

TRACING AN OLD FAMILY.

THE GENERATIONS OF PADDOCK FROM THE MAYFLOWER.

The Part They Have Played in St. John and New Brunswick History—The Last Physician of the Family and His Death—An Honorable Record.

The death of Adino Paddock M. D. which occurred at Kingston, N. B. not long ago recalls the fact that the name of Paddock for more than half a century was as familiar to the citizens of St. John as a household word.

In the ranks of the loyalists of 1783 there were a number of eminent physicians from various parts of the old colonies, the great majority of whom not only attained some degree of reputation in their own proper profession but proved useful and influential citizens in the community in which their

city of the loyalists is not favorable to the growth either of trees or shrubbery, or can it be, that in the case of these trees, republican principles are more deeply rooted than they were in the old loyalist who planted them, and in consequence they decline to exist in a land still loyal to the House of Brunswick.

Colonel Paddock had a family of thirteen children but of these only three were living when he embarked with the British army for Halifax at the time of the evacuation of Boston March 1776. Adino Paddock, the younger, went to England in 1779 where he pursued the study of medicine and surgery. Returning to America near the close of the war he was appointed surgeon in the Kings American dragoons, a loyalist corps just organized and of which the commander was Lt. Col Benjamin Thompson (afterwards better known as Count Rumford). At the

his heirs in settlement of a medical bill against the estate of Hon. William Hazen for £144 received a block of land in the city containing 5 acres and 3 roods, long known as "Paddock's field" and bounded on the north by Coburg street, on the east by Cliff street, on the south by Waterloo street, on the west by Peters street. The street which now runs through the centre naturally received the name of Paddock street. The brook which formerly ran from springs in the vicinity of Hazen's Castle diagonally across the field has given place to a main sewer and the pond beside Waterloo between Paddock and Peters streets, where frogs at night held high carnival and bullrushes and water lilies grew, has long since disappeared. The field doubtless proved a nugget such as does not often fall to a doctor in the settlement of an old account. In 1837 the late John V.



lives were passed. Such men as William Paine, John Caleff, Peter Huggesford, Samuel Moore, David Browne, Joseph Clarke, Ambrose Sherman, Azor Betts, Thomas Emerson, Charles Earle, Nathan Smith and Adino Paddock not only practised their profession with success but in many instances filled important positions of public trust.

The Paddock family is one of the oldest New England families having existed in Massachusetts for at least nine successive generations during which time it has had an honorable record. The founder of the family, Zachariah Paddock, came over in the May Flower in the year 1620.

The father of the first Doctor Adino Paddock was Colonel Adino Paddock of Boston. His memory is preserved in that city by the famous Paddock elms which were planted by him on Tremont street in the year 1762. The trees planted were scions of old English elms brought to Boston from Brompton Park in 1734, and planted at Brush Hill, Milton, Mass. The trees planted by Col. Adino on Tremont street were for years the object of his special care. It is related that on one occasion he offered a guinea for the detection of the person who hacked one or more of them. The elms on Tremont street have now attained a large size and are doubtless amongst the oldest in America known to have been planted by human hands. Nevertheless the Paddock elms are but in their infancy compared with some of the majestic elms of our own St. John river. The writer a few days since examined the stump of a venerable tree lately cut down near Woodstock and found it to be four feet in diameter and almost perfectly sound. The concentric rings could be readily counted and were in number about 325. This venerable tree grew in the primeval forest and was a sapling in the days of Queen Elizabeth and Sir Walter Raleigh. It was apparently good for one or two more centuries had it not been cut. Scions from the Paddock elms were planted in the old graveyard at St. John and on Queen Square during the Centennial commemoration of the founding of the province ten years ago, but the planting has been attended with very indifferent success. The bracing sea air of

close of the war the regiment was disbanded at Prince William on the river St. John. The principal officers however did not take kindly to lie in the back woods of New Brunswick. Lt. Col. Thompson returned to England where he was knighted and soon after entered upon the romantic career at Munich which brought him fame and fortune. Major Joshua Upham of the same corps became a judge of the supreme court of New Brunswick. Dr. Adino Paddock came to St. John where he drew two lots at Carleton and one at Parr. Three years later he bought from Major Studholme a lot on Prince William street directly opposite the Bank of New Brunswick for five shillings. The building which stood on this spot at the time of the fire of 1877 and in which the "Daily Telegraph" was then published was built by Dr. Paddock.

At the incorporation of the city of St. John he was appointed (and named in the charter) as assistant alderman for Guy's ward. For thirty years Dr. Paddock had an extensive and successful practice amongst the first families of St. John. He also filled the post of Surgeon to the Ordinance in the Province. In the spring of 1817 he was stricken with paralysis from the effects of which he never recovered. His death ensued the 21st of October following, at the residence of his son-in-law, Frederick P. Robinson, St. Mary's, York county. Taken away in the full vigor of manhood, Dr. Paddock's loss was keenly felt. A newspaper of the day speaks of him as a man "endeared to his numerous friends by his mild, cheerful disposition and amiable manners, esteemed by the public for his skillful exertions in his profession, and beloved by the poor for his benevolent heart, and readiness at all times to render them professional, as well as other relief; his loss will be long and severely felt by all classes of the community."

Dr. Paddock left ten children of whom his three sons, namely, Adino, Thomas and John were educated physicians.

One of his daughters married George Pidgeon, Esq., of the parish of Douglas, York County. Their son Edward Pidgeon a much esteemed magistrate, resides on his father's property at the present time.

The year after Dr. Paddock's decease,

Thurgar, who had married a daughter of Dr. Paddock's built the residence which still stands at the corner of Coburg and Paddock streets. Mrs. Thurgar, a most estimable lady, who died very recently, was Dr. Paddock's last surviving child.

The oldest son of Dr. Paddock inherited both the name and profession of his father. He commenced practice in 1808, at Kingston, N. B., and for more than forty years was familiarly known by all the country side. His son, a third Doctor Adino Paddock, whose recent decease suggested to the writer the compilation of this brief sketch, succeeded his father, and during his lifetime was an equally familiar figure in the homes of the good people at Kingston. Many are the tales told in connection with the long and laborious country practice which father and son carried on in the same field in sunshine and in storm for more than eighty years. Of each it might as truly be said as of their loyalist ancestor "esteemed by the public for skill in his profession and beloved by the poor for his benevolent heart and readiness at all time to respond to the call of duty."

The house in which the late Doctor Adino Paddock ended his days, though a commodious dwelling was one of the oldest in Kingston, being that formerly owned and occupied by Walter Bates, sometime sheriff of Kings county, but equally famous as the author of the "History of Henry More Smith." It may be mentioned in passing that in 1826 Walter Bates took to wife Lucy, the widow of Dr. Nathan Smith, of St. John. She was his second wife, but the sheriff was her third husband. Mrs. Bates outlived her husband more than twenty years and died in St. John in 1864 at the great age of 95 years. She was the grandmother of George F. Smith, merchant of this city.

Dr. Thomas Paddock was the second son of Dr. Adino, the elder. Like his father he had an extensive and successful practice. He married in 1816 Mary, daughter of Arthur McLellan, Esq., of Portland, Maine. Their family included two sons and three daughters, one of the latter being the wife of Rev. Canon DeVaber of this city. The brick building, now the Dufferin hotel, was erected in 1821 by Dr. Thomas Paddock and was

then considered one of the most elegant private residences in the city.

There are some interesting associations connected with lot No. 500 on which this residence was built which may be here referred to. The lot was drawn by Samuel Mallard and sold by him to Thomas Horsfield for £6.5. It had a frontage of 100 feet on Charlotte St. and of 40 feet on King Square. Until the year 1841 there was no street on its northern side as the rock which is a continuation of the elevated ground on which the Dufferin flag staff stands jutted out over 100 feet on the square. At its base was one of the public wells with a pump. It will be remembered that a few years ago the covering of this old well collapsed leaving an abominable hole to be filled up by the corporation brigade.

Thomas Horsfield sold the lot for £5 to "The mechanic's Association" which erected on top of the rock the so called "city windmill" for grinding corn. The enterprise was a failure and in 1800 the mill with its running gear, excellent burr stones, bolt, reel and chest and other appliances was advertised for sale. Thenceforth the old wind mill had a chequered career. For about 8 years it was used as a poor house. In 1809 it served as a barrack for a battalion of Kings County militia during what was facetiously termed "the Wetmore war." The building was again used as a poor-house until its destruction by fire in the early morning of the 15th day of February, 1819. The lofty situation and height of the building greatly endangered the surrounding buildings, but by the alacrity of the citizens, aided by the military from Fort Howe, they were preserved. Two years later, as has been already stated, Dr. Thomas Paddock purchased the site and built his substantial residence thereon. Finding his health impaired he, in the year 1832, sold his house and three lots of land adjoining it on the south side of King Square to Robert F. Hazen for £2,200, and removed to Portland, Maine. Returning to St. John three years afterwards, he resumed practice until his death in 1838 at the age of 47 years. His son Arthur was a physician who practiced his profession in Prince Edward Island. Dr. John Paddock, the youngest son of the elder Dr. Adino, was also the youngest medical man in the city at the close of its first half century. When the celebrated Dr. Patterson took charge of the St. John Grammar School in December 1818, among his scholars were such boys as John Paddock, John M. Robinson, John Black, Wm. Black, George Partelow, R. F. Hazen and R. L. Hazen who afterwards made their influence felt in the community.

After his brother's removal to Portland in 1831, Dr. John Paddock fell into a fair share of his practice. Two years later he married a sister of John V. Thurgar, his brother-in-law. One of their sons Frederick was a physician who practiced medicine in the southern State and his brother Morris V. Paddock, is today engaged in the drug business in St. John.

In the autumn of 1834 Asiatic cholera, for the second time visited the city, but soon disappeared, and the deaths happily were few. On the 15th of October, Dr. Paddock acknowledged through the press, the receipt of a letter with no signature, enclosing a £5 note "for the poor cholera patients," which charity he promises to apply according to the benevolent intention of the donor. The incident speaks well for the doctor's fidelity to the post of duty and also shows the confidence placed in him by the public. In manner Doctor John Paddock was kind and affable. By his death, in the year 1853 at the early age of 44 years there closed a continuous practice of father and two sons in St. John of seventy years.

By the death of the late Dr. Paddock at Kingston, there closed a continuous medical practice by the three Adino Paddocks, father, son and grandson, extending from the formation of the province to the present time, a period of one hundred and ten years. Although theirs the healing art, to each the inextinguishable message came, "Go then thy way till the end be for thou shalt rest and stand in thy lot at the end of the days."

W. O. RAYMOND.
St. John, N. B., Aug. 30th, 1893.

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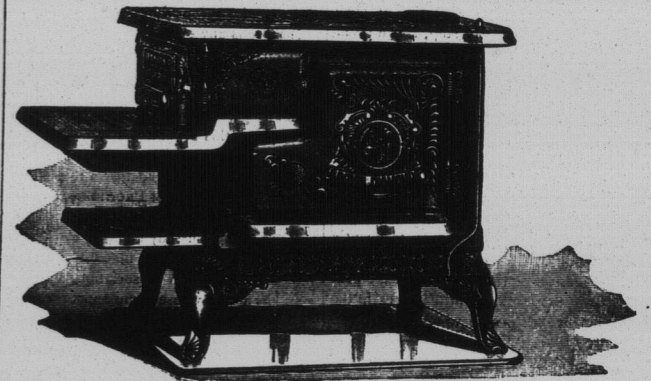
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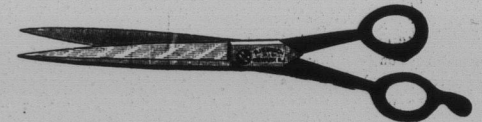
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