

ronto was a grand-daughter of Capt. James Hamilton, she being a daughter of Capt. T. G. Anderson who married Elizabeth, daughter of Capt. Hamilton by his first wife, and therefore great grand-daughter of Surgeon David Mitchell. On his return to Canada with his family, Capt. Hamilton was stationed a short time at Drummond Island, which must have been previous to 1828, as it was in Nov. of that year the garrison was removed to Penetanguishene. Capt. Hamilton was possessed of considerable mechanical genius. He was the inventor of what is known as the "Feather Water Wheel" improvement attached to side-wheel steamboats and other craft in universal operation and which he did much to further perfect and improve. From his estate on North River to which he retired soon after receiving his appointment as postmaster at Penetanguishene, between which and North River there was direct water communication, he was wont to make frequent excursions here with his new propelling apparatus and try conclusions with sailing craft on the bay, in which contests, local authorities affirm, he sometimes got "worsted." The late H. H. Thompson used to relate an account of one of these trials of speed in which Capt. Hamilton came last in the race. His duties as postmaster were generally performed by proxy, either by his brother-in-law, Andrew Mitchell, (the office being in the same building) or by his son, William B., who, at his father's death, was appointed to the position, and who had virtually discharged the duties of the office for several years.

William Basil Hamilton was married twice. By his first wife, whose name or family we have so far failed to learn, he had one daughter, who became Mrs. Bernard, and who died at Richmond Hill. His second wife was Miss Jessie J. Campbell, daughter of Lachlan Campbell of the garrison, by whom he had a large family, several dying in infancy. Their births and deaths are duly recorded in St. James' Register. One of his sons, Lachlan H. of Lorne Park, Toronto, became a civil engineer and was in the C.P.R. land office at Winnipeg, and consulting engineer for the railway for several years. Another son, Rev. Heber J. Hamilton, is Anglican Bishop of mid-Japan. One son, W. A., is postmaster of Collingwood, and Basil G. Hamilton of Wilmer, B.C., is another. Mrs. Leask of Collingwood is a daughter. Mr. Hamilton was elected first Parishioners' Warden at the consecration of St. James' church in 1840. At a Vestry meeting in St. James' church, 1855, those present expressed their regret at the prospect of