

HISTORY OF RUSSELL

by J. Twiname

The village of Luxemburg prospered for several years, but as the settlers cleared the land it seemed natural for the log cabins to be erected only on the banks of the Castor river. Gradually it spread out to the present Russell village and the first frame house was built by Mr. Mattice in the now present village of Russell about the year 1835 on the lot now owned by Mr. R. Storning on the corner of Mill and Parallel.

John Duncan, a cabinet maker was one of our earliest pioneers. He built the frame house on Mill Street now occupied by Mrs. R. N. Hamilton.

Mr. Duncan also supplied coffins as required. The Duncan family was comprised of three sons and one daughter; Alec, who became a doctor; William, who became a minister; and George who became a veterinarian. The daughter, Eliza, married Mr. A. Carson. From the Duncan family our village got its first name, Duncanville.

For years Duncanville prospered and was self-supporting. The residents felt the need for a change in the name of their village and so it became Russell in honour of Peter Russell who came to Canada with General Simcoe. Mr. Peter Russell later became a member of the legislature of Upper Canada on July 9, 1792.

(To be continued)

My apologies to Mr. Marcel Gareau. In the last issue I inadvertently placed the Slaughter House on the wrong side of the road and named it Longtin's Slaughter House when it should in fact have been the RUSSELL SLAUGHTER HOUSE. The mistake was unintentional, Mr. Gareau. Thank you for correcting us.

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