

IV.

North Nichol in 1838

Reference has already been made in these articles to a map of Nichol made in 1848, now in possession of Mrs. John Watt, of Salem. Old and curious as that map undoubtedly is, there exists a map with a somewhat similar history, but ten years older, and on that account even more valuable and interesting. It is entitled, "Northwest Half of the Township of West Garafraxa, Gore District, Upper Canada, 1838." It was drawn by Mr. John Cadenhead, then a young man recently out from Scotland, and at present (1900, Mr. Cadenhead died not long afterwards) living at an advanced age in Manitoba. When finished it was sent by Mr. Cadenhead to his brother George, afterwards Procurator Fiscal of Aberdeen. In 1895, through Miss Glen, who visited Scotland in that year, it was sent to Mr. Robert Glen, of Fergus, with instructions to keep it or present it to some public institution in Fergus. Naturally Mr. Glen prefers to keep it. It is very neatly done, the work of a skilful draughtsman, and it is excellently mounted on cloth with silk binding and walnut roller and headpiece, the latter concaved to fit the roller. With care it should last for years, and it is to be hoped that Mr. Glen will see that it never again leaves the locality where it is of most interest and value. (Note, 1913. Mr. Glen also died not long after. The map, we believe, is in the possession of Mrs. Glen, who is in Alberta.)

On this map North Nichol is marked as bounded on the southwest by the township of Woolwich, on the northwest by the "Reserve for the Six Nations," the result, probably, of a misapprehension, for the Six Nations never had any rights in what is now the township of Peel, and on the northeast by "Garafraxa." Three concessions of Garafraxa are shown, from lot 5 to lot 21. In all that tract only two clearings are marked, one of about 35 acres on lot 7 on the 1st concession, belonging to Mr. Thomas Webster, and now part of Fergus, and the other on lot 6 on the 2nd concession, "Jessyfield," belonging to Alexander Drysdale. On Mr. Webster's clearing two buildings appear to have been erected. On Mr. Drysdale's none are marked. Five other names appear on this section of Garafraxa, of persons who are set down as owners, but who had not as yet made a breach in the primeval forest. In the first concession, lot 5, Geo. Anderson, and lot 6, west half, Dr. Wm. Mutch; in the 2nd concession, west half of lots 5 and 7, Warden Shand; east half, John Wilkie; and lot 6 and west half of lot 7, Alex. D. Fordyce. The rest of the district covered was wilderness, over 8000 acres in all, so was all to the north of it, and much to the east.

In Nichol, south of the Grand River, the Broken Front and the first concession are shown. John Macleod owned the farm just east