

Mill at Coldwater, continued in operation till the Huron Mills were erected by Mr. Copeland on the site of the defunct glass factory near the railway station. Later Mr. Copeland erected the Flos Roller Mills at Elmvale. He also built the Georgian Bay Hotel block and inaugurated the Summer Hotel. He took an active part in forwarding many public enterprises connected with the town. Watson Copeland of Wyebridge was a son and the late Mrs. Graham of Barrie, Mrs. Arksey of Wyebridge and Mrs. W. F. H. Thompson, Penetanguishene, (all deceased), also Mrs. James Darling of Penetanguishene and Mrs. Colwell of Toronto, are daughters. Mr. Copeland's second wife was Miss Johnson of Hillsdale. George Copeland of the Huron Mills, ex-Mayor, and Charles Copeland of the Flos Mills, Elmvale, are sons, and Mrs. Colwell of Toronto and the late Mrs. Emerick were twin daughters. Mr. Copeland died in 1890, aged 75 years, and Mrs. Copeland died in 1914. There was a Geo. Copeland, Jr., a nephew, who came from Van Wert, Ohio, about the time of the American Civil War, and later returned to the U.S.

Carolus Gendron was born at Newmarket in 1827 and came here when eleven years of age. His mother had been a Miss Algeo, daughter of a trader of Italian descent, who settled on Penetanguishene Bay in the early days and married an Indian woman. He was probably of the family of Algeos who settled in West Gwillimbury in the early twenties. Mr. Gendron's father was Charles, half brother of Michel Gendron, who built the first tannery and was born in Quebec of French parentage. Mr. Gendron claims that he has thus French, Italian and Indian blood in his veins. He learned the cooper's trade and was handy as carpenter and mill-wright and helped to build the old Gendron tannery, the old lock-up and Copeland's grist mill and various pioneer buildings in the town. He established the first and only cooper shop on the corner of Main and Brock Streets where Mr. Day's residence now stands, and for many years did a cooperage business for a wide extent of country. His shop in later years became noted as a repository of odds and ends, literally from the four corners of the earth and if it could have been preserved would have formed an attraction fit to compete with Dickens' famous "Curiosity Shop" of old London. The family with some neighbors, in coming here, started from Holland Landing in a canoe and crossed Lake Simcoe to the Coldwater Portage; thence from Coldwater to the Garrison in batteaux. A large family of sons and daughters are well-known residents of the town.