
others, and the titles General, Comte,
Viscount were as familiar as household
words to the young people of those days.

Mrs. Chamberlin possessed a very re-
tentive memory, reaching back to the
time when our village was without a
name and its history just begun. Inci-
dents seen and heard fastened themselves
on her mind, and were often repeated in
after years. To a good memory she ad-
ded good conversational abilities, with a
keen perception of the humorous. Her
recollections of our first missionary—the
Rev. Wm. Jenkins—of our first school-
master—Mr. Benjamin Barnard—the
raising of the first Presbyterian church in
1821, the invasion of the village by
the insurgents on their way to take the
Capital in 1836, the capture and release
of Col. Bridgford, the death of Col.
Moodie, and the philanthropic excen-
tricitics of Squire James Miles, were as
distinct in her memory as though but the
occurrences of yesterday.

Eighty five years ago, when the subject
of this notice was born, our village was
but a few isolated shanties scattered
among the trees. Yonge street was a
streak of mud, travelled by corduroy
bridges miles in length to "Little Muddy
York." The north of the village was
known as Puisaye Town, the south is
marked on an old map as "The Black
Ash Swamp." In her girlhood days
there was neither school house, church,
nor post office. The surroundings of our
village were all primeval, and its com-
forts equally so. Born and raised in the
village she has always considered it her
home. She has seen the woods driven
back by the arm of the sturdy pioneer,
the log shanty give place to the stately
residence, the crest of the "hill" crown-
ed with comfortable homes, handsome
churches and spacious public buildings,
and an eye witness of the onward march
of improvement and the changes our vil-
lage has undergone for more than three
quarters of a century.

WM. HARRISON,
Richmond Hill, March 3rd, 1896.

Contributions from the Schools.

LONGFELLOW.

(CONTINUED.)

As a fitting introduction to our re-
marks this week we would quote the
lines giving us a description of the hero-
ine, Evangeline.

Fair was she to behold, that maiden of
seventeen summers,
Black were her eyes as the berry that
grows on the thorn by the way-side,
Black yet how softly they gleamed be-
neath the brown shade of her tresses;
Sweet was her breath as the breath of
kine that feed in the meadows.

Fairer was she when,
Down the long street she passed, with her
chaplet of beads and her missal,
Wearing her Norman cap and her kirtle
of blue, and the ear-rings
Handed down from mother to child,
through long generations.
But a celestial brightness—a more ether-
al beauty—
Shone on her face and encircled her form
when, after confession,
Homeward serenely she walked with
God's benediction upon her.

Of her lover, Gabriel we have not much
description, but there is enough. For of
the suitors for Evangeline's hand he only
was welcome, and of the youths "Noblest
of all the youths was Gabriel, son of the
blacksmith."

In this poem, besides having some
good character sketches, and descriptions
of scenery, we find given a good history
of the manners and customs of the early
French settlers. While, perhaps, not
quite in keeping with the facts of history
the picture is accepted as being in part
quite true. Here is the description of
the dance which took place at the feast
of the betrothal of Evangeline and
Gabriel. The Acadian dance was one of
the historical features, represented in the
recent fancy dress ball at Ottawa:

Not far withdrawn from these, by the
cider-press and the bee hives,
Michael the fiddler was placed, with the
gayest of hearts and waistcoats,
Shadow and light from the leaves alter-
nately played on his snow-white
Hair, as it waved in the wind, and the
face of the fiddler
Glowed like a living coal when the ashes

are blown from the embers.
Gaily the old man sang to the vibrant
sound of his fiddle,
*Tous les Bourgeois de Chartres, and Le
Carillon de Dunkerque,*
And anon with his wooden shoes beat
time to the music.
Merrily, merrily whirled the wheels of
the dizzying dances
Under the orchard trees and down the
path to the meadows;
Old folks and young together, and child-
ren mingled among them.

Now while there are many beautiful
passages in the poem we are unable to
quote them, as space will not admit of
such. However we will now turn the at-
tention of our readers to one of the finest
passages. Evangeline, after many disap-
pointments in her search for Gabriel, at
length became a Sister of Mercy.

So was her love diffused, but, like to
some odorous spices
Suffered no waste or loss, though filling
the air with aroma.
Other hope had she none, nor wish in
life, but to follow
Meekly with reverent steps, the sacred
feet of her Saviour.
Thus many years she lived as a Sister of
Mercy, frequenting
*Lonely and wretched roofs in the crowded
lanes of the city,*
Where distress and want concealed them-
selves from the sunlight,
Where disease and sorrow in garrets lan-
guished neglected.

*Night after night, when the world was
asleep, as the watchman repeated
Loud, through the gusty streets, that all
was well in the city,*
*High at some lonely window he saw the
light of her taper.*

*Day after day, in the grey of the dawn,
as slow through the suburbs
Plodded the German farmer, with flowers
and fruits for the market
Met he that meek, pale face, returning
home from its watchings.*

In this selection we might notice the
following touches of a skillful hand:

(1) The fine contrast in the same line
of the "lonely" garret with the "crowd-
ed" lane.

(2) How the repetition in "lonely and
wretched," "distress and want," "disease
and sorrow," expands and keeps alive
the impression.

(3) The repetition and emphasizing of
the objects of this Sister of Mercy is fol-
lowed by "night after night" and "day
after day" to denote her zeal.

(4) The repetition to keep alive the
impression, in "lonely roof," "garret,"
"high and lonely window."

(5) The irony probably intended in the
phrase "all was well in the city."

We are now at the close of the story.
The unswerving love which Evangeline
and Gabriel had cherished, each for the
other, was at last rewarded. She one
day in going the rounds of the hospital
found her long-lost lover. He was dying
of fever. As she cried "Gabriel! O my
beloved!" he recognized her, vainly
strove to rise and whisper her name, but
it was too late, it was the last disappoint-
ment, and as she laid his head on her
bosom,

Sweet was the light of his eyes; but it
suddenly sank into darkness,
As when a lamp is blown out by a gust of
wind at a casement.

All was ended now, the hope, the fear,
and the sorrow,
All the aching heart, the restless, un-
satisfied longing.

All the dull, deep pain, and constant
anguish of patience!
And, as she pressed once more the lifeless
head to her bosom,

Meekly she bowed her own and murmur-
ed, "Father, I thank Thee!"

In conclusion we would say that except
for the dismissal and slight treatment of
the deathbed scene the poet has shown
(Continued on eighth page.)

Vellore.

Report of S. S. No. 9, Vaughan:
IV. Class—Milton McDonald, Wm.
McLan, Peter McNaughton, Wm. Orser,
Chas. Manning

Senior III—Geo. Brownlee, Alex. Mc-
Naughton, Christie McKinnon, B. Taylor.
Junior III—Nelson Jarrett, Be. Witty,
R. Watson, Willie Cameron, Chas. Farr,
Maggie McFarlane, Joe McFarlane,
Mabel Jarrett, Alice Smith.

Senior II—Jas. Brownlee, Katie Mc-
Naughton, Annie Fenwick, Herb. Farr,
Wm. Hawkins, Munson Brown, Sam.
Smith, Lester Esphy, Ada Daker, Dave
Julian, Wm. Sander, N. McLan.

Junior II—Ollie Snider, Alex. Camer-
on, Annie McDonald, Eda O'Connor,
Louie Snider.

Senior part II—Gorden Jarrett, Katie
Cameron.

Junior part II—Minnie Bishop, Sam
McDonald.

Part I—Flossie Cameron, Willie Bishop,
Ralph Daker.

No on the roll, 48.

Average attendance for January, 30;
for February, 25.

H. J. SAIGEON.