

namely, Mrs. Donald McDonald, Mrs. John Cameron, Mrs. Roderick McIntosh, Mrs. John McIntosh, and Mrs. Donald McKinnon, (Little,) Mrs. Murdoch McLeod, and Mrs. Alexander McIntosh.

To prevent wrong impressions respecting the first pioneers who settled in this parish, as well as the three succeeding bands of immigrants - which up to the year 1858 closed up the settlement of this extensive congregation, I wish to state here, in the outset, that not one of them was of that pauper class of immigrants, from different parts of the British Islands, whose passage money and other expenses to this Province, and other parts of the Dominion were, either paid by the parish from whence they came, or by the Government. On the contrary, many of them were in such fair circumstances at home, as to land here with considerable amounts of money; while all of them, had paid the full amount of passage money for themselves and their families, in ships freighted by themselves. In fact, they were all of the best blood the Highlands produced; of that class, from which Wellington and other great British Generals drew their best and bravest soldiers.

Early in the summer of 1831, a large band of stalwart young Highlanders, chiefly from the Isle of Skye, accompanied by their families—emigrated to Prince Edward Island, at that time, sparsely settled with a population of about thirty-two thousand people, while Ch'town was but a village, with a population of about twenty-five hundred people, some of whom settled in the Southern part of Queen's County, while some twenty families, induced by the prospect of purchasing land in fee simple, and on easy terms, decided to settle on Lot 67, which at that time, with the exception of the Haslam family on the north end of it, was an uninhabited and an unbroken wilderness, covered with a beautiful dense forest, of heavy hardwood, spruce and pine. Unmolested save by the paw of the wild animals, the land enjoyed its Sabbaths.

Taking into account that these people were unaccustomed to the use of the axe and other conditions unavoidable in their new and untried circumstances, and taking into further account

that the only approach to their new quarters, was by a bridle path, along blazed trees, from Alexander Johnston's on the Princetown Road—a distance of seven miles, to Springton where now your beautiful manse stands, the pioneers must have been endowed with more than ordinary courage to face the hardships and trials confronting them; but as the most of them had some means, to tide them safely over the first year, as well as pluck and self-reliance, the prospect of buying their farms at reasonable rates more than outweighed their doubts and fears.

The names of the first pioneers were Miles McInnis (Mulmoire), Donald McKinnon (Donnhal Mor), James Nicholson, Donald and Alexander Martin, John Ross, Peter Stewart and his son John, Malcolm McDonald (Callam Ban)—a grand type of the old, venerable highland Chieftain, and his three sons, Donald, John and Alexander, Malcolm McLeod (Callam Prior), John McLeod (Brebatar)—another type of the Highland hero, and his son Donald, lately deceased, Lodwick McIntosh (Mul Donich)—a man of patriarchal bearing and appearance, and his four sons, Roderick John, Alexander; and Donald and John Mathewson, and his father Jonathan, who was the first man who died and was buried at Springton, Murdoch McLeod (joiner), and his brother Alex. who is still hale and hearty though over eighty years of age, he is the father of education in the settlement, and Donald and Angus Beaton. These were joined a year or two afterwards by Angus McDonald (Aonghas MacCoirinan), John McDonald (Ainnach Raighal), Angus and Ronald Stewart, John Cameron, George Cahill, Nathaniel Kelly, Robert Todd, Neil McKinnon (Neal Ruaigh), Donald McKinnon (Donnhal Beag), Donald McLeod (Mac Lachlan) Malcolm McLeod (Callam Crubach), and his brother Alexander (Sampson), and John McLeod (Tann Ban Saor).

As all the northern part of Lots 31, 65, 29 and 30 and all Lot 22 save a small portion at the north end—as well as the eastern ends of Lots 25, 26 and 27 were still, and for some years after, an unbroken wilderness, their nearest neighbors to the west were the Wrights of Middleton;