

~~MARK~~ MILNE

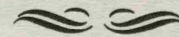
READING ROOM

MARKHAM

1793-1900

Researched and written
by the Committee for
the History of Markham Township

Edited by Isabel Champion



MARKHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Samuel Lehman, a proprietor of Almira Woollen Mills, with his wife, Fanny Hoover.

The large, three-storey brick structure was divided in half from top to bottom by a heavy fire wall of brick, the west half being the feed and flour section and the east half the woollen mill. In the flour mill, there was a large French burr-stone flour grinding complex, as well as two grain grinding machines and an oat roller. The basement of the woollen mill held the large flume, three water turbines, and a scouring machine for washing blankets and fulling special heavy all-wool cloth such as horse blankets. On the first floor were a heavy power picker for shredding the fleece, a complete set of carding machines, and an auxiliary gasoline engine which was used when water levels were below normal.

The second floor held a large spinning machine, a yarn twister and reel, and a large broad loom using #10 cotton warp, 1200 ends and usually 1000 yards long on a huge spool. The filling or weft was, of course, the yarn manufactured on the premises, and dyed there. Also on the second floor were two Creelman power knitters and a narrow-width loom used to weave special cloth and horse blankets; in 1912, this was disposed of to make way for other equipment.

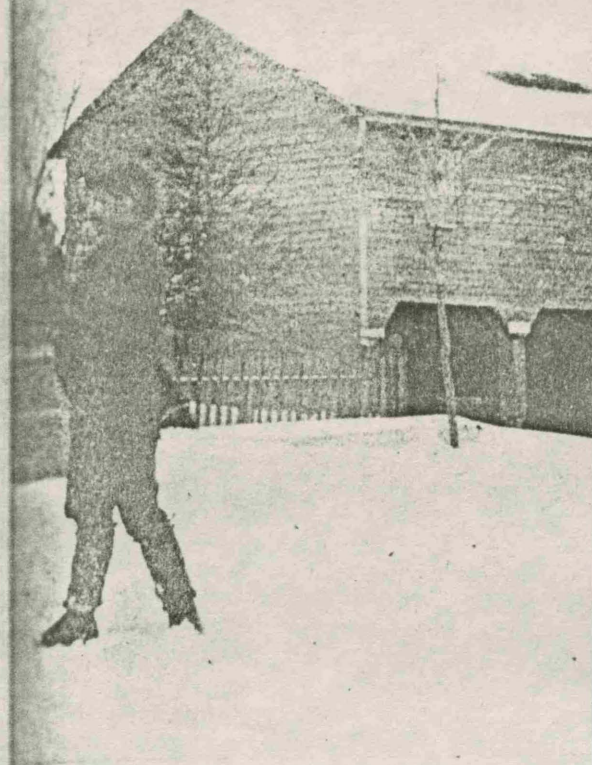
This woollen mill was the only one of its kind in the province. In the neighbourhood of five thousand pounds of wool were manufactured there each year,

all of it, except the black wool from Western Ontario, purchased from local farmers. The woollen yarn was made up into an average of 200 pairs of socks and 2000 lbs. of bulk yarn each season. One of the machines lost in the fire was capable of turning out one complete blanket in an hour; and the two power knitters could turn out five dozen pairs of socks a day.

Milne Mills — The Milne Mills, also known as Markham Mills, were located on lot 9, conc. 7, originally (1806) a Crown grant to Daniel Cozens. Soon, in 1809, Nicholas Miller had constructed a saw- and grist mill, which passed into several hands before being sold in 1824 to Peter Milne a man with no milling experience. He turned over the operation to his brother, Alexander, who had some experience. When Alexander married, he set up his own mills at the corner of what is now Lawrence Avenue and Leslie Street (Edwards Gardens), and Peter hired millers for his site, one being (1834-38) Frederick Green, who then moved to Pickering and gave his name to Greenwood.

The Milne establishment was expanded to include a fulling mill and woollen mill, and an ashery, as well as the general store Peter had built in the 1820s. When Peter died in 1845, his wife, Elizabeth, managed the mill complex until by 1850, their son Thomas was old enough to take over. In 1866, the mills were swept by fire with a loss of \$14,000, little of it covered by insurance. At the time, the woollen mill was leased to a Mr. Miller and the flour mill to George Peebles.

Only the grist mill was rebuilt, later to be operated by Thomas' sons, Grant and Archie, under the name Milne Brothers. At the turn of the century they manufactured a breakfast cereal called "Wheateen" which



Almira Flour and Woollen Mill, lot 31, conc.

was shipped by the carload from the Mill.

Believing that a new dam could be used to generate power for the village, Archie, in 1911, built a concrete arc dam, the first of its kind in the province. This dam had its embankments washed away and later by Hurricane Hazel in 1954. It continued to grind feed grain until 1933, when it was burned out.

Headford Mills — The mill and dam on lot 3, were built in 1832 by John Burr who owned the west 100 acres. Working on a small scale, in 1838, he sold to Rowland Burr, who then enlarged the size of the dam and enlarged the mill. In 1848, Burr sold to Thomas Johns for £800. In 1861, John Eyer bought the grist mill.

*St. Patrick's Church,
Rouge St., Markham Village,
dedicated Sept. 23, 1855.*

wood being the oldest, organized in
der Jesse Church, followed by Elder
Members of this first congregation

nes Degeer, Charles Gray, Phillip Gower,
Dan Emery, Jacob Winterstein, David Pat-
cook (Koch?), William Patterson, Moses
w Patterson, Whitefield Patterson, Eliza-
ary Elizabeth Cook, Aseneth Winterstein,
n, Sarah Gower, Elizabeth Kinnard, Caty
ealthy Castle, Parthena Castle, Bridget Pat-
unders, Mary Patterson, Eunice Wismer.

ngregation in Markham Village, one at
in Whitchurch, one at Quantztown,
Stouffville — the Memorial Christian
now worshipping in the former Con-
urch built in 1876, and bought by Jacob
be presented to the Christian Church.
ood congregation built their present
rch in 1868, under the supervision of
Mr. Tatton. They celebrated its opening
on Dec. 24 and a turkey dinner on Dec.
approximately 800 persons sat down in
he rear of the church, which were en-
e occasion. The Stouffville choir enter-
500 was realized for the building fund.
regation at Markham Village bought the
regational church on the north side of
t for \$500 in April, 1882, and later sold it
small factory. Members of the Lehman,

Nighswander, Barkey, Stouffer, Heisey, Reesor,
Ramer, Grove and Reaman families formed this con-
gregation in the 1890s; Mr. Arthur Reeve was the
Sunday-school Superintendent. The building later
housed the Loyal Orange Lodge.

The Christian Church at Quantztown was on
Henry Wismer's land, lot 15, conc. 6. David Wismer,
1807-90, was a deacon of this church, and many
Wismers lie buried in this quiet spot. John Jacob
Lunau and his first wife and daughter are also in-
terred there.

A noted Christian leader and minister was
"Father" Thomas Henry, born in 1798 in Co. Cavan,
Ireland, who came to York by way of the U.S., served
as attendant to York officials, did military duty in
1814, and settled north of Oshawa. He married in
1817, and by 1825, became a follower of the Christian
teaching; in 1829, he became a speaker for the Christ-
ian Fellowship, and in 1832, he was ordained. Be-
cause of their liberal views, the Henrys were suspect
in the troubles of 1837. In spite of pressure, they
sheltered rebels on their way to the States; their son
John, then 17, took an active part in this work. In
1871, Thomas was still active, journeying in Michi-
gan and in Ontario, where he visited some of the
Markham congregations. His descendants still live in
Markham.

DISCIPLES

John Yake gave land in 1852 for the erection of a
church for the Disciples of Christ who were similar to
the Bible Christians in their beliefs. The church stood
on conc. 10, just north of the Town Line. John Yake
sometimes preached here and his son-in-law, Sam
Keffer, became a regular minister. In 1904, the
church was moved to a new location in the west end

of Stouffville, where it was used for services until
1934, when the building was sold; it is now the home
of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Stouffer.

MILLERITES

Millerites were a sect of Millenialists, followers of
William Miller, an American evangelist who
prophesied that the world would end in 1843.
Americans brought the idea into Markham, and
many were caught up in the belief, but 1843 passed
into history, and so did the Millerites.

EVANGELICALS

The Evangelicals had at least two churches in Mark-
ham: one at the corner of the 3rd Line and Victoria
Square sideroad, and the other on lot 7, conc. 6. The
Abraham and George Eckardt families were suppor-
ters of this church; the graveyard that remains is
called the Eckardt Cemetery. The building at Victoria
Square became an implement shed on the Gee farm,
but the Eckardt church was torn down.

UNIVERSALIST

The Universalist Church was founded by George de
Benneville, a Huguenot, who after arriving in the
Oley valley near Reading, Pennsylvania, met Dun-
kard Christopher Sauer, who in 1743 had published
the first German Bible in America. De Benneville was
influenced by his own Huguenot principles as well as
Sauer's Dunkard beliefs to preach the doctrine of
Universal Redemption. The Universalist teachings
came into Markham where a number of families in-
cluding those of Peter Milne (Alexander's son) and
Justin Badgerow were believers.



Dickson Hill Public School, S.S. #17, built in 1861. Photo circa 1894.

elected William Button, William Reesor and John Pike trustees to buy land for the new school, a half-acre from John Pike on lot 13, conc. 10. In 1865, the trustees sold the old frame building for the goodly sum of \$9; in 1874, they bought a school library of 62 volumes. In 1875, the non-resident pupils were almost "evicted", but the teacher, F. K. Reesor, was asked to seek legal advice and the motion was rescinded. Isaac Pike taught in S.S.#21 for a year before moving to Bethesda school for 45 years. Other early teachers included Miss Annie Button, A. Stevenson, Joe Slater, Neil McKinnon and W. H. Crosby. Some early trustees were William Jardine, David Tran, A. B. Reesor, A. Forster, William Armstrong, J. Lawrie, William Coakwell, D. B. Nighswander and F. Pike.

S.S.#17, Dickson Hill — There was a school as early as 1826 under Gottlieb Saur, who was also a *fraktur* designer of some note. A map of 1855 shows a school on the west side of the road on lot 30, conc. 7 (Robert Armstrong farm). In March, 1860, "the freeholders and householders" of school section #17 "met to decide on building a new school. Francis Pike moved and S. Grove seconded that the Clergy Reserve money be left entire and the section be taxed in full for the new school." The trustees at the time were John Byer, Peter Milne and Francis Pike, with George Bruce as secretary. From the accounts it would appear the school, built of hand-made red brick, cost \$1070.84. George Bruce was teacher in 1860 at a salary of \$340. In the 1860s, Abraham B. Grove became a trustee, a position he filled for many years. A. B.



Locust Hill Public School, S.S. #21, built 1861. William H. Crosby, teacher. Photo circa 1894.

Ramer was another who served the school, while Adam Scott was another early teacher. In the winter, a fair proportion of the pupils were absent, in the 16 to 21 years range.

In 1959, the school was sold for \$4,000 to the State and Region Conservation Authority for use as a village at Black Creek. It was a better

out of 96 for the Riding.

am out of a total of 23 for the Riding.

ACKENZIE:

- Frederick Hilts
- James Hopkins
- Daniel Horner
- Henry Hunsicker
- Cornelius Johnson
- William Johnson
- John F. Kendrick
- Jacob Lamoreaux
- John Large
- Abraham Lehman
- David Lick
- Alexander Logan
- Joseph Lundy
- John Luno
- Alum Marr
- David March
- Moses Martin
- Joseph Milburne
- Henry Miller
- Isaac Miller
- Michael Miller
- Nathan Miller
- Thomas Morden
- Allan McKinnon
- William Nicholls
- Ambrose Noble
- Jacob H. Peterson
- William Pipher
- Henry Reamer
- Asa Reed
- Christian Reesor
- Peter Ritter
- Andrew Sanders
- James Shaw
- Henry Shaw
- John F. Shell
- Joseph Shell
- Isaac Shell

- Mark Shell
- Paul Shell
- Francis Smith
- Peleg Steffens
- Henry Stiver
- William Stockdale
- George Summerfelt
- Daniel Tipp
- Alexander Thomson
- Joseph Tomlinson
- Henry Trudgeon
- John Vanderman
- Frederick Vanhorn
- Peter Wilmot
- Peter Wise
- Henry Wismer
- William Wither
- John Wunch
- Frederick Wurtz
- John Wurtz

Markham total of 96 out of 628 for the Riding.

Mackenzie stood in York Riding in 1828 as champion of the oppressed as opposed to the official candidates, and was elected five times, to be expelled repeatedly from the Legislative Assembly; in 1836, he was defeated through the machinations of Lt.-Gov. Francis Bond Head. He then turned to a more direct means of protest. He attempted to stage a rebellion to install republican democracy in Canada.

The Mackenzie rebellion failed because the majority of the people in the province, whatever disaffection they may have felt for the small, interrelated group known as the Family Compact that monopolized power and advancement, did not support it. Becoming a full-blooded republican, ranting against the institutions of Upper Canada as well as the people who ran them, Mackenzie lost much of his power over the common people.

Our history books usually record the death by execution April 12, 1838 of Peter Matthews, from Pickering, and Samuel Lount, former M.L.A. from Holland Landing, but there were hundreds of humble men whose names never reached the pages of history but who nonetheless played their part in bringing injustice to the attention of the British authorities, and thus hastened the arrival in a few years of Responsible Government. What part did some of the early inhabitants of Markham Township play in

the drama of the December uprising in 1837, and what was their fate?

The *Colonial Advocate* of February 6, 1834, reported a public meeting of the Township of Markham at Mr. Hunter's tavern on the 6th Line, Unionville. Several resolutions were made condemning the repeated expulsions of the representative of the County (Mackenzie) and approving his unwearied exertions as a public journalist and legislator. An address to Mackenzie was approved and signed by the following Reformers:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Justin Badgerow
(Chairman) | Arthur Alexander |
| John Playter, Jr.
(Secretary) | Hugh McCalip |
| Alex Logan | Wilson Dennis |
| David Munro | George Moore |
| Mathew Forster | Andrew Wideman |
| James McEllroy | Cornelius Johnson |
| Johnson P. Brown | James McCoy |
| William Read | Hugh Griffith |
| Robert Dickey | Jacob Stover |
| William Witley | Judson Harrington |
| Truman Pennock | James Boyd |
| Ellis Butler | C. Reesor |
| David Wismer | John Baker |
| Thomas Grundy | Henry Wideman |
| Samuel Wood | William Workman |
| John Unger | William Dafoe |
| Jacob Wismer | David McEllroy Sr. |
| John Wurtz | William Alexander |
| David Badgerow | E. C. Bens |
| John Ramer | Francis Stiver |
| Asabel Wismer | John Helmka |
| Peter Milne Jr. | David Wismer, Jr. |
| Martin Badgerow | David Muir |
| Francis Sheridan | Godly (Gottlieb) Eckardt |
| Duncan Weir | Joel Wurtz |
| Benjamin Fish | John Stamm |
| T. McKenna | Christopher Reesor |
| Francis McNanice | Joseph Tomlinson |
| | Samuel Hare |
| | Henry Clarry |

George Bishop
 Moses Cook
 John Alexander
 Ambrose Noble
 Daniel Ramer
 Peter Ramer
 Austin Noble
 Joseph Reesor
 John Reesor
 Abel Scully
 John Robinson
 William Morgan
 Henry Germain
 William E. Beebe
 Simon Press
 James Luther
 William Peters
 John McKennies

Henry Stiver
 John Robinson
 Adam Break
 David Byer
 David McIlroy, Jr.
 Robert Patterson
 Joseph Miton
 John McLean
 Joseph Mosses
 Jacob Dafoe
 Caleb Mallory
 Ransom Sawyer
 William A. McGee
 William Riddle
 Joseph Smith
 Sylvester Richmond
 Johannes Hare

Pikeheads made at Lount's forge near Holland Landing were distributed and hidden in various parts of the Township. As related in Lindsay's *Life and Times of Wm. Lyon Mackenzie*:

On the 2nd of December 1837 a Freemason who resided in Markham informed Captain Fitzgibbon that bags of pikeheads and handles had been collected in Markham and that he had observed all the signs of a rapidly ripening revolt.

The approach to Fitzgibbon suggests a veteran soldier and this points to Major Button, who would have wished to remain unknown as his son-in-law Timothy Munro was involved in the Reform party.

On Monday, Sept. 18, 1837, a Reform meeting was held in Stouffville with Ludovic Wideman in the chair. Two months later, Wideman was killed in the skirmishing at Montgomery's Tavern on Yonge Street. Mackenzie had spent the previous night with Mr. Doyle, the Stouffville postmaster, who later had his post office closed. Ludovic Wideman's son Philip

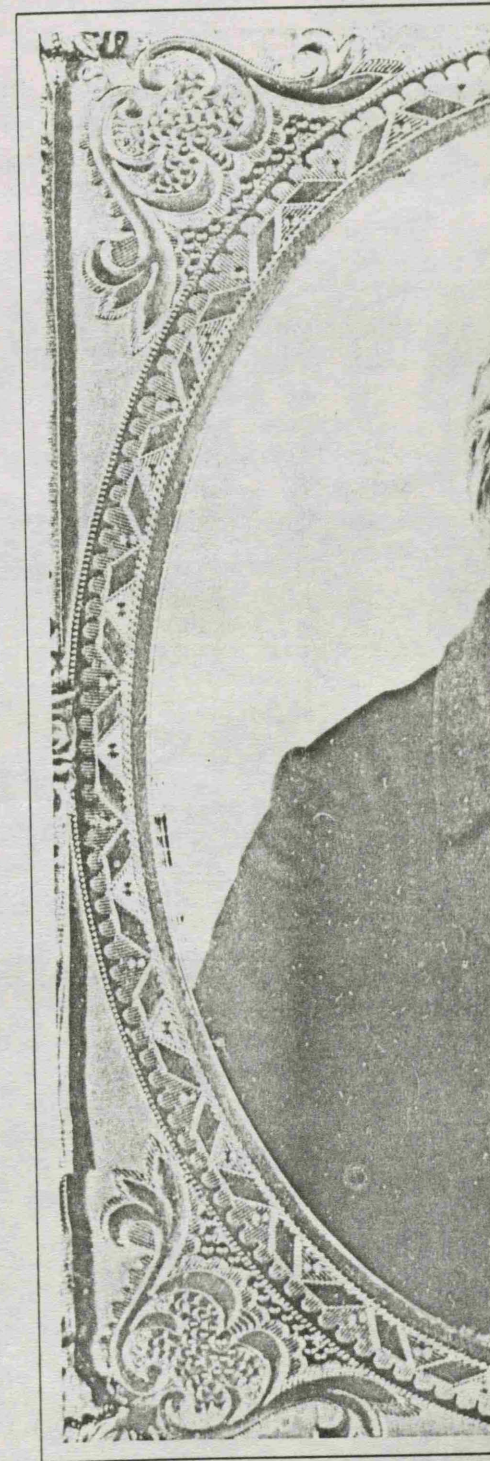
Peter Milne was incarcerated in 1838 for his participation in the 1837 Rebellion.

was arrested on Dec. 11, 1837, and released on May 10, 1838.

Joseph Milbourne, who ran a hotel on the east side of Yonge Street at Thornhill in the 1830s, was a Mackenzie supporter but also a Quaker, and therefore opposed to violence. In spite of his opposition to the armed uprising, he was arrested and, after languishing eight months in jail, sentenced along with 91 others to banishment in Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania). On the occasion of Queen Victoria's coronation in 1838 he was pardoned. When he arrived back in Canada, however, he had lost his hotel.

Peter Milne was a son of Alexander Milne, whose woollen mills were located on the Don River on the present site of Edwards Gardens. Peter's farm was on lot 26, conc. 7. He was arrested on March 21, 1838, taken to Fort Henry, and eventually pardoned. His wife, Hannah McKay, is said to have ridden on horseback to Kingston carrying a young child and a petition to officials there. Peter Milne wrote from Fort Henry to: "Mrs. Hannah Milne, Markham Post office, eight concession in the Home District" in a letter stamped "Toronto jy 27, 1838":

We are to be sent on or git to return home. I live in hope of seeing you and the children againe. We petition Lord Durham for our Liberty and we are to know by last of the week or middle of nex. If you are to come down you may come nex week. I think but I dont know what to say, you can have about one hour to see me at the fort you can come if you like. thay say if we are sent off all our things will be took away from us and the money if you come down you may git some soverns (coins) for me and take the paper currency as some dose not pass heare. I live in hope. I sent a letter to William and one to you last week and I will keep on every week to send one and you must do the same. Keep good sperrites and put your trust in the Lord that rule above. I under stand we are heare till the Queen's pleasure and I expect we will know soon what will be done by us. by all account we will git home soon if Lord Durham will be as



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f we are sent off all our things will be
nd the money if you come down you
ns (coins) for me and take the paper
e not pass heare. I live in hope. I sent
d one to you last week and I will keep
nd one and you must do the same.
nd put your trust in the Lord that rule
we are heare till the Queen's pleasure
now soon what will be done by us. by
home soon if Lord Durham will be as



good to us as he has binn to the Lower Canadians. Tell all my frends that I am in midling good health, good sperrites at present I remaine

Your affectionate Husband. I bid you farwell

Peter Milne

Peter again, from a letter written in Fort Henry on Aug. 15, 1838:

As I did not belong to anny company, nor go with anny, being on the road meet in with some people that was a going to Montgomery's Tavern but did not go along but went to my Father's to my work and was at my work all week from Tuesday as I am innocent of gitting up anny rebellion nor even thought of such a thing it come on me withouth thinking as I did. Nothing but told one or two that I heard they was agoing to take the city. I hope and trust in the Living Lord that lives above that he will deliver me out of this trouble and git me home to my wife and children.

There is no evidence that the active Reform family of the Eckardts were at Montgomery's, but when the rising failed they knew they were marked men in any case. They fled down the Rouge to Lake Ontario where they were taken prisoner while trying to get a boat to cross the lake. Fred Reid of Markham, a descendant of Frederick Eckardt, recalls his grandmother telling how the government forces searched, jabbing forks into the haymows where the men might be hidden. The Eckardts were taken on Dec. 11, 1837; in a few days, after questioning, the brothers George, Andrew, Frederick and brother-in-law David Cash were released. Another brother, Gottlieb, remained in jail all winter. He was tried for high treason and sentenced first to be executed, though the penalty was reduced to "transportation" to Van Diemen's Land. However, on May 12, 1838, Gottlieb was released through the offices of Peter Milne, Sr., magistrate in Markham Village.

When Gottlieb died in the 1850s, his coffin is said to have been buried deep beneath heavy, criss-crossed planks — such was the bitterness left from the Rebellion period — to prevent Tories from molesting his body. This bitterness is also mentioned in his reminiscences by Simon Miller, a grandson of Nicholas Miller of Yonge Street, and ten years old in 1837. One December morning, he recalled his father Henry and another remarked that "they have been going down the road [Yonge Street] all night," evidently with reference to Mackenzie's followers. At school the next day, they heard the booming of guns; the teacher, thinking war was on the doorstep, sent the children hurrying home. "For weeks afterwards," says Miller,

loads of prisoners passed our door on the way to Toronto gaol to stand trial for treason and where many spent the winter. The tearing of the prisoners from their families was not the only effect of the rebellion; the feuds it gave rise to, lasted for a generation, "You're a rebel" being the common taunt.

Robert Stiver, son of Henry Stiver and grandson of John Nicholas, was arrested on Dec. 11, 1837. Ira White, who later established the Union Mills on the Rouge at the 6th Line, was arrested but released on April 2, 1838. Emmanuel and Joseph Doner were arrested on Dec. 15, 1837 and questioned, but must have been released, as both married shortly thereafter. John Marr was arrested on Dec. 17, 1837, and sent to Fort Henry as a preliminary to exile, but escaped.

Joseph Clarkson, who was married to Susan Marr, escaped with her brother Alum Marr to the U.S., where they met with Joseph Edison (Thomas Edison's father) from Vienna in Elgin County. Edison, fearing arrest if he returned, asked them to go to

Vienna and ask his wife and family to States to live. Marr and Clarkson lived and settled near Vienna, but Clarkson Markham on lot 18, conc. 3 by 1851.

Emmanuel Tomlinson of conc. 4, there is no record of the treatment he we do know that he returned to his mi in Markham. John Robinson was arrested 1838; he was to be confined three years and then banished. Peter Dequire (Degr on Dec. 7, 1838, was discharged after Timothy Munro, married to Butto Elizabeth, was arrested on March 15, 18 on finding security to keep the peace, to his family on lot 16, conc. 2. He was trate in Reach Township and died in 1892. The constable who arrested him pallbearer at his funeral.

To while away the tedious, lonely hours oners carved trinkets, mostly little love ones. Such a box is a treasure Russell family in Unionville. The top

*To Mr. William Russell Jr. from
James Cane in prison
Toronto, June 16, 1838.*

On one side we read:

*In memory of Samuel Lount
Peter Matthews, executed
April 12, 1838*

and on the other:

*Tyrants their fetters forge in vain
To crush thy spirit, Liberty
Like brittle glass shall burst the chains
From hands now striving to be free*

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Vienna and ask his wife and family to come to the States to live. Marr and Clarkson liked the area and settled near Vienna, but Clarkson was back in Markham on lot 18, conc. 3 by 1851.

Emmanuel Tomlinson of conc. 4, was arrested: there is no record of the treatment he received, but we do know that he returned to his milling business in Markham. John Robinson was arrested on Feb. 21, 1838; he was to be confined three years in Kingston and then banished. Peter Dequire (Degeer), arrested on Dec. 7, 1838, was discharged after questioning. Timothy Munro, married to Button’s daughter Elizabeth, was arrested on March 15, 1838, pardoned on finding security to keep the peace, and returned to his family on lot 16, conc. 2. He was later a magistrate in Reach Township and died in Uxbridge in 1892. The constable who arrested him in 1837 was a pallbearer at his funeral.

To while away the tedious, lonely hours the prisoners carved trinkets, mostly little boxes, for their love ones. Such a box is a treasure in the James Russell family in Unionville. The top is inscribed:

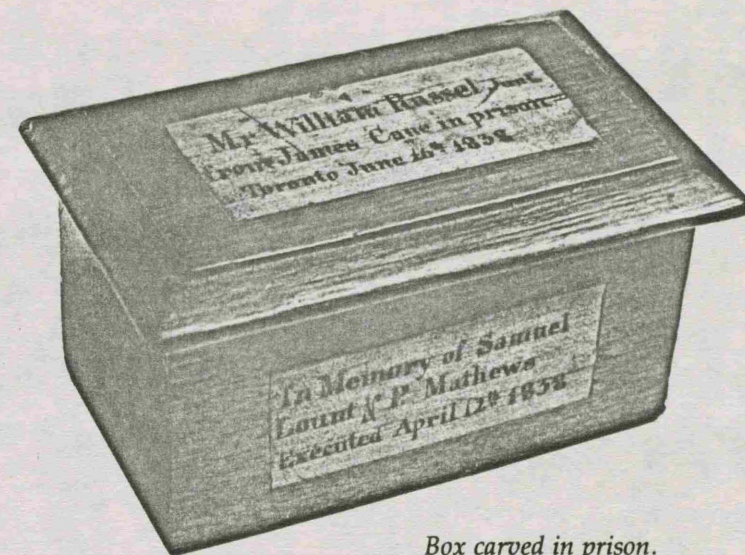
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To crush thy spirit, Liberty
Like brittle glass shall burst the chain
From hands now striving to be free.*



Box carved in prison.

The box Peter Milne carved is in the possession of the family of a descendant, Dr. Delahaye of Kingston. The family of Walter Gould also have two such boxes in their possession.

Alexander (“Sandy”) Bruce’s great-grandfather Robert McNair, near Elgin Mills in Vaughan, was sympathetic to the Reform cause. Two nights after the skirmish at Montgomery’s Tavern, there came a terrible night of wind, rain and sleet, in the midst of which a knock came at the McNair door. Two fugitives from the fighting stood there, hungry, wet and cold. They were brought in and Mr. McNair spent the night figuring out how to get them safely away. He had been supplying his son-in-law John Dickson at the Mill (later Bruce’s Mill) with hay for his two cows and a team of horses; in the morning they built a load of hay around the men, and to divert suspicion, William McNair, a lad of 12 years, was put in charge and equipped with a letter hidden in his stocking. He was stopped at the Elgin Mills crossing

town of York was included; afterwards, it was listed as a separate unit.

The May 9, 1833, issue of the *Colonial Advocate* listed the magistrates for the Home District as follows:

Peter Milne, Markham
James Miles, Richmond Hill
Francis Heweow (?), Holland Landing
Archibald Barker, Markham
John Button, Markham
Peter Reesor, Markham
Edward Phyll, Holland Landing

In 1836, Markham had the following as magistrates of the Home District:

William Parsons, lot 33, conc. 1
William Crookshanks, lot 29, conc. 1
Peter Milne, lot 9, conc. 7
Archibald Barker, lot 10, conc. 7
John Button, lot 14, conc. 4
Peter Reesor, lot 3, conc. 9
Richard C. Gapper, lot 41, conc. 1
William Tyler, lot 56, conc. 1

In time this system became unwieldy. In 1841, the District Councils Act set up a District Council elected by qualified voters, with the same powers as before. Agitation for a different arrangement bore fruit eventually with the Municipal Corporations Act of 1849, which set up a system of municipalities to replace the districts. The unit of organization now was the county, and the town meeting was replaced by the township and county councils. The Home District was succeeded by the counties of Peel, York and Ontario.

In February of 1850, By-law No. 1 was passed to appoint officers for the Township of Markham — clerk-treasurer, auditor, assessor, collector, pound keeper, fence viewer, road surveyor and overseer of

BY-LAW, 163.

Whereas, it has been found necessary to protect the roads and highways of this Township from being injured by allowing Swine to run at large, rooting and filling up ditches, and doing other damage, (therefore) be it enacted by the Corporation of the Township of Markham, through the Council thereof:

FIRST—“That from and after the first day of January, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight, it shall not be lawful for

S W I N E

Of any description, to run at large upon any of the roads or highways of this township, unless in the charge of some person or persons that may be driving them from one place to another.

SECOND—It shall be the duty of the overseers of the highways of this Township to impound all Swine that may be found running at large in contravention of this By-Law.

THIRD—That any person or persons allowing their Swine to run at large in contravention of this By-Law, shall be liable to a penalty of not less than fifty cents, nor more than five dollars, to be levied and collected from the goods and chattels of such person or persons so Offending, upon the Complaints of any Ratepayer of this Township, before one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of York.”

Passed 7th day of December, A.D. 1867.

GEO. EAKIN, <small>CLERK.</small>	WM. M. BUTTON, <small>DEPUTY REEVE.</small>
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Clerk's Office, Unionville, 12th May, '68. York Herald Print, Richmond Hill.

Markham By-law No. 163.

highways. Then followed 17 more by Markham was to be regulated, all of Amos Wright, Reeve, and H. P. Cro (Treasurer). David Reesor was app Reeve; James Bugg, Henry Miller Hunter became Councillors. They a election for the year 1851 of the Coun Reesor became Reeve, Henry Miller Reeve, and James Bugg Councillor.

Some of the highlights of the Ma business were:

- 1851 — By-law No. 22 to prevent the sp Thistles.
- 1859 — Councillors paid \$1.25 per meet
- 1860 — Mr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Bow David Reesor, Esq., Councillor, having as Markham *Economist* received from the 21st Day of February, 1860, the Sum of \$1 done for this Corporation in 1858 and 18 disqualified from holding his seat. Moti
- 1864 — A budget of \$2,500 was passed penses, and 75 cents a week granted to an under By-law No. 163, no swine were to r highways of the township.
- 1870 — Officers: M. M. Braithwaite & auditors, Wm. Wilmot, & David Craig, a Stiver, Samuel Brown, John Carter, I Henry B. Reesor, Licence Inspectors. A r James Bliss of Buttonville \$7 for making ging a grave for a pauper.
- 1873 — Messrs. Eakin, Lane and Marsh to arrange with the incorporated villages Richmond Hill with respect to assets ar distributed.
- 1876 — 5,600 feet of bridge plank was township at a cost of \$45.66.
- 1880 — The statement from Toronto ar way showed the railway's right of way t The cost of building station at Markham at Unionville \$1,450.
- 1884 — The first Board of Health was a

houses built on their property west of
rented for \$36 a year each.

days, the mail for Belford arrived in
stage from Toronto, and later by the
Nipissing Railway. Martin Hoover then
Green River by horse and gig. When
closed in 1889, Locust Hill post office,
ned, then took care of the mail for the

perous community in 1890 rebuilt their
church on the north side of the sideroad
2, conc. 10, on land given by Mrs. Christ-

M VILLAGE

niel Herrick, with a family of seven,
10, conc. 7, while Henry Lichte from
ia owned lot 11, conc. 8, which he had
n Mary McIntyre. Nicholas Miller (Mül-
brother, Michael, were in possession of
7, where they had erected a mill. In 1814,
sor, doubtless a relative of the Cedar
ors, b. 1776 in Dauphin Co., and wife,
e, b. 1786, a daughter of Henry Lichte,
sion of lot 11, conc. 8. Their log cabin
e east bank of the creek that crossed their
an Cattanach residence). Eventually, they
brick house farther east (Douglas Isaac

As Joseph's ancestors had spent some
annheim in the Rhineland, he called the
grew up around the crossroads "Mann-
it was usually called Reesorville. Joseph
d his father on this property. Across the
ne south there was another Reesor, Ab-
o in 1816, bought lot 8, conc. 8, from John
t 11, conc. 7 was a Crown Reserve and it

was not until 1836 that William Robson bought this
property from King's College for £250. Later he sold
off frontage in half-acre lots. This was the crossroads
that is now the intersection of Highways 7 and 48.

To the north, in 1806, William Robinson bought lot
14, conc. 8, and established his tannery on the front-
age of lot 13 (now the liquor store). In 1809-10, lot 14
was purchased by Abraham Ramer whose family, it is
thought, had known the Robinsons in Pennsylvania.
Robinson then bought lots 13 and 12 to the south,
and in 1832, lot 12, conc. 7, where he established his
second tannery. The Ramers later purchased lot 15,
conc. 8, as well as lot 14, conc. 7; the name Mount
Joy, from the Ramers' Pennsylvania home, came to
designate this area. In 1804-05, Peter Reesor bought
lot 13, conc. 7, for £330; the N¹/₂ of this property
remained in the Reesor family until sold by a great-
great-grandson, Max Reesor, in 1955, for \$90,000,
not including the two houses on the property.

In 1824, Peter and Alexander Milne bought lot 9,
conc. 7, on which Miller's sawmill and grist mill were
located. Alexander operated the mills and Peter
turned his attention to running a general store. Then
the brothers added a woollen mill to their complex, of
which the grist mill was still operating in the 1890s.
East of the Milnes, another grist mill was set up on
the Rouge by Archibald Barker; Pat Davison was also
connected with this mill. Later, John and Peter
Reesor, as well as Ben Hoover and a Strickler, ran
this mill, known as the Glen Rouge Mill. There was a
certain amount of friction between the Glen Rouge
Mill millers and the Milnes upstream, who would
shut off the water to suit themselves.

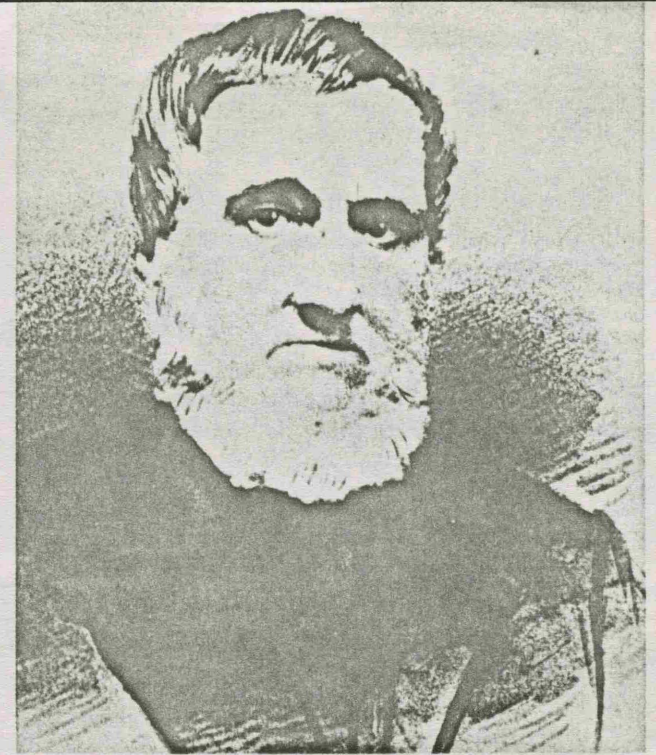
In the Mount Joy area, Jonas Ramer, b. 1827, son
of Peter Ramer, operated for a period of 62 years a
sawmill built in 1842 on the Springdale farm, lot 14,
conc. 7. In the later years, Mr. Ramer adopted steam

power, and his engineer was Freeman Ramer. In the
fall, during the '60s and '70s, Ramer operated a cider
mill. His brother Abraham B. Ramer, had a flair for
building; while still in his 'teens he built his father a
woodshed, from sawing the lumber to the finished
product. He had built Jonas' sawmill, in which he
kept a shop where he made furniture. Later, in 1850,
he built a cabinet-making shop at the north-west
corner of David and Main streets, where he pro-
duced furniture as well as coffins, delivered in a
wagon with his name on one side and "Mount Joy"
on the other. Henry Jackson, another cabinet maker,
may have worked for Abraham B. Ramer. Samuel
Ramer, a son of Jonas, b. 1862, supplied milk to many
homes in Markham from his farm west along the
sideroad (16th Avenue).

In May, 1968, an R.O.M. dig revealed the exist-
ence of an early pottery just south of the Museum on
the Williamson property; it was apparently operated
by Samuel Burns from 1871 to 1884, and even earlier
by William Eby, who worked here *circa* 1855. Interest-
ing finds include a pottery dog, and crockery with a
bright yellow glaze which probably originated with
the Philip Ensminger works, 1857-62. According to
the 1851 census, a foundry existed on lot 12, conc. 7,
operated by Isaac Mather, and employing James Os-
burn, John and Peter Malone and Hamish Charters
as moulders (later thought to be Peers foundry).

Archibald Barker, and later his son, James, ran
a general store on the west side of the 8th Line on lot
11 (two doors south of Shea's Real Estate). In
1871, James Barker advertised the following items of
dress goods: "cobourgs, merinoes, plaids, winceys,
shawls, clouds, skirts, hoops, fur and grebe sets; for
gentlemen: underwear, overcoats, paper collars,
woolen mufflers, felt boots, and rubbers, all good
and cheap." This store also contained the Markham

John Harrington,
storekeeper at Milnesville
in the 1830's.



Mrs. James Fenwick, Archibald Thom-
ter Ellen, deeded lot 29, conc. 5, to
moreaux for £75. The L'Amoreaux family
guenot origin. In 1838, it was sold to
nie for £175, and in 1867, deeded to
nnie, remaining in Rennie possession
0s. In 1883 and 1886, this farm, "Kelvin
as awarded the gold medal and
prize by the Provincial Government in a
covering 15 counties.

Mr. W. Marr was the proprietor of the
Hotel, and the L'Amoreaux family were
and wagon makers. Charles White
n, Allan, were noted blacksmiths who
in ploughs for the prizewinning
of the area.

and Sarah Prentice, from the Carrville
ver the Halfway House and turned it into
store and post office by 1900. Mr. Prentice
erprising person; when he wanted tele-
rice in the area, he went out and got the
; Henry Harding, Thomas Hood of Milli-
Kelly of Buttonville, Jonathan Slater,
unau of Buttonville, Robert Wilson at
bert Canning at Hagerman, and Thomas
a drover of Markham, were the original
s. The exchange was opened in the post
04 with Mrs. Prentice the first operator. In
telephone company combined Agincourt
en exchanges with Clark Prentice keeping
24" cabinet used for accounts and direc-

Chapman who was born at Thornhill in
led in 1831 at Milliken on lot 26, conc. 5,
ugh. In the 1830s he built a frame cottage of
board construction which was moved to the
District museum in the summer of 1978.

Milliken, in the 19th century, may have been only
a crossroads hamlet, but as the 20th draws to a close it
now sits on the border of Metro Toronto; in a May,
1977, *Markham Economist and Sun*, a picture shows a
50-ton diesel engine from Trafalgar Diversities of
Milliken to be used in emergency work on the
Toronto subway.

MILNESVILLE

In 1851, Peter Milne, son of Alex Milne, miller on the
Don, owned lot 25, conc. 7, on which William Blake
also had a blacksmith shop. John Williamson was on
lot 26, where John Harrington also kept a store. In
conc. 8, John Hoover was on lot 25, as well as Hugh
McPherson, a builder, and William Pearce, a
shoemaker. On lot 26, the Rev. Joseph Barkey and
Samuel Hare farmed. This property provided gravel
for road work and building in the time of Joe Barkey,
Tillman Reesor and Joseph Reesor (Lewis Reesor
farm).

By 1860, Peter Milne had acquired lot 26, conc. 7,
as well. On August 6, 1852 he opened a post office in
the store which he ran until 1862. He also owned the
mill on lot 26 at its west end, where embankments
and timbers were still visible in 1977. A son died in
his youth and was buried on a knoll near the creek;
his body was dug up by "body snatchers", medical
students seeking a corpse. This was very upsetting,
and for a time guards slept in the neighbouring
cemeteries, but nothing more of that nature hap-
pened.

On lot 24, conc. 8, Jacob Miller had his blacksmith
shop on Samuel Wideman's farm. This shop was
originally of fieldstone and, after Mr. Miller, a Mr.
Boadway, James Scott, Dave Scott, and in 1974,
Robert Kerr, carried on blacksmithing in the old

shop. In 1866, William Blake was another black-
smith. There were two weavers in the hamlet, John
Gregory and Adolphus Smart, and Thomas Pearce,
who ran the post office, also made boots and shoes
for the small neighbourhood.

The area of Milnesville seemed to attract light-
ning. Alex Douglas' barn, and on the same site,
Harold Boynton's barn, were burned. The Hoovers
lost two barns by fire 90 years apart. Across the road,
Bank's barn was struck and burned, and the Reesor
barn was struck but not burned.

MONGOLIA

Peter de Guerre, 1772-1827, a Huguenot, acquired
the Crown deed to lot 26, conc. 9 in 1801 and lot 25,
conc. 9 in 1803; these lands were in son James O.
Degeer's hands in 1860. Andrew Clubine from New
Jersey received the Crown deed for lot 26, conc. 10
and lot 25E¹/₂, conc. 10 on Sept. 26, 1805, all of which