

J. P. HUTTON, Esq.

The father of the above was born in Perthshire, Scotland. He came to this Country in 1819, and lived in Quebec for a couple of years, then came to Niagara, was married and lived there ten years and in 1831 he came to Township of Chinguacousy where he settled and lived until 1875 when he died at the good old age of 82 years, leaving nine children, eight boys and one girl, and 33 or 34 grand-children.

J. P. Hutton was born in Niagara in the year 1821. Settled in this County in 1831. In 1855 he married Miss Jemima Worts of Chinguacousy. In politics grit and taken an active part. He has been engaged in farming and lumbering most of his life, owning three hundred acres of land in a block, about a hundred of which are cleared; was President and Director of the Peel Ag. Society (see notes); was appointed Magistrate in 1857; is captain of the militia; has been a member of the Chinguacousy Council for about ten years, holding the position of Deputy Reeve all the time.

PETER LAIRD, Esq.

Peter Laird, Esq., one of the old settlers of the County rivers, on Lot 11, 6th concession, west of Centre Road, Township of Chinguacousy. He was born in the State of Vermont in 1807, where he remained until he was 21 years old, when he removed to Canada. He first went to Niagara District where he followed his trade, carpenter and joiner, for three years, after which he purchased his present property at a cost of \$1,000, and has remained on it ever since and followed the Agricultural business. His farm is now one of the best in the country, with a handsome brick residence and fine commodious barns. He was married to Catharine, daughter of Andrew Millen Esq., in 1837, and has had ten children, eight of whom are still living. He has always taken the Reform side in politics, working heartily for his party. He is a member of the Christian Disciple Church, and is also a strong advocate of the temperance cause. His father, Peter Laird, was born in Scotland and emigrated to the State of Vermont where he resided until his death. Mr. Laird is very highly esteemed and highly respected by all who know him as being a stirring honest and upright man.

ELISHA LAWRENCE, Esq.

John Lawrence, son of William and Margaret Lawrence, was born the 10th of April, 1754, in New Brunswick.

Mary Lawrence, daughter of Peter and Mary Regean, was born 22nd of March, 1766.

Elisha Lawrence, the subject of this memoir, was born in New Brunswick, on the 18th day of December, 1799. He settled on lot 2, concession 9, in the Township of the Gore of Toronto, County of Peel, in the year 1821. He had previously made the contract of making the Gore road which was to part pay for his land, and a short time after he settled he completed the job, which proved highly satisfactory to all concerned. When he first settled in the Township he had to carry his grist fifteen miles to Richmond Hill. He was married on the 18th of December, 1823, to Sarah, daughter of Isaac and Mary Devens, they having six children, four of whom are still living. He never took any very active part in politics; he was several times offered political positions but would never accept any of them.

John Regean Lawrence, son of the above gentleman, was born the 6th of December, 1830, and was married to Annie Kersey, the 20th of April, 1865. They have had six children—three sons and three daughters.

Isaac Lawrence, son of Elisha and Mary Lawrence, was born the third of June, 1836, and was married to Mary Kersey, daughter of William and Margaret Kersey, the 13th of December, 1860. They have had eight children—four sons and four daughters.

GEORGE LESLIE, Esq.

Mr. George Leslie's parents were named John and Lillie Ann Leslie, and were born in the County of Tyrone, Ireland, and removed from there to England where they remained a short time. It was while there the subject of our sketch was born on the 30th of January, 1799. He with his parents came to New York in 1819, and remained at that place for two years. While there they met with Mr. Buchanan, the British Consul, and his father and his three sons received an order from him to get land in Chinguacousy, from the Canadian Government, amounting to three hundred acres. On receiving this order they left the States and came to Canada and arrived in the County of Peel in 1823, where he remained until his death. Mr. George Leslie drew the land on which he now lives, where he has continually followed farming up to the present time. He has been extremely successful in his undertakings, having amassed a large lot of property. He was married to Elizabeth Standish, daughter of Joseph Standish, Esq., on the 4th of April, 1826, who have had ten children—six sons and four daughters. On the 4th of April last they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, and there were present, besides a number of friends and relations, their children and grandchildren to the number of thirty-seven. In 1837 he shouldered his musket under Capt. McNabb and went to Toronto but was not in any actual engagement. He has been member and elder in the Presbyterian Church for about thirty years. Mr. and Mrs. George Leslie still live on the old homestead and are both enjoying good health and bid fair to be long spared to their numerous friends and relations.

WM. McLEOD, Esq.

The subject of this sketch was born in Caithnesshire, Scotland, in 1838. At an early age, and having a great idea of the dry goods business, he went to learn it at Wick, and afterwards going to Glasgow where he remained until thinking that America offered greater inducements to young men, he emigrated to Canada in 1857. He first went to Oakville, where he clerked for a short time, afterwards going to the United States where he remained until 1863, when he came to Georgetown and entered into the dry goods business. After forming several partnerships at different times, he now stands at the head of the firm of McLeod, Anderson & Co., the celebrated "Mammoth House." The establishment being such a popular one, and being one in which every person takes such an interest, it was thought that a brief description of the premises would be of interest to our readers. The establishment is situated on Main Street, Georgetown, is built of brick, two stories high, with basement; it is 100 feet long and 34 feet wide, and from 30 to 40 hands are constantly employed. The basement is crammed full of all kinds of reserve stock, and looks more like a wholesale warehouse than a retail dry goods store. On entering the store on the left side will be found all kinds of haberdashery, fancy goods and small wares, rich dress goods from all climes, silks of all patterns and colors, prints, piles of black and colored lustres, paramattas, French merinos, Persian cords, &c. On the right hand side there is first a complete stock of boots and shoes from the smallest and cheapest to the largest, most expensive and stylish; a special clerk attends to this department. Further on will be seen immense quantities of flannels, including both Canadian and foreign manufactures, staple goods consisting of tickings, towellings, table damasks, plain, check and fancy shirtings, denims, brown, white and striped duck, piled together reaching to the ceiling. Ascending a few steps we come to the gentlemen's department, where we find the whole center occupied with tables on which are piled immense

quantities of ready-made clothing available to the wants of the general public. In this line of goods the firm makes a specialty, ordering most of their clothing from European manufacturers some time in advance, so that goods are made particularly suitable for the trade done in this part of the country. These goods are generally bought for cash and consequently can be sold at the very lowest prices, which is one reason why the Mammoth's ready-made clothing business has become such a popular institution. The greatest pride of this department, however, and that which has made the Mammoth House so famous, not only in Halton, but in surrounding counties, is their fashionable ordered clothing. The most intelligent and expert cutter that money can procure is always secured, and from the stacks of West of England broadcloths, doeskins, venetians, coatings, worsted coatings and trowserings, Scotch, English, French, German and Canadian Tweeds, fancy vestings, &c., no gentleman can fail to be suited either in style or price. In this department there is also a complete assortment of gents' furnishings, including hats and caps of every description and latest designs. From this we ascend to the upper flat where is the celebrated millinery and mantle show room of the country. This room is filled with shawls from India, the latest novelties in millinery from Paris and New York, pattern mantles from London and Paris, flowers from France, feathers from the wilds of Africa, parasols and silk umbrellas to protect from rain and to preserve the complexion of the fair ladies from the sunny summer, and furs from all regions to shield them from the cold blasts of a Canadian winter. This is where the "happy couples" may procure their wedding trousseaus, not only in millinery and dress goods, but in carpets, of which one of the most complete stocks is kept west of Toronto, together with all kinds of house furnishings pertaining thereto. The whole establishment is a model of neatness, a special manager being appointed for each department. It has been the wonder of the country that such a large business could be carried on so successfully in such a small town as George town, and that it would make such rapid strides each year, but there is only one answer for this, that is a thorough knowledge of the business, and any amount of energy and perseverance.

ARCHIBALD McVEAN.

The parents of the above were natives of Scotland and came to Canada in 1818, and settled in the Gore of Toronto, in the year 1819, they being the first white settlers in the Township, the survey of the Township not being completed at that time. Archibald McVean, Esq., was born in Scotland in 1804, and emigrated with his parents in 1818, being then a lad of 14 years. He came into the Township when it was nothing but a wilderness, with not even a road to travel on, and consequently hard work became very familiar with him, but he proved himself equal to the task, and has been instrumental in the clearing up of a good quantity of land, and has also been closely identified with the interests of the Gore, having served them in the Township Council for twenty-five years, and as Director of the Township and County Agricultural Societies. In 1836 he married Miss Helen Gordon, and they have had eleven children, ten of whom are still living.

ROBERT C. MCCOLLUM, Esq.

Peter McCollum, father of the above, was born in New York State in 1784, and came to Canada with his parents in 1793, and first settled in Grimsby. In 1820 Peter McCollum settled in Esquesing, near the present village of Georgetown, and built a grist and saw mill, and lived there four years when he and his family removed to the County of Peel, where he remained until his death, which took place in 1840. He was in active service all through the war of 1812-15, and was in the battles of Queenston Heights, Lundy's Lane, and nearly all the others, and received a commission. In 1837 he was appointed Lieut.-Col. of the Gore militia, and although his force was not called on to go to battle, they kept themselves in readiness to do honor to their country. His eldest son, Robert C. McCollum, the subject of this sketch, was born in St. Catharines, in 1809, and came to the County of Peel, with his parents, in 1825. He was married to Miss Jane Stevenson, of Little York (Toronto), in 1834, and has had nine children, eight of whom are still living, six sons and two daughters. He was a volunteer in the Government troops in 1837. He was at Navy Island and assisted to drive Mackenzie and his followers from our shores. Mr. McCollum has held many positions of trust from his fellow men. During the agitation about the separation of Peel from York, he held, besides other offices, that of Clerk and Treasurer of the Township of Chinguacousy for nineteen years up to 1873, when he resigned. He was acting magistrate and commissioner and devoted a large amount of time to the settling of disputes between neighbors in the early years when lawyers were not so plentiful as now. He has been deputy returning officer for twenty-five years and was the first postmaster in the Township of Chinguacousy, with the exception of Brampton. In all he has held eleven commissions from the Crown at different times. In his younger days he followed the mercantile line, and was for three years in the lumber business, with those exceptions he has followed agriculture. He has always been a Conservative in politics, and been very decided in his opinions, but his position of deputy returning officer prevented him taking that active part that he no doubt would, had he been otherwise situated. He has been a member of the Church of England for many years, and supported that Church to the best of his ability.

MR. JOHN PARSONS.

Isaac Parsons, Esq., was born in Lincolnshire, England, and emigrated to Canada and settled in Chinguacousy in the year 1836. After living in that township for five years he came to Caledon East, where he remained until his death which occurred in 1867, deeply regretted by all. John Parsons, the subject of this sketch, is the third son of Isaac Parsons, was born near the village of Caledon East, and owns the farm on which he was born, but at present rents it to another party. He at present lives in the village of Caledon East, a view of his premises will be found among our illustrations. On the 11th of November, 1874, he married Mary, daughter of Henry Proctor, Esq., of Albion, who have had two children. Mr. Parsons is a builder and contractor, having commenced the business at the age of nineteen years. He has erected a large number of buildings, making a specialty of the "Denis Patent Barns," of which he has built a great many, and on account of their growing popularity he expects to be fully employed at them for some time. Mr. Parsons commenced life with no capital, but by diligent attention to his business and a thorough knowledge of it, he has succeeded in paying for all he has and several thousand dollars besides.

PALERMO AGRICULTURAL WORKS.

W. A. LAWRENCE, PROPRIETOR.

This extensive foundry is situated in the Village of Palermo, in the County of Halton, and is noted for its excellent machines. It was built by the late Jacob Lawrence, Esq., father of the present proprietor, in 1842, and from that small beginning has attained its present large proportions. Their reaping machines and farming implements have generally obtained a wide and favourable reputation, and through the enterprise of Mr. Lawrence the business is yearly increasing.

MELVILLE PARKER, Esq.

Mr. Melville Parker, of Cooksville, the present Warden of Peel, is the second surviving son of the late Admiral Sir William Parker Bart. and was born at Weymouth, in the County of Dorsetshire, England, in the year 1824. He is heir presumptive to the Baronetcy, presently held by his brother, Sir Henry Parker, of Toronto. He came to this country in 1841, and in 1848 married Jessie, youngest daughter of the late Thomas Hector, Esq., of London, England. He has one child, a daughter, married to Lieut. Andrew R. Gordon, R.N., who has settled in Cooksville. Mr. Parker has been in the different Councils, township and county, for the past 18 years. He was a member of the County Council during the struggle for separation between York and Peel, and took a determined part against separation. Peel, however, was separated from York in 1866, and since that time Mr. Parker has been most active in building up his county. And it may here be said that Peel is one of the lowest assessed counties in the Province, when at the same time it has given bonuses to three railways, viz.: T. G. & B., C. V. R., and the H. & N. W. Mr. Parker has been a consistent supporter of the Conservative party. He is a member of the Church of England.

WM. PORTER, Esq.

Mr. Porter's father was born in Yorkshire, England, and his mother in Derbyshire, England. They emigrated to this country about the year 1819 with their parents. The father first settled in Philadelphia and was an extensive contractor, first on the Erie, then on the Welland and Rideau canals, at which he was actively engaged for 10 or 12 years, after which he went to the Township of Vaughan where he permanently settled, after marrying Miss Eliza Hughes who at that time lived in Niagara. He died in 1866, but Mrs. Porter still lives and enjoys extremely good health. Although living in the Township of Vaughan he owned property in the Gore and was among the earliest settlers of that neighborhood. Wm. Porter, the subject of this sketch, was born in the Township of Vaughan, in 1835. He lived with his parents until the age of twenty-five, when he settled on the farm on which he now resides and which was willed to him by his father. In 1861 he married Mary Peton, of the Township of Markham and has had eight children, all living. He has been largely identified with the agricultural industry of his county, having occupied the positions of President of the Gore Society for four years, and Director of the County Agricultural Society for a great many years. He has been a member of the Gore Council for eight years, four of which he was Reeve, and held the honor of Warden of the County for one year. He is a member of the Church of England. In politics he supports the Reform cause.

CHARLES ROBINSON, M.D.

The father of the above was born in England, his mother was a native of Scotland. They emigrated to Canada in the year 1830, and settled in the Township of Chinguacousy in the year 1832. They purchased the property on which the village of Claude now stands and were among the earliest settlers in the neighborhood. The subject of our sketch, Dr. Robinson, was born in 1835 in the village of Claude. He farmed and went to the common school alternately until the year 1821, when receiving a certificate from the school board, he was appointed teacher of a school near Brampton. In 1859 he attended the Toronto High School, and in 1860 matriculated in the University and obtained a license from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Upper Canada to practice medicine. In 1862 he came back to his native place, Claude, and commenced practice as a physician, where he remained during the summer months of that year, when he left to attend a course in the Jefferson Medical College and graduated with honors the following year. He again returned to Claude and resumed his practice and kept steadily to it until 1872, when he left for Europe, where he attended the hospitals at Glasgow, Edinburgh, London, Vienna, Austria and Paris, when he returned and again resumed his practice in Claude, where he has built up for himself an exceedingly lucrative practice. His practice having increased to such an extent, he has associated with him Dr. Tremble, who has lately passed his examination with credit to himself. In 1869 Dr. Robinson married Miss Ellen Standing, daughter of John Standing, Esq., of Claude, who have had six children. He has always been associated with the Reform party, and has been several times invited to be a candidate for Parliamentary honors by his party. He has three brothers—William, George, and Andrew; Andrew practices medicine in New York City, while William and George follow agricultural pursuits.

WILLIAM ROADHOUSE, Esq.

The father of the above was born at Monkfrystone, West Yorkshire, January 23rd, 1774. He was a stone mason and engraver on stone. His mother, Elizabeth Cressey, was born at Emingbrough, near Selby, July 27th, 1774. They were married January 31st, 1795. Wm. Roadhouse, Esq., the subject of this sketch, was born at Monkfrystone, March 21st, 1796. At eleven years of age his father took him into his business, so that his education in consequence was very limited, although he made considerable improvement afterwards. His father was very strict with him while under his control, but he thought it was for his good. At 19 years of age his father gave him his liberty to go and work for himself, which he did, and he got work at Leeds, where he worked through the summer. From there he went to Rochdale, Lancashire, where he remained three years. On the 2nd of May, 1819, he married Miss Sarah Cass, native of Rochdale, met his father's family at Liverpool on the 14th and sailed on the 26th of the same month for Canada in the ship Evergreen, Capt. Rathburn, bound for New York, where they arrived after seven weeks and three days sail. From thence they travelled to Albany, and arrived in York on the 12th of August, 1819. They remained there three months, then moved to where Aurora now stands, where they spent the first winter. While there they met with many kind friends. They drew their land from the Government and in December a few of them engaged Mr. Grohont, a surveyor, to go with them and run a line across the Township of King to Albion, and find out their land. After leaving Yonge street three miles there was no more road, and for several weeks Mr. Roadhouse, his father and brother, travelled with a week's provision on their backs. They were obliged to camp out at nights and had to suffer many hardships and privations, but the prospect of a home cheered them on. In April, 1820, after much trouble and hard labor, they got their families moved. They succeeded in raising a nice patch of corn, pumpkins, potatoes, and several other small roots, so that by the fall they had plenty of provisions, such as they were, to last them through the winter. They took two cows with them, so they had plenty of butter and milk. Neighbors were few and far between. For two years after going to Albion they never saw the face of a white woman at their house except themselves. In January, 1830, Mrs. Roadhouse died and left four children; three of whom are still living. Mr. Roadhouse married the second time to Miss Sarah Knott, of Toronto, July 17th, 1832. Her father, Mr. Knott, was born at Birmingham, England, came to Canada the time that Governor Simcoe came. He belonged to the Queen's Rangers and landed at Fort George in the year 1793, afterwards moved to the garrison at York. His first son was born at York in 1794, being the first European child born where Toronto now stands. From the two families there are thirty-two grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren. In the year 1824 Mr. Roadhouse was appointed collector for the Township of Albion, for which he received the amount of £15.17s. A few years after the rebellion he was appointed magistrate. The family together drew 400 acres of land from the Government. Mr. William Roadhouse still lives on his 100 acres with his youngest son, who is postmaster of Mount Wolfe. The remainder of the land is in strange hands. They got their first milling done and their supplies from Newmarket. The family throughout have always been loyal to the British Government.