

KENNEDY

"D^r RODGERICK KENNEDY OF BATH" - Mary E. Davy

READING ROOM

*Dr. Roderick Kennedy
of Bath*

Mary E. Davy

DR. RODERICK KENNEDY
OF BATH

Mary E. Davy

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This monograph on Dr. Roderick Kennedy would probably never have been written without the co-operation of the Public Archives Manitoba and the Hudson's Bay Company Archives, Winnipeg, Manitoba, who provided me with the material which enabled me to compile the story of Roderick Kennedy's early life before he became a citizen of the village of Bath. I am greatly indebted to them for their assistance. I am also very grateful to them for selecting and mailing me so much pertinent information, when access to their Archives was not convenient.

In the story of my research I have mentioned many who have furnished me with documents, information, newspaper clippings, suggestions and memories, so I will not name them individually here. I wish to express my appreciation to them for all their contributions, large and small, which have added much to the interest of our story.

The preparation of this monograph has been helped by the encouragement and support of friends, who I feel should receive the recognition they deserve.

Mrs. Gwen Smith, who just completed a term as President of the Dominion United Empire Loyalist Association, has made the Kennedy family very real to me. She recently made a trip to the west coast and brought back pictures of the house built by William Kennedy (Roderick's brother) in St. Andrews, near Winnipeg, the stone that marks the place where he is buried and the plaque in his memory. Gwen's suggestions and extensive knowledge of United Empire Loyalist genealogy have steered me in the right direction so many times.

Mrs. Cynthia Flavell, my neighbour, has shared my enthusiasm from the first. She has spent considerable time digging up bits of interesting information, as well as

providing transportation when needed. Her advice from time to time, and just being able to discuss each new exciting find with her has meant a great deal to me.

Mrs. Diane MacKinnon kindly offered her assistance, which I gratefully accepted. Her father was the late Dr. H. C. Burleigh, whose knowledge of early Loyalists is so well known. Diane referred me to her father's papers, which are being preserved in Queen's University Archives. His file on the Kennedys yielded a wealth of information. Diane also supplied me with other sources to contact, which have produced facts to add to our story. She is following in her father's footsteps and is an expert on genealogy. I have been very fortunate to have had her guidance. The Burleigh Family very graciously gave their permission to include in my monograph the Kennedy material found in Dr. Burleigh's files.

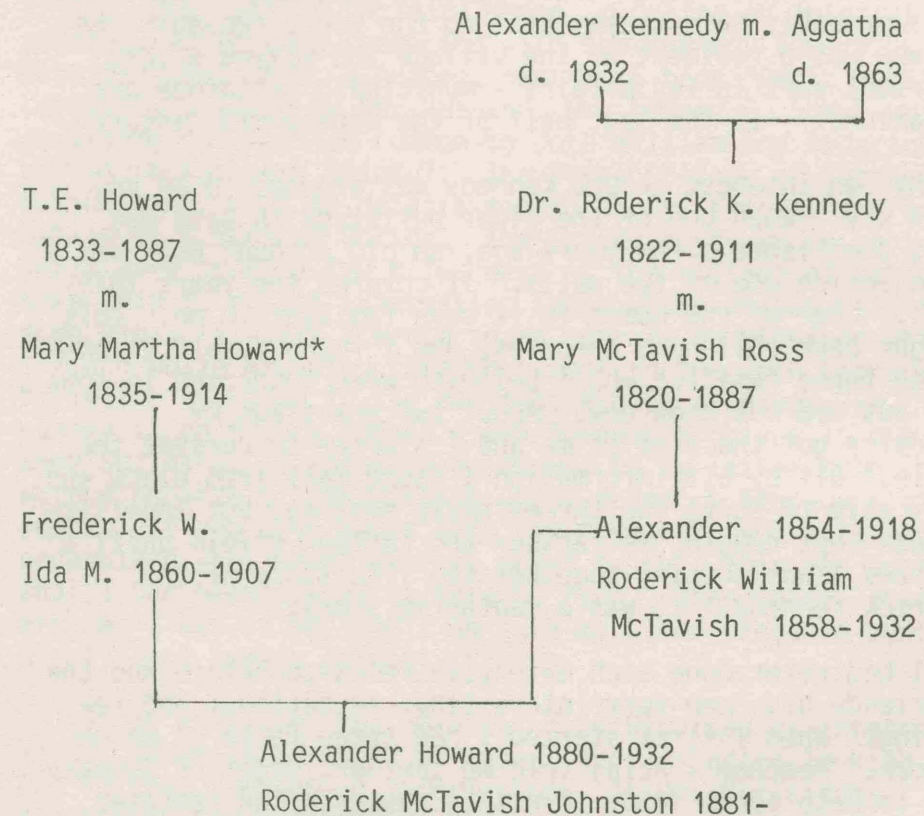
What would I have done without Mrs. Jessie Demaine? She has been the driving force behind the project from the beginning. She nudged and prodded very discreetly, until I started to put together the material I had been collecting. Her advice and knowledge have been invaluable to me. She has spent days researching with me. She has also provided transportation, where I was not brave enough to drive. She has always been there to help when needed. Without her encouragement and constructive criticism, this story might still be just scraps of paper tucked away in a file.

It would be impossible to mention all the individuals, who have offered suggestions and given me bits of information which have opened doors for further research. To all who have been a part of the process of compiling this bit of Bath history I offer my heart-felt gratitude. This includes the Bath Museum Committee, who kindly consented to sponsor my monograph.

Mary E. Davy

THE THREE FAMILY MYSTERY

(HOWARD, PETERSON, KENNEDY)



* Note - After T.E. Howard's death in 1887, his wife Mary Martha married N.H. Peterson - 1830-1910.

THE STORY OF THE RESEARCH

The name, Dr. Roderick Kennedy, means very little to the people who live in the village of Bath today. Perhaps if by chance his name is mentioned a very few of the older generation might recall their parents speaking of him, but it is probably safe to say that no one would remember the man who was a resident of the village and played a very important part in its affairs - municipal, religious and educational - in the last half of the nineteenth century.

My own interest in Dr. Kennedy was aroused in an unusual way. When one of the older buildings in Bath was being demolished a few years ago, an old account Book was found inside one of the walls. It covered the years 1879-80-81. Some of the names in it were familiar to me. This brought back childhood memories, and I found myself thinking of three families who I believed were connected in some way, but did not know how. About two years ago my curiosity got the best of me and I started to unravel the puzzle. Bit by bit information I found fell into place and I was able to solve the three-family mystery, but inquisitiveness kept nudging me farther and farther afield until I realized I was putting together the life story of Dr. Roderick Kennedy. It was a fantastic story.

I had never done such extensive research before and the experience has been very interesting, educational and rewarding. When I first started I had three facts on which to work. Meacham's Atlas told me that Dr. Roderick Kennedy came to Bath about 1850. Previous research had revealed that he built a house on Main Street, where the Frolicks now live. A plaque in St. John's Anglican Church states that he was born in 1822 and died in 1911. The question was - Where do I go from here? I visited the Registry Office in Napanee. I checked Census and Cemetery records in the Napanee Museum. Mrs. Riggs of the Anglican Synod Office in Kingston was very patient and helpful when asked to research their records so many times. The office staff

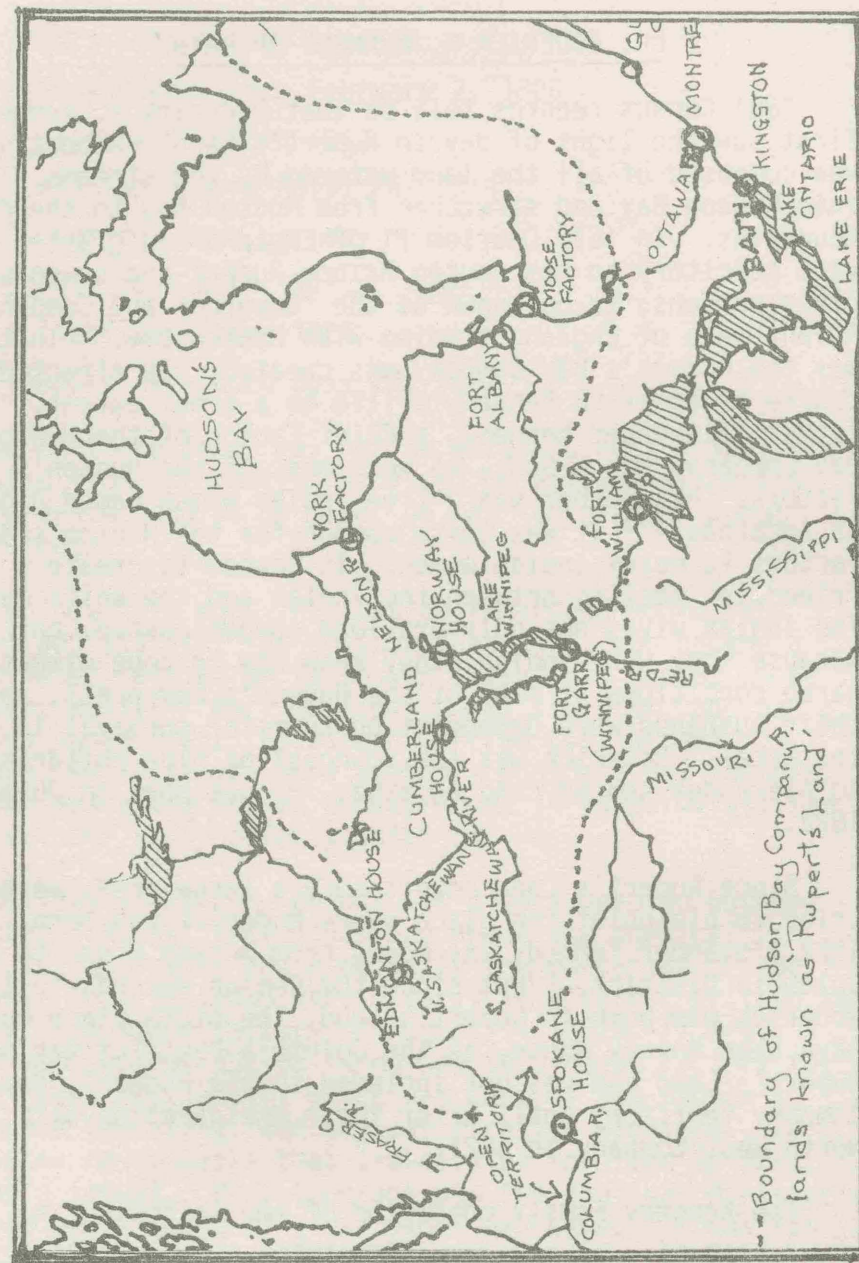
at Cataraqui Cemetery provided valuable information. Queen's University Archives and the Public Archives, Ottawa, sent me photostated copies of important documents. Mr. Bruce Caughey of Amherst Island found an obituary in his mother's scrapbook, which he sent me. My life-long friend, Mrs. Marion (McTear) Hamon, recalled an interesting personal experience connected with the Kennedy family. Mrs. Margaret Shaw, Winnipeg, sent me a book "Capt. William Kennedy", written by her husband, Dr. Edward C. Shaw, which contained information common to both William and Roderick, and which was very helpful. The Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh, sent me details regarding Dr. Kennedy's graduation as a Medical Doctor. The Craven boys, whose early years were spent a few miles west of the village of Bath, were able to recall interesting facts which helped fill in some gaps. Finally I wrote to an address in Winnipeg which I found while browsing through a book in the Bath Library. My letter ended up in the Manitoba Public Archives, who passed it on to the Hudson's Bay Company Archives in the same building. I received an answer to my letter from both with a bonanza of information about Roderick Kennedy's early years. If you have never done any research, you will not understand what those letters meant to me. This was just what I had been trying so hard to find. When those letters arrived I was so excited I am sure my blood pressure went up at least twenty points.

After receiving the material from Winnipeg my interest in Dr. Roderick Kennedy increased, and I started looking for further sources of information. At Dr. Burleigh's daughter's suggestion many hours were spent perusing her father's papers in Queen's Archives, and much was added to our story. Dr. Burleigh was a late resident of Bath, who spent many years collecting and documenting local geneology and history. The amount of information he accumulated and which is now being preserved in Queen's University Archives is incredible. I wonder if he realized what a legacy he was leaving for future generations. Considerable time was

also spent at the Kingston Public Library checking Directories, Census Records and old Newspapers. When at my wits' end trying to trace Dr. Roderick Kennedy's second marriage, Dr. A. Travill, Medical Historian of Queen's University, took the time and trouble to locate a newspaper clipping of the event.

Mrs. Kirby of Kingston and Mrs. Campbell of Woodville, whose names were Garrison before marriage, delved into their memories and produced details concerning Dr. Roderick Kennedy's son, Roderick. So it can be seen that the material I have collected has come from many different sources and many interesting people.

A number of friends have been interested in my project, and have helped in so many ways. It is because of their support and encouragement I have tried to put Dr. Roderick K. Kennedy's story on paper. I am sure I have not done it justice, but I have tried to set down in some sort of order all the material I have accumulated during the past year. If you find it half as fascinating as I have, I will be quite satisfied.



Location of some points of interest in the Kennedy story

DR. RODERICK K. KENNEDY OF BATH

1881 Census records tell us that Roderick K. Kennedy first saw the light of day in Rupert's Land. Rupert's Land was composed of all the land watered by the streams flowing into Hudson Bay and stretched from Hudson Bay to the Rocky Mountains. In 1670 Charles II of England had granted this vast territory to his cousin Prince Rupert and seventeen other persons, to be known as the "Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading with Hudson Bay." In this way the Hudson's Bay Company was created. It affected the course of Roderick Kennedy's life to a great extent. His father, Alexander Kennedy, a Chief Factor of the Hudson's Bay Company, was a Scot, as were most of the Hudson's Bay Factors. His mother was a Cree Indian woman named Aggatha or Aggathas.⁽¹⁾ It was quite common for the Hudson's Bay Factors to marry Indian women. It tended to create a friendlier feeling between the Indian and the white man. The Indian wives not only provided companionship, but because they were Indian, they knew how to cope with the harsh conditions at many of the Hudson's Bay posts, and their husbands were dependent on them for survival in many instances. Roderick was the youngest of nine children born to Alexander Kennedy and Aggatha. He was born on July 22, 1822.

Since Rupert's Land covers such a large area, we have tried to pin-point the place where Roderick was born. In 1822 Alexander Kennedy was moved from Norway House to the Columbia District,⁽²⁾ but since the Census records tell us Roderick was born in Rupert's Land, the birth place must have been Norway House, as the Columbia District was not in Rupert's Land and was not included in the Hudson's Bay Company territory until after their amalgamation with the North West Company in 1821.

The Kennedy Family consisted of the following -

John - born January 29, 1805

Mary - born 1806 or 1807

Alexander - born February 2, 1808

Elizabeth - born 1810

William - born April 26, 1814

George - born January 1816

Phillip - born 1817 or 1818

Isabella - born 1821

Roderick - born July 22, 1822 ⁽³⁾

Some of these dates may not be quite correct. They are calculated from information provided by William after his father's death, and as he said, he was "uncertain" about some of them.

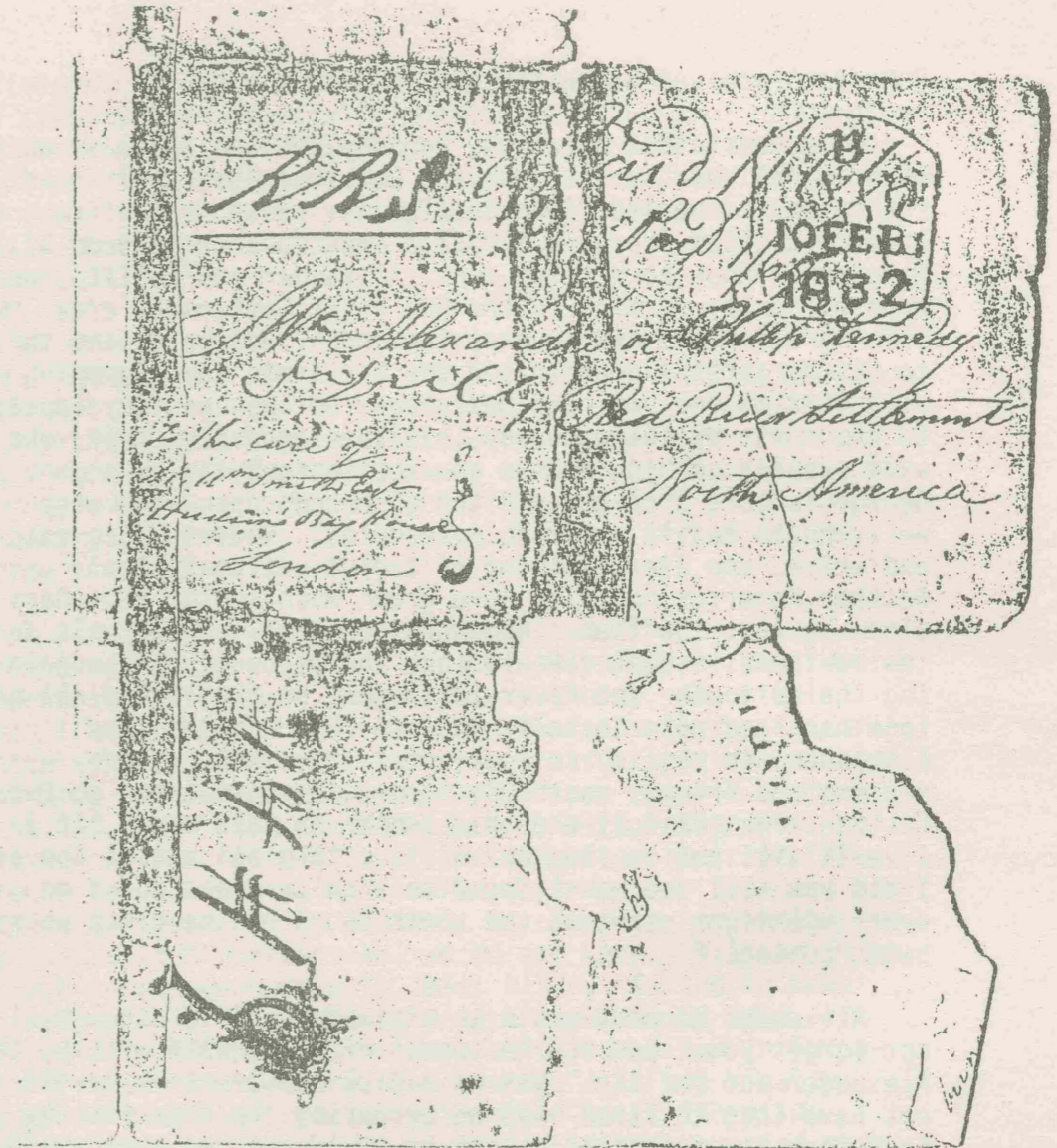
We do not have much information regarding Roderick's brothers and sisters. We do know that John, who became a doctor, later settled on Vancouver Island and seemed to be doing very well.⁽⁴⁾ Mary married Thomas Isbister, and had a son, also named Alex. Elizabeth married C.T. Nichol Finlayson.⁽⁵⁾ These men were probably Hudson's Bay Factors. Alexander was a teacher at Norway House in 1852.⁽⁶⁾ William will enter our story briefly later on.

I believe Alexander Kennedy was a very devoted husband and father. He was very concerned about the physical welfare of the family and especially the education of the children. This is shown very clearly in a letter written to his wife from Moose Factory on August 14, 1829.⁽⁷⁾ Mrs. Kennedy and some of the children had left Moose Factory for the Red River Settlement, which was part of the Hudson's Bay Company territory, and was later called Winnipeg. In this letter he requests that Isabella be enrolled in Mrs. Cochrane's school. Mrs. Cochrane was the Anglican Minister's wife, and had a group of girls under her care. It was his wish also that Phillip be sent to some school. He makes

provision for his wife's needs and comfort while wintering in the Red River Settlement during his absence in Scotland, a trip he was planning to make soon. At one point he assures her - "that as long as I live I shall never forsake or forget you, and if I die I shall not forget you." Were these words not an expression of his high regard for her?

Hudson's Bay Company records show that many of the Factors came from a group of islands off the northern tip of Scotland called the Orkney Islands. The stormy climate and rugged life there fitted them for the rigours of the northern Hudson's Bay Company posts. Stromness on the Orkney Islands was the last stop for the English ships crossing the northern Atlantic to take on their supply of fresh water and provisions. The Hudson's Bay ships attracted the Orkneymen. They suggested adventure and perhaps a better life in a new land. It is not surprising then that so many sought employment with the Hudson's Bay Company.

The education of their children was very important to the Hudson's Bay Factors, especially those who came from the Orkney Islands. A small college had been established at St. Margaret's Hope, South Ronaldsay, for this purpose. Since the Orkney Islands had been Alexander Kennedy's home, this is where his children began their education. He must have gone to Scotland shortly after writing to his wife, on August 14, 1829, taking with him Roderick and Alex Isbister. Roderick at that time would have been about seven years old. To us it may appear cruel to take a little boy of that age from home and send him to school so far away, but the Kennedy Family were constantly on the move from one Hudson's Bay post to another, so the change to Roderick may not have been as drastic as it might seem. William and George, his brothers, were already there, and had been attending school at St. Margaret's Hope since 1825.⁽⁸⁾ They were in the care of their Uncle, James Allan, husband of Alexander Kennedy's sister, Mary. Their teacher, Mr. Forbes, taught among other subjects Mathematics, French, Latin and Geography. It was at St. Margaret's Hope in the Orkney Islands that



(50)

A photocopy of the envelope which enclosed Alexander Kennedy's letter to his two sons, dated February 10, 1832.

Roderick received his early education.

It appears that Alexander Kennedy went to Scotland once more in 1831 and was considering settling his affairs and returning to the Red River Settlement. This is confirmed in a letter, dated February 1, 1831,⁽⁹⁾ which he wrote from St. Margaret's Hope to his two sons, Alexander and Phillip, who were evidently farming in the Red River Settlement area. He briefly describes his journey to London, Edinburgh, and then to St. Margaret's Hope to see the boys, who were "jumping with joy" to see him. He describes the boys as they appear to him now. William, he says, is the aggressive type, who will stop at nothing and is an excellent shot with a gun. George is more studious. Although he can use a gun very well, he is really not much interested. Roderick can read and write, and Alex Isbister is a good arithmetician. Neither Roderick nor Alex have grown much in the two years since he last saw them. He expresses the wish that his son-in-law Thomas Isbister would take the piece of land adjoining theirs in the Red River Settlement so they would all be together, and able to help each other. He admonishes Alexander and Phillip to look after their mother and sisters and friends near their home, which is known as Swiss Cottage. He jokingly ends his letter in this way - "If I live it will not be long until I see them all again, and if I die you will see me sitting with a white sheet about me every moonlight night on the north shore of the crick above Swiss Cottage."

Alexander Kennedy wrote to his wife - "If I die I will not forget you," and now he speaks of dying when writing to Alexander and Phillip. Was he a sick man and knew he did not have long to live? Was he preparing the boys for the fact that it was possible that he would not see them again before he died? Could his death have been very unexpected? In the last page of his letter, part of which is missing and therefore hard to decipher, he writes that an epidemic of cholera has broken out and "has carried off a number of

individuals." He states that it is "extending itself over the country" and especially mentions the towns of Haddington and Musselburgh near Edinburgh. Is it possible that he was a victim of this disease and that cholera was the cause of his death? We know he wanted and intended to return to his family, but it did not work out that way. He died in London in June 1832.⁽¹⁰⁾

William was about eighteen years old when his father died. He was the oldest of the boys in Scotland at that time. It is probable he was called upon for information to help settle his father's estate. Each child, we are told, would receive thirteen pounds per annum from stock Alexander Kennedy owned in the Hudson's Bay Company.⁽¹¹⁾ It would be necessary, therefore, for them to practise strict economy during the rest of their stay in Scotland.

At the time of Alexander Kennedy's death Sir George Simpson was Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company. He was a remarkable little man, full of fiery energy, who with a train like a monarch made periodical visits to the Factories scattered over the west. Each visit was a special occasion with pomp and ceremony, which the Indians enjoyed as much as he did. Now that the Kennedy boys were fatherless, he assumed the responsibility of looking after their welfare through his secretary, William Smith. Whether this was his duty as governor of the Hudson's Bay Company, or whether he was just a kind-hearted man, we do not know. William Smith, through correspondence with James Allan, started to make arrangements for the boys to return home, as he said, "it was his late friend's wish that the children now in Europe should return to their native country." It was finally suggested that they remain in Scotland until "Shiptime 1834." If James Allan agreed William Smith requested that he submit an estimate covering board, lodging, schooling and clothing for each of the boys, and suggested a fixed sum to cover everything. Later he was asked to keep separate accounts for each of the boys. He stressed the fact that it

would be necessary to practise economy. (12)

Before his father died, William, anxious to start working, had made application for a post in the Hudson's Bay Company. In 1833 William Smith offered him "an appointment as apprentice clerk in the Company's employ in the Montreal Department." This, he accepted, and "sailed from London to Canada aboard the Great Britain in late March 1833." (13)

As the time for their departure from Scotland drew near, George, being the oldest of the three boys there, contacted William Smith by letter on February 28th. In reply he was told "passages will be allowed by the Ship of the Season for you, your brother Roderick, and Alexander Isbister, in payment being made by you of the regulated rate of passage money. Let me know your respective ages, and I will make the best arrangement I can for your steerage passage and at as moderate rate as possible." (14)

On June 21, 1834, they boarded the Prince George, set sail for Canada on June 23, and arrived at York Factory on August 22. (15) Two months on the water! How boring it must have been for three lively, energetic boys! On disembarking at York Factory, they were received by Governor Simpson.

George and Roderick made their way to the Red River Settlement from York Factory with, as William Smith reported to Sir George Simpson, "considerably more supplies than their means warranted. The result is that their accounts are overdrawn." (16) Evidently they had forgotten it was necessary in their circumstances to carefully budget their small income. Perhaps Roderick at twelve years of age was too young to understand their financial situation.

At the time of Roderick's return to Canada Rev. David Jones, an Anglican missionary, was in charge of a school at the Red River Settlement. In 1834 Roderick was enrolled as one of his pupils. He remained there until 1839. Since "he

had no means of defraying the expenses of his education they were charged to his account in the Hudson's Bay Fur Trade Balances." (17) With two years of study at St. Margaret's Hope, and five years attendance at Rev. Jones' school, Roderick by this time must have had a good basic education.

Was he ambitious and wished to further his studies? He went to Europe in 1839. (18) We can only assume he went to Edinburgh to study for his medical degree. We know this is what he was doing in 1842, (19) and was expecting to graduate the following year, because on November 24th he wrote to Sir George Simpson, who is still very interested in his progress and his financial requirements. At the time of writing he was lodging with a Mrs. Birrils. He had been living with Mr. and Mrs. Veitch, who, he said, "were exceedingly kind to me during my stay with them." He explains that Mrs. Veitch was not well, and the calls he received at night disturbed her, which was his reason for changing his place of residence. Because of unforeseen expenses such as moving, necessary clothing and books, his finances are quite low. He asks permission to make a draft of ten pounds from the sum remaining in the hands of Sir. H. Pelly, Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company. He estimates his probable expenditure for the coming year will be sixty or sixty-five pounds. This will include the fee for his diploma. He intends to present himself for examination soon after his twenty first birthday. He expresses his gratitude to Sir George Simpson for his acts of kindness and says in closing - "It would be my greatest happiness were I in after life found qualified to render you any service, and in the meantime it will be my aim to shape my conduct so as to secure as much as possible your approbation in all aspects." He signs himself - "Your ever grateful and obedient - Roderick Kennedy."

In 1844 we find Roderick in Aberdeen. (20) He is now Dr. Roderick Kennedy, M.D. He had graduated from the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh on December 6, 1843. Those obtaining diplomas from the College were called Licentiates,

so he was entitled to use the letters L.R.C.S.E. after his name as well as M.D. It is believed he was trying to start a practice in Aberdeen. According to a letter to Sir George Simpson on October 26th, 1844, it has not been much of a success. He tells him he has been "unoccupied in a medical way, except in visiting the hospital and studying at home." Sir George Simpson has offered him "an appointment in Surgency" in the Hudson's Bay Company. He has consulted with friends regarding this offer, and they agree that he should visit Sir George Simpson at the Hudson's Bay House to make final arrangements. He says he is "happy at the anticipation of more active service." As usual his "exchequer now is reduced to a low condition" because of unexpected expenses. He gratefully acknowledges Sir George Simpson's past and present kindness to his family and himself in particular.

In December, 1844, Roderick started out for Moose Factory going by way of Lachine. (21) He did not arrive at Moose Factory until February, 1845. He was employed there as a clerk and surgeon until 1849.

On June 22, 1847, an event of special interest took place. Roderick married Mary, widow of George Ross. (22) She had two children - Thomas Keith and John George McTavish Ross. She was born in Rupert's Land in 1820, and was of Scottish descent. She was the daughter of John George McTavish.

John George McTavish was the son of the chief of the Clan McTavish. He was brought to Canada by his kinsman, Simon McTavish, Governor of the North West Company and the richest man in Montreal. When on his honeymoon in England Simon McTavish visited the chief of the Clan McTavish in Scotland and took a liking to his son. He suggested when the boy was old enough he should start him in the North West Company. John George later came to Canada and after serving an apprenticeship of five to seven years in the fur trading business he became a partner in the North West Company. He

travelled extensively from coast to coast visiting the many forts established by the North West Company, which had been much more active in exploring the Canadian wilderness than the Hudson's Bay Company. After the amalgamation of the North West Company with the Hudson's Bay Company some of the leading Nor'Westers joined the new Hudson's Bay Company. John George McTavish was one of this group and was given charge of York Factory.

Roderick Kennedy's agreement to serve as clerk and surgeon at Moose Factory must have terminated in 1849. On July 8, 1848, he wrote to Sir George Simpson reminding him of this fact, and advising him of his intention to retire the next year. (23) He requests that he "be informed of the earliest date at which I may be at liberty to carry my intention into effect, as I have fully decided in leaving Moose as soon as I have an opportunity of doing so." He tells Sir George Simpson he has come to this decision after giving it a great deal of consideration, and that he feels the position he holds can easily be filled by another. He hopes Sir George Simpson understands that his past kindness to him is still very much appreciated.

Why did Roderick Kennedy leave the Hudson's Bay Company, with which he had been associated for so many years? Did he feel it had served its purpose in opening the west and that it was no longer needed? Did he believe the Indians and Metis had been manipulated by the Hudson's Bay Company in the fur trade business, and that it was time for a change - a new form of government, under which they would be allowed to speak for themselves instead of living under the autocratic rule of the Hudson's Bay Company?

After leaving Moose Factory Roderick went to Vaudreuil for a time. No doubt he was looking the district over for a suitable place to establish a private practice. He visited Beauharnois for this purpose, calling on a Mr. Brown with a note of recommendation from Sir George Simpson. Since he

(11.10/85)

Bath ^{tho} April 1856 (49)

My dear Sir,

There is I am informed a trifling balance in my wife's favor still in the Company's hands. Would you have the kindness to inquire, and if there be any thing to remit, we shall be glad to receive it.

I am happy to say we are all well and that I am doing very well in practice here. - J. G. Ross is here

London C.W. in a situation that he likes and where as he writes he is as happy as a Lord. Thomas is still with us and gets on very well in his studies. and as to

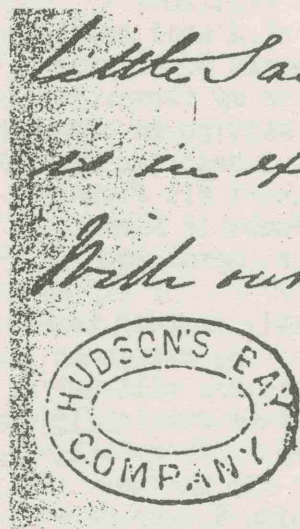
little Sandy he grows finely and is in excellent health -

With our best respects believe me

My dear Sir

Yours truly

R. Kennedy



Letter from Dr. Roderick Kennedy to Sir George Simpson, written in 1856 from Bath, 'Canada West'.

was told that the place did not have any "very encouraging prospects", he decided to leave for Upper Canada.⁽²⁴⁾

Dr. Roderick Kennedy and his wife arrived in Kingston the latter part of February or the first part of March 1850, and must have found lodgings on Princess Street. He is trying "to obtain every possible information respecting Kingston and the surrounding district", to establish himself in his medical profession. He writes to Sir George Simpson on March 12, 1850, from Princess Street, Kingston, to report his progress.⁽²⁵⁾ He tells him "Kingston, itself, offers a fair field, there being only eight medical men in town, one of whom (a staff surgeon) expects removal in a short time." He advises Sir George Simpson that a medical man is required in one or two places in the country. He has visited Wellington, "a rising village in the centre of a well settled and good farming district." If Dr. Corry, who is practising there "should decide on leaving, and accede to my terms, it is likely I will go there." He seems quite willing to accept the fact that this may not "turn out to our wishes" and he will try to find "some similar place." As usual his finances are low and he requests that any remaining funds in Sir George Simpson's hands be forwarded as soon as possible.

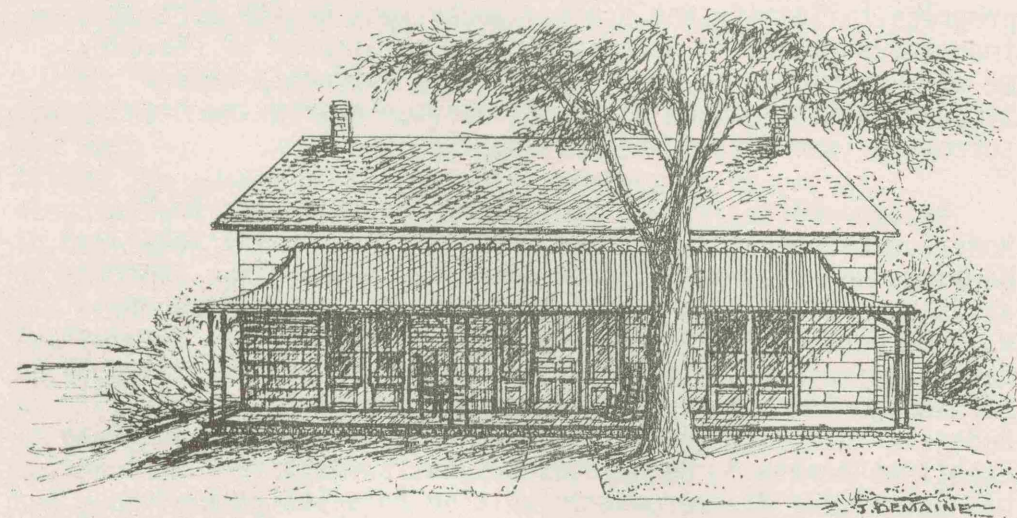
We do not know why Roderick Kennedy finally decided to settle in Bath, or the exact date he arrived. As mentioned before, Meacham's Atlas 1878 states he came to the village in 1850. Thomas K., Mary's son, was a member of the family at that time. In a letter to Sir George Simpson from Bath, dated October 31, 1851,⁽²⁶⁾ the doctor tells him he "has every reason to be satisfied with the beginning I have made here," so he must have been living in the village long enough to have established himself to some extent. He has received a letter from his brother John on Vancouver Island, who advised him to go there if he cannot find anything suitable in 'Canada'. Roderick tells Sir George Simpson he would follow this advice if "I had a reasonable prospect of being able to better our circumstances materially", but he does

not feel that the Island "can yet have made that much progress to justify any great expectations on the part of inducing settlers." He asks Sir George Simpson to "favour me with your opinion on the subject." Evidently Lady Simpson is ill, and he closes his letter expressing his sorrow on learning of her serious illness.

On June 28th, 1854, a son, Alexander, was born to Dr. Roderick Kennedy and his wife, Mary McTavish. The baby was baptized on November 19, that same year by Rev. W.L. Harper at St. John's Anglican Church in Bath. His sponsors were W.J. Harper and George Kennedy, Roderick's brother, who must have been in Bath to attend the ceremony.⁽²⁷⁾ In a letter to Sir George Simpson, written from Bath on April 7, 1856,⁽²⁸⁾ Roderick tells him that "little Sandy grows finely and is in excellent health." He also states he is doing very well in his practice. His purpose in writing this letter is to ascertain if there are any funds in his wife's name in the Hudson's Bay Company, and of so he requests they be forwarded to them.

Perhaps his need for extra finances at this time was that in 1855 he bought land on which to build a house. The lot straddles lots nine and ten in the village and is situated on Main Street. He erected a cottage-style frame dwelling. Was he thinking of Swiss Cottage as he build it? The house has recently been renovated, with the idea of keeping its original appearance as much as possible. It is now a very attractive home. During its restoration artifacts - old glass medicine and pill bottles - were found which showed it had been the residence of a doctor. Dr. Kennedy lived in the house he build until the early 1900's.

On May 19, 1857, Dr. Roderick Kennedy was appointed Coroner for the counties of Frontenac and Lennox and Addington by Governor General Sir Edmund Walker Head.⁽²⁹⁾ We do not know just what his duties involved or the extent of the territory under his jurisdiction.



The house built by Dr. Kennedy on Main Street, Bath, circa 1855, as it originally appeared.

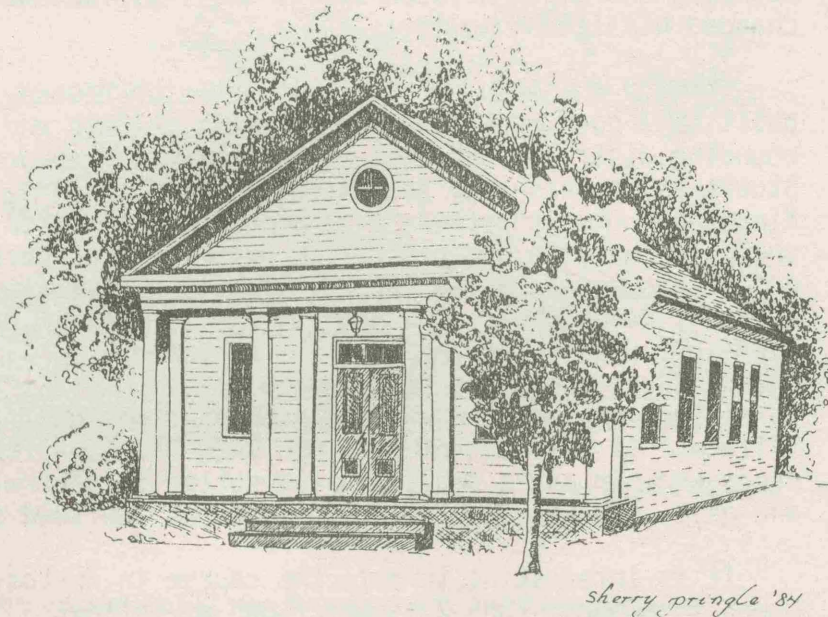
In 1858 the Kennedy family was increased to four by the birth of a second son - Roderick William McTavish Kennedy. We believe he was born a healthy baby, but later became a cripple. We have two reports regarding the cause of his affliction. Dr. Burleigh's papers tell us that a resident of Bath said he fell off the bridge at the west end of the village and was a cripple for the rest of his life. Mrs. George (Garrison) Campbell of Woodville, whose family was later involved with Roderick, informs us that paralysis developed after going in swimming and having a chill. Could it have been polio? From these stories we can presume he

began life in the usual way. As he grew older he enjoyed swimming and other boyhood sports until misfortune came and changed his life completely.

Through the ensuing years Dr. Roderick Kennedy must have built up a good reputation for himself in Bath and the surrounding district. In 1862 he was asked to replace Dr. Stuart as Professor of Anatomy at Queen's University, Kingston. Dr. Stuart was a very out-spoken person with a sharp tongue. He and his fellow colleagues at Queen's did not always agree, which "brought about" his retirement. When Dr. Kennedy was appointed to replace him on April 15, 1862, Dr. Stuart refused to shake his hand. In a newspaper which Stuart edited he referred to Dr. Kennedy as "the three-foot-one maniken who had been starved out of Bath Village." (A resident of Bath who knew Dr. Roderick Kennedy described him as "a small man and native in general stature and gait. He was very quiet in movement and toed in.")

It is interesting to note the course in Anatomy in Queen's calendar 1866-7 is described as follows: "Class Book - Wilson's Anatomy. Daily lectures are delivered, illustrated by plates, preparations and demonstrations on the dead body. Fee for the Course (six months) \$12."

In 1866 the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons Kingston was incorporated and replaced the Medical Faculty, although still affiliated with the University. Later the Royal College was housed in various locations in Kingston until 1880, when they were invited to return to the Medical Building at a greatly reduced rate for rent. Here they remained as 'The Royal College' until 1892, and since then as the Faculty of Medicine of Queen's University. Dr. Roderick Kennedy was a member of the Teaching Staff of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons. He was Professor of Forensic and State Medicine and also taught *Materia Medica* and Pharmacy. His connection with Queen's University terminated in 1871.



The Old Town Hall of Bath, built in the 1860's, was located across Main Street from the Kennedy House.

1876 was a red letter year for the Kennedy Family. Alexander, the older son, graduated from Queen's University with the degree of M.D. No doubt the whole family rejoiced with him. It was such an important event that it is recorded on a board in the attic of the house Dr. Roderick Kennedy built. Since this particular board was not exposed to the weather the writing is still well preserved. There are also other notations which show that Alexander must have been

interested in world events in the year 1876, as well as Canadian politics. Evidently he also felt that certain information in connection with the renovation of their kitchen was worth recording. Most of the writing is quite legible and reads as follows -

' 1876 Lord Dufferin visited British Columbia

Reform government in power under Mackenzie

Sir John A. McDonald Canada's greatest statesman
leader of the opposition

Great Centennial Year 1876

Hellgate blasted

s....? war - eastern difficulties-Turkey-Russia-Austria
(probably the Serbo-Croatian)

I graduated in the (Spring?) of the year
and took the degree of M.D.

Alex Kennedy

Architect of the Kitchen
D.J. Hoselton, Oct. 11th 1876

Wednesday, Oct. 11th 1876
Foundation and cellar of Kitchen built by
Humphrey & Hawley

Alex Kennedy M.D. Centennial
Oct. 11th 1876

Kitchen part of building rebuilt by
Duane Hoselton in October 1876
R. Ruttan
William Luckel

The Centennial year 1876 mentioned twice must have been the one hundredth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence by the United States in 1776. The other items are self-explanatory.

A news item in a Napanee paper, dated September 3, 1981, tells us that "Dr. Roderick Kennedy and Mr. H. Rogers have returned from their western tour." It had been thirty years since Dr. Roderick Kennedy had left the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company at Moose Factory. Was this his first visit to the Red River Settlement to see his brothers and sisters after so long an absence? His mother, Aggatha, had died in 1863. After Alexander Kennedy's death she stayed in the Red River Settlement, living in a small frame cottage on lot 63 in St. Andrew's parish. (30)

There had been an insurrection in the Red River Settlement in the 1870's. the government had sent in surveyors to survey for a road from Lake Superior to bring the country into direct touch with Canada. No one explained to the Metis what it was all about when they saw surveyors with their instruments crossing their fields. Since they had no deeds for the land they occupied, they were afraid they would lose their farms and homes and were greatly disturbed. This was the reason for their rebellion headed by Louis Riel. Did Dr. Roderick Kennedy make the trip to the west in 1881 to find out how the members of his family had fared after the uprising?

His brother, William, after an eventful life, had settled in the Red River Settlement in the 1860's as a missionary to help the people living in that area. He built a stone house overlooking the Red River on land owned by the Kennedy family since 1830. Attached to the north-eastern side at one time was a log cabin, which it is believed was the original Kennedy home where Aggatha had spent her last years, and where Roderick would have spent

some of his boyhood. This has now been replaced by a stone addition. Dr. Roderick Kennedy would not go home without spending some time with William, who would have many interesting tales to recount.

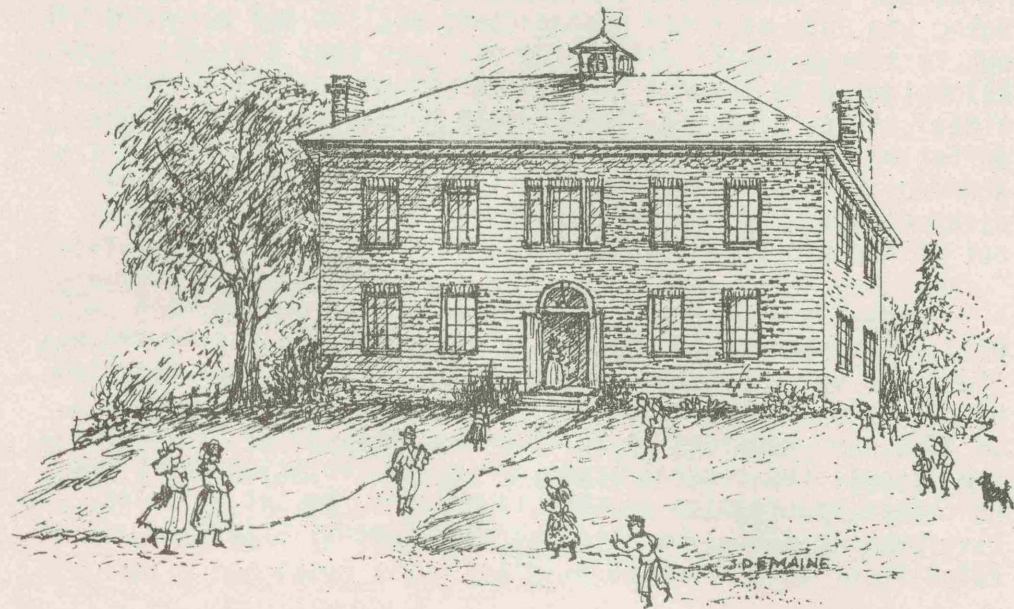
William would, no doubt, tell Roderick about his trip to England in 1851 to prepare a party to search for the explorer Sir John Franklin, who had disappeared six years earlier trying to find a passage from the Atlantic to the Pacific by the north. William had quickly organized an expedition. He sailed north of Hudson's Bay and settled in for the winter. Using the ship as their headquarters William and his crew set out to search for Franklin. On one trip they travelled 1760 kilometres "the longest sledge journey undertaken to that time." After a winter fraught with hardships and dangers, suffering from scurvy and snow blindness, they had to abandon the search and set sail for Aberdeen. William was disappointed. He had found no trace of Sir John Franklin, but he had brought his crew back without any loss of life.

Lady Franklin tried to finance another search with William in command in 1853-54. The expedition was to reach the Arctic by way of the Pacific Ocean. William was deserted by his crew and was forced to anchor near Valparaiso, Chili, in 1854. He remained in Chili until 1856, using his ship, the Isabel, for coastal trade. Finally realizing there was no chance to organize another expedition, he set sail for Liverpool in 1856. He later married Eleanor Cripps, a relative of Lady Franklin's. (31)

What thrilling stories of dangerous adventures William would recall as he and Roderick visited together!

Bath was incorporated as a village in 1859 and since that time has been governed by a Reeve and Council. Dr. Roderick Kennedy must have been deeply interested in the administration of the affairs of the village. He was elected Reeve in 1880 and continued until 1883. After a

year's absence he was re-elected in 1885 and served in that capacity until 1888. The original minutes of the Council meetings during these years provide interesting reading, and are preserved in the Bath Municipal Building. He not only served as Reeve, but his name appears several times as a Health Officer for the village as well.



The 'second school' of Bath, destroyed by fire in 1910, was in service during Dr. Kennedy's term of office as superintendent.

He was a man of varied talents. We are told that at one time he was superintendent of the village school. This is confirmed in an article in the 1885 Directory of the City of Kingston and Counties of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington. The section covering the village of Bath reads - "There is a well attended union school here, established in 1811 as an Academy, but now united as a grammar and common school; the buildings cost about \$3,000, - Mr. Milligan, principal of the grammar school, and Mr. Stephen Robinson, teacher of the common school. The schools are under the superintendence of Dr. Kennedy; average attendance of pupils 150."

Dr. Roderick Kennedy was a very active member of St. John's Anglican Church, Bath, for many years. He was a member of the Vestry and the frequent appearance of his name in the Vestry minutes show that he attended regularly and was interested in the concerns of the church. It also shows he had a mind of his own, and was ready to express his opinions when questions came up for discussion. On April 18, 1884, he was appointed delegate to the Synod for a period of three years. On June 13, 1887, he was asked to continue for another term of three years. On April 2, 1888, Rev. E. Baker, the Rector in charge, appointed Dr. Kennedy as his Church Warden, a position he also held in 1889. At a Vestry meeting on Easter Monday, 1890, it is noted "that the Vestry desires to record its thanks to Dr. Kennedy and Thomas Bain, the retiring Church Wardens, for faithful attendance to duties of their office during the past year." On July 15, 1895, a "special meeting of the Vestry was called for the purpose of determining what steps should be taken in the proposed alterations to the church." A separate chapel or a chancel were suggested. After some discussion "Dr. Kennedy then addressed the Vestry and said that a chancel could be built if the congregation would only take the matter in hand. He thought a chancel would be much more suitable. After further discussion it was finally moved by Dr. Kennedy and seconded by Dr. Northmore (another doctor practising in the village) that "the Vestry favours the

erection of a memorial chancel to the late John Langhorn." (John Langhorn was St. John's first officiation minister in 1787.) Dr. Roderick Kennedy was also involved in the preliminary planning in connection with the building in 1898 of a new rectory on Academy Street where the Townsends now live.

In February, 1887, Mary McTavish Ross, Dr. Roderick Kennedy's wife died. She was buried in St. John's Church Cemetery, Bath. Rev. R.S. Fournier was the rector in charge of the funeral. There is no stone to mark her resting place. If there ever was one it may have disintegrated through the years leaving nothing now to show where she was buried.(32)

Mary McTavish's son, Thomas Keith, became a doctor and practised for a time in Odessa. On April 22, 1863, he married Miss Harriet Adaliza, eldest daughter of the late David Roblin, of Napanee. The wedding was performed by Rev. J.J. Bogart.(33)

John George McTavish Ross, her other son by her first marriage, was a druggist. He had a Drug Store in Bath, which he sold in 1869, but he worked as a druggist in various other places. He had the wander lust and moved often. He was well liked and always went to a new job with a good recommendation from his former employer. On September 29, 1873, he married Mary, second daughter of George Ham, J.P., of Conway. He died February 2, 1889. Both he and his wife are buried in St. John's Cemetery, Bath.(34)

In 1891 Dr. Roderick Kennedy married Miss Mary Walkem of Kingston. The account of the wedding appears in the Kingston British Whigin the January 13th issue. It reads as follows -

"A happy event took place this morning at eleven o'clock in St. John's Church, Portsmouth, when Dr. Kennedy

of Bath was married to Miss Mary Walkem, sister of Messrs. R.T. and J.B. Walkem of this city. Rev. F.W. Dobbs performed the ceremony, assisted by Rev. C.G. Cartright. Miss Maude Betts of Calderwood was the bridesmaid, and Rev. A. Spencer acted as best man. The bride was given away by her brother Mr. J.B. Walkem.

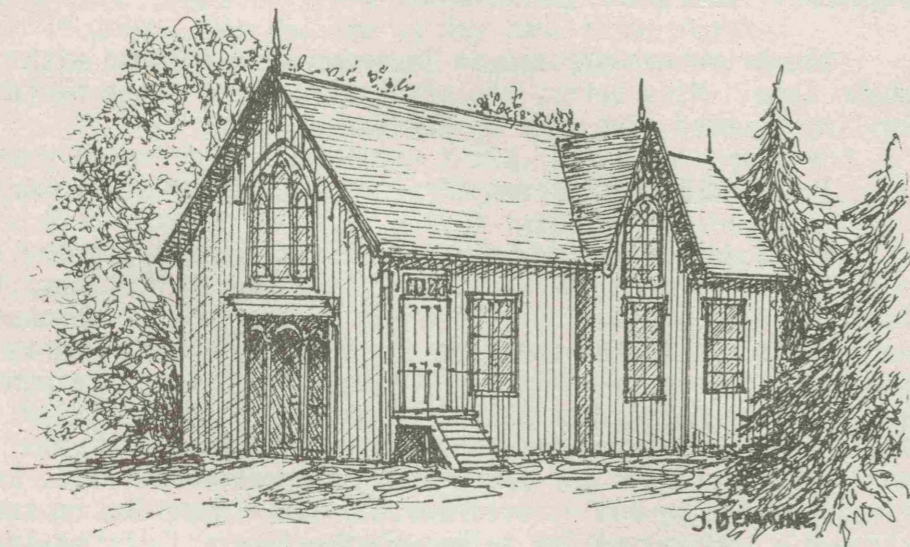
The lady friends of the bride were present in large numbers to witness the ceremony. When the latter was concluded the bridal party proceeded to Calderwood where they partook of the wedding breakfast.

The bride was dressed in lavender silk trimmed with white lace. Miss Betts, the bridesmaid, wore cream nun's veiling trimmed with lace of the same colour.

The good wishes of many friends follow the happy couple."

Dr. Roderick Kennedy did not always receive payment in cash for his medical services. It is known that at one time for prolonged medical care of a man by the name of Abraham Harris, he became the owner of the building, now known as the Layer Cake Hall of Bath. Abraham Harris was a carpenter and had been engaged to build the hall for the Mechanics' Institute. When completed, he requested payment for his work, but there was not enough funds to cover his bill. Finally, when he was not reimbursed, after a period of time through a process of law he became the owner of the building. Later Abraham Harris became ill and was a patient of Dr. Roderick Kennedy's for several years. When he died, his widow inherited her husband's debts as well as his assets and found she owed the doctor a substantial amount for caring for her husband for so long. Perhaps she could not pay Dr. Roderick Kennedy's bill in any other way, so she deeded the Mechanics' Institute hall to him, and he became its owner. On the 22nd of December, 1892, for the sum of one dollar Dr. Kennedy deeded the Mechanics' Institute Hall to the Synod of the Diocese of Ontario with the following

provisions - that the lower hall be used as a Presbyterian Church, that it be a place to hold divine service and other meetings of religious character, and that the upper hall be for the benefit of the members of the Church of England in the village of Bath to be used as a Church hall or rental church purposes.



The Layer Cake Hall, Davy Street, Bath, was deeded to the Diocese of the Anglican Church in 1892, by Dr. Roderick Kennedy.

(The Layer Cake Hall was so named because it was a two-story building and each story was occupied by a different religious denomination, which suggested a layer cake.)

Mary Emily (Walkhem) Kennedy's name as well as Roderick Kennedy's name appear on the deed to the Synod with Florence Davy as witness. (35)

As Dr. Roderick Kennedy grew older, we have reason to believe his health began to deteriorate. His wife had died August 4, 1897, and his son Roderick, due to his affliction, was unable to care for his father. In 1902, according to Village tax records, Dr. Rodericks' address was Stella, Amherst Island, just across the channel from Bath. We know his son Alexander was living there, so it is quite possible Roderick stayed with him. Since Alexander was also a doctor, he would have given his father proper care.

Registry Records show that in 1902 Roderick Sr. deeded his home in Bath to his son, Roderick, who in turn gave his father a life lease on the property. The following year the Tax Records show that Roderick Jr. was living in Sillsville. We believe the house Dr. Roderick Kennedy built in Bath was never again occupied by the family. It was leased to various tenants until 1908, when Roderick Jr. sold the property to Robert Mott of the village.

Dr. Roderick Kennedy's health did not improve with the years and on March 15, 1911, he died of pneumonia in the General Hospital, Kingston. He was buried in Cataraqui Cemetery. Rev. G.L. Starr of St. George's Cathedral, Kingston, conducted the funeral. It would be interesting to know how many of his Bath friends were there to pay their last respects to one who had given so much of himself to the village.

The house, which Dr. Roderick Kennedy built at 249 Main

Street, Bath, and a plaque placed in his memory on the north wall inside St. John's Church, are the only reminders the village has that Dr. Kennedy was an important part of its past history. The plaque reads simply, "Roderick Kennedy M.D. 1822 - 1911".

We found his grave close to the church in the Catarauqui Cemetery. There is a small stone to mark the spot, just big enough for the following inscription - RODERICK KENNEDY 1822-1911. My friend broke a sprig of spirea off a near-by bush, laid it on the grave and said a little prayer. It was a very emotional moment for both of us.

Although this is primarily the story of Dr. Roderick Kennedy, we feel it would be incomplete without further reference to his sons - Alexander and Roderick.

Rev. James Cumberland was the minister of St. Pauls's Presbyterian Church in Stella, Amherst Island, for forty years. He was a neighbour and close friend of Dr. Alexander Kennedy for a number of those years. When Alexander died, Mr. Cumberland wrote the following Obituary, which appeared in the Daily British Whig, Kingston, on June 12, 1918. It is beautifully written and needs no further comment.

"With deep regret we record the death of Dr. Alexander Kennedy, who passed away suddenly on May 17th, 1918, at Amherst Island, in his 64th year. He was the oldest son of the late Dr. Roderick Kennedy, who practised medicine for many years in Bath. His mother was a daughter of Governor McTavish, of the Hudson's Bay Company. He was born at Bath on June 28, 1854, and received his early education in the Academy there under the care of that well know education-
alist, the late Dr. McGregor of Almonte, of whom he often spoke in terms of deepest respect and esteem. Later he attended lectures at the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, Kingston, and in due time graduated from Queen's University. After spending a term at St. Thomas' Hospital,

Monday July 26th 1880

H 9 H
Dr. A. Kennedy L. Ida
To Soothing Syrup 25

Thursday Sept. 9. 1880. 2

H 9 H
Dr. R. Kennedy (Thurston)
To 35 lbs feed \$1.30

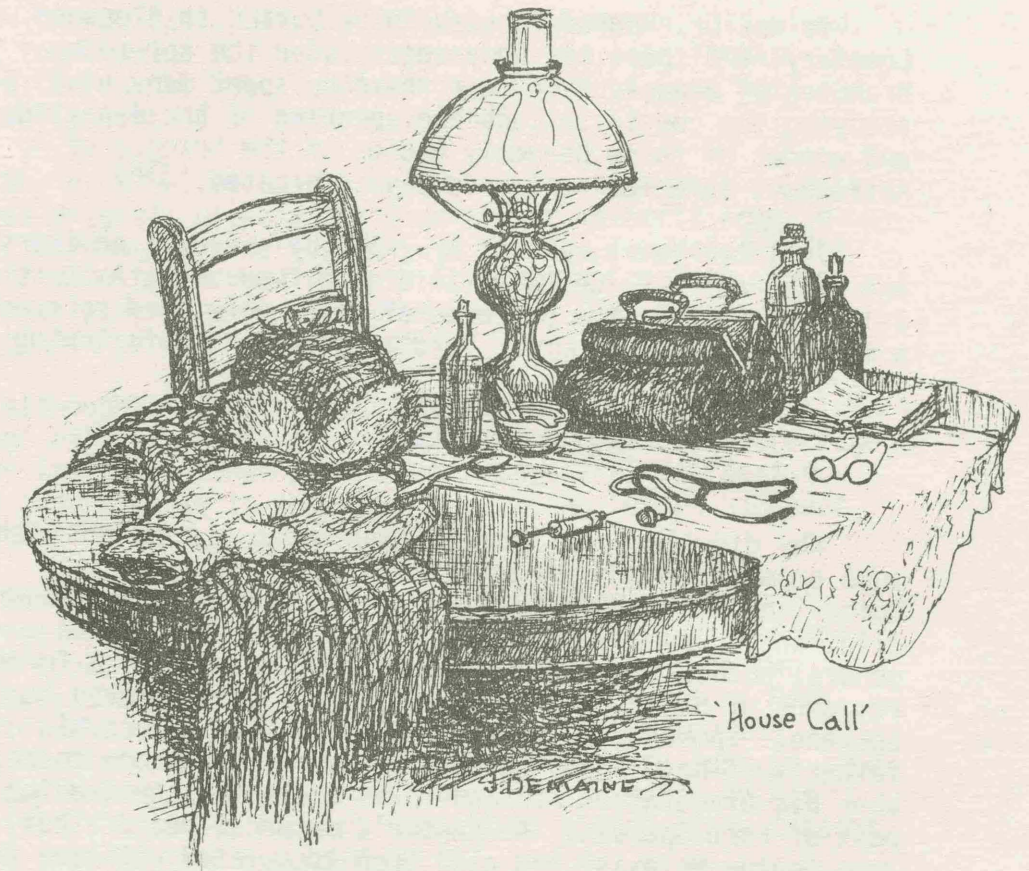
Memos of charges to the accounts of Dr. Roderick Kennedy and Dr. Alexander Kennedy, taken from the ledger of T.E. Howard, merchant of Bath, dated 1880. Dr. Alexander's first son was five weeks old when the soothing syrup was purchased.

London England, he returned to Canada and went to Ann Arbor, Michigan, where he was associated for a time with the late Dr. McLean, a surgeon of continental fame, who was a pioneer on this continent in introducing their methods of antiseptic surgery. On January 1st, 1878, Dr. Kennedy married Miss Ida, daughter of the late Edward Howard, of Bath. Their family consists of two sons, the Rev. Howard Kennedy, B.D. of

Cincinnati, Ohio, and Sgt. Roderick now in France with the U.S. Army. Mrs. Kennedy died several years ago. Dr. Kennedy had the instincts of a soldier from his earliest years, and held a certificate from the old Military School at Kingston. He was a member of the 47th Battalion, and could tell many anecdotes of old camping days with his comrades. On the outbreak of the Northwest Rebellion he at once offered his services. He hurried to the front and was placed in charge of the Field Hospital at Battleford (Sask.) He was present at the battle of Cut Knife. After the battle was over, when he had first attended to his own men, he did all he could for those of the enemy's wounded who were brought in. He often spoke of the courage and endurance of those misguided men. One Indian Brave, who had a large splinter of shrapnel lodged in his body, was informed that it must be removed. The surgeon was about to administer anaesthetic when the wounded man, although suffering much, scornfully refused, saying "Me no squaw." So the Doctor applied his forceps, and although a strong pull was required, yet the Indian proved to be indeed a "brave" and stood the ordeal with a groan.

Dr. Kennedy offered his services during the Boer War, and again at the beginning of the present world war was very anxious to go to the front, but age was against him, and younger men had the preference. It was for him, however, a source of proud satisfaction in his last days that he had a son there standing for freedom and justice.

Dr. Kennedy was a man of more than ordinary ability. Thanks to the solid groundwork laid at Queen's he was a good anatomist and had a clear and accurate knowledge of the properties of medicine. He was considered an expert in diagnosis. Forty years ago, during an outbreak of smallpox of a very malignant type on Amherst Island, when but a young practitioner, he rendered efficient service which is still remembered with gratitude by the older inhabitants. He was kind, sympathetic and attentive to his patients, and would



sit up a whole night watching and nursing a critical case. Though not what might be called a sportsman, yet he loved to go with his dog and gun off to the woods for a ramble or take his boat and go for a morning's fishing in the Bay. There were few who could excel him sailing or rowing a boat.

His funeral took place on Sunday afternoon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hamilton and was largely attended. His Rector, Rev. J.C. Dixon of St. Alban's Anglican Church, conducted the service and spoke appropriate words.

It was Dr. Kennedy's wish to be buried in Glenwood Cemetery, and there his body rests under the spreading branches of a maple tree near where he spent many hours studying the constellations and speaking of the magnitude and wonder of those heavenly bodies of the Science of Astronomy, in which he was deeply interested." (36)

In later years, one of Dr. Kennedy's ardent admirers, the late Robert A. Caughey, initiated a fund among Amherst Island residents, the proceeds of which were used to erect a monument in his memory. This stone bears the following inscription -

ALEXANDER KENNEDY M.D.
1854 - 1918

Why did Alexander Kennedy, who began his career with such promise, retire to Amherst Island? Rev. James Cumberland did not mention a very sad period in Alexander's life, which appeared to alter his attitude to life in general and particularly his own. We are told by a former resident of Bath that Alexander and his family moved to Spokane. Spokane may have appealed to him because his father must have spent some of his early childhood there when his Grandfather Alexander was factor at the trading post of Fort Spokane. Alexander's maternal Grandfather, John George McTavish had also been associated with the fort on the site where the city of Spokane stands to-day.

We have not been able to verify these facts, but we do know that Alexander made application to become a United States citizen on January 12, 1884, in the Washington territory, 3rd Judicial District. (37) Whether this application was granted we do not know. For some reason Alexander and Ida had problems, which ended in separation and later there must have been a divorce. The only evidence we have to substantiate the truth of this story is a marriage notice, which appeared in the Napanee Express on June 26,

1896 - "At Buffalo, May 29, 1896, Rudolph Braun, Cleveland, Ohio, to Miss Ida M., only daughter of the late Thomas Howard, merchant, Bath." Alexander must have come home and eventually settled on Amherst Island.

Why or when, we do not know, but Ida came back to Bath. She had Bright's disease and died at her mother's home in 1907. Her mother ordered and paid for the funeral. (38) She is buried in the Howard plot in St. John's Cemetery, Bath. The inscription on the tombstone reads - "Ida M. Howard - wife of A. Kennedy M.D. 1860-1907."

Although Alexander practised medicine on Amherst Island to some extent, the family break-up seems to have discouraged his desire to continue practising his medical profession. It is sad, because it appeared a promising future had been in store for him.

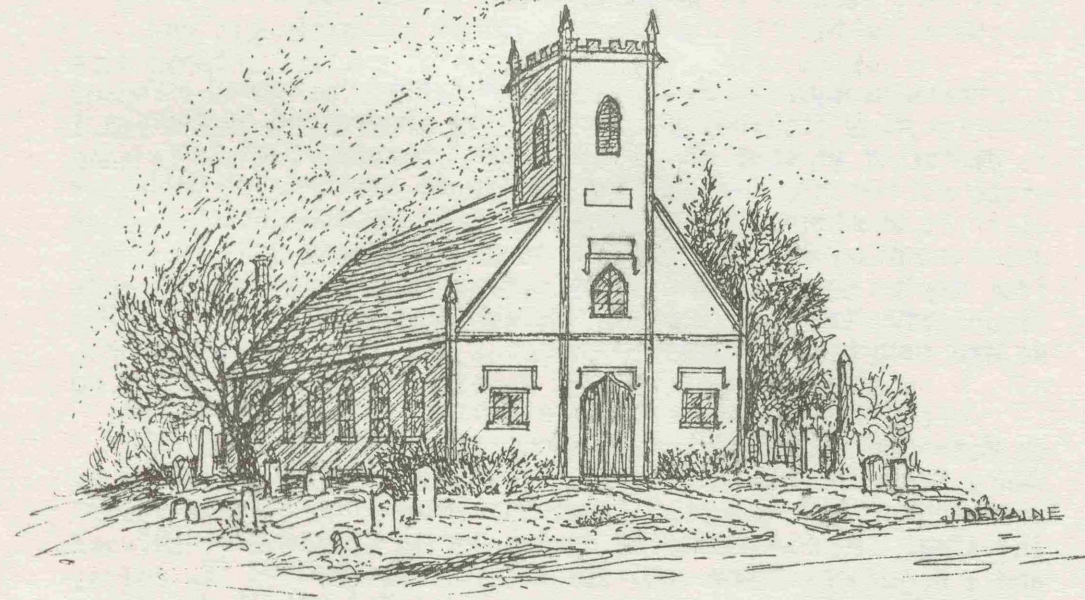
As already stated, Dr. Roderick Kennedy's second son, Roderick, was physically disabled. We understand he found it difficult to move about even with the support of two crutches. He is described by the Craven Brothers of Bath district who knew him, as a man of great determination, which in his condition must have been necessary just to live from day to day. He was a musician, and in spite of his disability, tried to support himself by giving piano lessons. We are told he also composed music.

After his father deeded their home in Bath to him, we do not believe Roderick lived there, but made his home at Henry Garrison's in Sillsville near Bath, and continued teaching music. His pupils were scattered over the surrounding area. To reach them he used a horse, called "Jennie", and a buggy or cutter according to the season. It is believed his finances were not too plentiful and it was his custom to spend a couple days at the homes of some of his pupils, giving them music lessons in exchange for board. He was a strict teacher and insisted on perfection, using a

ruler if a wrong note was played.

We do not know just when he became ill. He was bed-ridden, and the Garrisons, who had kindly allowed him to make his home with them, found it too difficult to care for him. He was taken to the hospital in Kingston. He had cancer of the throat.

Later he must have improved enough to be released from the hospital. He came back to Sillsville and the Jonas Garrison family gave him a home. He died in Kingston General Hospital in the fall of 1932 and is buried in the Jonas Garrison plot in the McDowell Cemetery in Sandhurst.⁽³⁹⁾



Dr. Roderick Kennedy served as a member of the Vestry of St. John's Church, Bath, when the building above was in use. It was destroyed by fire in 1925.

The fourth generation in our chronicle brings us to Dr. Alexander Kennedy's two sons who were both born in Bath. Alexander Howard was born on June 13, 1880, and was baptized on July 15 by Rev. A.F. Echlin, Rector of St. John's Anglican Church. In 1914 he was an Anglican clergyman in Calgary. Through Assessment Records we followed him to Ogden, Utah - Pontiac, Michigan - Cincinnati, Ohio, and finally to Kingston in 1921, where he was employed as a Forwarding Agent. His grandmother (his mother's mother) left him considerable property in Bath when she died in 1914. Perhaps he was a sick man and was not capable of handling his financial affairs. He mortgaged the property in Bath and the mortgage was foreclosed in 1931. About this time he was admitted to the Kingston Psychiatric Hospital, known as Rockwood at that time. Rev. A.L. McTear, who was Rector of St. John's Church, Bath, for many years, visited Alexander Howard in the hospital, accompanied by his daughter, Marion. She recalled that he was sitting at a table writing out cheques for donations to take care of all the poor in the world. He must have been a very unselfish and caring person. Although his thoughts were confused, the needs of the poor were weighing heavily on his mind. He died on April 9, 1932.

The funeral was held in St. George's Cathedral, Kingston, on Tuesday, April 12. He was buried in Cataraqui Cemetery, beside his grandfather, Dr. Roderick Kennedy. His wife was living in Kingston at the time, but they had no children.

Roderick McTavish Johnston, Alexander Kennedy's younger son, was born on July 15, 1881, and was baptized by Rev. A.F. Echlin, Rector of St. John's Church. At the time of Alexander Howard's admittance to the hospital he had not heard from his brother, Roderick for thirteen years. We have not been able to find out much about the younger brother. We are informed he enlisted as a soldier during the Spanish American war and was through the campaign in Cuba, Porto Rico, and was also in the Phillipines and China.⁽⁴⁰⁾

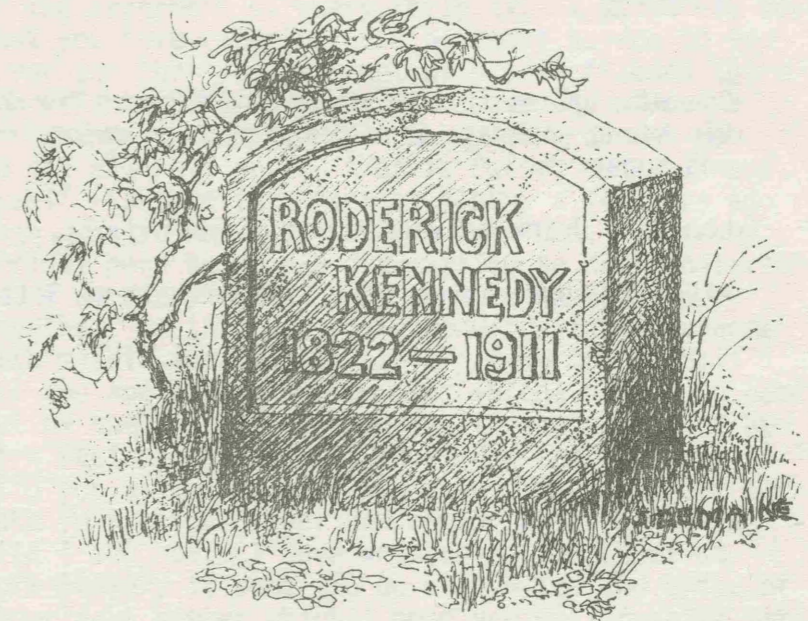
A notation in Dr. Burleigh's papers tells us that on June 19, 1902, Roderick visited his grandmother, Mrs. N.H. Peterson, in Bath after an absence of four years. During the four years mentioned Roderick's grandmother, Mary Martha Howard, whose first husband died in 1887, had married N.H. Peterson. During the same four years Roderick was probably busy fighting in the Spanish American war. He must have been in the habit of paying visits to his grandmother, or special mention would not have been made of this one.

In Alexander Kennedy's obituary, Rev. James Cumberland said that at the time of his father's death in May 1918 Roderick was with the United States Army in France. We have been informed by the National Military Personnel Records Center in St. Louis that he enlisted in Los Angeles on June 18, 1917. Frederick W. Howard, his uncle, was a wholesale dealer in that city. Perhaps that was the reason Roderick was in Los Angeles at that time. He was discharged on July 23, 1919. Since his military records were destroyed in a fire no further information is available. We were unable to trace Roderick's life after his discharge from the army.

As so often happens when we want to preserve past history we start too late. Those who knew Dr. Roderick Kennedy personally have been gone many years, so we were able to find very little about his private life in Bath. Although we believe he lived a full and satisfying life himself, his two sons may have caused him a few heart aches - Alexander, because he really did not develop his medical career to its full potential, and Roderick because of his affliction, although he put up a brave fight to live. After Dr. Roderick Kennedy's second wife, Mary Emily, died and his health began to fail he may have been a lonely man. If his grandson, Roderick, married and had children would it have comforted the old doctor to know that the courageous pioneering spirit of the Kennedy and McTavish Families lived in a new generation? Had he known that some day future descendants would be proud of their heritage, and would count their

ancestors among the unsung heroes of early Canadian history would his last years have been happier?

Dr. Roderick Kennedy was one of nine children born to Alexander Kennedy. Some of his brothers and sisters had offspring and there must have been many more unknown to us. It would be interesting to know how many of Alexander's descendants are living to-day.



(41) DR. RODERICK KENNEDY'S CURE FOR GALL STONES

1 bottle purest of Gin
2 bottles Luca Oil
1 bottle Essence Peppermint
6 Lemons

One wine glass full of oil every 2 hours for 24 hours.
Gin sling separate in a glass of peppermint in hot water
and sugar.

Lemonade drink between times of taking oil.

After 24 hours is up take 1 tablespoon of Salts.

TRANSCRIPT OF THE KENNEDY LETTERS IN HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY
ARCHIVES AND PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF MANITOBA -

- a) From Alexander Kennedy, Chief Factor for Hudson's Bay
(42) Company at Moose Factory, to his wife Aggatha at Red
River settlement, Rupert's Land, dated August 14, 1829.

Moose Factory 14th Aug't 1829

My Dear Mrs. K -

I embrace this opportunity of Mr. Lewis going
your way to write a few lines hoping it will find you
in the enjoyment of every felicity. I sincerely hope
that you have experienced a pleasant voyage to Red
River and that you have met with some friends there
who will be kind to you till I have the pleasure
of seeing you again. I am happy to acquaint you
we are all well here - that is Betsy, Roderick and
myself - but we left Alex at Albany a few days ago
when he also was well when we left him. Since my
arrival here Betsy has got married to Mr. Findlayson
and I am happy to say they seem to be very happy
together. I intend to take Roderick and Alex home
with myself and if I am alive please God I shall
see you again next summer as I intend either to come
out by the express from Canada in the spring or by
York Factory in the fall in either case I shall be
with you all winter. I hope you will endeavour to
make yourself as happy and comfortable as you can
till I see you. I have written to the Chief at
York Factory to send you up 6 lb H Tea and a Kg. of
sugar next summer which I hope you will receive safe
if I am not there when you receive it. I shall be
with you soon after - and I shall think of everything
you want and order it out with the ship. In the
meantime do not want for anything that I can afford
to supply you with either for yourself - your mother

or the little ones, and be assured that as long as I live I shall never forsake you nor forget you - and if I die I shall not forget you.

I would wish that Isabelle should be placed under the care of Mrs. Cochrane in Red River the clergymans wife who I understand has got some girls under her care. Speak to Mr. Sutherland or any of your friends to apply to Mr. Cochrane to get her placed there and I shall pay for her board and education - be sure to send Philip also to some school. Mr. Sutherland will try to get a house or a room for you to pass the winter in and if Moose Keropint? remains near you employ him to do anything you want either in the way of hunting or providing firewood and tell him I shall see him next summer - and thankfully pay him for any service he may render you. I have written Mr. Sutherland to supply him on my account anything you may think him deserving of till I see him.

Most sincerely wishing you health and happiness and hoping soon to see you I remain very affectionately yours

Alex Kennedy

P.S. I am happy to inform you that John, Betty, and George are well - It is probable that John will come out next season to Red River. God bless you till I see you. A.K.

b) From Alexander Kennedy, St. Margaret's Hope, Orkney
(43) Islands, Scotland, to his two sons Alexander and Phillip, in the Red River Settlement, Rupertsland, dated Feb. 1, 1832.

St. Margaret's Hope 1st Feb. 1832

Dear Alexander and Phillip -

As the time is now drawing near that the dispatches will be leaving England for North America I sit down with pleasure to avail myself of the opportunity to write you and am happy in being able to communicate that I am well and all your friends here. I had a very pleasant passage from York Factory, arrived in England about the 1st of November, passed a month in London - from there to Edinburgh when I passed another month waiting for a signal (?) to convey me hither.

I left Edinburgh about the 7th of January and arrived here the following day when I met all the boys jumping with joy to see me. Billy and George are getting very stout and are anxious to get away from school - they want to get out to Hudson's Bay in the Company's service but there is little encouragement for young men as clerks in the Indian Country. Billy has got his name enrolled in the list at the Hudson's Bay House as a candidate for a vacancy but his or none seem to be wanted the ensuing year. I am inclined to send them both to Red River when they might do something in the mercantile way. George in particular wishes very much to try his fortune in that way, he has a turn for it, is very steady and if there was any inducement for him to try I have no doubt that he would do very well. Billy is a wild turning fellow, can go through thick and thin, right or left and if he gets up into the

plains of Red River there will be no fear of him fighting his way through it. He understands French writes well and there is not a pigeon or plover that comes near him when he has a gun in his hand that can escape with life. George is learning Latin and when he lays down his book can make a good shot too though he does not practice it much. Roderick and Alex Isbister are also doing very well though they do not practise the gun they can read and write and the latter is a good arithmetician. They have not grown much these two years past. With regard to myself I have not seen or have not determined what I shall do yet. I have only been here a short time and have not had time to look around me. If I do not come out by the ship I shall write you by her and let you know my determination. I should like to pass one summer in this country in order to settle my affairs here, when it is probable I will come out again and join you in the Red River. In the meantime I hope you will both be active about the farm and attentive to your mother and sisters and all your friends about the Swiss Cottage. I hope Thomas Isbister will soon be able to join you where he may be happier and better off, then he can be in the service and it will be a great source of satisfaction to you all to be together. I wish that Thomas Isbister would secure the next lot of ground below that we have taken possession of. It would be very convenient all to be together. I wrote to the Governor to keep it in reserve in case it was not disposed of before he got my letter. I shall write to the Governor to supply you with the means of purchasing your wants till I have the pleasure of joining you all again. In the meantime you should not ask for anything but what is absolutely required. You will get a supply of some things out by the ship so that you will not want much.

....the cholera....has carried off a number of individuals. It is heard it is still extending itself over the country and has lately shown itself at Haddington and Musselburgh.

I have little room to say anything more - Billy and George will write at least a letter between them. I think it is probable that Betty will be out with the ship. Remember me kindly to your mother, Bella and all our friends about you. If I live it will not be long till I see them all again, and if I die you will see me sitting with a white sheet about me every moonlight night on the north side of the crick above the Swiss Cottage - I am very affectionately yours.

Alex Kennedy

c) From Roderick Kennedy, Edinburgh, Scotland, Nov. 24,
(44) 1842, to Sir George Simpson Governor of Hudsons' Bay
Company.

Edinburgh 24th Nov. 1842
Mrs. Birrils 26 Rankeilor St.

Sir George Simpson -

Sir,

I hasten to answer with extreme pleasure your most kind letter of the 19th Inst. I was anxious to have written you previous to this to acquaint you with my removal from Mr. Veitch's but I was deterred from doing so by the daily expectation of hearing from you. I have taken lodgings at Mr. Veitch's desire on account of the delicate state of health which Mrs. Veitch has been in for some time. During the last few weeks I remained with Mrs. Veitch I was frequently troublesome to her by unavoidably causing disturbance when called out at night. Both Mr. and Mrs. Veitch were exceedingly kind to me during my stay with them. My lodgings combine cheapness and comfort as much as my circumstances will allow. My parlour and bedcloset I have engaged at 6/6 per week and my entire weekly bill amounts to 14/ or about 36 pounds per annum and within this sum I think I shall be able to confine myself. I remained with Mr. Veitch exactly six months for which I paid him 20 pounds. 10 pounds in advance and the remaining 10 pounds out of my winter draft, and thus my present supply of means, after paying for some clothes and books I had during the summer, and getting my tickets and a necessary supply of clothes etc. for the winter has nearly run short already. As I did not calculate upon my change I took no precaution for providing against any exigency that

might attend it, and I am therefore obliged to ask permission to make a draft again sooner than I otherwise would have done. I shall therefore with your permission write to Mr. Smith to request an order for the interest of my small funds if that be payable by the 1st of December, and in the event of its not being so I will request leave to make a draft of 10 pounds of the sum still remaining in the hands of Sir. H. Pelly at the same date. In regard to the estimate of my probable expenditure for the ensuing year from this date till December 1843 60 pounds or at most 65 pounds will I think cover all expenses necessary including my diploma, and the draft which I have above requested permission to make. I have taken out all the requisite tickets to enable me to pass, with the exception of one of three months which I intend to take out in February. I will be 21 years of age in July next, and I shall present myself for examination as soon as possible thereafter, probably towards the end of the month or the beginning of August.

I enclose the order which I received from my brother William, and I may state that it was my suggestion which was the cause of his having made this offer to aid me, and if any premature hastiness is to be attached to my Brother's conduct it is to be laid to my charge and not his, as I am assured that he has been more ready to do what was in his power towards aiding me because he has not been able to afford assistance in supporting me to the extent which he had in view.

I need not attempt making you any offer of thanks for your acts of kindness towards me, because I feel that anything that I could say would be unworthy of the great favours I have received from you. But I may say that it would be my greatest

happiness were I in after life found qualified to
render you any service and in the meantime it will
be my aim to shape my conduct so as to secure as
much as possible your approbation in all aspects.
I am

My dear Sir George Simpson
Your ever grateful and obedient
Roderick Kennedy

Sir George Simpson

d) From Dr. Roderick Kennedy, Aberdeen, Scotland, to Sir
(45) George Simpson, dated October 26, 1844.

123 George St. Aberdeen
Oct. 26th 1844.

Sir George Simpson -

Sir

I received your very kind letter conveying an
offer of making an application to the Directory of
the Honourable H.B. Co'y on my behalf, for an appoint-
ment to a Surgency in the Service, on Monday last, and
I beg to return you my humble and earnest thanks for
this renewed expression of your interest in my
welfare. I should have answered your letter before
now but that I was desirous of consulting Mr.
Finlayson and other friends in town before returning
an answer. It is by their uninvited advice that I
have determined on proceeding to London immediately to
wait upon you personally, and remain in Town until
the issue respecting the appointment shall have been
decided and accordingly I hope to have the pleasure
of calling upon you at the Hudson's Bay House probably
on Tuesday or Wednesday, or if I should not be able to
sail by to-days steamer, on Friday or Saturday next,
and I shall then have an opportunity of expressing
my grateful acknowledgement for your past as well as
for the present instance of your kindness to our
family and to myself in particular.

I took my degree and diploma about this time
last year and I have since been unoccupied in a
medical way, except in visiting the Hospital and
studying at home; and I am happy at the anticipation
of more active service. In consequence of graduating
as well as taking my diploma I was put to more expense

than I should otherwise have been; but in taking this step I follow the advice of my best friends in Edinburgh. I have unavoidably been at considerable expense also otherwise since this time last year, so that my exchequer now is reduced to a low condition.

Mr. Finlayson and Mr. MacKenzie desire their respects to you. With my best thanks for your kindness past and present, believe me Sir

Ever gratefully and obediently
yours

Rod K. Kennedy

Sir George Simpson

e) From Dr. Roderick Kennedy, Moose Factory, Rupert's Land,
(46) to Sir George Simpson, dated July 8, 1948.

Moose Factory 8 July 1848

Sir George Simpson -

My dear Sir,

I have lately addressed a letter to Mr. W.G. Smith of the Hudson's Bay House with a request that he would have the goodness to send out the papers necessary to be executed in order to my wife's administering the estate of her late husband. These papers have been sent, but it appears that it is by your having kindly anticipated my wishes that I am indebted for the punctuality with which my request has been attended to. The papers have been executed and are returned to your address at Lachine as you desire, and I doubt not that the same inducements which prompted you to take an interest in the matter in the first instance, will also incline you to advise and assist us in what further steps are necessary to be taken.

In reference to the property of the late Mr. Ross I am not aware that he died possessed of any besides what is in the Company's hands, and the shares in the Puget Sound Co., the effects left in the hands of his widow having been disposed of here by auction two years ago. There is, indeed, a sum of 100 pounds which was left him by a relative in Scotland, that his family ought properly to receive the benefit of; but this money (now in the hands of Mr. Hugh Ross of Bradford, Isle of Skye, Brother of the deceased) were it recoverable would have no relation to such property I imagine as the papers that have been executed have reference to. My wife

has written to Mr. Hugh Ross with the view of releasing him to make over the money to his sister Mrs. McPheo with whom J.G. Ross, my wife's eldest boy resides, but her letter remains unanswered; and as we have no acknowledgement of Mr. H. Ross accepting the money, nor any knowledge of the executors of the individual leaving the bequests, we conclude that this money is inaccessible.

This being the last year of my engagement in the Service I have given Wm. Miles intimation of my intention of retiring next year. I beg to request that leave may be granted me for this purpose, and I would feel obliged to be informed of the earliest date at which I may be at liberty to carry my intention into effect, as I have fully decided in leaving Moose as soon as I shall have an opportunity of doing so. I would beg to state in reference to the step I have taken, that it has not been done through mere caprice nor without the best consideration I have been able to bestow on the subject and I should be sorry if an inferred respect appreciation on my part of your past kindness should be drawn from the decision I have come to. My services here, at the best cannot be of that value to the Company, that the want of them may not be more adequately supplied by another. With my best thanks for your past kindness I am

Your very respectfully

Rod. K. Kennedy

Sir George Simpson

f) From Dr. Roderick Kennedy, Kingston, Canada, to Sir
(47) George Simpson, dated March 12, 1850.

Princess Street
Kingston 12 March 1850.

My Dear Sir,

We arrived in Kingston about a fortnight ago. Before leaving Vaudreuil I made a second visit to Beauharnois and delivered the note with which you were kind enough to furnish me to Mr. Brown. Mr. Brown received me very kindly, and said he would be most happy to do anything in his power for anyone recommended by you. He did not, however, seem to think that the place held out any very encouraging prospects and I therefore determined to try Upper Canada. I have endeavoured to obtain every possible information respecting Kingston and the surrounding district. Kingston, itself, offers a fair field, there being only eight medical men in town, one of whom (a staff surgeon) expects removal in a short time. I have also heard of one or two places in the country where a medical man is required, but as yet I have not made up my mind as to where we will settle. Wellington, which I have visited, is a rising village in the centre of a well settled and good farming district, and should Dr. Cory decide on leaving and accede to my terms it is likely I will go there. If this should not turn out to our wishes I will probably try some similar place in the first instance. In either case I will require what remaining funds we have in your hands and I will feel obliged by your remitting it at your earliest convenience, with the exception of 5 pounds which I beg may be paid to Mr. Neil McIntosh, given in Montreal where he may apply for it.

With our kind regards, I remain

My Dear Sir

Yours very faithfully

Rod Kennedy

Sir George Simpson
Lachine.

- g) From Dr. Roderick Kennedy, Bath, Midland District, to
(48) Sir George Simpson, at Lachine, dated October 31, 1851.

Bath, Midland District
31 October 1851

My Dear Sir,

On her return from below Mrs. Kennedy informed me that you expected a reply from me to your note of the 9th inst. I regret that I did not write by her and this omission arose from my belief that in the circumstances the act would be superfluous, Mrs. Kennedy having previously decided on going down and thus would have an opportunity of making this necessary acknowledgement in person.

We have lately heard from our friend in the north. In a letter we received from John he speaks highly of Vancouver Island, as a place of settlement and he advises me in the event of being able to do little in Canada to go over. I have every reason to be satisfied with the beginning I have made here, but if I had a reasonable prospect of being able to better our circumstances materially by going over I should not hesitate to do so. But I should scarcely think the settlement on the Island can yet have made such progress as to justify any great expectations on the part of inducing settlers. I should be glad if you shall be so disposed if you be good enough to favor me with your opinion on the subject.

I was sorry to hear from Mrs. Kennedy of the serious illness of Lady Simpson. With our best respects, I am

My dear Sir,
Very faithfully yours
R. Kennedy

Sir George Simpson
Lachine.

- h) From Dr. Roderick Kennedy, Bath, Canada West, to Sir
(49) George Simpson at Lachine, dated April 7, 1856.

Bath, C.W. April 7th 1856

My Dear Sir,

There is I am informed a trifling balance in my wife's favor still in the Company's hands. Would you have the kindness to inquire, and if there be anything to remit, we shall be glad to receive it.

I am happy to say we are all well and that I am doing very well in practice here. J.G. Ross is in London C.W. in a situation that he likes and where as he writes he is as happy as a Lord. Thomas is still with us and gets on very well with his studies and as to little Sandy he grows finely and is in excellent health.

With our best respects, believe me

My dear Sir

Yours truly

R. Kennedy

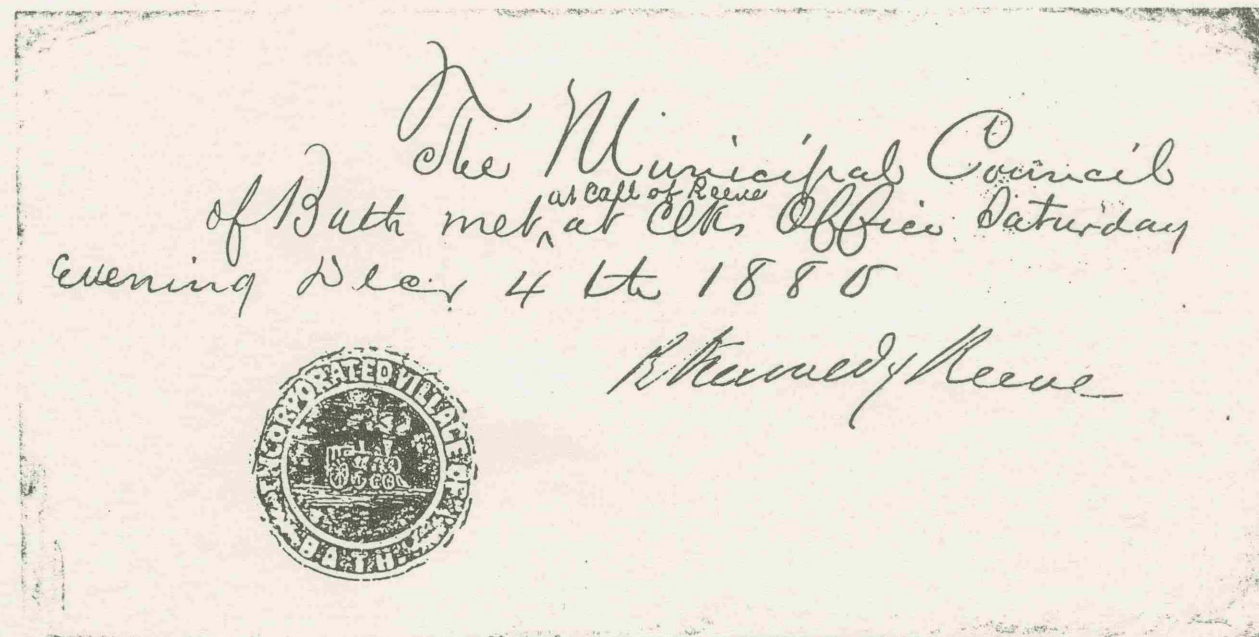
Sir George Simpson
Lachine.

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33. From Dr. H.C. Burleigh papers, Archives of Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. Box 19 "Kennedy Papers."

34. Ibid.
35. "History and Architecture Village of Bath, Ontario" by School of Urban and Regional Planning, Queen's University, Kingston 1978.
36. Courtesy Mr. Bruce Caughey, Stella Amherst Island.
37. From Dr. H.C. Burleigh papers, Archives of Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario.
38. The transaction for the funeral arrangements was recorded in a ledger of W.H. Hall, undertaker at Bath in the early 1900's, who was my uncle.
39. Courtesy Mrs. T.G. Kirby, Kingston, and Mrs. George Campbell, Woodville.
40. From Dr. H.C. Burleigh papers, Archives of Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario.
41. Ibid.
42. P.A.M., MG1D1 - 14,15.
43. P.A.M., MG1D1 - 18,19,20,21.
44. P.A.M., H.B.C.A., D5/7 fo.340.
45. P.A.M., H.B.C.A., D/12 fo.413d.
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Excerpt from the minutes of a meeting of Bath Municipal Council signed by Dr. Kennedy as Reeve. The steam engine on the village seal reflects the local interest in railway activity at that date.