

RUTLEDGE George

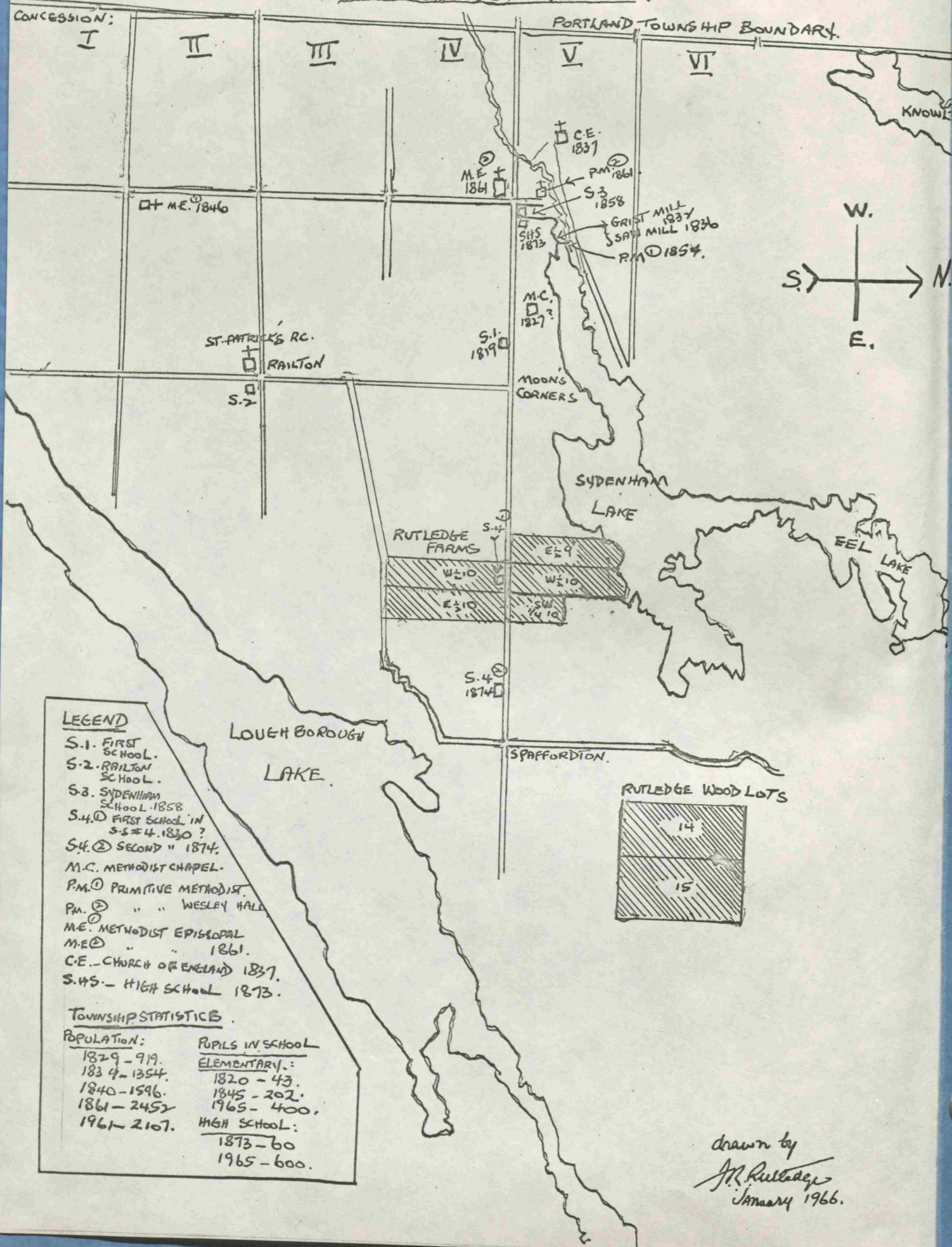
READING ROOM

GEORGE RUTLEDGE

1794 - 1873.

MAP SHOWING EARLY SETTLEMENT OF
LOUGHBOROUGH

WITH SCHOOL AND CHURCH LOCATIONS.



LEGEND

- S.1. FIRST SCHOOL.
- S.2. RAILTON SCHOOL.
- S.3. SYDENHAM SCHOOL 1858.
- S.4. (1) FIRST SCHOOL IN S.4 #4 1830?
- S.4. (2) SECOND " 1874.
- M.C. METHODIST CHAPEL.
- P.M. (1) PRIMITIVE METHODIST.
- P.M. (2) " " WESLEY HALL.
- M.E. METHODIST EPISCOPAL.
- M.E. (2) " " 1861.
- C.E. CHURCH OF ENGLAND 1837.
- S.45. HIGH SCHOOL 1873.

TOWNSHIP STATISTICS

POPULATION:	PUPILS IN SCHOOL
1829-919.	ELEMENTARY:
1834-1354.	1820-43.
1840-1596.	1845-202.
1861-2452.	1965-400.
1961-2107.	HIGH SCHOOL:
	1873-60
	1965-600.

drawn by
J.R. Rutledge
January 1966.

GEORGE RUTLEDGE

1794 - 1873

Being the Story of the Life and Times of
a Pioneer Schoolteacher in the Township
of Loughborough in the Year 1819.

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This Paper Presented to The Kingston
Historical Society- January 19, 1966, by

John R. Rutledge, B.A.,
Great Grandson of the
First Teacher in the
Township.

G E O R G E R U T L E D G E

1794 - 1873

First Schoolmaster of Lough-
borough Township - 1819.

Much has been written about the formative years of Upper Canada, about the land and immigration policies, about the rise of the Reform Movement, the Rebellion of 1837, the gradual development of responsible government which was a necessary achievement if ever the diverse elements in the society of that day were to be reconciled and the building of a nation begun.

A paper delivered ^{by} before The Kingston Historical Society in April, 1962, entitled 'Reflections upon Education in the Midland District, 1810-1816' cites the attitude towards education and in particular towards schoolteachers of that day. We need go no further to find the general disrepute into which the profession had fallen. In the face of the concern of the Administration with the defence of the country we can understand their lack of provision of funds for the training of a better type of teacher with the assurance of sufficient income to attract even better candidates for the future. Certainly the teaching profession then was not highly regarded.

Carlyle wrote "History is the essence of innumerable biographies". It may be helpful if we look at the teaching profession through the eyes of those who were in that much-maligned occupation; see the setting in which they worked and their role as catalysts in the formation of a stable society in what so frequently was referred to as 'the back townships'.

I am much indebted to the Ontario Archives, the National Archives, the Archives of Queen's University and the University of Toronto, The Baldwin Room of the Toronto Public Library, the Archives of the Anglican,

Roman Catholic and United Churches; 'The John Strachan Letter Book' as edited by Dr. George W. Spragge; the writings of Dr. Edwin C. Guillet, and many, many others for background material needed to supplement our own family papers, and family traditions which require some correction in order to conform with actual facts.

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Our story begins in the Province of Ulster, Ireland, in the year 1794, with the birth of a son, George, on March 16, to Archibald Rutledge and his wife, a McDonald who had emigrated with her family from Scotland to Ireland after the Battle of Culloden. She was a Protestant and spoke the Gaelic. Archibald's family was of English descent, having come to Ireland after the conquest by Cromwell. Archibald held a position of some responsibility, probably as a steward, on the estates of the Earl of Leitrim.

The Rutledge family included several others besides George and these were: John, Archibald, William, and two or three others of which we have no record. During the Napoleonic Wars economic conditions were favourable and, while the tenants' rents had been increased, prices for their produce were good and a meagre living was possible.

George was given the opportunity to continue his studies. Family tradition holds that he started a university course in medicine and there are several indications later that he had some such training. He began teaching in 1809 or 1810 as we have his copy of 'Gough's Practical Arithmetic' bought in Enniskillen in November, 1809, and marked to indicate its use in Moorefields, County Antrim, in July 1810, where he may have started his teaching.

The wars ended and prices fell. The tenants could no longer pay their rents and the landlords began to cancel their leases. John, the eldest son, had married and with a wife and children dependent on him,

had to find opportunity elsewhere. From six to nine thousand were leaving Ireland each year for America and John, in 1817, with his wife and one of his two daughters and his brother Archibald, sailed for New York. Their subsequent disillusionment with this venture and their trek and settlement in Chinguacousy and Toronto Townships (now in Peel County) are related in Perkins Bull's 'From the Boyne to Brampton', in which John Rutledge is the central figure.

George had married Ann Johnston in October, 1816, and when a son, John, arrived on March 2, 1818, the prospects of continuing as a schoolmaster had to be evaluated. He was steadily improving his skill at shorthand and we have his transcription of part of an address given by Edward Archdale to a meeting of Protestants in Enniskillen on March 1, 1819.

On May 13, he posted a notice in Enniskillen that he was prepared to teach: Reading, English Grammar, Writing, Arithmetic, Book-keeping, Geometry, Trigonometry, Mensuration, Mnemonics, Surveying and Algebra. He mentioned his nine years' teaching in Tyrone and Fermanagh. The response was disappointing and having learned that John and Archibald had settled in Upper Canada in May, 1819, he made plans to emigrate.

This was a year when 12,800 would enter Canada by sea, of which perhaps 8,000 would settle in Upper Canada. His Journal reads:

"June 30- I came on board the Brig 'General Brock', burthen 500 tons, bound for Quebec, commanded by Capt. Geddes."

"July 1- Our provisions were stowed in the hold, and several preparatory movements made for sailing. The Ship 'Argo' broke from her mooring & was driven almost to the bridge."

There must have been some further delay in sailing for the 'General Brock' with her cargo of salt and her 198 settlers did not reach Quebec until September 11, and the 'Argo' arrived next day with her 240 settlers. The port record shows sailing time from Londonderry as 59 and 61 days, respectively.

Although many were given assistance to leave the distressed areas we have no indication that the Rutledges received any. On arrival at Quebec the struggle to obtain transportation for themselves and their few belongings was a real one and before they arrived at Kingston, probably in the second week of October, a second son, George, was born on October 1. He would always say that he was born on the ocean. One of the happier incidents in their journey was when a well-dressed gentleman of the town enquired for the father of the new baby as Ann Rutledge was carried ashore at Kingston and handed George a gold coin. The little family remained in Kingston a few days and then were moved on a sled drawn by a team of oxen to the fourth concession, Loughborough, where George opened the first school in the Township on Monday, October 18, 1819.

Let us sketch briefly the setting for this venture. The surveys of the Cataraqui Townships, stretching from Kingston to the Bay of Quinte, had begun in 1783. More than 6,000 persons had been located in the area; Loyalists and their dependents, disbanded British and mercenary soldiers, and a few others, but the total of such other immigrants up to 1815 would not exceed 5,000 for Canada as a whole. Now the war was over and the tempo increased. Some of the settlers were locating in the back townships. Loughborough had been formed in 1798 and Concessions I to IX were surveyed.

The original system of land grants had failed miserably. D'Arcy Boulton, the Solicitor-General, stated in 1805, "three-fourths of His Majesty's bounty has been lavishly thrown away", inasmuch as many of the Loyalists' children had little use for their grant of lands. It is evident from studying the pattern of settlement in Loughborough that this is particularly so.

Our story is mainly concerned with Lots 1 to 13 in Concessions IV

and V and extends from the Township of Portland on the west through the area now occupied by the village of Sydenham eastward past Moon's Corners, where the present county road turns westward towards Sydenham Village, to the community that is known as Spaffordtown, a distance of four miles. These lots contain some 5,200 acres and include some part of Sydenham Lake.

Not more than 20% of the original grantees settled permanently. Another 20% stayed for a short time and then sold out. In the Township in 1819 were the following: Lawrence Raile, believed to be the first British settler, on Lot 6, Con.V., Michael Sloat, Hosea Purdy, Henry Wood, John Amey, Peter Ruttan, Ben Boyce, Lawrence and John Sills, Moses and Elijah Spafford, Clarke Nicholls, Jeremiah Earl, and there would be others who had not made any definite move to secure land.

The nearest grist mill was at Kingston Mills, where the grain would be ground free of charge, but the trip there was arduous and time consuming. There was only one wagon in the settlement, owned by Lawrence Sills. There was little money in circulation, thus the schoolmaster would be paid in kind and for the balance owing on his modest fees he would 'board round' in proportion to the number of pupils sent to school. His washing would be done as part of the remuneration.

We can find no records of a District Board of Education, provided for in the Act of 1816. This Act embodied the principles laid down in Strachan's 'Report on Education' in 1815:⁽¹⁾

'It is expedient to extend the benefits of a common school education throughout the whole Province...

'That so soon as a competent number of persons shall unite themselves in building a School house and engage to contribute £ 50 a year towards the support of a Schoolmaster (which if the number of Scholars amount to 40 will only be five dollars a year for each)

(1) SEE FOOTNOTES PAGES 19-20.

with a comfortable residence, the additional sum of £ 30 shall be paid annually to his support by the Provincial Government making his income £ 80'.

From a letter from John Strachan to the Hon. Samuel Smith, December 29, 1817:

'It appears to me that the present State of Education... requires an Inspector or Superintendent of Schools in order to produce uniformity of System..... I respectfully offer myself a Candidate.....I look for no Emolument.'

A yearly sum of £ 6,000 was provided under the Act, of which £ 1,000 went to the Midland District. We lack information as to its distribution. In 1817, the total grant was reduced to £ 2,500 and remained at this level until 1832. A Society was incorporated in 1815 to promote common school education in the Midland District, but this did not become operative until 1837. We do have one record of a pioneer teacher of the district presenting his school report, signed by the trustees, to Archdeacon George Okill Stuart " to get his share of the public bounty". This was in the summer of 1837. Generally the early teachers received very limited assistance in the years before that date.

The Rutledge family were given shelter that first winter by Lawrence Raile and his unmarried nephew, Thomas. Ann Rutledge kept house and her husband 'boarded round'. The first pupils were eleven in number: Matthew, Ira and Hannah Freeman; Henry Clarke, Edward and Joseph Volant, Lucinda and Rebecca Simpkins, Margaret and Hannah Boyce, and Sarah Sills. There are 43 names in all enrolled that quarter; another Volant, Omar, ten more from the Boyce families: Anne, Elinor, Peter, Rachael, John, William, Mary Ann, Rosanna, Polly, and Martin; Madge, Joseph and John Nicholls; Merit and Stephen Simpkins; Ellen, Anna, Peter and Lorenzo Ruttan; Luke, Benjamin, and Amelia Barrett; Edward and Benjamin Freal, Rachael Sills, Germain Dam-

ien, Eunice Earl, John Switzer, Isaac Finch, Henry Atkinson, and Horace Spafford- twenty-three boys and twenty girls, with a recorded income of about \$ 26.44, plus the value of the 'boarding round' with those parents who could neither pay in cash nor kind. This covers the period October 18, 1819, to April 15, 1820.

This first school was of logs and located on Lot 6, in the fourth concession, on the higher ground about one-quarter mile west of Moon's Corners. George Rutledge would continue to teach here until the population would require other schools and this would be about the year he found the land he wished to buy- the west $\frac{1}{2}$ of Lot 10, a mile east of Moon's Corners. Then he would provide a corner of his field by the road for the red frame school that would become the first schoolhouse in the present School Section # 4.

The Rutledge family was increasing: John and George were followed by three more sons; Archibald McDonald born in April, 1822; then Noble J. born march, 1825, who lived only until November, 1826; and James born in April 1828. The three eldest were taught at night by their father which suggests a lot of chores assigned during the day when father was away at school. James went to the regular school which suggests that the next teacher, Absalom Hornbeck, took over from Rutledge about 1830. Dwire was next and John Walsh arrived in 1833. William Irvine in 1837 was followed by Sharman, James Leahy and James W. Davis. There was considerable rotation between schools in those days. From a study of available records and an examination of the books used, it can be stated that the devastating criticism so freely bandied about, did not apply to the same degree to Loughborough teachers. Several of those mentioned above had First Class Certificates and taught for many years.

What books were used by George Rutledge?

- A Critical Pronouncing Dictionary and Expositor of the English Language -John Walker (Dublin 1810).
- Gough's Practical Arithmetic. /Algebra
- An Introduction to the Elements of Euclid-John Farrar (Boston 1828)
- The Elements of Euclid-William Whiston M.A. (Dublin 1753)
- A Scrapbook taken over from someone else in 1811, containing poems, mathematical and other problems and the Thirty-nine Articles of the Church of England, &c.,

We might question whether Euclid was taught to common school pupils, however in 1850 Loughborough was the only Frontenac Township where Euclid was a subject of study and two schools were teaching it.

Let us see what the early settler encountered when he was ready to purchase some land. One advantage in waiting until some capital could be accumulated was that in the meantime you could investigate the depth of soil and drainage, etc, and this was very necessary in Loughborough. The earliest farms were located on lots which had a rich black loam on a clay bottom over a limestone formation. The forest cover was of oak, pine, hickory, fir, hemlock, sugar maple, white ash, basswood, beech, and elm with white cedar in the swampy areas. Except for the logs needed to build the shanties and houses and to provide bottoms for the low-lying roads, there was little value to this forest wealth. One of the few products that could be marketed was potash obtained by burning the logs of the forest. This potash was shipped in barrels (thus creating a further demand for staves) through Kingston and via bateaux to Montreal and thence to England to be used in bleaching cotton and in the manufacture of soap.

In November 1828, George Rutledge purchased twenty-five acres from William Steenson for fifty dollars. This was part of Lot 10, Con. IV, a Clergy Reserve lot leased in 1818 by Moses Spafford.

In the following April he bought fifty acres from Spafford for one hundred dollars. In July he wrote Hon. Peter Robinson, at York, asking for a survey and valuation. ⁽²⁾ Robinson had been appointed in 1826 as the first Commissioner to endeavour to untangle the results of the earlier disastrous land policy, which had resulted in five-eighths of the land grants being in the hands of land speculators, with only one-sixth of the occupied land under cultivation. To a considerable extent Upper Canada was being settled by squatters.

Deputy Surveyor Wilmot made the survey and gave a tentative price of 13s.6d. per acre. Rutledge applied for a firm price and proceeded to clear part of his holding. While we are waiting for York to take action let us look at two items that shed further light on the role of the pioneer teacher.

On February 23, 1832, Deputy Surveyor C. Rankin with six men left Presqu'Isle to finish the survey of Loughborough, of which Concessions X to XIV remained to be done plus considerable re-measurement to correct earlier mistakes. On April 30, they were on the fourth concession. The line across George Rutledge's Lot was wrong and he was interviewed about the changes. What is of special interest to us is this entry in Rankin's Diary: ⁽³⁾ "May 3rd.-Go to see Bobby One, alias Snowstorm, Indian, to procure a canoe which we shall need crossing numerous little lakes". This is undoubtedly the same 'Papewan' who in May 1819 as one of the twelve principal men of the Mississagua Indians sold ^{TO THE CROWN} two and three-quarter million acres across the northern areas from the Ottawa River to the Newcastle District. George Rutledge had taught one of the same name and another Mississagua to read and write, for in 1882 he met James Rutledge in Manitoba and said he had trapped all the way from Loughborough with his band. He enquired about his former teacher whose son, John, had been taught to skate in return for their schooling.

The second item concerns the bottleneck caused in the Second Division of the Court of Request by the removal from the County of Hon. John Campbell. A petition ⁽⁴⁾ dated October 18, 1833, in the handwriting of George Rutledge and bearing, besides his own, the signatures of thirty-four others, asked Sir John Colborne to appoint as Commissioners : Bulkley Waters, William Lattimore, Jr., and Jacob Shibley. There was no response from York. On April 1, 1834, a second petition is launched with twelve signatures. A letter from John Macaulay to Lieut. Col. Rowan is revealing:

"The enclosed paper has just been handed me to be forwarded for His Excellency's inspection. It relates to the subject on which I spoke to you in December last...great dissatisfaction has existed in that Division for a length of time at the omission to appoint Commissioners, for no debt can be recovered there, and many persons even wish the Second Division reunited to the First for the sake of being enabled to recover debts in a summary manner. I must confess that I unite with the people in thinking this state of things a grievance...."

Commissioners were now appointed: Jacob Shibley, William Lattimore, Jr., and three other men and their appointment dated back to April 1, 1834. The petitioners got two out of three of their first nominations and one further one from their second list. George Rutledge had good reason to be aware of the situation, for he had become a clerk of the Court and would serve for twenty-seven years in this post.

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The price for the land was still not established, however in November, 1834 Rutledge bought the remaining twenty-five acres from William Steenson for twelve pounds, ten shillings. In November he writes to Sir Francis Bond Head. Part of the petition reads:

"Petitioner has made considerable improvement on his land and has in contemplation larger improvement, which the uncertain tenure of leased property will not warrant, and farther, Petitioner wishes to enjoy the elective franchise, that he and his children may be rendered eligible to give their suffrages in support of the revered Constitution of the country where petitioner had his birth and education..." (The word Constitution is heavily underlined).

He begs to have the proper officer advise the price of his land and terms

of purchase. His friend William Simpkins, now a J.P., certifies the transfers of Steenson and Spafford. Rutledge wrote to the Lieutenant Governor again in February, 1837, asking for the price and terms of purchase.

The Administration would not accept the affidavit that the transfers were in order, so these were sent along with this second petition. The Clergy Corporation had had on file since December 1836 an application to purchase the East $\frac{1}{2}$ of Lot 10. In July 1837 the original application is before the Executive Council and Hon. R. B. Sullivan notes on it: "Recommended at a valuation". After nearly nine years the price has now been increased by 4s. per acre and the notification to George Rutledge will not take place until April 1838. Including what was paid for the leases, the hundred acres has cost \$ 550, and this will be paid in five instalments by February, 1841. The Crown Patent is dated April 22, 1841, and bears the seal of Baron Sydenham of Sydenham in the County of Kent, and of Toronto in Canada. It has taken twelve years to obtain a clear title to a half-lot in the Clergy Reserves.

What could a teacher earn in those days? The 1820 Provincial grant set a maximum allowance to any one teacher of £ 12.10s. or \$ 50.00 per year. By 1845 the provincial average ⁽⁵⁾ has reached £ 26.2s. or \$ 104.40 and in the Midland District \$ 112.00. In addition to being a clerk in the court, Rutledge acted as assessor of West and East Loughborough, wrote agreements deeds and wills; gathered herbs, bled the sick, in fact was willing to treat either man or beast.

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The first Crown Patents in the area of the present village of Sydenham are dated between 1833 and 1839, as we can ignore the earlier grants and leases. Rankin showed a grist mill on his plan of 1832. George W. Yark-

er, of Kingston, owned the saw mill and grist mill in 1836. It had cost £ 800. Another saw mill was located further down Millhaven Creek near the cemetery road. This was operated by a Mr. Switzer. As payment for grinding grain the miller took one-twelfth, and the saw mill took up to one-half the lumber.

The first church building in the township was the Methodist chapel on Lot 5, Con. V. As early as 1827, a circuit had been separated from the Bay of Quinte circuit to serve Kingston, Kingston Township, Waterloo (Catar-ⁿ aqu), Loughborough and the borders of Ernesttown. The chapel served many groups: Wesleyan, Episcopal and Primitive Methodists; the Church of Eng-land and even the Mormons who had a fairly strong following. Paul Shirley a Catechist from Camden preached in it in July 1835 and mentions the impen-etrable forest that separated Camden and Loughborough, a distance of about eight miles. As the great tide of Irish emigrants from the Southern Coun-ties made its impact on Loughborough, the Roman Catholic Church bought a six- acre lot from Lawrence Raile in 1832 on which would be built St. Pat-rick's Church at Railton. St. Paul's Anglican Church was built, in what would be Sydenham, in 1837. The three Methodist groups attempted a union in 1833, but by 1840 they were at odds again.

The Township had a population of 919 in 1829⁽⁶⁾ and this increased to 1354 by 1834. Half of the population was under 16 years of age. As the dem- and for education grew schools were located to serve the settlements. The 1839 report of the Midland District only shows three teachers: John Walsh at Railton, Absalom Hornbeck at the school on the Rutledge farm and Clarinda Clark on Con. IV, West Loughborough.

On February 14, 1844, the Municipal Council of the Midland District appointed John Strachan as District Superintendent of Common Schools. George Rutledge became Superintendent for the Township of Loughborough at a salary of £ 7-10-0. per annum. For the ten schools in the Township a sum of £ 73-19-4. was provided in the Provincial grant. Less than one-third of the children of school age were attending school. The Municipality was responsible for a sum of as much as this or more, and the parents who sent children to school were charged on rate bills authorized by the trustees. The average number of pupils per teacher was 36 for the 167 schools in the Midland District. The schools were open $9\frac{1}{2}$ months per year. There were 34 visits to the township schools that year, probably one visit by Mr. Strachan and two by George Rutledge.

Separate schools were provided under the legislation of 1841, and the Railton School (Section # 2) seems to have been so designated during 1843. John Walsh, who would teach there for many years was also Township Clerk at an additional salary of £ 5 per year. One of Walsh's pupils, John O'Brien, had finished his elementary schooling there and had proceeded to Regiopollis College whence he would graduate, become a priest and later Bishop of Kingston, 1875-1879. Walsh's younger son, Edward, also became a priest.

George Rutledge remained Local Superintendent until 1849 when John Strachan also retired. From then on the post of District Superintendent seems to have disappeared and some of the work was shifted to the township treasurers. There was a model school for the District in 1847 with 2 teachers and 28 pupils. The township schools now enrolled 70% of the eligible pupils. With the exception of the one frame school, all the others, nine in number, were log buildings from 18x20 to 24x24 in size.

George Rutledge had been one of the ststrongest advocates of free schools but it would be left to his successors to bring this about. Asa Phillips succeeded him in 1850 and a year later he reported: "Free schools are being tried in a number of sections of the Township, and where they are established, we have good schools and a large attendance..." and from John Walsh, Township Clerk.. "a vast majority of the children of Loughborough receive free education".

With the appointment of Dr. Egerton Ryerson as Chief Superintendent for the Province in 1844 and the subsequent passing of the School Act of 1850 a modern system of Education begins to emerge. As his assistant, Dr. J. George Hodgins, sums it up: ⁽⁷⁾the machinery of the system was ~~was~~ adapted from the school laws of the Middle(United) States; the method of supporting the schools by a uniform rate upon property was adopted from the New England States; The Normal and Model schools(established in 1847) were projected after those in operation in Germany; the school text-books were originally adapted from the series then in use in Ireland, and acceptable to both Protestants and Roman Catholics.

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In the Fall of 1846, George Rutledge/^{bought}the E $\frac{1}{2}$ of Lot 10. His son, John, had married in 1841 and took over the first farm. A stone house was built on the East hundred acres and by 1851, George and his wife and three unmarried sons lived there as well as Elisabeth Rutledge, daughter of his brother Archibald of Chinguacousy Township, who would now act as daughter^{ev} of the family as George's wife is now listed as blind. More probably it would be cataracts for she was now ⁶⁵~~29~~ years of age. George also bought in 1846 the E $\frac{1}{2}$ of Lot 9 across the road in the Fifth Concession; in the next three years he would enlarge his holdings by Lot 10 in that concession, 150 acres, and by the purchase in Concession VI of 350 acres (Lots 14-15).

These last-mentioned lots would provide cedar for fencing and wood for other purposes. He had spent about \$ 3,365 in land purchases, as much as a teacher could earn in thirty years at the salary then paid to teachers.

They had 285 acres under cultivation, ⁽⁸⁾ 7½ acres in orchards which produced 200 gallons of cider, 10 horses, 10 oxen, or bulls, 35 sheep, 16 milch cows, and 18 other cattle. The farms produced 2350 bushels of grains, &c., and 170 bushels of potatoes.

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The village had now been laid out and named after the man who achieved the Union of Upper and Lower Canada. There were two doctors in the township- Dr. Matthew Dunn and Dr David Ash. The Lake was still called after Sloat, who long ago had sold off his hundreds of acres obtained in government grants and departed . The post office would be known as Loughboro' at least as late as 1880. Besides the sawmills and the grist mill , the village had in 1856; ⁽⁹⁾ 2 distilleries, a brewery, tannery, turning lathe, a fulling and carding mill and several asheries. Its population then was 300.

In 185⁸ a new stone school was built in Sydenham at a cost of \$ 1,200. While often referred to as a grammar school, such was not the case. The only one in the County was at Kingston. In Upper Canada male teachers averaged \$ 454 per year and female \$ 242. By 1862 all schools in Loughborough were free.

Some of the early teachers have been mentioned:

- John Walsh- born in Waterford, Ireland, with 14 years teaching experience there; taught 3 years in Kingston and given a First Class Certificate by the County Board. Taught in Loughborough 38 years. Was Township Clerk for many years.

William Irvine- Trained in Kildare Place Normal School, near Dublin, also College of Armagh; taught 6 years in Quebec and with Army School in Kingston 3 years; given First Class Certificate by George Okill Stuart; was a Classics and Mathematics scholar. George Rutledge had known him since 1804. Taught in Upper Canada until 1863.

Asa Phillips- educated in the States, began teaching in Loughborough in 1840. Succeeded George Rutledge as Local Superintendent in 1850.

John Agnew: -taught in the Sydenham public school in 1865 and after graduation in medicine would become the first County Public School Inspector in 1871. Would serve in this capacity until Dr. William Spankie took over in 1886.

In

In 1871 the Chief Superintendent of Education authorized the building of a High School at Sydenham. It was built in 1872-1873 at a cost of \$10,000 for land and buildings. Until the recent building additions it could be seen, a two-story stone building with an impressive bell tower. The school opened August 18, 1873 with Rev. Francis L. Checkley, B.A. (Trinity College, Dublin) as headmaster with one other teacher and an enrolment of 60.

George Rutledge did not live to see this final stage in the development of a complete educational programme. In the last five years he had continued his interest in community affairs. His cash book shows his contributions to the college, probably Victoria, for he was a trustee of the Wesleyan Methodist group; to a fund for a widow, to missionaries and the collectors were usually his grandchildren of which he had 16; There had been the tragic summer of 1866 when three ^{GRANDCHILDREN} others had been carried off by diphtheria in the space of fifteen days. Many of the entries are in shorthand which he used until he was past his 75th. birthday.

Two further incidents will illustrate his concern for others:

Lawrence Raile, who had befriended the Rutledges their first winter in Canada, had died at an advanced age and his grave at Railton was unmarked.

George Rutledge started a petition to remedy this. In part it reads:
"Being the first British settler in the township would, of itself, recommend him to a better fate, even if his generous qualities did not demand it. But they do demand it as those who knew him can affirm. There are men in the township who tell us that in days gone by his hospitable door was ever open to the stranger, who friendless and alone was commencing his work of toil, which since perhaps culminated in wealth and affluence. We hope therefore our appeal will meet with a favourable reception, and that by a generous subscrip-

ion, the people of Loughborough will rescue his name from oblivion, and theirs from undying shame"

The second concerns another staunch Roman Catholic, John Walsh. He had been able to teach until December 1871 when he had reached the age of 75. Now the Rutledges prepare an application for a superannuation allowance for him. It is in the handwriting of John Rutledge and signed by; three M.P.'s, ~~the~~ Reeve, Deputy Reeve and Treasurer of the Township, the Sheriff and Treasurer of Frontenac, George and John Rutledge, Asa Phillips, three J.P.'s and several others.

George Rutledge died on April 2, 1873, at the age of 79. His wife had died the previous year at the age of 86. His four sons were each settled on a farm. In his will written in his clear handwriting when he was 70, ^{He} left besides a farm about \$ 1,500 in cash or notes to each of them. The will closes with these words: " I solemnly admonish my heirs to act fairly and gently with each other and live together in unity".

The Daily British Whig wrote" For over 35 years he was a subscriber of the British Whig, and we feel we have lost a very old friend indeed". He had arrived penniless in a backwoods settlement. He had doggedly fought the red tape of that day until he had obtained the lands he wanted. He had laid the foundations of the first school system and had kept alive his interest in education and teachers until free schools evolved well in advance of the legislation that crumpled the last opposition in the Province. He had served as Court Clerk, Assessor, Auditor and Returning Officer for his township. But above all he had helped knit together the diverse elements of the society of his day into something stable.

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~~Of the sixteen grandchildren and five great grandchildren who survived George Rutledge, only one great granddaughter is still with us and, at the wonderful age of ninety-six, can recall something of those early days.~~ George and his eldest son, John, were much interested in Mathematics and History, thus these were the books that have been passed down to later generations, of which there are four with us today. The constant emphasis on the importance of education has also become a family tradition.

The last grandchild passed away in November, 1965. She too had been a teacher and in the Spaffordton school that was built in 1874 to replace the old red frame school that stood on the original Rutledge farm. The third, fourth, fifth and sixth generations of lineal descendants are scattered from New Brunswick in the east to British Columbia in the west, with every province represented and with Alberta having the largest share. Nearly all have remained in Canada, although a few are found in New York City and State, in Minnesota and as far west as Honolulu.

While some have continued with farming, all the original four farms are sold. There are chemical and civil engineers, a Provincial Chairman of a Research and Productivity Council, a general practitioner, an orthopedic surgeon, many who are still actively engaged in management positions in the field of distribution, advertising or finance. Women have found their opportunity in teaching, public health, nursing or medical technology.

If that were not legacy enough, there is the tremendous concentration of educational facilities in Loughborough township. While there are five of the one-room rural schools still in operation, their days are numbered and soon the entire enrolment of 400 will be taught in the Sydenham School. Being a centrally located township, the Sydenham High School serves the adjoining townships too and has an enrolment of 600, bringing the number of pupils in the village during the daytime to about 900. The resident population of Sydenham is only 823 according to the 1961 census.

In retrospect it would seem that those who settled in this area brought with them none of the bitterness and strife of their homeland, they engaged in no rebellions, they settled their religious differences in an amiable fashion. With pardonable personal pride I would point to the pioneer teacher who opened the first school and gave leadership throughout his long life. In a little note written in one of his books in October, 1871 : 'I have a gross cold. God knows how it terminates. God's Will be done'. We might use the words of ^{ST. PAUL TO} Timothy instead:

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith".

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Toronto, Ontario,
January 19, 1966.

Footnotes

Page 5-(1)- STRACHAN, JOHN, 'The John Strachan Letter Book', Ed. G.W. Spragge (Toronto, 1946).

" 9-(2)-U.C. Land Petitions, National Archives.
(3)-Province of Ontario Archives.

" 10-(4)-"Court of Requests"-Vol. 6-7, National Archives.

Page 11-(50)-"Journal of Education', Province of Ontario Archives.

" 12-(6)-"Journal of Legislative Assembly, U.C.", Province of Ontario Archives.

" 14-(7)- p.371, "The Story of my Life", Dr. Ryerson, Ed. J. George Hodgins, L.L.D. (1883).

" 15-(8)-Census of 1851, POA.

-(9)-C.W. Cooper: Essay "Frontenac, Lennox and Addington", 1856.

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"Historical and other Papers and Documents of Ontario, 1792-1853."
J. GEORGE HODGINS, L.L.D. (1911)

"Early Life in Upper Canada", EDWIN. C. GUILLET, L.L.D. (1933)

"A Statistical Account of Upper Canada". R. F. GOURLAY, (1822).

"Educational Papers of Upper Canada", National Archives.

"Crown Lands Papers of Upper Canada", Province of Ontario, Archives.

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