

and supply their necessities.' That man was George Hamilton. Many hands made light work, and temporary houses were soon erected for the grateful strangers."

George Hamilton had not been long the owner of property in Barton Township before the Gore District was formed with the Town of Hamilton as its capital. His own residence was close to the base of the mountain, on what is now called John street. The highway from Niagara to Ancaster followed the line of King street (called the Ridge Road because it kept to the driest ground), and thence along John street up the mountain. He owned large quantities of land and the transfers of property are among the prominent names of that time—James Durand, Daniel Springer, John Springer, Thomas Dexter, Ann Kribbs, — Aikman, Samuel Barker, Philip Crips or Kribbs. These patents and records cover a long period and give an idea of land values covering ninety years. George Hamilton lived to see the village he had founded become a flourishing and important town. Hamilton is now among the large cities of Ontario. On his death Robert Jarvis Hamilton became the head of the family.

ROBERT JARVIS HAMILTON.

His first wife was Catharine Robinson; the second, Mary Wright. By these marriages there were twelve children.

Robert Jarvis Hamilton was a prominent and influential citizen of Hamilton, but he did not, like his father, aspire to parliamentary honors. George Hamilton represented Wentworth in the Upper Canadian Legislature from 1821 to 1830, when he was succeeded by Allan Napier McNab.

The Hamilton family have ever occupied a prominent position in the history of Upper Canada. They were a manly, generous and progressive race, doing much to develop this country. The living descendants of all branches of the Hamilton family are numerous.

George Hamilton died in 1836. He left two sons and three daughters. He died without a will. According to the law in those days the eldest son inherited if there was no will. His eldest son, Robert, came home from Texas. He divided the property and gave each of his sisters their share of property. These instances of generosity are not numerous and are gladly recorded to the honor of those who performed them.

Hamilton Brothers were owners of vessels plying between Kingston and Queenston. These vessels conveyed supplies of all kinds between these two points. On land their teams, often of oxen, conveyed these supplies to the most distant settlement. There was no business in which