

1859 Hill murder mystery

Richmond Hill Presbyterian Cemetery is the resting place of many of the pioneers of the area and among the early interments were the victims of at least two murders. We have reported on the murder of Thomas Kinnear and his housekeeper Nancy Montgomery in the past and will probably do so in the future.

The other murder, about which William Harrison wrote in 1889, occurred Aug. 31, 1859, when Mrs. Robert More died under suspicious circumstances. The scene of the tragedy was a low-roofed shanty about three-quarters of a mile from the village, inhabited by Mrs. More and her husband.

The Mores had come from Belfast. More, the husband, had been a corporal in the 71st Battalion Royal Regiment and was stationed at Gibraltar from 1837 to 1842 when he was discharged. He and his wife came to Canada in 1844 and More existed with as little

yesterdays
by mary dawson



labor as possible, according to Harrison. For some time he did business as a pedlar, but told Harrison he left that profession because his conscience would not permit him to do the necessary lying. But being a man of steady habits he was generally respected.

A coroner's jury was impanelled with Matthew Teefy as foreman and Dr. James Langstaff made a post mortem examination. While the evidence was being heard in the residence of Robert Arksay, someone shouted in through the window that More

had cut his throat with a razor. When the jury and witnesses gathered round him, he whispered that he would sooner die by his own hand than hang.

Although he had inflicted seven cuts on his throat, he survived and was tried and convicted of manslaughter. Evidence showed that he had beaten his wife brutally over the years and the jury found that her death was caused by the kicks and blows delivered by her husband.

He was sentenced to two years in the penitentiary, but was walking at liberty in less than six months.

Harrison recorded that More came straight to Richmond Hill on his release from penitentiary. Among a group of residents whom he met was Col. David Bridgford, the only one to refuse to shake his hand. The brave old soldier drew back and said, "No! There is blood upon that hand and I'll have nothing to do with it."

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New Brunswick, E2L 4N8.
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Snyder fancy style, green or wax **seasoned beans** 4 14 fl. oz. tins **.99**

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Cricket Olympic **table lighter** each **1.79**

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