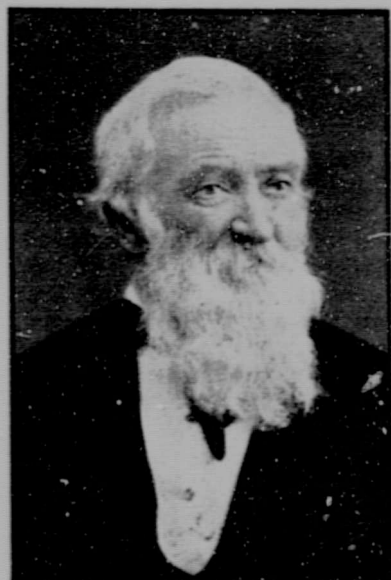


(Dumfries Mills), a distillery and a blacksmith shop. The first bridge that spanned the river was built in 1819, where Main street is. In order to secure settlers as rapidly as possible, Mr. Dickson engaged John Telfer, an ex-employee of the Hud-



Duncan Ferguson

Old Scotch pioneer, who was one of the first settlers in the Mill Creek section.

son Bay Co., to go to Scotland to secure a number of its hardy residents. He succeeded so well as to secure an almost exclusive Scottish foundation for the township's settlement. Today many of the descendants of those early settlers are still to be found in both Galt and Dumfries—men who in early years labored long and hard and hewed out homes for themselves in the wilderness, have passed to their reward, their descendants and others live to enjoy the fruits of their labor. What have we done or are doing that those who follow after us may be blessed by the fruit of our lives? One of the first settlers who came from Livingston County, N.Y., and took up land in an unbroken forest in Mill Creek section was Duncan Ferguson, who labored in cutting down trees and made way for the building of a cabin, and then returned home to his native state, New York, to his partner and their babe, and arranged to return to their new home in Canada. They travelled with an ox cart by way of Queenston, crossing the Niagara River by boat, and

wound their way through the wilderness, as it were, to their new home on Mill Creek and to the log cabin where all their children were born, except the eldest. Mrs. Ferguson died in the year 1839 and left an infant, who was taken care of by a loving neighbor, a friend of the mother. The child, Christie Ann, lived and grew up to womanhood, and in the year 1866 she became the partner of my life for well nigh half a century, until she received the call, Jan. 19, 1914. "Come Home." Having finished her labors she entered upon her reward. "Gone but not forgotten."

Her tender voice no more is heard;

Her friendly acts and pleasant way,

Her gentle hand and soothing word,

Are gone away, all gone away.

All but two of the family have passed to the great beyond—Mary, Mrs. McFarlane, lives in Sydney, Australia, and Daniel, who lives in Galt. Mr. Ferguson was a member of Mr. Strang's church from its beginning and an elder at the time of his death, October 4, 1884, aged 81 years.



Christie Ann Ferguson

Dumfries is one of the best farming sections in Ontario and with its progressive settlers gives a good account of itself, by its crops and its stock-raising, and the large and comfortable dwellings both for man and beast; and their public schools