

The Stonffville Tribune

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LAST OF APPLETON FAMILY PASSES ON

In the death of Byron Appleton on Thursday, November 25, in his 77th year, the last surviving member of a pioneer family of Whitchurch Township is gone. The Appletons settled on the west side of Musselman's Lake around the year 1850, coming from Richmond Hill.

Byron was the youngest of several sons and daughters born to the late Chas. Appleton, who established a saw mill on the farm adjoining the west shore. It proved a hive of industry for a quarter century, but with the gradual thinning of virgin trees the business became extinct. Byron was regarded as an expert saw mill hand and worked in Northern Ontario for some years.

He was a Presbyterian and member of the old church established for years at Ballantrae. At the time of Union he never followed the great body into the new church.

His fatal illness was a gradual break-up of the system, and his decline was quite definite over recent months. He had been staying at the home of his niece Mrs. Walter Talbot in Stouffville, where he passed away. Deceased was a bachelor, and a man of sterling quality.

The funeral on Saturday from the Talbot residence proceeded to Church Hill for service and interment. Rev. Chas. Jeffery preached, and made fitting reference to the quite, gentlemanly qualities of the deceased. The pall bearers were: Messrs. Robt. Windsor, Floyd Fairless, David Gray, George Talbot, Thos. Simpson and Milford Rose.

Whitchurch Twp. Relieved of 14 Miles

The Township of Whitchurch has fared well at the hands of the York County Council this session in the matter of taking over a portion of their roads into the county system. In all this year the township expect to be relieved of some fourteen miles.

At the June session it was decided to take over the Lake Wilcox road from Yonge street to the fourth concession, and while there has been some hitch in the government end of it, this is expected to be brushed out right away.

At this session of the council of York it was decided to take into the county system the north townline for a distance of seven miles, and the Aurora road from the Uxbridge townline to Vandorf, a distance of nine miles. With these two roads improved as county highways, the government will be given an open hand in selecting the one they wish to incorporate into a cross country highway from Peterboro to Orangeville.

Reeve Toolé and Deputy Reeve Cook may well be congratulated in being able to transfer the above roads to the county. They are heavily travelled roads, and to be relieved of them will mean a great deal to Whitchurch.

BIRTHS

Burton—At The Brierbush Hospital, Stouffville, on Friday, November 26th, 1937, to Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Burton, Ringwood, a daughter.

Carpenter—At The Brierbush Hospital, Stouffville, on Wednesday, December 1st, 1937, to Mr. and Mrs. Bert Carpenter, Stouffville, a daughter.

Forsyth—In Stouffville, on Nov. 23, 1937, (at the home of Mrs. O. Forsyth), to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Forsyth of Uxbridge, a daughter, (Donna Marlene).

Smith—At The Brierbush Hospital, Stouffville, on Saturday, Nov. 27, 1937, to Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Smith, Unionville, a son.

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SWEARS POUND KEEPER DAVIS GRABBED HER BY THE HAIR, THREW HER DOWN AND THEN KICKED HER

Were the Charges Made by Mrs. Ethel Brown in Glasgow Quarrel—Dr. Darling Says Injury to Knee Not Fresh and was not Made on Day Fight Took Place.

In the criminal action brought by Mrs. Ethel Brown of Glasgow against her neighbor Mr. Walter Davis opened in the Music Hall in Uxbridge on Thursday afternoon, she charged that Davis had called her a D-lar, struck her across the face, and threw her to the ground by the hair of the head, the result of which she alleged was an injured hip and scratches above the knee. These she had shown to Dr. Darling of Goodwood, but which the physician swears were too old to have been inflicted on Nov. 11. The Doctor had seen them on Nov. 12. Such was the nature of evidence which the court had before it.

The case opened at two o'clock before Magistrate Ebbs of Oshawa, and adjourned for a week after going on all afternoon. Crown Attorney Annis of Oshawa prosecuted, and F. L. Button, K.C., defended Davis.

Mrs. Brown was assisted into the Court on the arm of a couple of young men, and was allowed to sit outside the witness box because of her condition.

Two actions had been entered. Mrs. Brown charged Mr. Davis and later Davis entered a similar charge against Mrs. Brown, each being assault with intent to do bodily harm. It was agreed on consent of His Worship that they should be tried together.

Mrs. Brown took the stand as the first witness. She explained that she was a widow living on a small acreage in Glasgow and the defendant, Davis, was neighbor. On Nov. 11 she said her cattle were on the road having just been let out of the stable. They walked into Ralph Davis' gate across from her home, and he took them to pound at the home of his brother Walter whom she alleged later assaulted her. Walter Davis, she continued, "Called at my door and notified me that my cattle were in pound. The notice was in writing. I closed the door, read the two sheets of paper, and opened the door again when Davis had reached a point away from the house near the barn." The notice also contained a warning about Mrs. Brown's fence having holes in it which allowed Davis' pigs to get through into the Brown place. It demanded that this be repaired.

Says Davis Struck First Blow

Brown, she said, was about five rods from the house when she called to him demanding to know why her cattle had been impounded. While others said to be at large, had not been so treated. Mrs. Brown went down to where Davis was standing to make this enquiry. An argument ensued over the pigs. "He called me a liar using profane language and struck me on the nose and made it bleed," Mrs. Brown then said she grabbed him by the collar of the coat and slapped him on the face once, then she said he grabbed her by the hair of the head, threw her down and kicked her just above the knee. Next she grabbed a board, and Davis pleaded "don't hit me," thereupon she went to the house got washed up and walked to Stouffville to lay a charge. She saw Mr. Button who said he had been retained by Davis. She went next day to Dr. Freel and to Dr. Darling at Goodwood. Mrs. Brown said the following day her hip was bruised and swollen. She couldn't get around after Saturday, the day following the fracas. She told that "bad blood" has existed between the families for some eight years, and most of this arose, because he couldn't go into her house and do what he liked.

What do you mean by that statement, asked the Magistrate? Mrs. Brown then said Davis hadn't been in her home only two or three times in years.

To Mr. Button she said she had been a widow eleven years, and had five children at home ranging in age from three to thirteen years. It was also brought out in cross examination that she had had trouble over her boy's behaviour at school last summer, he having been suspended. Davis was a school trustee, but she denied telling George Brown that she was laying for Walter Davis. She had a lame back prior to the time of the trouble, but it had all cleared up.

The First Touch

Louisa Brown, daughter, saw her mother about half way between the house and barn. Mrs. Brown, she said, seemed to touch Davis on the elbow. Then he struck her. Never saw mother strike until he hit her. Then she hit him in the

house, face. Thereupon he grabbed her by the hair. Her mother went down. Walter Davis, charged, said he was a farmer, pound keeper and school trustee. He admitted trouble with Mrs. Brown's boy, and told the same story about handing in the note at the door to Mrs. Brown. "She came at me in a rage as I was leaving," he said. "Said she hadn't money to pay, and I said they could come over and milk the cows. I didn't want to be hard on her. Then she argued about the school trouble. I refused to discuss that. I asked her to fix the fence. She grabbed me by the collar and called me a damn liar and struck me in the face."

Davis continued: "After I pushed her down her daughter came down to where we were, I said, she isn't hurt. Mrs. Brown jumped up and grabbed a stick and I warned her not to strike." He denied grabbing her by the hair or using profane language. He never saw any blood on Mrs. Brown but his own cheek was bleeding from the claw he alleged she gave him.

What explanation do you make for putting this woman's cattle in pound and letting others go, Davis was asked. Her cattle were the only ones in the berry bushes.

To the crown attorney he explained having sent a private notice about the fence needing repairs under the signature of pound keeper in defense of his sows which he alleged had gotten into the Brown place and came out badly bruised. He feared one had a broken leg. He didn't want his animals beaten up. He served the notice in person because he didn't think Mrs. Brown would accept it through anyone else. He had been a pound keeper for two or three years and this was the first stock impounded.

"Then you just happened to have as first cattle in pound this woman's with whom you are not friends, and you included a private notice with it," observed the crown prosecutor.

Old Marks Above Knee

Dr. Darling told of seeing marks above the right knee on Mrs. Brown. They were not fresh marks, and were not black and blue, but a greenish brown, which follows after black and blue. This was the day after the accident. He wouldn't say they were not made on that day.

Saw Mrs. Brown First Attack

Mrs. Ralph Davis said she saw Mrs. Brown make a lunge at Walter grab him by the coat and slap him in the face. He shoved her back. She stood there for a second, then seemed to sit down. She got up in a few seconds when her daughter came to her. Mrs. Brown grabbed a board and he dared her to hit him. Walter then went to the road. She denied that Davis used his feet.

To the Crown she said she just happened to see the trouble from her home right across the road. It hadn't been arranged, but she had talked with Walter about three hours before the trouble, and he said he would see the township clerk Mr. Roach, about what to do with the cattle.

Witness said she couldn't understand certain questions being put by the magistrate who intimated that the witness was dodging the questions, admonishing her to give straight-forward answers.

Witness Fainted

Marion Davis, daughter of Ralph Davis, corroborated the story told by her mother, in so far as the fighting goes, and was positive her uncle never did more than push Mrs. Brown away. Lorraine Ilsey visiting at the home of Ralph Davis was another eye witness from across the road in the Ralph Davis place. Her evidence was much the same, other than that she said Mrs. Brown was laying down, not sitting. Lorraine, aged 11 years, fainted, and His Worship decided to adjourn the case at this point for one week.

The auditorium of the hall was filled to capacity, the case having gained widespread interest.

ENGAGEMENTS

Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Scott, Stouffville, R.R.4, announce the engagement of their daughter Dorothy Helen to Mr. Chester Henry Graham, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. M. O. Graham of Aurora. The marriage will take place quietly on December 4th.

VILLAGE BEST BUYER AT TAX SALE

The final scene in the Stouffville tax sale was enacted on Monday afternoon at two o'clock when four properties were put up at auction, and although an audience of 25 had gathered in the municipal hall, bidding was decidedly slow. As prescribed by law the treasurer, J.S. Dougherty, acted as auctioneer. The town bought all property at the sale excepting one.

There were four vacant lots on Russel street put up first. These were taken at \$24.85 by the corporation, the only bidder. The lots are located south of Market street and East of O'Brien Avenue, in what is known as the flats.

The second sale was also for a lot in the flats, against which was \$4.01 and again the corporation was the buyer.

Lot No. 25, on Main street, on which is a good brick house and basement cellar located at corner of Main street and 10th concession, was also sold to the corporation.

Not only was the situation unique, but the addresses of those pioneer men, simple, convincing and sincere, struck home to the hearts of the listeners in a telling manner. Mr. Baker, 86, being the youngest of the three lads, was placed first in the list of speakers. He said he was not present with the thought of talking on theology, but when the invitation was given him by the pastor of the church, he looked on it as an opportunity to witness for Christ, at which time he might drop a word that might intensify the zeal of some listener. He recalled the days of the Primitive Methodists 30 years ago. Only a lad then, he realized since that things were crude, perhaps, but there was an intensity of purpose in the Christian folk of the settlement and an inward dwelling of the holy spirit that marked the churchman. They would speak on the street about their religion, endured great hardship, walked many miles to worship, and not infrequently did they approach others of their friends about their spiritual welfare. Mr. Baker thought, perhaps, we had gotten too much away from these things today.

James Ley has just celebrated his 93rd birthday, and save for being a bit hard-of-hearing, possesses excellent faculties. He gave some interesting history on the early days in Scarboro. The township was settled over 100 years ago, but strange to say Markham was settled before Scarboro, the early pioneer having followed the trail up Yonge street first. In 1795 David Thompson and wife Mary came from Toronto as first settlers. They had four children born in the forest there. The people had great faith in those days, and prayer and praise were never forgotten. There seems little time for these things today, he regretted. There is nothing like the motor car, said Mr. Ley, and he sometimes wondered if it were a great aid to commerce or a great curse. The flying machine is coming so the worst is yet to come, he prophesied. Speaking seriously Mr. Ley claimed that prayer and praise in the

silence of the house will bring success. Of his whereabouts, however, he has nothing authentic. Employed by Mr. Widdifield for two years, Ken packed his tools on a recent Sunday and walked off the job without the usual formalities of saying "good-bye."

During his last week Patterson had been advised that his right to drive a motor vehicle had been cancelled and could not be renewed until a guarantee was posted for any future mishap he might have. The flying machine is coming so the worst is yet to come, he prophesied. Speaking seriously Mr. Ley claimed that prayer and praise in the

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