

As stated above, two brothers named Darragh were early settlers here, and this fact, coupled with that, that a number of their descendants still remain, has caused the place to be designated 'as the Darragh Settlement. The Darraghs are among the substantial and prosperous farmers, of the township.

JOHN MCCRANK came from the County of Antrim, Ireland, about 1827, and settled on Lot 13, Concession 5. He had four sons—James, John, Daniel and William, and three daughters; of the latter, one died young; Mary and Eliza, married, live in this section.

William, the youngest son, after living several years on the homestead, moved to the township of Lowe; the other sons all live in this vicinity, have good farms, and are among the industrious respected farmers.

John McCrank, one of the sons, has a farm adjacent to the homestead; he was married 14th November, 1861, to Elizabeth J. Moore. They have five sons and two daughters, to whom they have taken no little pains to give the advantages of an education. Niel, the third son, is teaching in Fournier; Morgan, the youngest, is teaching in the Smith Settlement; John, the eldest, is a Veterinary Surgeon in Plattsburg, N.Y.; James is a mechanic in Vancouver, B.C.; Patrick and Margaret A., the youngest daughter, are at home; the eldest daughter is married.

ROCKDALE.

Rockdale is the name given to the place where BENJAMIN ANDERSON—noticed in the history of Jessup's Falls—settled about the year 1831; this was on Lot 16, in the 6th Concession.

The large old orchard, shade trees and other things which render it pleasant and attractive also identify it as the old homestead, where more than one generation of children has played, grown up, labored, planned, and then scattered to play other parts in the drama of life.

This pioneer had four sons and three daughters; of the former, James remained on the homestead, and was married about 1850 to Maria Johnson. He was a man highly respected, and influential, and filled the position of School Trustee, Assessor and Justice of the Peace for many years, with much ability; he was also a Lieutenant in Captain Hagar's Company of Militia. It was in his office of Magistrate, however, that he was enabled to do much good and display his sound judgment. A Christian man, an Elder in the Presbyterian Church, and of a pacific disposition, his first effort was always to make peace between contestants, and in this laudable design he was usually successful. He died about 1875; Mrs. Anderson survived till 12th November, 1892.

In 1836 he planted acorns, from which sprang two trees, now standing near the dwelling, one of which is, at least, 16 inches in diameter, the other twelve; each of them being, doubtless, not less than sixty feet in height.

Mr. and Mrs. Anderson had eight children—four of each sex—who arrived at maturity; of these, the eldest son, Benjamin Johnson, has remained on the homestead. He was married 18th April, 1881, to Adelia Coot of Montreal, and since that event he went to the North West, and was employed some time on a survey in Alberta. He has been a School Trustee several years, and was a member of the 18th Battalion till its disorganization.

Very soon, or about the same time that Mr. Anderson came to Plantagenet, came also Alexander Shields, George McAuley and Samuel Wilkinson, and settled near him.