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THE EARLY SLAVERY That Existed in The Midland District.

CONTENTS OF AN OLD WILL. SLAVE CHILDREN ONCE BORN IN THIS DISTRICT.

Rev. John Stuart, of Kingston, Brought His Slaves From the Mohawk Valley—Negroes Were Personal Property.

Through the kindness of Stephen Gibson, county registrar for Lennox and Addington, we have seen a rare old document, in regard to the existence of early slavery in this country, among the first of the U. E. Loyalist papers.

"I give to my dear wife, Miriam Bower, that part or parcel of land situate being in the township of Camden, lot 5 in the 2nd concession, 600 acres, dwelling house, barn, outhouses, four milk cows, yoke of oxen, one horse. I also give and bequeath to my wife, Miriam Bower, to hold during her natural life a negro wench named Charlotte, and from and after the decease of my said wife, Miriam Bower, I give and bequeath the above named negro wench, Charlotte, to my grand daughter, Elizabeth Bower, daughter of Adam Bower."

Then the will goes on to provide for the disposal of other property, lands, cattle and chattels. Evidently that time a negro wench, held as a slave, was as much a piece of desirable property as a farm, cow or horse.

Gasper Bower was of Dutch origin and one of the U. E. Loyalist pioneers of this country. According to the early crown lands record he was a corporal of the King's Royal Regiment, of New York, during the war of the American revolution. His name appears with the other early Loyalist settlers on the government provision list in 1786. He owned the farm on which the village of Strathcarron now stands, a very early date. It was probably the first mill of that kind on the Niagara river farther up stream than where the first mills at Appauce Falls were first built by Robert Clark, for the government in 1786. His name appears on Robert Clark's old account book in connection with the building of the first mill at Niagara, near the falls.

More Early Slaves. Gasper Bower was not alone among the early settlers as a slave holder. There was also a school there at an early time—one of the earliest schools in the county. Our venerable citizen, John Gibbard, J. P., now nearly ninety years of age, well remembers, with his older brother William, going to that school, in his early years. They then lived beyond where Newburgh now stands and had, therefore, some miles to trudge through the woods every night and morning to reach that school. The late William Gibbard once told the writer he well remembered, over eighty years ago, playing in an old frame building, then abandoned, which was the first Bower grist mill at that place.

There is considerable evidence that numbers of slave children were born in this district at one time. It is said that the large negro family of the Minks, that at one time lived a couple of miles up the river from here, at what is yet well known as "Mink's Bridge," were descendants of slaves owned by Capt. Hordman, one of the first settlers in "Fredericktown," at what is yet well known as Herchimer's Point, a few miles west of Kingston. Some of the Minks became well known

and prominent men. George was for a time a prominent livery man in Toronto, and then became the proprietor of the stage line and contractor of the canal and Kingston and was reported to be a man of considerable wealth. James had a livery and tavern at Kingston for years, where he was well known. Poor Tobias, who was drowned in the river here, while intoxicated, was a well known character about Napoleon for years. So far as we know, there is not one of the name now living.

In the Rev. John Langhorn's early church baptism register, at Bath, there is the record of the baptism of a number of negro children, belonging to some of the well known and prominent early families. It is not probable, however, that one family in ten, even about that locality, took the pains to have the negro children born in their households given a Christian baptism. Here is a record of one that occurs in Langhorn's register of the first baptisms in this country. They are recorded among the other regular baptisms:

1. October 6th 1793. "Richard, surname Pruy, a negro living with Harman Pruy, Fredericksburgh." It is said that the Pruy family, who resided in that locality, were a member of the first Upper Canada legislature for Addington. He died at his farm, and was buried in the Sandhurst churchyard. He left no children.

2. October 6th 1793. "Richard, surname Pruy, a negro living with Harman Pruy, Fredericksburgh." It is said that the Pruy family, who resided in that locality, were a member of the first Upper Canada legislature for Addington. He died at his farm, and was buried in the Sandhurst churchyard. He left no children.

3. April 22nd, 1805. "Francis, son of Violet, a negro woman living with Hazelton, Spencer, Esq., by Francis Green." Mr. Spencer was a resident of the front of Fredericksburgh, near Conway, where he died and was buried on his own farm. He was a member of the first Upper Canada legislature, representing Addington and Hastings. He was also, for years, a churchwarden of St. Paul's church, at Sandhurst, which according to Langhorn's record, was first used for divine service on Christmas day, 1791, and was, he records, "the first church that ever was built, new, from the province of Quebec, before Upper Canada was set apart solely for Church of England church; excepting one of the Mohawk churches on Grand river lays claim to a seniority." This is a record, in the same church register, of the burial of Francis, on January 17th, 1806.

Extreme Case of Nervousness, Female Weakness and Exhaustion—Had a Very Painful Operation—Was Pale and Weak and Fainted Often—Doctors Failed to Help Her.

There is scarcely a limit to the sufferings which women endure when their nervous systems become run down and give way beneath the burdens which they are forced to bear. There are many cases of this kind, which in nine cases out of ten are the result of a nervous prostration, a depletion of nerve force, or a Nervous Food cures women of their ills, irregularities and weaknesses, by thoroughly restoring the vigor of the nerves.

Every woman will read with interest the following letter from a lady who has been cured of a serious illness by Dr. Chase's Nerve Food. She says the testimonials she reads are not half strong enough to express her gratitude.

The Grip and Bronchitis for Years

John Beynon, of Toronto, Permanently Cured by Powley's Liquefied Ozone.

When winter comes along with its bitter cold and raw chilliness your system requires building up—must have health to repel the attacks of disease germs or you will suffer for many ailments such as the grip, colds, bronchitis, pneumonia and lung trouble, which may either lay the seeds of future trouble or end fatally.



THE OZONE CO. LTD. Gentlemen: I feel I owe you my testimonial and thank for such a good remedy as you have. I have been terribly troubled with a grippe and bronchitis for years, and even after I got it under control it would leave me weak and miserable. I felt there was something in your system which kept me weak.

Some Other Early U. E. Loyalists appear to have brought in several hundreds, if not thousands, from the States, into what is now the Dominion of Canada. They, or their fathers, had been slave owners in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, and elsewhere, and slaves were among the few articles of property they brought with them.

Rev. John Stuart, of Kingston, the first Upper Canada minister in Upper Canada, makes record in his unwritten memoirs, that he brought his slaves with him from the Mohawk valley, where he had resided previously, to the revolution. He then writes: "By negroes, being personal property, I take with me, one of which being a young man, and capable of bearing arms, I have to give 2400 security to send back a white prisoner in his stead."

Tuskegee Negro Conference. Tuskegee, Ala., Feb. 19.—The chapel of Tuskegee normal and industrial institute was filled to overflowing with negroes when Booker T. Washington called to order the eleventh annual session of the Tuskegee negro conference. The session was a spirited and interesting one and the reports presented showed in the main an improved condition among the colored agriculturists of the south, who have come under the influence of the Tuskegee institute. Mr. Washington's address was fairly characteristic of him in his hard-headed common sense. In a spirited manner he emphasized the importance of the negro farmers to acquire property, to get out of the one-room cabin and to take more interest in the education of their children. He warned them particularly against emigration agents, exhorted them to keep out of the courts, to keep their wives and children off the streets and away from public places and to avoid Sunday excursions.

Arbitration Committee Meets. New York, Feb. 19.—The industrial commission appointed by the national civil federation for settlement of disputes between capital and labor held its first meeting to-day at the mission house, Fourth avenue and Twenty-second street. The purpose of the meeting was to formulate general plans for the work in view. A report was received from the sub-committee appointed to draw up the preliminary plans. The committee was composed of senator Hanna, Oscar M. Straus, John J. McCook, Samuel Gompers, Harry White, Louis Brandeis, Samuel H. Collaway, Franklin McVeigh and Ralph M. Easley. In the shape of a general plan, the details of which are to be arranged later, the report recommended the appointment of auxiliary arbitration committees in all of the large labor centres, the committees to be composed of representative labor men and employers in their respective districts. By this arrangement it is planned to effectually cover the entire country.

A Great Bargain For \$1.50. Prevost, Revue street, will offer for sale the greatest bargain in ready-made pants in the city, worth from \$2.50 to \$3 a pair, for \$1.50 a pair. These goods are exhibited in his window. First come first served, as he has only a limited quantity.

ALL OVER THE WORLD NORWAY PINE SYRUP CURES COUGHS & COLDS. PRICE 25c PER BOTTLE.

ONCE A YEAR YOU CAN SAVE 20 PER CENT. ON KITCHEN ENAMELED WARE AND THAT IS DURING OUR FEBRUARY SALE. Famous cooks always require the best of cooking utensils and our line of granite is a fine one and no mistake.

Labatt's LONDON ALE and PORTER AWARDED THE GOLD MEDAL AT BUFFALO EXPOSITION, 1901. For their excellent qualities in comparison with similar exhibits from all parts of America.

JAS. McPARLAND, AGENT. WE Are Going To MOVE The Latter Part of This Month to 115 Princess St., Nearly Opposite Starr and Sutcliff's. D. J. McDermott, 175 Princess St., Next to Routley's

For particulars of PRIZE COMPETITION for Advertisements for LEA & PERRINS SAUCE See our Issue of Saturday Next.