



Coldstream Meetinghouse -- 1859

CANADIAN QUAKER HISTORY

Newsletter

CANADIAN FRIENDS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

60 LOWTHER AVENUE, TORONTO, ONTARIO M5R 1C7

No. 3

Sixth Month 1974

FIRST SETTLER'S DIARY RETURNED TO NEWMARKET*

NEWMARKET -- The diary of Timothy Rogers, the Newmarket area's first settler and the man most often described as the founder of the town, has been returned to Newmarket.

It is now the property of the Yonge Street Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends, and at present is being kept at Pickering College, a school founded by Friends, or Quakers as they are also known.

The Journal of Timothy Rogers has been in the possession of Gregory Elias Rogers of Uxbridge, a descendant of Timothy Rogers.

Mr. Rogers presented the Journal to the Meeting as a gift.

It has been microfilmed by the Ontario Archives, and for safekeeping, the original will be deposited in the Quaker Archives at the University of Western Ontario in London.

According to David Newlands, the member of the Yonge St. Meeting who acted as the intermediary with Mr. Rogers, a microfilm of the Journal will stay at the historic Yonge St. Meeting House, and the original will be available to be brought back for special occasions.

According to the Journal, Timothy Rogers was born in Lyme, Conn. May 22, 1756. His parents were very poor and were obliged to ask a neighboring farmer to raise him for them. Young Timothy was unhappy there, and eventually was taken in by an uncle.

As a young man he travelled a great deal on horseback--one trip he notes was to Hochelaga (Montreal), and another to Nova Scotia where he freed two slaves



RECYCLED PAPER

*Reproduced from the May 15, 1974 issue of the Newmarket ERA with the permission of the editor.

and was not well received by the establishment.

In April, 1800, Timothy and his son-in-law, Rufus Rogers, set out on horseback to find a place to settle. Rufus dropped out halfway, and Timothy continued alone, first exploring the Rideau Lake area, and then travelling north from York until he arrived on the present site of Newmarket.

According to tradition, he slept that first night here on the ground at the top of Main St. hill where the registry office now stands.

Deciding this was his chosen land, Timothy returned to York to petition for land, and was granted 40 farms of 200 acres each on condition that he bring in settlers for them. Timothy and his family, and 20 others, came to the Newmarket district by horse-drawn sleigh during the winter of 1801. The trip took three months.

At a later date Timothy Rogers received a letter from the Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada, Peter Hunter, complimenting him on the good job he had done in making this first settlement of Newmarket possible.

After a few years in Newmarket, Timothy went to the Village of Pickering where he built a mill on Duffin's Creek and developed another Quaker settlement in that area.

An interesting event in the life of Timothy Rogers, as chronicled in the Journal, took place during the War of 1812 between England and the United States. It was important that Timothy should attend a Quaker Meeting in New York and a special permit was granted to him to go through the battle lines without harm.

"This incident reveals not only the respect in which the Society of Friends (Quakers) was held by both warring factions, but it is also a commentary on the character of Timothy Rogers himself," comments Harry Beer, headmaster at Pickering College, and a member of the Yonge Street Meeting.

HISTORY OF WOOLER MEETING

by

Allie Nelson, Codrington, Ontario

In what was known as part of Murray Township, County of Northumberland, but is now the eastern limits of Brighton Township, as early as 1815, a Meeting for Worship was held by the Society of Friends. It is not known the exact location of this Meeting but by 1820 it was held in the home of one Samuel Clapp.

By 1824 the members were so few that the Meeting was discontinued for a few months but reopened later the same year.

In 1825 a Meeting was held on or near the John Richmond farm. It is not known whether the members met in the Richmond farm house or had a separate building. This Meeting was called Cold Creek Preparative Meeting. In 1855 Haldimand Township joined with Cold Creek Meeting.

By 1857 a Meeting House was erected close to the location of the present Meeting House, to accomodate the growing membership. The land for the meeting house and drive shed, also the oldest part of the cemetery was donated by one George Arthur.

In 1896 the necessity for providing a more comfortable place to worship resulted in the building of the present meeting house which was erected at the cost of \$600 plus donated labour.

Over the years the oil lamps were replaced with electricity and the old pump organ with a piano. Two more additions have been made to the cemetery. After a period of dwindling membership and a space of time when only three people met for worship a renewed interest has placed the Meeting in a more favourable position.

In 1972 we had five new members, and while not the first wedding, the first wedding after the manner of Friends took place. In 1973 we increased our membership by three and increased our meeting times from once to twice a month.

Since Wooler has the only meeting house remaining in the West Lake Quarter, Quarterly Meetings are held at Wooler. Friends from Peterborough, Kingston, Belleville, Bloomfield, Wellington, Oshawa, etc. meet together for worship and a pot luck dinner afterwards.

We are very optimistic about the Wooler Meeting and are looking forward to the day when we will be able to meet each Sabbath Day.

Bees to paint the Meeting House have been attended well and with enthusiasm. Funds have been donated by Friends without having to ask for outside help.

With God's help we'll carry on.

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF HISTORICAL MATERIAL
in
FRIENDS HOUSE LIBRARY, TORONTO

PART 3

by
Grace Pincoe

(Continued from Newsletter #6, Twelfth Month (December), 1973)

Armstrong, Phyllis E. (Knight) ed.

The Rorke saga - excerpts. Orangeville, Ont., 1972?
13, C -C6, [2] leaves. illus. genealogical charts. 28cm.

"From the booklet The Rorke saga; other part is contained in the book Forty years in the forest": Ed.'s inscribed note top p. 1.

Partial contents: Items of interest. - Excerpts from letters, memoirs etc. - Cousins. - Genealogies.

Douglass, Hugh.

The story of Rockwood Academy. Guelph, 1962.

36, 1 p. 28 cm.

Xeroxed from copy in Metropolitan Toronto Public Library.

Also published in Wentworth by-gones, #8, 1969, p. 47-59.

Bibliography: p. 24-25.

"List of pupils who attended ... throughout the years": p. 25-36.

Reproduction from Acton Free Press (date illegible) at end, (1 leaf)

Contains a poem about the Academy and a reproduction of an article by S. Silcox reproduced from the School (periodical, Toronto)

Everton, George B. ed.

The handy book for genealogists; 6th ed, rev. and enl. State and county histories, maps, libraries, bibliographies of genealogical works, where to write for records, etc. Logan, Utah, The Everton Publishers, c. 1971.

Bibliography, Continued.

(Everton)

x, 298 p. illus. maps. 28 cm.

Chiefly American sources.

Select bibliography of genealogical reference books: p. 297.

Non-American sources: p. 257-297.

Finch, Elizabeth.

The contribution of the Religious Society of Friends to education in Canada.
Toronto, 1972?

ii, 28 leaves. 28 cm.

Unpublished thesis written in requirement for M. A. degree.

Bibliography: p. 27-28.

Hancocks, Elizabeth.

Townships and county seats of Ontario; maps.

6 maps. 28 cm.

Lewis, Gladys Francis.

Joshua Doan. Toronto, Ryerson Press c. 1956

319 p.

Historical fiction.

Mack, Hazel.

First Rockwood settler from gifted family. London, Ont., 1958.

4 leaves, illus. ports. 28 cm.

Xeroxed from copy in Ontario Archives extracted from London Free Press,
Saturday December 27, 1958.

Treats of the Thistlewaite, Harris and Wetherald families as described in
Bernard Thistlethwaite's book, The Thistlethwaite family, London, 1910.

Myers, Albert Cook.

Quaker arrivals at Philadelphia 1682-1750, being a list of certificates of
removal at Philadelphia Monthly Meeting of Friends. Baltimore, Genealogical
Publishing Company, 1969.

131 p. 22 cm.

First published Philadelphia in 1902.

Ontario. Dept. of Travel & Publicity. Historical Branch.

Famous school to be commemorated (Rockwood Academy) Press release, June 21,
1962. Toronto, 1962.

4 leaves 28 cm.

Deals with the unveiling of a plaque to commemorate the history of the Rockwood
Academy, the ceremony taking place at the Academy, Rockwood, Wellington County,
on June 30, 1962.

Bibliography, continued.

Pincoe, Grace.

Tentative partial inventory of the Calgary Monthly Meeting records which were received at Friends House Library July 1972 and later forwarded to the Quaker Collection at the University of Western Ontario for future microfilming. Toronto, 1972.

20 leaves, mss. 28 cm.

Chiefly letters.

Quaker school days of long ago and more recent years. Contributions by Rachael W. Haight, and Harriet (Pearson) MacCracken on West Lake Friends Boarding School, and a review of the discussion on Pickering College at Yearly Meeting, 1905. Pickering, Ont., 1905.

3 leaves. 28 cm.

Xeroxed from the Canadian Friend Sept. 1905, p. 6-8.

Rockwood Academy 1850, Canada. Rockwood, Ont., 1971.

7 p. chiefly illus. 17cm.

Cover title.

Facsimile of letter from present owner Yosef G. Drenters, sculptor, welcoming "all to this historic building". p. [5]

Includes portrait of the founder, William Wetherald; photographs of the school; the Wetherald family, 1860; contemporary advertisements and prospectus; and the text of the plaque.

Rorke, Richard, 1805-1889.

Forty years in the forest; reminiscences from the pen of a backwoodsman (1820-1868), by Richard Rorke. Edit. by Phyllis (Knight) Armstrong. Orangeville, Ont. 1971.

xiii, ii, 211, 7 p. illus. genealogical charts, ports. 28 cm.

Limited edition no. 13.

Early life in Tecumseh and Collingwood Townships, Simcoe and Grey Counties, respectively.

Gift the Rorke Family in Canada (1821-) through Phyllis E. K. Armstrong.

Sherk, A. B.

A pioneer academy [Rockwood Academy] by the late Rev. A. B. Sherk. 1926. p. 466-469. Illus. 28 cm.

Xeroxed from the Ontario Historical Society. Papers and records, v. 23 (1926) p. 466-469.

"Written in 1904-05 and revised finally by the author himself four years later" p. 466.

Wetherald, Agnes Ethelwyn.

My father as I knew him, by A. E. Wetherald.

4 p. 23 cm.

Xeroxed article on William Wetherald, 1820-1898, by his daughter from Canadian Friend, v. 10, #8 (Feb. 1915,) p. 6-9.

CANADIAN FRIENDS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUGUST 1, 1971 - JANUARY 30, 1974

Receipts:

Memberships	\$624.00	
Donations	33.75	
For purchase of "Quakers In Canada"	17.00	
Bank Interest	<u>.68</u>	\$675.43

Expenditures:

Stationery	\$130.91	
Newsletter stationery	168.51	
Rubber Stamps	9.43	
Inventory	33.55	
Copyright	3.00	
Copying services	16.06	
Postage	37.63	
Membership in Ontario Historical Society	5.00	
Bus at Annual Meeting	81.10	
"Quakers in Canada"	17.00	
Bank Charges	<u>.73</u>	<u>501.92</u>

Bank Balance January 30, 1974 \$173.51