

# MULMUR

THE STORY OF A  
TOWNSHIP



Published by  
Mulmur Historical Committee  
1951.

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## The Story of a Township

Published by the Mulmur Centennial Committee  
on the occasion of the One Hundredth  
Anniversary of the founding of  
Municipal Government in  
the Township,  
1951.

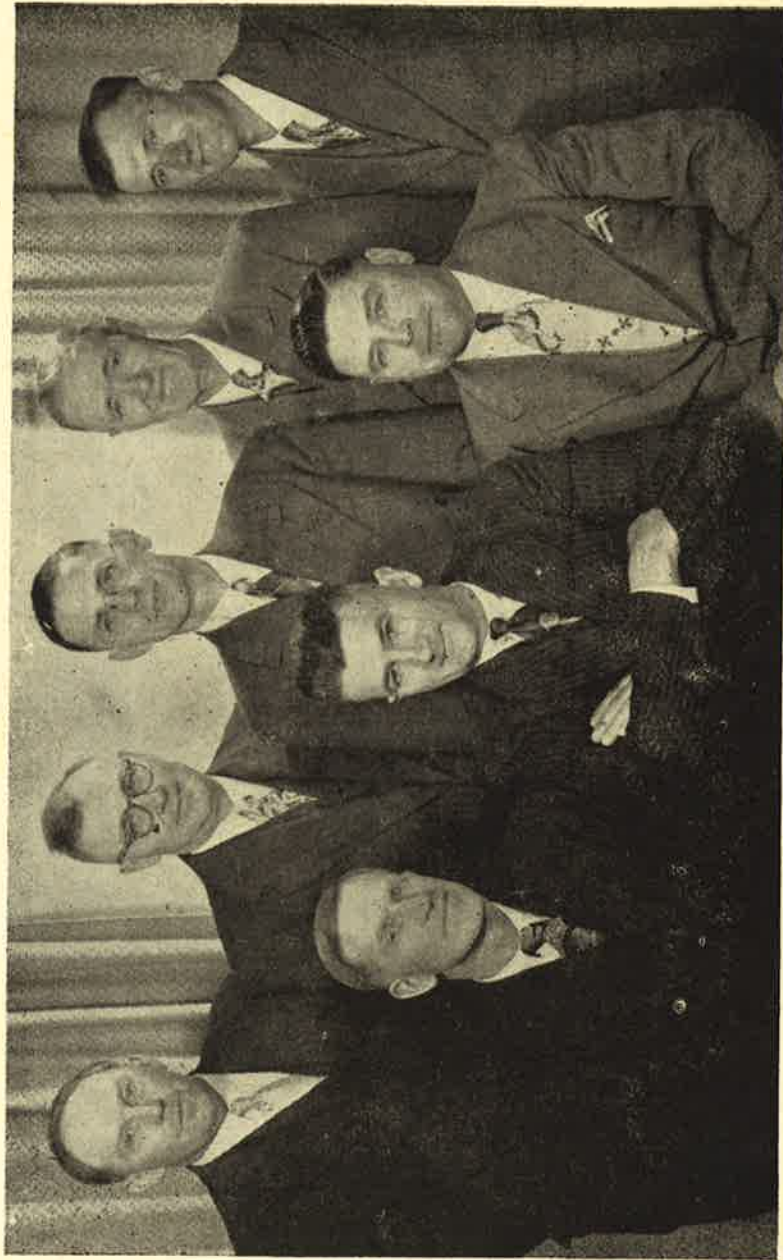
*This copy of the Mulmur Centennial  
Book is, according to instructions  
given by the 1951 Council, this  
day placed among the records of  
this municipality.*

*March 26, 1952.*

*E. H. Reid  
Clerk.*



# MULMUR TOWNSHIP COUNCIL AND OFFICIALS



Left to right: Front row, Councillor H. A. Leitch, Reeve Claude Duffin, Deputy-Reeve Austin Rutledge; back row, Road Superintendent C. W. Bates, Treasurer Charles Foster, Clerk E. H. Reid, Councillors W. F.

## TOWNSHIP OF MULMUR DUFFERIN COUNTY CENTENNIAL

To fittingly observe 100 years of Municipal Government, this Township held a Centennial Celebration on June 30th, July 1st and 2nd, 1951.

The Committee responsible for this historical sketch realize that only a part of the story is here related. It is also realized that reference to many prominent pioneer residents has been overlooked. This was unavoidable in the time at our disposal. Your indulgence is asked for what has been overlooked. We think you will enjoy what has been compiled in the following pages.

THE HISTORICAL COMMITTEE.



## INTRODUCTION

The Centennial Historical Committee respectfully dedicate this book to the memory of the pioneers and their descendants of the Township of Mulmur. The desire of the Committee has been to record for posterity the achievements of the men and women who made our township—who transformed a wilderness into a smiling land. Our chief regret is that due to the shortness of time to gather the material and lack of space many of the interesting and important happenings of those days could not be mentioned.

The Committee also wish to express our deep appreciation for the valuable assistance we received from Mrs. J. Edgar Jamieson, Mrs. R. J. Wallace, Mr. Argue Parkhill, the ladies who compiled the Women's Institutes' Tweedsmuir Village Histories, and many others. Had it not been for their valuable help we would have fallen short of what we did accomplish.



## TWO NATIVE SONS WARDENS OF ADJOINING COUNTIES

It is a coincidence that two native sons of Mulmur Township are serving as Wardens of adjoining counties for the year 1951.

Mr. Claude Duffin, Reeve of Mulmur, is also Warden of Dufferin County in this centennial year of his native township.

Mr. George H. Shepherd, who was born and spent his boyhood in the Primrose district, near the south-west corner of the Township, is now a leading business man in Creemore where he has been Reeve for five years and is the 1951 Warden for the big County of Simcoe.



CLAUDE DUFFIN



GEORGE H. SHEPHERD



## Mulmur, Township and Municipality

As far as can be ascertained, land was first granted to prospective settlers in the Township of Mulmur in 1825, under regulations drawn up on January 31st, 1824, in the fifth year of the reign of His Majesty King George IV. The first farms taken up were along the south edge of the township but records in the Registry Office at Orangeville show farms taken both in the Whitfield and Mansfield districts before 1830. The first settlement of any size was in the south-east corner of the township, near Rosemont. The Hands and the Walkers settled around what is now Stanton very early and in 1837 John Gallagher settled on the East Half of Lot 13, Concession 4, thus beginning what was later known as the Gallagher Settlement. At the same time several farms were being occupied in the south-west part of the township. The growth of these settlements was slow at first and Smith's Canadian Gazetteer gives the population of Mulmur in 1846 as being two hundred and eighteen and the value of all rateable property in the township as £2878. It also states that there are twenty-two thousand acres of crown land available which can be purchased for eight shillings per acre. About 1848 a group of young men from Yorkshire settled in the north-west section of this township on land that a certain Mr. Wood of Toronto had received as a grant for service in the militia. A little later they were joined by other settlers from England, though not from Yorkshire. These were followed by families from Northern Ireland but the title Yorkshire Settlement was used to describe the area around Honeywood for many years. According to an old municipal history, the first settler in Mulmur, in the Banda district, was John Clemenger, who located on Lot 32, Concession 6, in 1851.

Land was taken up rapidly in Mulmur in the years immediately following 1848 and the Assessment Roll of 1858 (the oldest one still in existence) shows almost all the farms in the south half of the township occupied, or at least owned, by someone. The same is true of the north-west section around Honeywood and a narrow strip along just south of the north townline. But, with the exception of a few lots along the Centre Road and a few south of Honeywood, roughly everything from Lot 16 to Lot 26, right across the township was crown land.

Of course there was no municipal government, except such as was carried on by magistrates appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor, in rural Upper Canada prior to the union of 1841; nor were there any township councils until after the passing of the Baldwin Act in 1849. Therefore William Campaigne, the Magistrate for Mulmur, was the first person to exercise any authority on the local level in this township.

Squire Campaigne, as he is always respectfully referred to in the early records, was born in France about 1788. His people left France at the time of the Revolution. It is not certain where they went first but it would seem that it must have been some part of the British Isles. When he came to this country is not known, but his grandson, Mr. William Campaigne of Mansfield, states that he can remember hearing his grandmother say that they were married when they crossed the Atlantic. Later he came to Mulmur and settled on Lot 4, Concession 6. During the early days Squire Campaigne was the man to whom the people came not only for him to settle their quarrels and disagreements but also for advice and guidance. He was the appointed leader of the township and as such is the predecessor of all the Reeves, the elected leaders, that there have been in Mulmur. After the setting up of township councils he remained deeply interested in the welfare of this municipality, being especially active in urging that the law be strictly observed and in promoting the opening up of the Sixth Line. He died in 1859 and lies buried just north of the ruins of old St. Luke's Church.

At the first session of the Parliament of United Canada an act was passed setting up district councils, with certain limited authority in municipal affairs. At first Mulmur was in the Home District, later to become York County, but a court house and jail having been erected at Barrie, the District of Simcoe was formed in 1843. This district was larger than the present County of Simcoe and included both Mono and Mulmur and the eastern part of what is now Grey County. The district council consisted of representatives elected by the residents of the different townships and towns. Some townships had two representatives while in other cases two townships were united to elect one member, the representation being according to population. There is no record of Mulmur having any representation in the Simcoe District Councils of 1843-44-45, but in 1846 Peter Cody sat as the Councillor for Tossorontio and Mulmur. Mr. Cody remained a member in 1847 and 1848 but in 1849 his place on the District Council was taken by William Hammel.

In 1849 the Baldwin Act was passed establishing municipal government, as we know it today, in Upper Canada. The District of Simcoe became the County of Simcoe, the townships for the first time elected councils of their own and the county councils were, as today, composed of their Reeves and deputy-Reeves. In 1850 Mono and Mulmur were united for municipal purposes with one council for the two townships. The Reeve of the united townships was a man whose sur-



name was Island. After one year Mulmur withdrew from the union and in January 1851 was incorporated as a municipality.

This brings us to a man who did more than anyone else to organize municipal government in Mulmur, John Little. The first postmaster in Mulmur, the first clerk of the divisional court and later the first clerk and the first treasurer of the municipality, he deserves to share along with William Campaigne the title of "Father of Mulmur." John Little was born in County Monaghan in Ireland on May 1, 1802. He emigrated to Canada in 1824, received a grant of land, on September 14th, 1825, consisting of Lot 1, Concession 7, in the Township of Mulmur and shortly afterwards came to this township, being one of its first settlers. Documents in the possession of his grandson, Mr. W. J. Little of Rosemont, show that he was appointed postmaster for Mulmur, in the Home District, on the sixth day of July, 1841, and that he was appointed as Divisional Court Clerk on November 12th, 1852. This last mentioned document is signed by John Beverley Robinson, Chief Justice, and by William Henry Draper and Robert Gaston Burns, Associate Justices of the Court of Queen's Bench of Upper Canada. Another issued under the authority of Lieutenant-General Sir William Eyre, K.C.B., Administrator of the Government of the Province of Canada and bearing date of September 3rd, 1857, appoints him a captain in the Eighth Battalion, then in Simcoe. The most interesting of all these papers is one drawn up in Montreal in 1847 and signed by the Earl of Cathcart, the Governor-General, confirming his original grant of land made in 1825.

John Little was the man who drew up our first bylaws, figured out our first taxes, wrote the minutes of our first council meetings and was the adviser and guide of the first councils of the infant municipality. And let us not forget, he had little or nothing to look back to for municipal government in any form in Canada was not many years old. To use a common expression he had to start from scratch, and it is hard to realize how much Mulmur owes this man.

After serving as clerk and treasurer for some years he retired and in 1862 was elected to the council and at their first meeting his colleagues elected him reeve. He only remained one year in the council. On October 17th, 1866, he passed away, in his sixty-fifth year, and lies buried in St. Luke's Cemetery.

The first Council of the Township of Mulmur consisted of Paul Gallagher, John Cooper, James Mitchell, William Hand and David McCutcheon. As it is believed that all the members of the 1850 Council resided in Mono and as Mr. Cody and Mr. Hammel lived in Tossoronto, these men would be the first persons in Mulmur to be elected to a municipal office. The first council meeting was held on January 21st,

1851, and as the reeve was then elected by the councillors from amongst their number, their first act was to elect Paul Gallagher, reeve. They then appointed John Little as clerk and treasurer, James Kirkpatrick as assessor and collector and such fenceviewers, poundkeepers and overseers of highways as were necessary for the new municipality.

This first council held three further meetings during the year; on April 26th, June 12th and July 7th. At these meetings, among other things, by-laws were passed fixing the height of a legal fence at five feet six inches, the Assessor's and Collector's salary at £8 7s 6d, the Clerk's salary at £8 and the Treasurer's at two and a half per cent of all money that passed through his hands in the year. Of special interest is By-law No. 5 which brought into effect in the Township of Mulmur a by-law passed by the District Council of Simcoe in 1848 setting out the duties of Fenceviewers, Poundkeepers, Overseers of Highways and other township officers. By-law No. 6 fixed the total amount to be raised by taxation in 1851 as forty pounds six shillings and nine pence.

As most of these first councillors were destined to play a leading part in the affairs of this municipality for some years it might be well to look briefly at their careers.

Paul Gallagher who resided on the West half of Lot 11, Concession 5, remained a member of the Township Council until 1862, being Reeve in 1851 and 1859. After an absence of some years he returned to municipal politics and was Deputy-Reeve 1869-1873 and in 1874.

John Cooper, who resided on the West half of Lot 4, Concession 8, remained a member of the council until 1860 serving as reeve for all but the first and last of these nine years. Mr. Cooper seems to have been the dominant figure in these early councils and played a very large part in guiding the affairs of the new municipality.

James Mitchell, who lived on the West half of Lot 2 Concession 7, served as a councillor during the first three years of this municipality's existence, then after being absent for one year was again elected to the board in 1855 and once more served for three years.

William Hand, who resided on West half of Lot 5 Concession 6, remained a councillor for eight years until 1859 when he retired and his place on the board was taken by his son Thomas, who became reeve in 1860.

David McCutcheon, who lived on the West half of Lot 13, Concession 1 E.H.S., served on the first four councils, then after an absence of three years he was again elected in 1858; out in 1859, he came back in 1860 and continued to occupy a seat at the Mulmur Council Board, without a break, until 1875. It is doubtful if anyone has ever



since equalled Mr. McCutcheon's record of twenty years service on this township's council.

In addition to these five men William Gallagher, Colwell Graham and David Thomas served as councillors during certain of the first nine years. Mr. Thomas who owned the west halves of Lots 29 and 30 Concession 8, was the first man from the north half of the township to be elected to the council.

At this time the elections were, of course, by open vote and all the ratepayers who wanted to vote had to come to a central place to do so. For the first nine years these elections were held at Paul Gallagher's house on the West half of Lot 11 Concession 5, and on May 16, 1859, Mr. Gallagher was paid £3 15s for the use of his house for the nine elections. The Clerk was the Returning Officer and James Kirkpatrick served as Poll Clerk for most if not all these elections.

These early councils faced many problems, most of the roads in the township were still unopened, there were hills to be cut, bridges to be built and swamps across which causeways had to be built, and they were often hampered by lack of funds. But they and the people generally went ahead manfully with the task of building a municipality within which it would be good to live.

Before many of the roads were opened the people travelled from one settlement to the other along trails that often led right across country through the bush. One of the best known and longest used of these trails led from the Fifth Line west along the height of land between Ten and Fifteen Sideroads to the Centre Road. But as more and more of the farms began to be cleared it became more urgent that the roads should be opened and travel along these trails discontinued. In 1851 only the Centre Road, the Seventh Line and probably the Fourth Line were open to Ten Sideroad. Ten Sideroad had not been opened from the Fifth Line to the First Line East and there were sections of Five Sideroad still unopened while as for the roads further north, except for the Centre Road, most of them were still covered with virgin forest. In 1852 a road was put over the hill opposite Lot 8 on the Sixth Line. Robert Hodgson and Thomas Frockens took the contract for this job and apparently took it at too low a figure because on October 5th of that year the Council, in response to a petition signed by many freeholders, granted them an additional five pounds seven shillings. At the same meeting it was decided to open the North Townline from the Sixth Line east as soon as funds were available. During the first five years or so the council seems to have been frequently hampered in its efforts by lack of funds, and such motions as this one recorded in the minutes of a meeting held on December

23rd, 1854, were not uncommon: "Moved that the sum of one pound fifteen shillings be paid to John Hicks for building a bridge on the Centre Road at Lot No. 17, as soon as there are funds on hand." However despite this lack of funds roads were being opened up all over the inhabited parts of the township. Much of this work was done by ratepayers doing their two, three or more days statute labour which every householder was required by law to put in, building or repairing the roads of his municipality. It is hard to imagine how roads would have ever been opened up in the newly settled districts, in those days, had it not been for statute labour.

Apparently this municipality received a large government grant some time in 1856 for then for the first time the council seemed to have considerable funds at its disposal. And at a meeting held on October 25, 1856, the council proceeded to vote a total of £338 to improve the township roads. Seventy pounds was to be spent on the Centre Road and an equal sum on the Sixth Line. The Council was eager to have these two roads completed so as to provide the people with at least two roads open for traffic from one end of the township to the other. Space will not permit the listing of all the other grants to roads made, but a few of them picked at random were: Sixteen pounds to build a causeway on Lot 31 on the Second Line West; fifteen pounds to cut down hill on Lot 6 on the Fourth Line; five pounds to open the road between Lots 5 and 6 in the First Concession W.H.S. and the sum of eleven pounds to open the Third Line from Lot 10 to Lot 15.

These early councillors were not concerned with roads alone, and very early they took steps not only to provide more schools but also to provide the schools, and through them the people generally, with good reading material. A motion moved by Paul Gallagher, seconded by James Mitchell, was passed on September 12, 1853, by which one half penny per pound assessment on the resident poll was levied to buy library books, and a committee consisting of Rev. John Fletcher, Reeve Cooper and James Mitchell was appointed to select the books. Later after the books had finally arrived they were divided among the six schools in the township and thus libraries were first established in the schools of Mulmur.

In 1855 a levy of forty pounds was made to build a township hall, or town hall as it was always called. In 1856 a committee consisting of Paul Gallagher, William Gallagher and John Cooper was appointed to supervise the erection of this building and it was completed the following year. About the same time, some time between 1852 and 1857, a court house was erected on the south-east corner of Lot 1 Concession 7. From the establishment of the Divisional Court until the erection of this building, court was held in John Little's house, a log



house which stood in front and a little to the south of where the present stone house stands on the farm he then owned.

The first council meeting held in the Town Hall at Perm was on May 26th, 1858. This hall was used for meetings and other gatherings for about twenty years and then was apparently allowed to fall into disuse. The Court House was destroyed by fire something over seventy-five years ago and a new one was built at Stanton.

At a meeting of the council held at Colwell Graham's house on October 10th, 1859, it was decided to divide the township into five wards, each ward to elect one councillor. Three wards were to be in the south and two in the more sparsely settled north. This decision was confirmed by a bylaw passed on the following 24th of October. It also fixed the following places as the places where the elections should be held in each ward and appointed the following first returning officers:

Ward One—School House of S. S. No. 1 ..... John Little  
 Ward Two—Town Hall ..... James Kirkpatrick  
 Ward Three—School House of S. S. No. 4 ..... Colwell Graham  
 Ward Four—School House of S.S. No. 5 ..... Samuel Hawkins  
 Ward Five—School House of S. S. No. 6 ..... Henry Perry

The first election under this system, held in January, 1860, resulted as follows: Councillors elected—Ward One, Thomas Hand; Ward Two, Paul Gallagher; Ward Three, David McCutcheon; Ward Four, Jonathan Copeland; Ward Five, John Thomas.

Seven years later the manner of electing a council changed. Reeves became elective by direct vote of the people. Also the same year Mulmur became entitled to a deputy-reeve. This necessitated the abolition of the ward system and on December 3rd a bylaw was passed dividing the township into polling sub-divisions. This bylaw provided only for two polling places. All living south of lot 17 were to vote at the Town Hall and all north of lot 16 at the School House of S.S. No. 7. James Kirkpatrick and Henry Graham were the first two deputy returning officers.

These were the days when railways were being built in the Province of Canada. Gradually the lines of steel were being pushed further out from the older settled areas and the people of Mulmur looked eagerly forward to the day when a railway would be built near to, or probably even run through their township. As early as April 6th, 1857, the council had endorsed a petition forwarded by the Town of Owen Sound to the Legislative Council urging the building of a railroad from Brampton to Owen Sound. Ultimately this railroad was built, but not for many years after 1857. It was on the east, however, that a railway was to come closest to the Township of Mulmur. The Hamilton and

North Western Railway Company, having built a line from Hamilton to Barrie, proposed to build a branch line from a point at or near Clarksville to the Village of Glencairn, and to promote the building of this line the Council of the Township of Mulmur passed a bylaw on May 1st, 1877, making a free grant or donation of five thousand dollars to the above mentioned railway company. This bylaw provided for the issuing of debentures to raise this amount and that the amounts required annually to meet the payments on these debentures should be levied against all rateable property in the five eastern concessions of the township. This money was to be paid over to the company only on condition that the line to Glencairn be completed by January 1st, 1878. This bylaw was voted on by the ratepayers, in the part of the township affected by it, on May 26th, and given its third reading by the council on June 30th, 1877.

Shortly before this there had begun an agitation for the formation of a new county. The first suggestion seems to have been to divide Simcoe into two counties, north Simcoe forming one and south Simcoe the other; and as early as 1869 a public meeting was held in the Town Hall to hear the views of T. R. Ferguson, M.P.P., W. C. Little, M.P., and others on this question. In 1874 when it was first proposed to set up a county with much the same boundaries as the present County of Dufferin this township went on record as being opposed to its being separated from the County of Simcoe. Nevertheless the Provisional County of Dufferin was set up in 1875 and in January 1881 Mulmur was completely separated from the County of Simcoe and became a part of the new County of Dufferin. According to the Act setting up the new county, the Township of Mulmur and the County of Simcoe were to arrange for the former to pay to the latter a sum equal to its proportional share of the outstanding debt of the County of Simcoe, at that time. This amount was fixed at twenty thousand four hundred and fifty dollars. Mulmur issued debentures for twenty thousand dollars to raise this money. These debentures bore interest at a rate of six per cent and ran for twenty years and the last payment on them was made in 1901.

The councillors, however, had more matters to concern themselves with than the building of roads, promoting the building of railways near to this municipality and worrying over what county we should be in. There were, as today, the many little things with which a council must deal: the raising of taxes, the appointing of officials and the passing of bylaws regulating this and that and the other thing. For instance, the two polling sub-divisions set up in the township in 1867 did not prove sufficient and Bylaw No. 81 was passed on December 7th, 1874, dividing the township into four polling sub-divisions. The



polling places were as follows: Polling Sub-Division No. 1, the Orange Hall, Lot 9 on the Sixth Line; Polling Sub-Division No. 2, the new school, Lot 11, Centre Road; Polling Sub-Division No. 3, the school house, Lot 28 on the Sixth Line; Polling Sub-Division No. 4, the school house of S.S. No. 5.

It also stated that nominations should be held in the Town Hall at Perm. In 1876 the place of holding the vote in Polling Sub-Division No. 4 was changed to the Orange Hall, Lot 25, Centre Road. A few years later we find the voting place in No. 2 being the Orange Hall, Lot 8, Centre Road, and still a little later the Anglican Church Hall at Whitfield. While by 1879 the place of voting in No. 3 had been changed to the Orange Hall, Lot 25 on the Fifth Line. In 1894 a bylaw was passed fixing the Orange Hall at Mansfield as the place for holding the annual nomination. In 1900 this was changed to the Orange Hall at Perm, where all nominations were held until comparatively recent times when the present system of holding them alternately at Honeywood and Mansfield was adopted. The number of polling subdivisions was increased to six in 1899 and to eight in 1949.

One of the things that had to be dealt with annually in the early years was the licensing of taverns. The first tavern license granted in Mulmur was in 1856. The number of these public houses increased rapidly and by 1873 there were eight licensed hotels in Mulmur. These were: The Mansfield Hotel, at Mansfield; The Stanton Hotel, at Stanton; The Queens Hotel, at Rosemont; The Prince of Wales Hotel, at Primrose; The Farmers Inn, at Banda; The Union Hotel, at Stanton; The Simcoe Hotel; The Mulmur Hotel, at Mansfield.

Another hotel, the Lavender Hotel at Lavender, while not appearing in the 1873 list, had been licensed for some years previous to that. The number of taverns in this township decreased as rapidly as they had increased and there are very few living who can remember when most of them were in existence. There were two reasons for this: first, the taverns had served a real need in the early days in providing accommodation for those would-be settlers looking for land and often travelling on foot or driving a yoke of oxen, but as the farms were taken up and better roads built, that need to a great extent vanished; the second reason was that with whiskey cheap, strong and plentiful, these taverns had tended to make merry communities in those good old days, resulting in a strong temperance sentiment growing in this municipality, as in the rest of Ontario, in the last part of the last century. On November 10th, 1899, a bylaw prohibiting the sale of any kind of liqueur in Mulmur was given its first two readings and having been approved of by the electors, received third reading on January 8th, 1900. Though this bylaw was quashed, on appeal, by a judgment handed

down by Mr. Justice Robertson of the High Court, it showed how strong the temperance feeling was in this township fifty years ago.

Acting in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health Act of 1884 a bylaw was passed on February 20th, 1885, appointing Mulmur's first Board of Health. This board consisted of the Reeve (Colwell Graham), the Clerk (Malcolm Colquhoun), Dr. Lawrence, James Mumford and John Williamson.

On June 2nd, 1886, the first borrowing bylaw was passed empowering the Reeve and Treasurer to borrow up to an aggregate of eight hundred dollars for that year.

The first bylaw to issue debentures for a school section to enable it to raise sufficient funds to build a new school was passed in 1878. The school section was No. 10 and the amount of the debentures six hundred dollars. The first general school levy to provide each school section with a fixed sum of money, commonly called the Township Grant, was made in 1891. The amount for each school, if it had only one teacher, was then one hundred dollars. Today it is six hundred. On July 3rd, 1903, the first bylaw authorizing the payment of a bonus for the erection of new wire fence to replace rail fence was passed. The amount of the bonus was fixed at 10 cents per rod and the first man to receive a bonus for wire fence in Mulmur was John Hunter for 120 rods on Lot 13. Concession 4. Several others, among them George E. Foster, received bonuses for wire fences that year.

And so amid changes, amid calm and storm, Mulmur has continued to prosper. Its assessment in 1858 was £41057; by 1880 it had risen to \$751,125.00; in 1950 it is \$1,452,195.00. Its population, after rising to over three thousand about 1890, began to decrease, and in 1950 was placed at 1734. But mere figures can not tell the story; the story is in the good homes that have been made and the men and women that have come from them. And in this connection we can not but think of the many men who so faithfully served their township, in the council, or as officials during the last one hundred years. Especially such men as Colwell Graham, John A. Love, Robert Gallagher, George Iaking, Paul Gallagher (nephew of the first reeve), and George E. Foster who gave long years of service to this municipality. And to this list we must add James Kirkpatrick who, except for a period of four years 1861-1865, assessed this township each year from 1851 to 1888. He also served as tax collector for the whole township, except for the four years mentioned above, for many years, and later after it became customary to appoint two collectors he continued as collector for Division No. 1 (the south half of the township), until 1891.

Space will not permit the mentioning of all those who have served on the councils of this municipality. Well and truly have they served



and we, who have entered into their labours, do today honour them all and with them all those pioneers, all those ancestors of ours who have made Mulmur a good place to live in. But we would like to mention those who formed the council in certain outstanding years. In 1867 the year of Confederation and the first year that Mulmur had a deputy-reeve, the council consisted of Thomas Hand, Reeve; Benjamin Beatty, Deputy-Reeve, and David McCutcheon, Winn Hand and John McClinton, Councillors. Ten years later in 1877, the year that the grant was made to the railway company, the council consisted of William Parkhill, Reeve; Thomas Hand, Deputy-Reeve, and Thomas Ferguson, Samuel Hawkins and Thomas Reaburn, Councillors. While in 1881 the first year after we were separated from Simcoe County, the members of council were Colwell Graham, Reeve, R. S. Campbell, Deputy-Reeve, and Thos. Ferguson, Robert Gallagher and George Lawrence, Councillors.

Colwell Graham, who was first elected to the council in 1858 and who later, after serving as Clerk for nine years and as Treasurer for eight, was first elected Reeve in 1869, held that office for fourteen years, a record never equalled before or since in this municipality. Archie Greer came next, serving nine years as reeve, while John Cooper, Thomas Hand and Robert Gallagher each served in that capacity for seven.

The Council for 1915 consisted of John Reburn, Reeve; Elijah Kidd, Deputy-Reeve, and James Barber, Seymour Newell and Thomas Stirling, Councillors. This council did many things and one of them that contributed greatly to the progress and welfare of this municipality was their decision to appoint the late George E. Foster as Township Clerk. Mr. Foster served this municipality faithfully for almost thirty-five years and when he passed away on March 18th, 1950, it seemed as if the foundation of municipal government here had given way. He sat with many councillors during those years and the writer can remember hearing him, in private conversation, shortly before his death, pay high tribute to them all, declaring them to be men who tried to the best of their ability to serve their municipality faithfully and conscientiously in their time. Mr. Foster was not spared to see the township he loved so well reach the one hundredth anniversary of its incorporation, but at this time we do remember him and also all those who, down through the years, have loved and served this Mulmur of ours.

## Communities of Mulmur

### HISTORICAL RECORD OF ROSEMONT AREA,

In the early days Mulmur and Mona Townships belonged to Simcoe County. Captain John Little and wife were the first white inhabitants. Later a brother and his wife came from Ireland. The Indians were the original settlers here and there. About 100 years ago Rosemont had approximately 140 residents.

An instance of real pioneering:—

In January, 1824, Captain John Little and his wife set out walking from Muddy York, following the banks of the Humber, to Mono Mills. Turning north through dense forest they finally reached their destination. It was a crown grant of 200 acres in Mulmur, being Lot 1, Concession 7. Incidentally, this farm has been in the family name for 128 years. Willis Little, the present owner of 100 acres, is a great grandson. Melville Little owns the other farm.

The story has been told that a Mr. Fletcher gave a pair of long leather boots (made by the Indians) to Capt. Little for 100 acres, the farm now owned by Mrs. Jos. Murphy and family.

Mrs. John Little was the first white mother of Mulmur. In winter time she had been known to keep the home fires burning and care for the children while her husband walked to Welland to work on the canal. For a time their nearest neighbour was six miles distant, and the nearest travelled road fifteen miles, i.e., Mono Mills. Here they walked the 15 miles to church, before a log church was built on their own farm.

Then a post office was built near the present residence. John Little was postmaster, afterwards appointed deputy postmaster for Mulmur. This was believed to be the post office before Rosemont had one.

A store and court house was built on the south east corner of the farm. As the township became more settled the court was established at Stanton.

Mr. Wm. Campaign of Mulmur tells us "that at one time he worked at Cumming's on their farm in Mulmur, and teamed for the store in Rosemont. He hauled hogsheads of wet sugar from Shelburne over corduroy roads. These were served to the public in small barrels."

### STANTON

At the cross-roads of the Sixth Line and the Five sideroad you find the village of Stanton. This was the second settlement in Mulmur, the settlement of Mulmur Corners being somewhat earlier.

The first settlers at Stanton were the Walkers and the Hands.



When it was felt a name was required to distinguish it from neighbouring settlements the two oldest families were quick to seize the opportunity to promote their family name. The Hands said "It's Handville." The Walkers said "It will be Walkerville." The Judge, to whom the responsibility of final decision was left, was quick to sense the sprouting seeds of discord and calmly pronounced, "You're both wrong. It's Stanton," and so it remains.

There were several post offices active in Mulmur before the Stanton office was opened, the probable reason being it was comparatively close to Mulmur Corners. But it was opened in 1867. The first postmaster was David Gemlo, owner of the Boyne Mills. He was followed in office by John A. Love, who remained as postmaster until 1912 when he moved to Alliston and later to Toronto where he passed away.

Mr. Love was followed in office by John Ferris who continued until rural delivery was started in 1914 when Mansfield was designated as distributing centre and the Stanton office was closed.

Although the first land was acquired at these cross-roads in the 1820's there was a long interval before the nucleus of the village was formed. The Walkers had acquired four hundred acres immediately adjacent to the village, the Hands the west half of lots five and six. Later James Walker sold to Winn Hand the farm that joined the north-west corner of the cross-roads and it was on this farm that all the first buildings were laid out.

We find in the municipal recordings of 1866 that James Walker, aged 22, was listed as a hotel keeper and merchant. Andrew Cauthers, aged 22, was a blacksmith; his shop was west of the corner on Five sideroad. John A. Love, aged 28, merchant, on the same property. Later Mr. Love built a store and residence on the south-east corner. This fine home still stands. Thomas Clothley, 30 years of age, was a blacksmith. Mr. Clothley later moved to Whitfield.

In 1866, Wm. Beatty of Banda built a hotel on the south-west corner of the cross-roads. Here Mr. Beatty continued in business until when he sold to James Walker. Mr. Beatty returned to his farm at Banda where he remained until his death. He rests in Christ Church Cemetery at Banda.

Mr. Walker continued the business until the hotels were closed by the Scott Act. The hotel building became the farm home until the Love home was bought by Mr. Walker and later the hotel building was torn down.

A shop was opened by Edward Pearson in the basement of the home now owned by Edward Beaton. The Pearson family occupied the living quarters above. Here Mr. Pearson did woodworking and carriage building. He moved to Everett in 1891.

The first court house in Mulmur was built at Mulmur Corners. This was destroyed by fire in 1870 and was replaced by a new court house at Stanton. Here the third Division Court of Dufferin was held. The first bailiff was Archibald Colquhoun; later Andrew Cauthers was appointed on the retirement of Mr. Colquhoun. Mr. Cauthers was followed by Joseph Armstrong, who in turn was followed by his son, John Armstrong, as bailiff.

Names of the Judges who presided were, Judge Gowan, one of the earliest; later Judge Maitland McCarthy of Orangeville, and he was followed by Judge Fisher.

After Mr. Love's resignation as clerk, John Ferris was appointed clerk of the court and remained until this court was closed in 1929. The work being done by this court was transferred to Shelburne. The old building was sold in 1931, and another landmark and link with the past disappeared.

In the 1890's Andrew Cauthers rented the blacksmith shop to Thos. Long, who carried on at Stanton for several years. After the turn of the century Mr. Long moved to Mansfield and began work in the Campbell shop. Mr. Cauthers resumed work in Stanton until his health and advancing years compelled his retirement. The land and shop were sold to Edward Beaton and the old shop disappeared.

The general store at Stanton was bought by John Ferris, when John A. Love was retiring. Mr. Ferris continued here until 1923 when he moved to Alliston. The store remained closed until bought by Mr. Hamilton Orr who is in business there.

One house in this neighbourhood, the fine stone house built by Edward Creary over a century ago, is well worth a place in the history of Stanton. To this house, on the Creary homestead, at the corner of the Seventh Line and Five sideroad, the wives and children of the settlers in this district were taken for protection at the time of the Fenian Raid. The windows were barricaded with feather mattresses and the night was spent there by a very frightened company. The men gathered at Rosemont in readiness for any eventuality. This farm remained in the Creary family until 1932 when it was sold to Robert Walker by Wm. Creary, the last surviving member of this pioneer family in this township. Gordon Barber has now established his home in this historic homestead.

The Stanton cross-roads is rather quiet now but still the centre of a busy, prosperous community.

At Stanton, the following farms are still occupied by descendants of the original settlers:—Osborne Irwin, Clyde Newton, Richard Cotton, Austin Rutledge, Reg. Greer, William Mitchell, Earle Greer, Robert Walker, Gordon Walker.



**WHITFIELD**

Mr. George Boyle, many years ago, operated a blacksmith shop and lime-kiln on the south-west corner of the first line and ten sideroad: "Beech-nut Corners" it was called at that time. Previous to Mr. Boyle, Mr. Comelious Fox had the blacksmith shop.

Mr. Thos. Dorsey had a log store where Robt. Clark, Jr., now lives on Lot 11, Con. 1, W.

Mr. Wm. Noble kept a tavern on Lot 7, Centre Road, on the farm now owned by Cecil Smart. Five lots north there was another tavern and log house where only a few apple trees mark the spot.

The steeple for the present Anglican Church at the corner of Centre Road and Ten Sideroad was drawn from Orangeville by team by Robt. Clark, father of Robt. Clark, Sr., residing at Whitfield.

Whitfield derived its name from a family by the name of "Whitley" who were on the Davison homestead.

Worthy of mention are the Williamson, Davison, Raeburn, Clark and McCutcheon farms where the third generation still carry on farming.

The log house recently torn down on Lot 9, Centre Road, was the home of Mr. John Dean, father of Mrs. Rice Hill and Mr. James Dean, who reside with Elwood Hill.

The bricks for the houses which replace many of the old log ones were hauled by team and wagon from Dundalk.

**PERM**

The first settlers at Perm were Hugh Gallagher and family of seven children, namely: Robert, William, Phoebe, Thomas, Paul, Hughie and Hannah, settling in Perm in the County of Simcoe in the year 1832.

Immigrating from Ireland they arrived at Mono Mills and as there were no roads of any description, had to carry their provisions across an improvised log bridge spanning the Boyne River. Clearing of their land, building a home and growing food were matters of prime importance. The famed Irish Linen was a main item amongst their treasured possessions from the "Old Country." Tales are still related of the wolves which were very numerous in this district—being so bold as to approach the doors of these early homes. Having no stores within reach these settlers were proficient in making and providing for themselves the necessities of life. Weaving their own cloth, making sugar from maple syrup, starch from potatoes, etc.

From information available it has been gathered that the families of William Whitley and Robert Lee, also from Ireland, were the next

to settle in this district. By the year 1887 the total population of Perm was 55.

In later years Hugh Gallagher donated \$500 to the building of the Bethel Methodist Church situated on the south side of the Perm crossroads. Also giving freely and ungrudgingly of his time and labour to help in its construction. Thereafter he donated \$100 each year towards its upkeep. This Church, being built in 1872, served the Perm inhabitants for a place of worship until being demolished around the year 1925. Next to this Church on the east side was built a house and blacksmith shop which was operated by Joseph Donahue.

Paul Gallagher built and owned the first store in the village of Perm, operating this business along with a saw mill at Podey Mills in the Township of Tossoronto.

Farmers still occupying land of their direct ancestors are: Aubrey Gallagher, Delmer Gallagher, Robert Gallagher.

**LAVENDER**

Lavender, on the townline between Mulmur and Nottawasaga, is a very old settlement. Israel Masten operated a hotel on the Mulmur side well over 100 years ago. Part of this hotel still serves as Leslie Davidson's farm home. During remodelling operations in recent years, records were discovered to indicate that it was built in 1837. When a post office was secured for the settlers it was called Masten's Corners. Mr. Masten was the first postmaster and brought the mail from Creemore once a week. He is also credited with owning the first team of horses in the settlement. Lavender did not receive its present name until 1860.

Lavender of 1951 has no stores or places of business. But in the past it boasted a hotel, stores, post office, blacksmith shop, Sons of Temperance Lodge Hall, two churches, a parsonage and a thriving cheese factory which used the milk supplied by farms for miles around. Rural mail delivery from Creemore, Dunedin and Honeywood now serves the farming community and takes the place of the post office. An advancement in communications was made when the Noisy River Telephones were installed. The hydro lines were built through the district in 1946 and electric power was first supplied to Lavender homes in November of that year.

It is now a community of farm homes with the exception of four houses at Lavender corner. The church is the only building left of community-wide interest. The cemetery is composed of one and a half acres bought in 1880 from John Dixon off what is now Sim Prentice's farm. It was purchased by the trustees of the



Methodist Church and is still administered by a local Cemetery Board composed of Mr. John Martin, Mrs. Bert Heard and Mr. L. Davidson. In the community there are still five farms in the same family name as the original settlers—Anderson, Brett, Hawkins, Johnston and Martin. The present operators are third generation descendants of the pioneers, Lewis Anderson, Reg. Brett, Morris Hawkins, Clayton Johnston and Earl Martin.

A sad part of the history of Lavender community lies in the many places, once homes which raised large families, that are now marked by a few old appletrees, a clump of lilac bushes, a tumble-down stone foundation, or perhaps, only a memory. Individual owners are increasing their land holdings but the population is away down. On the remaining farms small families of two or three children are growing up where the usual families of two generations ago numbered 10 or 12 children. The older ones tell of the "good old days" when the young men of the district were numerous enough to play football when they gathered at the corner on a summer evening. The First Line of Mulmur, East Hurontario Street, has only two occupied farms in seven lots. This community with farm deeds and buildings to prove its existence as early as 1837 is only one example, but we wonder if other sections of Mulmur in this, its centennial year, are following the same trend to become a deserted township?

## HONEYWOOD

In 1948 a band of young men, discontented with conditions in Yorkshire, England, decided to sail to Canada. This move was encouraged by an older person, John Foster, who, with his bride, had come to Canada in 1828. He could see advantages here and urged his chums to stay no longer in the land of their birth. John Foster settled in Peel County but two of his sons, Ralph and William, were among those who secured land in the bush at the north-west corner of Mulmur Township. Among these immigrants were the following: Robert Grey, George Siddall, Manuel and Mark Mortimer, John Corby, James Wilson, Reuben Storey, George Anderson, J. Broderick, R. Bell and Ben Lister.

These young men sent out two of their number to "spy out the land," and select a district where homesteads could be had at a low price, since land at the front had been taken up by earlier settlers. A Mr. Wood of Toronto owned this tract, having secured it as a grant for service rendered in the militia. This same man had the honour of choosing a name for the settlement. The story goes that he used his surname and that of his wife, making "Rosewood," but there was a

place known by this name, so he chose the sweetest substitute, "honey", so "Honeywood" was the name.

The land was dense hardwood bush. A small plot was cleared, a log cabin built, which provided shelter in the winter months. In the spring the boys went south where they secured employment with farmers on Dundas Street. Their earnings were necessary for living expenses and the purchase of implements to make further improvements. Only one man in this group was married in England, Robert Grey brought with him a dainty little wife who proved herself a real pioneer. They settled on the farm now owned by Hector Allen. Mr. Grey was appointed a Justice of the Peace and tried many cases and settled many disputes. Mrs. Grey was nurse, in fact doctor, for the entire community.

Ralph Foster located on the third farm north of Honeywood. His brother, William (father of George Foster, late clerk of Mulmur Township), settled a mile south of Honeywood, as did also the Mortimer brothers. George Siddall's farm adjoined the Foster farm on the north, now owned by Leslie Tupling.

With remarkable foresight these Yorkshire men selected those of their number capable of doing some special work in addition to



J. EDGAR JAMIESON

1875 — 1950

Native of Mulmur Township.  
Later Member of the Legislature  
for Dufferin-Simcoe for twelve  
years.



farming. George Andrews and John Corby were stone masons and could build fireplaces; George Siddall was an expert carpenter and joiner and for many years he made all the coffins required in this district. Jim Wilson could treat hides and could make dog-skin mitts and moccasins with great skill. Ben Lester was the local veterinary, in demand over a large territory. Mr. Bell had a knowledge of tailoring which proved most useful, though most of the clothing were made by the wives and daughters in the homes.

In time the value of the land in the "Yorkshire Settlement" was made known and other English families, though not all Yorkshire, moved in. Names common then were Brooks, Tupling, Copeland, Grainger, Coe, Hunt.

A few years later the Prince of Wales Road received a number of settlers, mostly of Irish nationality: the Bradleys, the Barbers, the Wallace family, the Jamiesons, the Crawleys, the Hendersons, the McCutcheons and the Hicks, while located on the Honeywood line south were George Graham and Stewart Murdy. Mr. Murdy had served as factor on a gentleman's estate in Ireland but saw no future for his family in that land. In a little log house he sheltered a family of seven and still found room for his loom on which he and his wife wove blankets and homespun for the entire neighbourhood.

At first the nearest Doctor was at Rosemont. About that time Mr. George Lawrence settled at nearby Lavender, but his four sons became residents of the Yorkshire Settlement, now known as "Honeywood." Dr. Robert Lawrence practised medicine for some years and grew peppermint from which he extracted the oil and sold it in quantities to wholesale druggists.

George Lawrence (father of the late J. R. Lawrence of Creemore) was first postmaster. He also conducted a general store. William Lawrence (father of Ashley) farmed for many years and served as reeve of the township.

The first blacksmith shop was that of Joseph Tupling. The first woodworking shop was that of Edward Siddall. Alex Coe made bricks on his father's farm on the "Prince of Wales." Later Richard Mortimer had a brickyard on his property south of the village.

One cannot but regret that few of the descendents remain on the farm first settled by their forefathers. Those of the third generation are Richard Tupling, Nelson Barber, Laverne McCutcheon and George Graham.

Because of these sturdy pioneers, who laid the foundation, Honey-

wood is a prosperous village with a modern arena, good churches, good school, good stores and comfortable homes. May we realize that we, too, have a responsibility to build for those who follow.

### GEORGE E. FOSTER

1877 — 1950

Clerk of Mulmur for 35 years

1915 until his death

March 18, 1950

No native born son of the Township was more widely known than George Edgar Foster. He was a son of William Foster, a pioneer settler of the Honeywood district. He retired from his farm about 1928 and spent the remainder of his life in the village of Honeywood.



Mr. Foster was keenly interested in the welfare of the Township and looked forward to the centenary planned for 1951 with much enthusiasm. He was an active member of the Presbyterian Church and also in Masonry. He travelled over much of Ontario in the capacity of a judge at fall fairs and as a sideline he carried on an insurance agency and did conveyancing for a large clientele. He was active up to the date of his sudden death which terminated a useful and well spent life.



## MANSFIELD

Mansfield, so named for the manse in the field, on the glebe, the home of the first Presbyterian minister in Mulmur, Rev. Archibald Colquhoun, received its name about 1859.

The first resident of the village was Jack Harper, a shoemaker, who built a house on the north-east corner. In the municipal records the first mention of Mansfield Post Office is in 1859. The name of the first postmaster is unknown but in 1867 this post was held by William Gilbert who kept the office in his hotel. This building was on the site first occupied by Jack Harper and was built by Cornelius Beazer. Mr. Beazer built two hotels here. The second was quite a pretentious building. It was a stopping place for farmers from the north and west going through to market at Bradford or Toronto.

Mr. Beazer sold the hotel to William Gilbert who continued in business until his death. Mr. Gilbert's widow married William Cotton, and they managed the hotel until his death. Others followed but before many years this hotel was closed; later James Dick opened a general store in the building but five months later it was burned down in 1898.

A second hotel stood where the Anderson residence now stands, after a short time it was closed as a hotel and became a private house. This house was later torn down.

After the death of William Gilbert, his son-in-law Malcolm Colquhoun was appointed postmaster. The next postmaster was Hezekiah Gilbert, a son of William Gilbert, who had come to Mansfield from Osprey, with his parents, in his second year.

The general store founded by Mr. Beazer, continued by William Gilbert, followed the post office to M. Colquhoun's house and from there with Hezekiah Gilbert to its present location. This store is now owned and operated by William Bates. Another store opposite to the Beazer hotel was built by John Black, who was followed as owner by William Gallagher and later James Reid. This store was destroyed by fire two months after Reid purchased it.

Mansfield was well supplied with craftsmen, able to take care of the needs of the people in those early days. Jack Harper was followed by other shoemakers, the last one being David Anderson. Another industry was a combination of carriage building, wagon making and wood working along with general carpentry. A shop for this purpose was opened by Avon Symington on the property now owned by Mrs. James Mitchell. A part of the old shop still stands on this property. Avon Symington built many of the barns and houses in the district and also the former Perm and Mount Pleasant Methodist Churches.

After Symington, in the same shop, came Howard Thatcher whose business was announced to the world by a sign which read "Howard Thatcher and Co., painters, glaziers, paper hangers and shoe makers." This business was carried on successfully for many years by Mr. Thatcher, then by Irwin Armstrong and in 1903 by William Cauthers who, three years later, built a new shop at the east end of the village.

Robert Campbell was the first blacksmith. His first shop was on the north-west corner, later this land having been bought by Hezekiah Gilbert, the shop was moved to the south-west corner. Mr. Campbell carried on this business until the time of his death; he was followed by John Law, Thomas Long and finally by his son David who carried on until shortly before his death in 1950.

A second shop was built by Robert Stinson on land now occupied



**WILLIAM GALLAUGHER**

1858 — 1949

A scion of the Gallagher clan, pioneer settlers in Mulmur, William was a teacher, farmer and storekeeper, also a keen follower of baseball and other sports. He died in Creemore June 1949, age 91 years.



by the United Church. Mr. Stinson continued in business some twelve years, when he was followed in the business by Joe Gilbert, (no connection of the Mansfield Gilbert's.) The district not giving adequate support to a second blacksmith, Mr. Gilbert left the village and the building was demolished.

John Abraham, butcher, harness maker and singing master, moved to Mansfield from Alliston in 1888.

Mr. Abraham slaughtered the animals and delivered the meat to farmers of the surrounding country. In his spare time he was employed making and repairing harness for the farmers.

Undoubtedly his singing classes were the most pleasant of his occupations. He had classes at Rosemont, Stanton, and Mount Pleasant Church. These classes were well attended, attendance varying from thirty to fifty.

Mr. Abraham with his wife, (daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Lamb) left Mansfield about the turn of the century and settled in Pickford, Michigan. There Mr. Abraham passed away. Mrs. Abraham and family returned to Mansfield, later moving to Toronto, where Mrs. Abraham died in the early thirties.

A Mr. Mathers who lived in a little house at the corner of ten side-road and the fifth line, plied his trade of tailor throughout the countryside. The sewing was done in the homes of the customers. The material used was, with few exceptions, homespun woven by the pioneer women.

Another name now almost forgotten was Munson, a journey man tailor. He journeyed long distances on foot carrying his few necessities, chief of which was beeswax for his thread and a pair of sharp scissors. He was likely to appear in the homes of the pioneers at any time, do the tailoring, and wander on to return in some months. He was a notable fisherman and loved the outdoors. In tailoring his specialty was a double-breasted vest with a rolling collar. You will see samples of his craft in photographs of that period. Many a dandy of the early days was tailored by Munson.

Mansfield community has always been interested in sports. At the Dominion Day celebration in 1870 there was a football and a baseball game. Ben. Leggett, who had played the game in England, coached the Mansfield football team which defeated their rivals from Stanton. In the baseball game, on the Mansfield team, were Sam Noble, pitcher; Stewart Noble, first base; Archie Noble, second base; Robt. Gallagher on third. Some of the Stanton players were Wynn Hand, William Hand, Thomas Bates and Thomas Campaign. Stanton won and the Mansfield team paid for their suppers.

Mansfield's first organized baseball team was made up of the fol-

lowing players: R. S. Campbell, William Sloan, Don Campbell, Jim Atkinson, Jim Taylor, Alex McIlroy, Jim Sallons and Archie McIntyre. Later a team was organized for Mansfield, Stanton and Perm. The players were William Gallagher, pitcher; David Kiernan, catcher; James Campaign, first base, and Robert McKee, William Sawyers, William Greer, William Campbell and George Campbell. In those early days the reward for victory was often the ball contributed for the game by the losing team. One year Mansfield had one from each of Honeywood, Creemore, Horning's Mills and Shelburne.

Since that time Mansfield has, with few years being an exception, had a baseball team which, like all similar organizations, has been a unifying force in the community.

Families still occupying land originally cleared by their ancestors, in the Mansfield district, are the Hodgson, Stinson, Colquhoun, McKee, Cook and Jamieson families.

### KILGORIE

The first land owned by anyone in this beautiful west-central section of Mulmur, known as Kilgorie, was owned by a Mr. William Clark Street who took out a crown deed for two hundred acres, being Lot 17, concession 1 EHS on November 6th, 1859. However settlement really began in this district in 1863 when James Lloyd took out a deed for the east half of Lot 19, Concession 1 W.H.S. The original log house built on this farm still stands. Two of the next earliest settlers in Kilgorie also bore the name of Lloyd, Benjamin Lloyd and his wife and family coming in from King, Ontario, in 1867, and William Lloyd in 1868. In 1872 Norton Maw settled on west half Lot 19, Concession 1 E.H.S. He cleared the land and later became Kilgorie's postmaster.

The roads in the early days were mere trails. The first real road was surveyed through the bush by a Mr. McNab, across Lots 19, 18, 17 and 16 from Terra Nova and out to Whitfield. Later the River Road was opened out to Horning's Mills.

In 1895 Thomas Huxtable bought the river rights and adjoining land on Lot 15 from Horace Free, canvassed for funds and having secured the money erected a dam and power plant which for a time supplied electric power to Horning's Mills. Later the plant was bought out by the Hydro and closed and the dam turned into a fish pond. Later still a terrific flood washed out most of the dam.

Today this part of Mulmur with its forest covered hills, its streams and its many fish ponds is attracting more and more tourists every year. There are few parts of old Ontario more beautiful than this part of Mulmur and we hope that many will come to enjoy it.

### AIRLIE

Airlie was a small village in the early days of Mulmur. It is situated at the cross roads of the townline and 25 sideroad. Its growth could be attributed to a saw mill at the foot of the hill, east of the intersection. To this day it is called "the mill hill." Daniel Zimmerman was the mill man.

There was a hotel, two stores, two blacksmith shops and about twelve houses. For many years the post office was in "Bradley's" house, that is the corner farm.

Among families who cleared farms and were pioneers were, Kidds, Morris, John Dickey, Bradley, Pangman, Jones and the family of John Hare. This settlement, not unlike many more, was made up of Irish stock.

### RANDWICK

Randwick is situated on the sixth line and 25 sideroad. The village sprang up as a result of the Parkhill and Smith lumber mills, south of the intersection on the sixth line. Very often eight or ten teams in a row would be seen on the sixth line, going probably to the blacksmith at Banda. When the pines had been cut off the mills moved and this small hamlet has only two buildings, namely a school house and a dwelling which was formerly the post office.

At the last of the sixties, houses sprang up as a result of the work, and there were at one time thirty-two houses, as well as a small hotel on the corner of the Drury farm. As trees were plentiful each family had free fuel.

Mr. Parkhill, realizing the need of a post office, applied and was given the right to open one in January, 1874, he being the first master. He served to the end of 1878 when William Henry took over until November, 1882.

For the next four years Mrs. A. G. Parkhill acted and was followed by John Bridal to March 1895; John G. Jones to September, 1895; J. A. Creech to March, 1902; John Wheeler to 1906. and the last postmistress was Mrs. Lavina Smalley until the office was closed in October, 1915.

A very old farm is Lot 29, Concession 6. The deed was issued in March, 1835. Mulmur was then part of Simcoe County and the Province referred to it as "Upper Canada." The Crown deed was issued to Elizabeth Markle, daughter of Edward Rychman, a United Empire Loyalist of Halton County. This lot was not cleared, but changed hands several times until it was bought by John Pengelly, and still belongs to the family. They cleared enough land to build a log house, which is still standing. They had a family of four sons and seven daughters, six of

whom are still living. In 1918 the youngest son, James, bought his father's farm and later built a fine cement house.

Another family, the "Fraser's" from Scotland, were early settlers. In 1865 they bought 100 acres of forest in Mulmur Township. They had lived a few years in Toronto and first John Fraser went up to this part and built a shanty of green logs. He moved his family, namely his wife and four children, with considerable hardship, coming by sleigh from Essa. From Glencairn they took a teamster's road in a south-west direction right through to the Fifth Line, Lot 27. They arrived in the forest December 17 and ten days later their fifth child, "David" was born.

They had two disappointments. After, with much labour, they finally cleared the land, it was discovered that the soil was quite poor. The second they encountered was to find that all their neighbours were Irish or English. Such a longing did this devout mother feel to hear her beloved Gaelic tongue she used to walk twelve miles to the East Notawasaga Church.

In spite of all the hardships, the forest must have been a healthy place in which to live. A doctor was never called to the home until the family were all adults and this pioneer mother lived to the age of ninety-four.

Other names familiar in this district were Carson, Grainger, Weir.



ERNEST AUSTIN WEIR, B.S.A.

Commercial Manager Canadian  
Broadcasting Corporation.



## BANDA

Banda was one of those tiny villages that sprang up in the last century, served its purpose and disappeared again. At this date, the present generation may read these stories with surprise and feel that they belong to a higher civilization. Let us remember that the early settlers possessed a hospitality and a spirit of co-operation that is hard to find in our present generation. The amusements, the joys, the social conditions of the people and their shortcomings, as told by our older people, give us a picture of our forefathers.

In the sixties Banda had an Agricultural Fair. It was held "right on the street" in October and attracted large crowds of people. There were entries for farm products, horses, cattle, etc. The carriage makers exhibited their wagons, the blacksmiths their handiwork. Perhaps the main purpose of the Fair was the market. Buyers, who came from Toronto, followed the same itinerary year after year. Following Banda Fair was Rosemont. The cattle bought at Banda were driven down there to join the ones purchased at Rosemont. The next Fair was at Primrose. The buyers had other fairs along the way to Toronto. Eventually the cattle which had been bought at Banda reached Toronto after having been driven all the way. Benjamin Beatty was the local buyer. The horse show was quite good and there were many interested spectators. There were both trotting horses and heavy teams.

Bull fighting was not on the program but one old timer remembers that when the Fair was over the boys were often given a few cents and left in charge of the livestock for a while. Of course accidentally two bulls would be allowed to meet, and then the boys had their fun. Time was not dull, as one might suppose. One who spent his entire boyhood at Banda assured us, "We had lots of fun." At one time there were eighteen girls living in the village.

Sam Wilcox was the first hotel keeper. The wagon shop had several owners, Mr. Loughheed, Mr. Montgomery and Mr. Banner. The first blacksmith was James Woods. He was followed by Mr. S. Gowan who lived there many years. The harness maker was Sam Sweetman. Jimmie Anderson, who was a very small man, was the shoemaker. Billy Bell, who liked to tell a yarn that included himself, used to tell this one: "He left his heavy boots with Jimmy for repairs. When he called for them, the boots were set on the work bench. There was no one in the room, but a continuous tapping could be heard. Presently Jimmie, with hammer in his hand, came out of Mr. Bell's boot." Tom Tracy was the travelling tailor. He came to the house, measured you and made the suit.

Gleaned from the Atlas of Canada, 1881: In the extreme north of

Mulmur, John Clemenger, Lot 32, Con. 6, in 1851 (that is the farm now owned by Cecil Lennox). His son, W. J. (Bill) was born, 1852, probably the first baby born at Banda. Mr. John Clemenger was the first postmaster. In 1868 Joseph Hood kept the store and post office in the building now owned by the Hawksworths. In the eighties Mr. Hood sold his store to Mr. J. D. Carveth. He left in 1893. Rev. Mr. Gallagher, a Presbyterian minister, had the store and post office for a time. One of his sons who was born at Banda is Secretary of the World Council of Churches. The next storekeeper was Mr. Alfred Allen, who owned the farm now occupied by Maurice Maltas. In 1900 Mr. Allen rented the store to Benjamin Beatty. The postmaster was Mr. W. Irwin. Mr. Beatty kept the store until 1903. From then on there was no store, but the post office continued until 1913.

Among other familiar names in this district were William Lattimer, Samuel Wilcox, Benjamin Beatty, William Beatty, John Clemenger, Flack, James McLaughlin, William Coleman.

## MRS. W. D. GRAHAM

Who died at Sault Ste. Marie on December 12th, 1936. She was formerly Margaret Jane Rusk, a daughter of the late William Rusk of Ruskview. She was thrice married: first to C. H. Ayers, secondly to John Dean; her third husband was W. D. Graham. She was born in 1858.





**RUSKVIEW**

Ruskview, once a busy little spot, got its name from the Rusk family and from the wonderful view.

Until about 1875 this corner was called Black Bank and the mail was carried to and from Honeywood twice a week. Mr. Seymour Newell walked or rode on horseback, carrying the mail when a boy of fifteen.

Shortly after that, the name Black Bank was moved to the place which now bears its name, one and a half concession west of Ruskview. For a time there was no post office.

About 1880 an acre was sold from what is now the Newell farm and a blacksmith shop, store and dwelling house were built. Across the road on the corner was a small frame house a few rods west of the

**PIONEERS NEAR RUSKVIEW****HERCULES RITCHIE**

1850 — 1939

Hercules Ritchie and his wife who was formerly Jane Bates, early residents of Ruskview and Blackbank district. Mr. Ritchie was born in Ireland 1850, came to Mulmur 1870, and died 1939. His wife was the oldest daughter of the Bates family who were also early settlers. Several descendants are now living in the Township.

**MRS. JANE BATES RITCHIE**

1856 — 1942

corner. The people tired of the poor mail service, petitioned the Government for a Post Office and it was then Ruskview came into being.

Mr. Robert Reid was the first postmaster and it was he who bought the acre from the Newell Farm. This was later sold to Thomas Farley. Another blacksmith shop was built where the spring is. This was owned by Mr. Robert Rinn, while Joseph Rinn, his brother, lived on the farm now owned by Robert Ritchie.

In the meantime old Mr. Rusk passed away. Many of his grandsons had settled on farms. So far the farm on the south-western corner has always been owned by the Newell family.

The post office was held by Mrs. Rusk on the north-west corner for a number of years. These buildings have since been torn down with the coming of rural mail.

The present School was built in the early nineties. The present Orange Hall was built about 1908. Thus the corner was built up and torn down, and the family after which it received its name all gone. Still the view remains, and the grandeur unsurpassed.

It is interesting to note Lot 29, Concession 4, was originally settled by Joseph Lennox who secured the deed from the Crown in 1848. Later his son, Robert, carried on and in turn Robert's son, Wesley, still lives on the farm in this centennial year of our township.

**CHARLES FOSTER**

Treasurer of Mulmur Township since 1950. Previously he had been the Township Road Supervisor. Mr. Foster is widely known as an auctioneer. He retired from his farm in 1949 and is now operating a store at Ruskview corners.





## VIOLET HILL

In the search for the origin of the name Violet Hill we found that the name was given to a Post Office in the home of Francis Robinson at the fourth line Mono-Mulmur townline. The year is not known. It is told that Mrs. Robinson chose the name because the hill around was covered with wild violets. From the Robinsons the Post Office was moved to Samuel Parson's home in the present village of Violet Hill, then to Herb Dickey's, William Allen's and in later years to the home of John Thompson just east of the village. These men, as well as being postmasters, carried the mail. At first it came from Rosemont and then from Shelburne.

In those early days there was a sawmill owned by John and David Hawkins who were also builders. A blacksmith shop was owned and operated by Samuel Bowers. Where the present Orange Hall now stands there lived "Old Mr. Grashy" a well digger and the neighbourhood dentist. Robert Brinkman and Richard Holt operated a shingle mill. Other early residents were Dicksons, Andersons, Reids and Barbers. Violet Hill also had a hotel called the Bluejay. A well built log house still stands that was built by "Coon Anderson."

### Societies

Violet Hill did not lack societies in the "good old days." The "Good Templers" was a man's temperance organization which erected a log cottage on the Aberdeen farm. It was started principally by Wilsons, Braidens, Hares, Halberts, Hoggs and Martins. The P.P.A., a very secret society, was formed in the Templars Hall by Mr. John Coburn. The "Chosen Friends"—for both men and women, for the purpose of insurance—met once a month in the Templars building. Also the Grangers was formed and held forth in a log building built on the Parson property, founded by Goldwin Smith. Goods were bought on a co-operative basis, members taking turns at bringing supplies from the station. A well equipped Library (Mechanics) was brought to the community by a committee of local people. Membership was 25c. Books were housed in large cupboards in the Templars Hall and then in the Orange Hall which was erected in 1898.

The Women's Institute was organized in June, 1911. The first president was Mrs. Albert Madill and secretary-treasurer was Miss Sarah Newton. This organization has contributed much to community welfare until the present time.

In 1872 Methodist Church was built on the Nicholas Parson farm. The land was given free as long as the building was used for religious purposes. It was dedicated by Rev. Campbell. Prior to the building of

the church, services were held in the Parson home with Mr. Nicholas Parson as class leader assisted by John Newton and Adam Halbert. Offerings for the new building were gladly given, some giving \$40 and \$50 out of their scanty income. At first there was no organ, so Mr. Parson and Mr. Newton "raised the singing." The Mulmur Church was a log building erected on the second lot of the fifth line, where a devoted people met to study the Gospel. In 1875 a brick church was built. In connection with this church a cemetery had developed on the John Robinson farm. It is said that Grandfather Robinson was the first person buried there in 1854 and John Robinson in 1858. As was the fate of all country cemeteries, time brought neglect, and Mulmur was no exception. In 1937 the Fifth Line Pioneer Cemetery Association was organized. It was sponsored by Mr. Cliff. Hand, Mr. Robt. Liddy and Mr. Alonzo Parson. This work was supported by Violet Hill Women's Institute. The grounds were cleared, tombstones erected and a stone gateway built. Fences were repaired and finally the church was taken down. A small building was built from the material salvaged from a spacious shed on the church property. An annual church service is held and many old friends meet to honour the departed pioneers. An endowment fund was set up as a means of providing perpetual care.

We think of the old days when the community was young. When the people came across the sea from England and Ireland mainly, braved the hardships of a virgin country. These men and women of indomitable will toiled in the home and in the open fields for the safeguarding of everything they held dear. They had the love of freedom and the stubborn resolve to win through at all cost hidden away in their pioneer hearts.

Three farms that have been in the same name for almost a century are: Richard Cotton's, 96 years, Mrs. W. J. Newton's, 95 years, Alonzo Parson's, 94 years.

## BLACKBANK

Black Bank is a beautiful hamlet situated on 25 sideroad between Concession One and the Centre Road. It was first called Britannia. In 1866 the late William McClinton purchased Lot 26 Concession 1, Mulmur, from the Crown. In 1876 he sold a mill site from it to Mary Plewes and Mr. Tarbush with the privilege of building a dam across what was called on the map "Dufferin Creek." It was a great trout stream, in



fact one man caught over 500 of the speckled beauties in one day. This may seem like a fish story, but it is true. Mr. Flewes built a flour mill soon after the transaction. Some of the millers were James Flewes, Tom Turrell, Geo. Smeal and T. Wallace. One morning in the '80's the mill went up in smoke and that was the end of the flour business.

About the time Mr. Smeal was miller there was a post office called Black Bank on W. half Lot 25, Con. 2, now owned by L. W. Newell. The first postmaster was Mr. Henry Allen (Uncle of Mrs. George Rusk). Next, Mr. John Newell, and after continuous service for many years he wished to give it up, and no one near wanted it. In the meantime Mr. Heitman of Collingwood bought one-half acre adjoining the mill site and built a general store. At first Mr. Creach was his clerk and then his son, Harry Heitman operated the store. He offered to take the post office. As there was another post office called Britannia and the Postmaster-General would not allow Black Bank to be changed to Britannia, but would let the Black Bank post office go to Britannia and it had to be called **Black Bank**.

Black Bank got its name as follows: Mr. Allen lived on the Newell farm (Ruskview) and the nearest post offices were Honeywood and Whitfield. Mr. Allen had a friend, a relative of Mr. Henry Graham, store-keeper at Banda. He was a humorous chap, fond of a joke. As Mr. Graham had some influence with the Government, Mr. Allen got him to fill out the application for a post office. Mr. Graham filled in the application for a post office and in the space for the name he put Black Bank, knowing it was a dirty little hole in Ireland he hated. Mr. Allen was displeased but he thought he could change the name later—but alas, to this day it is still Black Bank.

#### Life Around Black Bank

A woman who lived near the village in 1861 expecting her second baby, went to Orangeville, as there was no doctor nearer. When the baby was ten days old she carried her and her clothes to Whitfield. Her husband met her there and carried the baby home. The ground was covered with snow as it was in December.

In those early days the men and women went to church. Accordingly a pioneer had made a new sleigh with maple saplings called a jurrer. He took his wife and babe and when coming home the driver got off at the top of Black Bank hill to guide the oxen. He tried to make them go north, but they turned south and ran down a very steep hill. The mother clung to the baby and the oxen ran one on each side of a tree which stopped them more quickly than if you had said Whoa.

#### BOYNE MILLS

In a valley shaded by tall elms, sheltered by encircling cedar-covered hills stands the Boyne Mill. It has from the early days played an important part in the economy of this district. Down through the years it has kept step with the progress of the community.

No one now living knows who named the river, from which it draws its power, "The Boyne," but as all the settlers were from Northern Ireland it might have been any one of them. Anyway it is still the Boyne, and the name, coupled with a bit of brogue, still noticeably marks this as an Irish settlement.

The first need of the settler was in 1824 as in 1951, flour, and up until approximately 1865 the closest mill to the settlers in this district was the mill at Sheldon, which was built in 1828 and is still active. Many bushels of wheat were carried on a man's back down over the Mono hills to Sheldon Mills. Later horses were owned by most and the burden was lightened, but not until well on in the last half of the century was the mill built on the Boyne. This mill was built by Edward McMulkin; the carpenter was John Sindalls.

There is little known of the history of the mill between the building date and 1867 when it was acquired by David Gemlo. Mr. Gemlo was, according to an atlas of Canada published in 1881, a miller, a farmer and postmaster at Stanton. He owned 235 acres of land, the farm now owned by Geo. Armstrong, the farm recently purchased by Robert Anderson, and the mill site in the valley. The Armstrong farm was the Gemlo home. The fine house destroyed some years ago by fire was built by Mr. Gemlo, also the barn still in use on that farm. All this property, mill included, was valued, according to the atlas, at twenty thousand dollars.

There is another blank in the records until we find the property owned by Mr. Datlon McCarthy, M.P. for South Simcoe, who acquired it by virtue of a mortgage from one Joseph Gordon. Mr. McCarthy never lived on the property but through the years it passed through a succession of tenant millers.

There were three mill stones in use in the mill. One of the McCarthy tenants, Dixon by name, installed rolls for making flour, but this venture for some unknown reason failed and the stones were again in use within a year.

From 1876 when Mr. McCarthy became owner until 1893 the mill fell gradually into disrepair. The large mills in the country were beginning to monopolise the milling of flour, gradually closing the small mills.



Undoubtedly the Boyne Mills was spared this fate by the purchase of the property in 1893 by John Plewes. Mr. Plewes was an up-to-date miller, a hard-working, far-sighted, progressive man, very genial personality and became a very popular citizen of the community.

He had, to augment his income from the mill, a bee yard and had what was doubtless the first pure bred poultry in this district. This was purely a hobby rather than a profitable venture. He specialized in Indian Game, Chochin China and Bantam fowl.

Mr. Plewes came from Kimberley in Grey County. Incidentally he returned to Kimberley in 1903 and ended his days there.

Mr. Plewes, with the help of his three sons, completely renovated the mill. He built a new flume, cleared out the raceway and the old mill started a new lease on life. Mr. Plewes began a campaign to educate the farmers to grind their grain and feed stock, rather than selling the grain. It was some time during the early ownership of the mill by Mr. Plewes that the last flour was milled at the Boyne Mill.

The grain was ground on the stones formerly used for making flour. Under Mr. Plewes' ownership the mill regained all the prestige of its early years.

In 1903 Mr. Plewes sold the mill to Thomas Stirling. Mr. Stirling when the purchase was made was miller at Shepherd's mill at Primrose. For some time Mr. Stirling continued to use the stones to grind the grain but installed an attrition grinder, the first in use in this district.

Falling health of both Mr. and Mrs. Stirling obliged them to sell the mill, and on November 18, 1920, the mill again changed ownership. It was bought by James Sawyers, a native son of Mulmur Township. In 1924 Mr. Sawyers installed an oat roller. This roller is still in use. Mr. Sawyers replaced the open flume with a barrel flume.

In 1940 Mr. Sawyers relinquished ownership of the mill to his son, Harry. In 1945 the spring floods proved too much for the old dam and it was completely washed away. This was the second dam built at the mill. The first was directly behind the mill and whether washed out or changed for more efficient service, no one now knows. It is worth noting that the first work done by William Jamieson on arriving in Canada from Ireland was on the first dam at the Boyne Mill. But to return to 1945, Harry Sawyers replaced the old dam with a modern cement structure.

From 1940 onward, a general trend of buying grain above the amount grown was evidenced and this necessitated the building of storage bins and extra elevators in the mill. This permitted the handling of grain on a larger scale. A feed mixer has been added for balanced ration feeding of live stock and poultry.

The mill pond and the river has been a Mecca for trout fishermen through four generations. Many can remember when a beaver colony flourished well back on the pond. This pond has been a public swimming pool for the neighborhood down through the years.

The years have treated the old mill kindly. So many, in fact almost all, of its contemporaries are gone or crumbling to ruins, but it is still active in its valley, as it has been active well over the three quarter century mark, the heart beat of the economy of the Mulmur Hills.

## PINE HILLS AND PLAINS

One of the interesting industries of the early days was the clearing of the virgin pine from what is now known as the Pine Hills and Pine Plains an area extending roughly from fifteen to twenty-five sideroad.

The clearing of this land was accomplished through the work of three lumber mills: "Campbell and Wilson mill" at the foot of the pine ridge immediately north of the Pine River on the Sixth Line, known then as Happy Valley; the "Harrison and Hatton mill" just west from where the Pine River crosses the Fifth Line known as Happy Hollow, and the "Henry mill" on the Sixth Line north of Twenty Sideroad known as "Rookery Creek."

In 1870 R. S. Campbell and James Wilson, who with several workmen came from Stewart Town, built a saw mill on the property later owned by Hugh Lamb. The men built the saw mill and some of their homes before their families were moved in. The houses were of log construction, quite comfortable, and were whitewashed each year. These workers were Hugh Lamb and his three sons, James, George and Charles; Don Campbell, Archie, Bill and Mac Sloan, Dick Atkinson, Bill Frockins, Jim Duffin, Archie McIntyre, Peter Pokalony, Avon Symington. All these workers lived on the mill property except Symington who lived in Mansfield.

There were nine log houses, each plastered to keep out wind, and each with plank floors that were scrubbed by hand, in the settlement surrounded by a dense forest. Each settler had a cow or two, a few pigs and some sheep. They made their own butter, cheese, soap, etc. They killed the pigs they raised and salted the meat for later use. They fattened the pigs in the fall on the beech-nuts as they made the sweetest meat. They vealed and killed the calves for meat.

Lambs had a weave shop where they wove carpet flannel and full



cloth for men's clothes. They got their supplies at Mansfield or at Lisle. They grew grain and hay for horse feed on the cleared land on the top of the hill north of the buildings. Their flour was ground at the Boyne Mill.

The workers who hadn't houses of their own lived at the boarding house which was kept by the Sloans.

The mill, run by steam, was a lumber and shingle mill combined with a huge stone fire pot or fire hole built on the north side where all edgings, trimmings and rough lumber were burned. Lumber was drawn by horses along the lane-way to just west of the Seventh Line then up the widest gulley to the top of the hill where the tram-way was built with rails and ties similar to a railway. The lumber was loaded onto flat cars and hauled by a horse out to Tioga to a siding five lots south of Lisle when it was sold to Brennans.

At the end of 16 or 18 years the land was sufficiently cleared that there weren't enough logs coming in to keep the mill operating and Campbell and Wilson dissolved partnership. R. S. Campbell built a house, barn and sheep pen at the foot of the gulley up which the lumber was drawn. He later moved to Cookstown. This very fine house and surrounding buildings were later destroyed by fire. Jas. Wilson moved to the farm on the corner of Twenty Sideroad and west of the Fifth Line (which they had already cleared).

The Hatton mill was built on what was later the John Sawyers farm. This was owned and operated by Wilmot Harrison and Bill and John Hatton. Twenty-five men were employed who lived at the boarding house kept by Mrs. MacDonald who did her own cooking and baking and was noted for her pies. Mr. MacDonald was foreman of the mill. The lumber from the mill was drawn by horse on the tram-way to the top of Pine Hills where it was loaded onto sleighs and hauled out to Tioga during the winter by way of the Sumac Road. This settlement was known as Happy Hollow.

The third mill was built in 1870 north of Twenty Sideroad on the Sixth Line beside what was known as "Rookery Creek." The builder of this mill is unknown but it was bought by William and Robert Henry in 1873 and operated by them until 1887. This was a self-sustained settlement. There were 37 homes in the village, a Methodist Church, an Orange Hall, a general store and a boarding house where the unmarried men lived. The board was ten dollars per month and was excellent. The wages were one dollar per day. The boarding house was in charge of Mr. and Mrs. Dickson. Mrs. Parkhill, wife of the manager, was in charge of the store and no liquor was sold on the mill site.

W. J. Parkhill was manager of this mill. John Bridal and Alex

Ferris were foremen. Tom McGaw was blacksmith. Joe and John Black and Ben Collins came to Mulmur with the Henry Bros. from King. Thos. Atkinson, Billy Bates, Bill Greer, Joe Bavair and Tom Fleming were workers. These are a few of the names remembered by William Campaign who with Argue Parkhill, son of W. J. Parkhill, supplied most of the information concerning this mill. It was interesting to note that the Hon. Geo. S. Henry, former Prime Minister of Ontario, was a son of William Henry.

This mill had a 60 horse-power steam engine and one saw cut an average of 35 thousand feet of lumber a day. The farmers sold to the Henry Bros. pine and oak at \$4.00 per M on the stump. The mill yard accommodated as high as 80 piles of lumber of varying grades. This lumber was hauled by horse or oxen to Lisle, the shipping point of this mill. The lumber was sold for \$28.00 per M for first class and \$6.00 per M for cull lumber. The mill was closed after being operated by the Henrys for 14 years. The Henry Bros. moved to Todmorden and many of the workers settled in this district.

## CONCLUSION LOCAL HISTORY

The character of this fair Mulmur Township in this centennial year has changed since early days of which is recorded here. Noted landmarks have been removed. All life, however, is largely a matter of adjustment. Changes should stimulate and give us incentive. Every day of our lives examples of things missed appear before us. At such times, I believe, God calls upon us to take a new hold on faith and always to go on. Let us be worthy of the past generation.



## Churches in Mulmur

### ST. LUKE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, ROSEMONT

This was the first Anglican congregation organized in Mulmur and probably the first of any denomination. A log church was built before St. Luke's stone edifice on the same ground. During the early days of this Episcopal church the Rev. John Fletcher came from Orangeville, on horseback to Mono Mills, Rosemont and Alliston. The stone church was built in 1860 when the Rev. J. Vanlinge was rector. In 1870 a rectory was built in the village.

The stone church was demolished in 1927 and a new brick building erected in Rosemont.

The land for the cemetery and, of course, the land on which the first two churches stood, was donated to the synod by John Little and later when the rectory was built the land for it was given by Hugh Morrison. The cemetery, believed to be the oldest in the township was used, for many years, as a burying place by all the early settlers in the Rosemont district, irrespective of religious denomination.

One of the early rectors, believed to be the first one to live in the rectory after it was built, was a Mr. Walker. His wife played the organ for the services and gave music lessons on the organ. Four of her pupils were Misses Mary Jane and Eliza Morrison and Misses Elizabeth and Jane Hand, all of whom later served as organists in St. Luke's or in some other church.

Some of the ministers who have served in this parish during the last fifty years are: Mr. Lynch, Mr. Holdsworth, Mr. Blodgett, Mr. Gray, Mr. Cleverdon, Mr. McLean, Mr. McMulkin, Mr. Kerr, Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Province and Mr. Wigby.

### HISTORY OF CRANMER'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

In 1883 the first Anglican services were held in Honeywood. They were conducted by Rev. Forster, Rural Dean of Creemore. Holy Communion and Confirmation were conducted by the Bishop assisted by Rev. Forster. About 60 people took communion and the confirmation candidates were as follows: John Murdy, Robt. Brown, Wm. Hartley, Henry Partridge, Robt. Long, Thomas Anderson, Godfrey Anderson, Minnie Foster, Maria Murdy and Allen Wren. These services took place before the present church was erected.

In 1884 the Anglican members decided to erect a church. Dr. Lawrence gave the piece of ground to build it on and in the summer of the same year the corner stone was laid by Mr. Parkhill, Member of Parliament. It was not until the following March that the church

was completed. The church was officially opened March 1st, 1885. The first minister was Rev. R. Rooney and wardens were Mr. Stewart Murdy and Mr. Wm. Wilkinson. Mr. Murdy lived on the farm now owned by Mrs. Doan, and Mr. Wilkinson on the farm now owned by Harry Styles. Mr. Murdy was the first secretary and his son, Will, in later years was lay reader. The first choir consisted of Mary Jane Murdy, Ellen Murdy, Sarah Jane Murdy, Will Murdy, Roxy Thompson (now Mrs. J. Coe), Jennie and Suddaby Noble and Catherine Thompson.

We had many ministers from that time until our 50th anniversary in 1935. The anniversary was celebrated by holding special services and a field day. Two former ministers conducted those services, Rev. Mr. Boyd and Rev. Eccleston.

The following is a list of ministers who have been here since the Anglican Church was built in 1884.

Rev. Mr. Rooney	Rev. Mr. Atkinson
Rev. Mr. Carroll	Rev. Mr. Naylor
Rev. Mr. Boyd	Rev. Mr. Williams
Rev. A. C. Miles	Rev. Mr. Forte
Rev. Mr. Goodeve	Rev. Mr. Chevis
Rev. Mr. Eccleston	Rev. Mr. McKibbin
Rev. Mr. Carpenter	Rev. Mr. Jeffares
Rev. Mr. Powell	Rev. Mr. Salmon
Rev. Mr. Lemon	Rev. Mr. Surdivall

### HISTORY OF CHRIST CHURCH, WHITFIELD

The Church was built in 1874, Rev. Mr. Toque being the first minister. While the building was in progress, Rev. Toque went on a three-months money-raising campaign which was highly successful and was known by the fact that when the doors were opened for the first service the Church was free from debt. The bricks were brought by the members from Proton and much of the labour which went to construct the building was rendered by members of the congregation.

When Church Union was inaugurated 26 years ago, the existing Presbyterian and Methodist Churches in this district closed their doors. Some of their members went to Shelburne or Horning's Mills. Others stayed and came to worship God in Christ Church, Whitfield, which stands today as a monument to the Glory of God, and long may it continue to serve its increased and increasing members.



### THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—Mansfield Congregation

In 1837 Rev. Alexander Lewis, a native of Ireland, was designated Presbyterian Bishop of a wide area of Upper Canada. Some of this area is now known as the Townships of Mono, Adjala, Tossorontio and Mulmur. From 1837 to 1853 he came journeying over the hills to minister to the Presbyterians of Tossorontio and Mulmur. We gather, from available records, that the little log church built close to what is now Rosemont, was the meeting place of both Tossorontio and Mulmur Presbyterians.

This church, a log structure, built probably in 1837, was seated with rows of board benches, facing each other, with a passage between leading from the door to a small table covered with a white cloth, which stood at the opposite end. From this simple pulpit many a strong Calvinistic sermon was delivered. There was no organ. James Derry the precentor, stood near the minister but all the congregation sat during the singing of the psalms. Then all stood, reverently during prayer.

In 1844 a glebe of one hundred acres was bought for £150. This is the east half of Lot 10 in the Sixth Concession of the Township of Mulmur, and, of course, at the now Village of Mansfield. Mr. Lewis continued to minister to the Tossorontio and Mulmur Presbyterians until 1853, when in his seventy-fourth year he retired to Mono. Here he lived for several years and now rests in White's Cemetery.

The increasing number of settlers in Tossorontio and Mulmur required a resident minister and after much deliberation and earnest prayer Rev. Archibald Colquhoun, a Scotch minister and son of the manse, was chosen. Mr. Colquhoun was the son of the Rev. Malcolm Colquhoun, a Gaelic minister.

In 1853 Mr. Colquhoun accepted the call to the Tossorontio and Mulmur congregations, coming from Peterboro where he had laboured for twenty years. A log house had been built on the Glebe in Mulmur and here Mr. Colquhoun lived and laboured until his retirement in 1862. He continued to live in Mulmur until his death in 1872 and rests in the cemetery at Mansfield.

The churches of Tossorontio and Mulmur had joint sessions until 1897. In 1878 the session of these churches consisted of James Aberdeen, James Tate, Robert McCracken and Edward Greer. The following served on the joint session later, Thomas Cloughly, James Mill, Thomas Tate, William Black, William Kiernan, Henry Gilmore, Hezekiah Gilbert and Robert Gallagher. In 1897 the joint session was dissolved and each church had separate minute books, communion rolls and records.

In addition to some of the above there have been the following

elders at Mansfield, John McKee, Charles Lamb, Paul Gallagher, William Campaign, Peter Thomson, John Bates, Edmund Reid, Thomas Bates, Elmer Reid and William E. Gallagher.

To return to the past: In 1863 a large frame structure was built, on the Mulmur Glebe, to replace the log church. In 1890 a stone foundation and brick veneer was added and in 1915 a porch and cloak room were built. This year, 1951, extensive alterations and repairs have been completed.

The Mansfield Presbyterian Church has through the years pursued a course of quiet progress. In the early days the service of praise was led by a precentor, one of whom was Thomas Cloughly. This was his post when the first organ was installed. This innovation was bitterly opposed by some but being agreeable to the majority has since then been an accepted part of the church service.

In 1925 the question of church union passed over leaving the church in the old fold, and it stands a worthy monument to the stout hearted, God fearing persons who laid the foundations of Presbyterianism in Mulmur.

The following is a list of the ministers who served in the Mansfield Church, with their years of service:

Rev. Alexander Lewis, 1837-1853	
Rev. Archibald Colquhoun, 1853-1862	
Rev. Alexander MacLennan, 1862-1868	
Rev. Alexander McCracken, 1869-1876	
Rev. Henry Sinclair, 1878-1879	
Rev. William Anderson, 1879-1884	Rev. J. A. Reddon, 1917-1919
Rev. Robert Smith, 1885-1890	Rev. George Milne, 1919-1923.
Rev. Robert Hughes, 1891-1896	Rev. George Extence, 1923-1925.
Rev. Andrew Wilson, 1896-1906	Rev. P. W. Currie, 1925-1928.
Rev. W. L. Atkinson, 1906-1913	Rev. G. C. Little, 1932-1945.
Rev. Robert MacCallum, 1913	Rev. Burton Andrew, 1946-1949.
Rev. J. H. Graham, 1913-1915	Rev. H. P. Maitland, 1950-.

### MANSFIELD CEMETERY

The earliest marker in the Mansfield Cemetery is a marble slab dated 1855, to the memory of James Tait, a native of County Fermanagh, Ireland. During the eleven years intervening between 1844 and 1855, there must have been many laid away in unmarked graves, now forgotten, and known only to their God.

The Mansfield Cemetery served the surrounding community many years; but with the coming of the motor car a movement began to the town cemeteries. The Mansfield Cemetery was uncared for,



except for a few family plots kept neat by relatives of the departed.

In 1936 a cemetery committee was appointed and under their direction the community as a whole worked for many days levelling and cleaning. And now the Cemetery is a place of beauty and serves a wide area of Mulmur as it did in the early days.

Here lie the remains of some of those who left the green hills and lovely valleys of Tyrone, Fermanagh, Antrim, Down, Armagh and Derry for with few exceptions the first settlers in this section of Mulmur were from the north of Ireland. And here to quote Phillips Brooks:

"Is a corner in a foreign field that is forever Ireland."

### PRIMROSE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

In a memorial written on the state of the Presbyterian Church in Upper Canada in 1830, Mono and Mulmur are mentioned as having no regular minister and a small congregation, not exceeding 150 souls.

We know that Mr. and Mrs. Colwell Graham, using one horse, would ride and tie and go from Primrose to Mono Centre Presbyterian Church.

Around that time the Williamson family moved into Mulmur and settled on Lot 7, First Line E.H.S., and started to go to the Anglican Church. But being staunch Presbyterians, no doubt there was an agitation for a Presbyterian Church.

The Grahams, Shepherds, Dodds, Yools, Aberdeens, Bells, Irwins and Phoenix's, all living around Primrose, evidently were not able to buy land near Primrose, so with the families of Cunninghams, Clokeys, Nobles, Baileys, Williamsons, Bates, McCutcheons, Fergusons, Olivers and McDonalds, living around and north of Five Sideroad decided to buy one half acre of land from Mr. Sam Reid on East Half Lot 6 W.H.S. This was purchased in 1867 by Wm. Cunningham and it was decided to call it The Primrose Presbyterian Church. In 1895 another half acre of land was purchased from Mr. Jas. Oliver.

A few years later a church was built, being a frame structure and later bricked. Two large sheds were also built for the horses, with a Sunday School room over one shed.

The first minister was Rev. Mr. Christie in 1873 and the first sacrament was January 11th, 1873. The first Elders were Messrs. Thos. Ferguson, Colwell Graham and Jas. Oliver.

In 1876 The Presbyterian Church of Scotland in Canada and the Presbyterian Church of Canada united. Mulmur became part of the

new Presbytery of Barrie. Horning's Mills, Shelburne and Primrose were on the same circuit.

Rev. Mr. Gilchrist preached from 1876 to 1882. Mr. Henry Graham was the Precentor until 1900 when an organ was purchased. Louie Pearsall, now Mrs. Ollie McDowell, Shelburne, was the first organist and choir leader.

This church filled a very important part of the life of the community. As well as supplying spiritual leadership, it filled the social need of the people, having plays in the winter time and garden parties and strawberry festivals in the summer time. These were held on the lawn of Mr. J. S. McCutcheon.

This was quite a prosperous church until 1920 when the membership gradually decreased until in 1925 the church was finally closed. Some transferred their membership to Horning's Mills Presbyterian, some to Knox Presbyterian, Shelburne, and others to Primrose United Church.

### HISTORY OF BLACK BANK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Presbytery of Toronto in connection with the Canada Presbyterian Church, at a meeting held in the City of Toronto, received an application from the congregations of Mulmur in November, 1872, to the effect that elders be elected and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper be dispensed at an early date. This application was cordially received and Rev. Wm. M. Christie was appointed to perform this duty.

Mr. Christie presided at Public Worship on January 10th, 1873, and the following presented themselves for membership with the congregation: Mr. and Mrs. James Orr, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Kilpatrick, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Nealy and Mr. William James Moodie. The elders elected were Mr. Wm. McClinton and Mr. Samuel Allen.

The records from this time for the next six years have been omitted from the books but according to reliable information, the service was held at that time in the Orange Hall on the Centre Road. About 1875 the church was built at Black Bank, also a large shed and a hall above for the purpose of holding fowl suppers. These suppers were a popular yearly event for a great many years. Later the congregation sponsored an annual picnic on July 1st of each year, featuring a strawberry festival. The entertainment was hardball, football and a program at night. This supper and entertainment was all supplied for an adult admission of 25 cents.

In 1912 the church was raised and a foundation put up. A furnace was also installed.

In 1928, owing to lack of members, the service was discontinued.



## THE ORIGIN AND HISTORICAL OUTLINE OF THE THREE UNITED CHURCHES IN MULMUR

### HONEYWOOD UNITED CHURCH (FORMERLY METHODIST)

The first services held at Honeywood, then Yorkshire Settlement, originated in a log building built by pioneers as a school house and also for church purposes. This building, which was used by all denominations, was built in 1856 and was situated on the grounds now used as a cemetery.

Not having any resident ministers, services were held by circuit riders of varying denominations. This form of worship was continued until 1865, when the Wesleyan Methodists being the strongest denomination built a church as a Methodist chapel. The services in this church were conducted by Rev. Mr. Fox who resided at Horning's Mills.

About 1880 the first Methodist minister, Rev. Mr. Reid, was stationed at Honeywood. This frame church was used by the Methodist congregation until 1901, when the present building was erected. Rev. Dr. Coburn was pastor at this time and was largely responsible for the erection of the church.

In the year 1925 Church Union was consummated with the ministers occupying the pulpit as United Church ministers.

The parsonage was built in approximately the year 1885. In 1945 it was totally destroyed by fire and with it the most of the old church records. A new and modern parsonage was built in its place in 1946.

Methodist ministers prior to Church Union:

Rev. Mr. Reid	Rev. Mr. Lawrence	Rev. Mr. Tribble
Rev. Mr. Thompson	Rev. Dr. Coburn	Rev. Mr. Hunter
Rev. Mr. Laidlaw	Rev. Mr. Roach	Rev. Mr. Eaton
Rev. Mr. Beynon	Rev. Mr. Fry	Rev. Mr. Bamford
Rev. Mr. Gardner	Rev. Mr. Leonard	Rev. Mr. Madden

United Church ministers after 1925:

Rev. Mr. Madden	Rev. Mr. Morris	Rev. Mr. Witzel
Rev. Mr. Curran	Rev. Mr. Lewis	Rev. Mr. MacTaggart
Rev. Mr. Witzel (return after war duties)		
Rev. Mr. Hilliard (present minister).		

### MANSFIELD UNITED CHURCH

In the year 1871, during the ministry of Rev. Peter Addison, a frame church was built at Perm. The church stood in the cemetery on

the south side of Tenth Sideroad of Mulmur. The church was originally called Bethel, then became known as Gallagher Church, and later as Perm. This church was taken down in 1926, and the window frames were used in the church at Mansfield.

Perm church was originally part of the Horning's Mills circuit, along with Honeywood, Lavender and Whitfield. About 1895 the charge was transferred to the Rosemont circuit. The other churches in this circuit were Jennings Church, Mount Pleasant on the Sixth Line one mile north of Mansfield, Mount Zion (Violet Hill), and Mulmur Church on the Fifth Line.

Mount Pleasant church was built in 1873 on one-half acre of land given by Thomas Gallagher. Under Rev. Percy Peacock, Mount Pleasant, Perm, Gennings and Mulmur churches were formed into a circuit independent of Rosemont. A parsonage for this new circuit was built at Mansfield in 1903.

During Rev. Mr. Bailey's ministry, Mount Pleasant church, Perm and Gennings were closed and the congregation worshipped in the Orange Hall in Mansfield. Then Gennings and Perm churches were opened until they were torn down and the materials were used in building the church in Mansfield.

Work on the Mansfield church began in September, 1925, and the dedication services were held on Easter Sunday, 1926.

### MOUNT ZION AND MULMUR CHURCHES

Prior to the year 1869, the increasing population necessitated the erection of a church for the people around Violet Hill. A controversy arose between the people on the east and west side of Violet Hill when a suitable church site could not be chosen. The result was that two churches were built—one on the second lot of the Fifth Line known as Mulmur Church and the other on the west side of the village known as Mount Zion Church.

Both of these churches were included in the Rosemont circuit. The first Mulmur Church was a log building but a new church was built in 1875. This church continued to operate until 1936 when it was united with Mount Zion. In this year Mount Zion Church came into the Mansfield charge of the United Church of Canada. It remains yet in that circuit.



### HISTORY OF LAVENDER UNITED CHURCH

The first known church services were started in the late fifties by a Mr. Kendrick, and were held in the homes. The first church was built in 1860, and the first stationed minister, Rev. T. Fox, began to serve Lavender in 1862. During this time it was part of Mulmur circuit.

The Lavender circuit was established in 1869. In 1874 the Wesleyan Methodists and the New Connection Methodists united and Lavender became a charge on the Horning's Mills circuit. In 1882 it was made part of the Avening circuit until 1886 when it joined up with the Creemore circuit. It was changed once more in 1922 to the Honeywood circuit, along with Redickville. Lavender church is still in the Honeywood circuit.

Young men from the Lavender district who have graduated as ministers are: Delmer Martin, Wayne McCaffie, George H. Long, James Long and Alfred A. Anderson.

### HISTORY OF THE TERRA NOVA UNITED CHURCH

The first Methodist church in Terra Nova was a frame building erected about 1889 with Rev. Mr. Hart as minister. Terra Nova Ebenezer church and Ruskview were all in the Honeywood circuit. Services in Ruskview were held in the school.

In 1902 a new brick church was built with Rev. John Coburn as minister. This church was destroyed by fire in October, 1934.

Terra Nova was taken over by the Horning's Mills circuit in 1922 and remains in that circuit yet. The Ruskview congregation went to Terra Nova and Mount Zion.

After the church was burned in 1934 a new church was built at the same site as the old church and was opened June 16, 1935. Rev. Robt. Young was minister at this time. Rev. Mr. Coburn officiated at the opening of this new church.

Ministers in Terra Nova church since joining the Horning's Mills circuit are: The Reverends Mr. Brown, Mr. Stotesbury, Mr. Lambert, Mr. West, Mr. Young, Mr. Dingwall, Mr. Jewitt, Mr. Burgess, Mr. McClelland, Mr. Jackson and Mr. Dobson.

Methodist churches were also in operation in Banda and Randwick. Banda Methodist church was in the Avening Mission in 1872-73. After the union of all the Methodist churches in 1884 both Banda and Randwick were on the Avening circuit.

### The Orange Order in the Township of Mulmur

Any history of the Township of Mulmur would be incomplete without mention of the part the Orange Order played in the lives of the people. The vast majority of the early settlers came from the north of Ireland and they brought with them those traditions of loyalty to the Crown and Constitution and aggressive protestantism characteristic of the north. And it was not many years after the first tree was felled by a settler's axe in Mulmur that the first Orange Lodge was established. In fact there were Orange Lodges in many districts before there were churches.

The first lodge to be organized in this township was No. 60 at (Handsville) Stanton which received its present warrant in 1847 and its original in 1831, just one year after the founding of the Grand Orange Lodge of British America. The present warrant was taken out in the name of William Kirkpatrick. A hall was built on Five Sideroad east of where the school now stands, but later when a village began to spring up at the cross-road a hall was built there. This building is still in use.

Perm Lodge No. 355 received its present warrant in 1854 and it was taken out in the name of Robert Hunter. However an earlier warrant establishing this lodge had been issued on June 21st, 1845. This original warrant was issued to James Whiteley or Whitley. In the sixties this lodge met in the log house adjacent to the new stone house built by William Gallagher. Later a hall was built south of the hill north of Robert Gallagher's buildings. A little over forty years ago this building was moved to its present site on the north side of Ten Sideroad just east of its intersection with the Fourth Line.

Whitfield Lodge No. 366 received its present warrant in 1857 and it was issued to Robert Reaburn. The original warrant was, according to the Grand Lodge records, however, issued about the same time as that of Perm. The first hall was situated on the north-east corner of the east half of Lot 8, Concession 1 W.H.S., now owned by Earl Reaburn. This little log hall was burnt some years later and for some time meetings were held in the school house across the road. In 1885 the new hall was built at Whitfield on what was then P. D. Henry's farm; this is a frame building and is still in use. This lodge celebrated the first Twelfth of July after its organization in 1857 at Rosemont. The members marched down the Centre Road to the Town Line and along it east to Rosemont. Robert Reaburn carried the warrant rolled in a red handkerchief in his pocket; it rained on the way; the color came out of the handkerchief and the warrant still shows the stains un-



til this day. At this celebration Robert Boyle played the fife and Robert Large beat the drum for Whitfield.

The warrant establishing Mansfield Lodge No. 784 was issued on October 30th, 1856, and was issued to Paul Gallagher, who five years before had been the first reeve of Mulmur. The first hall was built on the north-east corner of Lot 9, Concession 6, later this building was moved up to the present site. A new hall was erected in 1927.

The warrant for Scarlet Hill Lodge No. 1082 was issued on September 15, 1860, and the first master was William Rusk. The present hall of this lodge is situated on the east half of Lot 26, Concession 2 E.H.S.

The warrant for Mount Pleasant Lodge No. 1246 was issued to Samuel Hawkins on July 17, 1867. The first meetings were held in the upstairs of the Hawkins home, east half of Lot 25, Concession 1 W.H.S. but in 1872 a hall was built a few rods further north on the same farm. The roll of this lodge in 1872 contained the names of the following members, Samuel Hawkins, William Fletcher, William McCutcheon, George Mortimer, Gideon Broderick, Thomas Wallace, James Cook, John Dick, J. Bailey, Richard Bell and R. L. Mortimer. In December 1913, this lodge moved its place of meeting to the Chosen Friends Hall at Honeywood. Their present hall was dedicated on August 6th, 1925.

In addition to these lodges, No. 472 at Clougher is within the Orange District of Mulmur though not situated in the township. However many residents of this township have, in the past, and still do belong to this lodge. And there are also those lodges that flourished in the early days, when the population of this township was much greater than it is today, and have now passed away. These lodges were No. 255 at Randwick, No. 1028 established near Banda in 1859, No. 1196 recorded as Mulmur Lot 5 in the south part of the township, No. 1236 whose warrant was issued in 1867 and who met in a hall situated at the intersection of Ten Sideroad and the Second Line West and No. 426 at Banda which like Clougher was in Mulmur District though its meeting place was actually outside the township.

Mulmur District has long formed a part of the Orange County of Simcoe South and in this Mulmur's Centennial Year, the County Master of South Simcoe is Mr. Graham McCutcheon, a Mulmur man.

After over one hundred years, the Orange Order still continues strong in Mulmur. Many of the members of the lodges today are the great-grandsons of the men who organized those lodges in the early days. And their halls still serve as the centres where social events and public meetings are held in the different communities.

## Roads of Mulmur

One hundred years ago the roads in Mulmur Township were hardly more than trails through the bush, sometimes on the road allowance and at other times they were made where it was most convenient to the residents. The first roads likely were made with ploughs and scrapers drawn by horses or oxen. Until a lot of the land was cleared there must have been many wet places where it was almost impossible to make a road. This was overcome by replacing logs crosswise on the road and covering them with brush and earth. Traces of these corduroy roads are still found in many places, especially along the River Road. About the turn of the century the first road graders appeared. They were drawn by six and sometimes eight horses. Mr. Wm. Scott, who lived at Stanton, was the operator of one of the first machines that came into the Township. Mulmur has almost one hundred and fifty miles of roads at the present time, and over forty per cent of the roads are hilly.

Two streams, the Pine River and the Boyne River, rise in Melancthon Township, to the west of Mulmur, and flow eastward the entire width of the township. The Pine, named for the forest through which it flowed, and the Boyne, most likely taking its name from the Boyne in Ireland. Several dams were built on these streams and their tributaries to provide power for mills, but today there are only two chopping mills operated by water power in the township. They are located on the Blackbank Creek at Blackbank and on the Boyne River between Stanton and Mansfield. Early in this century electric power was generated on the Pine River, the dam and power house being located along the River Road in concessions one and two West.

On the roads of Mulmur, including County roads, more than eighty bridges of from ten to over sixty foot span are needed to cross the rivers and creeks. One man who used to travel over the township a lot said that he always knew when he was in Mulmur because every time he came down a long hill there was always a rough bridge at the foot. This is still probably true today.

For many years the road work in the township was done by Statute Labour, that is that a certain number of days' work was assessed to each land owner or tenant. There was a Pothmester for each road beat and if the work was not done it was levied against the ratepayer in his taxes. Also certain sums of money were granted by Council for special jobs. In the 1920's this system



was abandoned and a Road Superintendent for all the Township was appointed. The Pathmasters became overseers and all labour was paid for at an hourly rate. About this time the first engine-drawn road machinery appeared on the County roads in the Township.

Mr. James Henderson of Ruskview was the first road superintendent appointed by the Council of Mulmur. This was early in 1925. Later in that year Mr. Henderson became Treasurer of Dufferin County. The late Robert McCutcheon of Honeywood was the next Road Superintendent and he remained in office until his retirement at the end of 1932. Mr. Chas. Foster of Ruskview was appointed Road Superintendent in 1933 and held that office until March 1st, 1948, when he resigned. During these twenty-three years many improvements to the roads of the township were made, many of the roads were ditched and graded, and most roads were surfaced with gravel, also several concrete bridges were built and scores of steel culverts of various sizes were installed.

While there are no Railroads or Provincial Highways within the boundaries of the township at the present time, we have over thirty miles of County roads in Mulmur. Tourists travelling through this part of Ontario could find many places of interest in this hilly township. In the fall of the year around the first half of October a splendid view of the turning leaves of the hardwood trees may be had from the top of almost any hill.

The change from horse and buggy to motor traffic has had the same effect on our township roads as it has had in a lot of places, namely, that the building of roads has not kept pace with the means of transportation. In other words the high speed and heavy loads are just a little too much for the condition of the roads. Today as we hurry from place to place, we should let our thoughts turn back to those hardy pioneers who hacked the first trails through the heavy forest which covered the land of the Township of Mulmur one hundred or more years ago.

## Early Shopkeepers and Storekeepers in Mulmur

As far as can be found out the first store in Mulmur and for some years the only one was at Mulmur Corners on the South-west corner of Lot 1, Concession 8. It was owned and operated by Thomas Henderson up to 1858 and then apparently he must have sold out for in 1859 Robert Murphy is listed as owner and John Hare as tenant

for the west fifty acres of Lot 1, formerly assessed to Henderson. Mr. Hare continued to do business at this site for several years. The rest of the West half of Lot 1 was assessed to Thomas Hollox or Hollock whose occupation is given as a tailor.

In 1859 another tailor, John Bell, plied his trade on the West part of Lot 25, concession 3 W.H.S., and the following shoemakers are listed as having shops at the following places:

J. B. Masten, W. Pt. Lot 32, Con. 1 E.H.S.

David Yoal, W. Pt. Lot 3, Con. 5.

Thomas Brown, E. Pt. Lot 6, Con. 5.

Adam Bovinayer, W. Pt. Lot 11, Con. 5.

John Turner, E. Pt. Lot 9, Con. 6.

The only blacksmith mentioned was Robert Campbell whose shop was then situated on Lot 10, Concession 1 W.H.S. Mr. Campbell moved to the East part of Lot 11, Concession 4, in 1860 and within the next six years to where is now Mansfield. Here he, and his son after him, served the community for many years.

Between 1862 and 1866 George Lawrence opened a store at Honeywood, Henry Graham opened one at Banda, and Cornelius Beazer and George Cummings opened ones at Mansfield and Rosemont respectively. The Beazer store was taken over by William Gilbert in 1867. In 1867 Samuel Lester Liang was granted a license to open a shop on Lot 10, Concession 1, and James Walker one to open a shop at Stanton. The same year Joseph Broderick of Honeywood also received a shop license; his store was situated on the West part of Lot 25, Concession 2 W.H.S.

In 1868 the following were added to the above list of storekeepers, Joseph Hood at Banda, and Paul Gallagher at Perm. Thomas Dorsey opened a store at Whitfield about 1871. William Wilson, who was assessed for five acres of the West half of Lot 4, Concession 8, is listed as a clothier. Also in 1868 the name of John A. Love of Stanton appears for the first time on the list of merchants doing business in Mulmur.

Some of the earliest blacksmiths in Mulmur, in addition to Robert Campbell, were Solomon Bailey of near Whitfield; John Brown, Rosemont. Thomas Cloughley, Banda, and Andrew Cauthers, Stanton.

During the next fifteen years or so the number of stores, blacksmith shops and small business places increased but with the building of the railways and the growth of industrial centres in this country, most of these small local workshops were no longer necessary, and disappeared. And later the age of the truck and the motor car marked the beginning of the end of rural blacksmith shops. But while these small places of business, having served their day, have gone, we still have several good departmental stores in Mulmur.



## Historical Sketches of Mulmur Schools

### STANTON SCHOOL—S.S. NO. 1

The first school to be erected in Mulmur (date is not known) was west of where Mr. Edward Beaton's house now stands. This no doubt was small and of log construction.

The second was on Lot Three of the Sixth Line on the Mitchell homestead now owned by Emmerson Greer. As there are no existing records, the date of the building is unknown. However, as the first settlers came to Stanton in 1832, it would be some years later. It is worth noting that the first settlers in Mulmur were the Hands, Littles and the Walkers. All that is now known of this school is the name of one teacher, a Mr. Kiernan. This Mr. Kiernan was in no way connected with Mr. Wm. Kiernan who taught school in Mansfield many years later.

About the year 1852, for reasons unknown to anyone at present, this second school was closed and a new school was built on Five Side-road east of the present Stanton School on the north side of the road on the Creary farm. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Barber now own this property. This new building was log, approximately thirty by forty feet. There were only two windows, one on the east and the other on the west, and a box stove comprised the central heating system. The school equipment was most primitive. The seating system was made up of two large benches on either side running the entire length of the wall. These benches were without backs which simplified matters for pupils who stepped over and sat down facing the wall on which were their attached desks. Mr. Campaign, one of my kind informants, and a pupil at that time, told me with a twinkle in his eye, that he had the good seat on one side, that one being the one in front of the window. Mr. Campaign recalled with quiet humour the fact that many a pupil made his or her exit by way of the window. The teacher's desk was well to the middle of the room near the stove. The proximity of teacher and stove no doubt varied with the weather. The drinking water was carried from Beattie's hotel at Stanton. This was a favourite chore as the water carrier invariably missed a class.

"Readin', writin' and 'rithmetic  
Taught to the tune of a hickory stick?

No, no, no, 'tis really sad,

They were taught to the tune of a stout beech gad."

Yes, and sadder than the above relates, the miscreant had to cut his own beech gad. Mrs. Thos. Bates, who celebrated her 96th birthday on April 7th, 1951, remembers two of the teachers, Mr. Dodds and Mr.

Rankine. The latter, according to Mrs. Bates, had a very pleasing singing voice and gave singing lessons to the pupils. There was also a singing class for adults on Friday evenings.

In 1863 a fourth school was built and is still in use on Five Side-road east of Stanton. Mrs. Bates in speaking of this recalled the fact that the teacher, Mr. Rankine, and the pupils marched from the old school to the new one at noon hour on the day the change was made.

The school section at this time extended from the town line south to Ten Sideroad north and from the town line east to the Fifth Line west. The district by this time was filling up with settlers and the new school soon became over-crowded. A second teacher was engaged and the school room divided, but as the numbers continued to increase, a second room was built and Miss Watson, with the junior grade, moved into the new room. At one time John Greer was the 100th pupil on the roll. During the winter the pupils from Mulmur Corners drove a one-horse sleigh, and a stable was built on the grounds for the horse. This building remained on the grounds many years after the need for it was passed.

The increased number of settlers in the north of Mono and the southern extremity of Mulmur necessitated a new school, and as a result the Union School was built in 1892 on the town line west of Rosemont on the Mono side. This relieved the crowded condition in the Stanton school and consequently the second room was not needed and since that time to the present has become a playroom for the pupils.

S. S. No. 1, Mulmur, now has electric lights, chemical toilets and is well equipped in every way. It entered the first Mulmur School Area with eight other schools in 1948.

### VIOLET HILL SCHOOL—S.S. NO. 2

Children of Violet Hill district had to attend school on Lot 5, Con. 2, Mulmur (Farnscliffe) on Lot 28, Con. 5, Mono (Brinkman's) prior to 1889 when the present school, No. 2, Mulmur, was erected at Violet Hill. For a period of years Earnscliffe and Violet Hill sections were together, with Nicholas Parson, Jos. Dickie, Thos. Dudgeon and Richard Irwin as the first trustee board. Miss Ida Irwin, a local girl, was the teacher in Violet Hill school, and such family names as Parson, Cotton, Newton, Gilroy, Wake, Aberdeen, Carson, Irwin, Dickie, Martin, Greer, Bates, Simms, Conner, Grasty and Hawkins appeared in the register.

In its pleasant surroundings this well-cared-for little red school, with its up-to-date improvements and capacity attendance, serves a wide area, is a reminder of the past and continues to be a valuable asset to the community.



**MANSFIELD SCHOOL**

A log building on the Fifth Line, just north of Ten Sideroad, was the first school in Mansfield district. This school was built before there was any village at Mansfield corner. This school served a very large area, there being no school to the east closer than old Everett, and to the north Banda. There was a school at Stanton at Five Sideroad. The school west of Mansfield was approximately 35 by 40 feet. There were two rows of desks. These desks were so large they would accommodate five or six pupils. The girls sat on the north side and the boys on the south. The trustees of this school were John Sallens, Pen Leggett and Thos. Gallagher. A large box stove five feet long was the heating system. The teacher's desk was at the west end of the room, the door opening to the east. During the winter the attendance was from 75 to 90. This school was closed in 1872. Mr. Wm. Kiernan, the teacher, moved with the pupils from the east and north to a school north of Ten Sideroad on the Sixth Line. The pupils from the west were accommodated in a new school on the third line.

The new Mansfield school was a frame building erected by Avon Symington. The trustees were Thos. Gallagher, Malcolm Colquhoun and George Lamb. Malcolm Colquhoun was secretary-treasurer. This building was burned about 1896 and was replaced by the present structure built by Alf. Leitch.

**WHITFIELD SCHOOL—S.S. NO. 4**

The first record of a school that we have is of a log building on Lot 8, Centre Road, in 1868, with John Lighton as teacher and Thos. Ferguson, John Dean and John Davison as trustees. This was the first school in this section and pupils came from what are now Primrose, Cherry Grove, Whitfield and Kilgorie.

In 1870 a frame building was erected on the corner of Lot 10, Prince of Wales. Enrollment went down in summer and up in winter when the big boys and girls came to school while work was slack. The little ones had to grab their lunches and keep clear of these older ones who "made merry" during recesses and noon hours by square dancing. Mr. P. D. Henry taught for several years in this school. During the summer holidays of 1907 the frame building was torn down and a new solid brick \$1,030.00 one built, complete with basement and furnace (\$85.00) on the same site.

**HONEYWOOD PUBLIC AND CONTINUATION SCHOOL  
S.S. NO. 5**

The first school at Honeywood was built by pioneer settlers at the south west corner of what is now the cemetery. As settlers came in on

the Centre Road and Prince of Wales, a change had to be made and a frame school was erected on the Prince of Wales Road, adjoining the Barber farm on the north. In a few years this school would not accommodate the many pupils and two schools were built, one on 30 Sideroad called Martin's School, the other on the west end of the Gray farm, a quarter of a mile east of Honeywood. These schools for several years functioned under one set of trustees, but later two sections were formed. A few years after a new school was built in Honeywood village, this being a continuation as well as public school. Much credit is due the trustees, Ralph Siddall, Richard Tupling and Richard Henderson, and the secretary, J. R. Dobson, for their zeal in promoting the building of this school, encountering as they did much opposition. But the continuation school has been of untold value to boys and girls in the district, enabling them to receive four years of high school teaching while still residing at home.

While few from Honeywood school have entered professional life, it is doubtful if any school in the township has turned out more teachers of ability who have given outstanding service.

**BANDA PUBLIC SCHOOL**

There was a school at Banda in the late fifties, which was the only one serving a large district. The first school, which of course was log, was on the 3rd line of Nottawasaga just one lot north of the Townline. Anne Jane Duff taught this school.

In 1860 the school section was regularly organized and a substantial frame building erected at the intersection of the fifth line, Mulmur, and the townline. From information gleaned from the original records, we learned that the log school was sold for \$6.00; that two chairs cost 84 cents and two brooms 50 cents. The school grounds were rented for \$2.50 per annum from Robt. Flack until 1907. At that time an acre was purchased for \$40.

A new brick school was built in 1907 at a cost of \$1,450.00. The contractors were D. Turner & Son of Stayner. Unfortunately this building was burned down soon after it was completed. It was replaced in 1908 by the building still in use.

It is interesting to note that many fine men and women who have travelled far and wide got their elementary education in Banda School.

**RUSKVIEW—S.S. NO. 7**

The first building used for a school at Ruskview was moved from Lot 31 on the Second Line and called S.S. No. 7. This was before Ruskview existed, in 1875.



In about 1899 or 1890 Ruskview got its name, had a post office, an acre of land was purchased from Mr. Rusk and the present school was erected, a brick structure. S.S. No. 7 and S.S. No. 22 were united with one school board. Mr. Andrew Lynn was the first teacher, Mr. S. McClinton, secretary-treasurer; Messrs. John Walker, Robert Orr and S. McClinton, trustees, and during winter months approximately one hundred pupils attended.

The school, too, entered the School Area in 1948.

### CHERRY GROVE—S.S. NO. 9

This section comprises 3,200 acres in Mulmur Township. The early settlers were principally of Irish extraction. Until the year 1911 this section, No. 9, and Primrose, No. 19, formed a union section.

The first school was held in the old Clokey house. Then a log building on the old Cunningham farm immediately across the road from the present site was used for the school.

In 1875 a frame building 40 by 30 was erected on the present site, the north-west corner of the old Dean farm. In 1883 a woodshed was added at a cost of \$118.00. In 1914 the school site was valued at \$50.00 and the school building at \$500.00. By 1926 the need for a more modern school was felt, so it was decided to build a new school for \$5,000.00. This school is a compact brick building, 25 by 30, with teacher's room, library, two cloak rooms, and a large basement.

### BEECH VALLEY SCHOOL—S.S. NO. 10

The first Beech Valley School was located on the Prince of Wales Road at 30 Sideroad. No records are available but after a few years the school, a new one, was built in a beech grove west of the original site. Mr. R. L. Mortimer was the first teacher. Later came Mr. R. H. McMaster, an outstanding teacher in every way. It was said of him that "He taught readin', writin' and 'rithmetic and never forgot to lay on the stick." But, as one of his old pupils says, "He also taught us honesty, truth and upright living." R. H. McMaster was the first and for many years the only teacher in the district who taught music, not just singing but the tone-sol-fa method of reading music. He had a fine choir. At the laying of the corner stone of Cranmer's Church, Honeywood, Mr. McMaster was in charge of the music. He moved his own small organ, played by one of his pupils, Miss Mary Lamont, brought his school choir, and rendered suitable music for the entire proceedings.

### RANDWICK SCHOOL—S.S. NO. 11

The school house was built originally on the second lot north of Randwick Corners on the east side of the Sixth Line about the year

1865. Being burned down some time later, it was replaced and about the year 1890 was moved south to Randwick Mills on the north-east corner of Lot 24, Sixth Line. It was moved to its present location on the south-east corner or the block facing 25 Sideroad and the Sixth Line in the year 1899 by Jonathon Doner using teams and rollers. The present building is tin clad and about 35 feet by 50 feet with windows on both sides and a woodshed at the back.

The reasons for moving the school to Lot 24 were: first, to have it in the centre of the section, and second, to improve the water supply.

### BRICK DIAMOND SCHOOL—S.S. NO. 13

Brick Diamond school was built in 1883. The school opened in January, 1884. The first teacher was Mr. James Johnston, who taught here for six months. The first trustees were Mr. John Brett, Mr. Luke Beatty and Mr. John Marshall, who was also secretary-treasurer. There were about fifty pupils in attendance during the first winter. The teacher who was engaged in the fall of 1884 was Mr. George Butcher.

### HISTORY OF THE KILGORIE SCHOOL—S.S. NO. 15

The first schools serving the community were the Whitfield school on 10 Sideroad and the Beech Valley school. Some of the children had to walk three and four miles to school, most of it through bush. Due to this fact and the overcrowding of the pupils, a supplementary school was built somewhere around the year 1875.

The school was built on the west side of the Prince of Wales road on the south-east corner of Lot 16, on the corner of 15 Sideroad deviation and the Prince of Wales Road. It had its own school board, but was controlled by the Whitfield school section. As a result there was a great deal of strife between these two schools.

During these years there was a war between Great Britain and Egypt. At that time a Mr. Stuart was the school teacher. He quarrelled often with the inspector, Mr. Gordon, and the pupils would go home and tell their parents that General Gordon and General Stuart were at it again, and so the school was nicknamed Old Egypt. Today it is still called Old Egypt school. The school teachers were receiving salaries of \$225.00. The caretaker got a salary of \$5.00 and supplied his own kindling and matches. The school was roughly built and inadequately heated. There was no playground for the children. Owing to this fact and the fact that the two school boards couldn't agree, it was suggested by Mr. W. J. Dorsey that they ask the Whitfield board to let the upper north end of Whitfield form their own school section. In the year 1908 plans went under way to form a new section, a grant of



\$100.00 was granted by the Government for forming a smaller section. This section was numbered S.S. No. 15, Mulmur.

A piece of land was purchased from Mr. W. J. Dorsey on the south-east corner of Lot No. 16, east of Prince of Wales Road and situated near 15 Sideroad, now called the River Road. The new school was built, a frame structure with steel sheeting on the outside and a cement basement with stone foundation. There were two porch entrances, one for the boys and one for the girls. The school has been called Kilgorie, the Kilgorie post office having been situated in the community at that time.

In September, 1909, the school was opened with an attendance of 26 pupils, taught by Miss Neville. The school board consisted of Mr. Horace Free, Mr. Ben Lloyd, Jr., and W. J. Wrigglesworth. The secretary was Mr. W. J. Dorsey and the caretaker was Mr. Bill Exelby.

Although we've had no one of any fame, we've had our share of school teachers, secretaries, etc.

### S.S. NO. 16, MULMUR

School Section Number 16, now known as Earnscliffe School, had its origination in a log building situated on the south-west corner of the Fourth Line and Five Sideroad. A new school was erected about seventy-eight years ago on Five Sideroad just west of the Third Line. The first teacher was a Mr. Lang, with an attendance of approximately sixty pupils. This is the same school in use today.

### S.S. NO. 20

The first log school was at top of the big hill known as Lavender hill. The first teachers were the Campbells, Walter and Charlott (afterwards Mrs. George Lawrence). Then came Messrs. Kerns, White, Mortimer, Broderick, Morton, Richmond, Hamilton and Blair.

The next school was known as S.S. No. 5, built across the road from where Bob McCormack now lives, over 70 years ago. Blair also taught there. The present school is S.S. No. 20, built some 55 years ago. The first teacher was Mr. Tom Hawkins.

### S.S. NO. 8

S. S. No. 8 school is situated as near the centre of Mulmur as is possible for a school to be, and is known as Upper Perm school.

This is not the place of the first school, which was built on Lot 15 on the 3rd Line, and was of log construction about 20 by 30 feet and had two rows of benches. This building, as near as we know, was built in 1870. It was used for church service and other community affairs. Mr. Ed. Beaton can recall a political meeting concerning the Scott Act

which ended in a near riot. The first known teacher in this school was a Mr. Black, followed by a Mr. Burton.

This school outgrew its usefulness and in 1884 a parcel of land was purchased from Mr. Moses Cherry on Lot 16 on the Third Line. On this was built a frame structure of pine timber and painted red. Two of the trustees at that time were Mr. John Ireland and Mr. William Gallagher. The boundaries at that time were from the First Line to the west, Fourth Line to east, Ten Sideroad on the south and no limit to the north. In 1872 the school on Ten Sideroad, now known as No. 21 or Perm, was built. These two schools made one section, No. 8, up until 1917, when at the end of the financial year the section was divided.

The school building on 15 Sideroad stood up to wind, weather and school children's pranks until October, 1935, when by unknown reasons it was burned. The teacher, Miss Wiseman, calmly marched her pupils outside to watch the beloved old school burn. The three R's were taught in a vacant house on Lot 14, on the 3rd Line, for the remainder of the term. Then in 1936 there was erected some 60 rods west of the old school a modern brick building with a basement and all modern conveniences.

### HISTORY OF S.S. NO. 21, MULMUR

On the west half of Lot 11, Con. 3, in Mulmur Township there stood a log school known as No. 8, Mulmur. This was the first school to serve the district.

There was quite a good attendance in those days as even the young men 16, 17 and 20 years old went to school then in the winter time. Later a brick school was erected on the east half of Lot 11, Con. 3. It stands today as it did when built. This section has always been called Lower Perm. Upper Perm was also No. 8. In December, 1917, Upper and Lower Perm separated and Upper Perm remained No. 8 and Lower Perm became No. 21.

### TERRA NOVA—S.S. NO. 22

The three R's were taught in Mr. B. Simpson's residence in Terra Nova up until the year 1889 with a Miss Gillespie as teacher. When the present insul-brick clad school house was built and opened the same year, Miss Agnes Tweedy was teacher. Until the year 1920, S.S. No. 22 and S.S. No. 7 were united with one school board and called S.S. No. 7. After this date these two schools divided with Terra Nova called No. 22.



## Some Mulmur Personalities

### WILLIAM JOHN BLACK

W. J. Black was born on a farm at Mansfield, Ontario, November 29th, 1872. He attended the public school of the district and Collingwood High School until he was 15 years of age, when he discontinued his school training to take charge of the home farm. For the following ten years he managed the farm at Mansfield, engaging actively in stock raising. During this period he took a deep interest in the municipal, social and agricultural institutions of the district. At the age of 24 he was elected vice-president of the Farmers' Institute of Dufferin County.

In the year 1898 he decided to enter the Ontario Agricultural College to secure training in the science of agriculture. In his third year at Guelph he was chosen to represent the college at the International Students' Judging Competition held in Chicago. This was the first year any Canadian student was admitted and, being the sole representative from the Dominion in a competition that included students from all the chief agricultural centres of the United States, the responsibility which rested upon him was considerable. He succeeded in winning the major prizes, thus bringing distinction to his alma mater and to Canada.

In 1905 he accepted an invitation from the management of the International Live Stock Exposition at Chicago to manage the student judging competition. He reorganized the system under which the competition was held in order to provide a greater element of fairness. It is significant that the international authorities have continued this system until today.

Upon graduation from college, he was appointed assistant editor of the Farmer's Advocate at London, Ont. Six months later that publication made him managing editor of its western edition at Winnipeg. Arriving in the western city in the fall of 1902, he immediately took steps to relate his publication closely with the activities of the farmers' organizations of Manitoba and the North West Territories.

In December, 1904, he accepted the position of Deputy Minister of Agriculture for the Province of Manitoba. During his term of office he reorganized all the chief activities of the Department of Agriculture.

In 1905 the Province decided to establish an agricultural college and Dr. Black was appointed president with authority to organize, though he still continued to act as Deputy Minister of Agriculture. At 32 years of age, he was the youngest agricultural college president in North America. The institution which he was to conduct for nearly

eleven years was the first of its kind in Western Canada and the second in the Dominion. It was set up at a time when the sons and daughters of a large number of prairie settlers had reached maturity and began to realize the desirability of a higher education. The curriculum of the new college was framed to meet special needs of young men from the prairies. Preparatory classes were established for the backward and advanced classes for those who were better qualified.

Of the men sent out into the world by the Manitoba Agricultural College during the first ten years of its history, many now occupy places of great prominence and influence. The fact that this is so may be traced largely to Dr. Black's insistence that the early curriculum of his college should meet the actual needs of pupils. Emphasis was placed on public speaking in order that farmers' sons might hold their own with men of other callings. The Manitoba College was the first to make public speaking a compulsory subject.

In 1915 Dr. Black was called from the provincial field to accept the secretaryship of the Economic and Development Commission appointed by Sir Robert Borden to prepare a nation-wide program for post-war reconstruction. But the war continued and he was appointed commissioner to administer the Federal Agricultural Instruction Act.

In 1918 he became chairman of the Soldiers' Settlement Board and the scheme of settlement which was put into effect and which, under his direction, resulted in the settlement of 22,000 returned men within the next two years, was mainly his.

In 1921 he became Deputy Minister of Immigration and Colonization for the Federal Government. In 1923 he was induced by the Canadian National Railways to accept the position of European manager of their colonization department, which position he occupied for one year. During this time he and his family lived in London, England. He organized the company's colonization activities throughout the British Isles and opened offices in Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Holland.

He returned to Canada and took up new duties as director of colonization and agriculture for the Canadian National Railway with headquarters in Montreal.

In 1932 Manitoba University conferred on him the honorary degree of B.S.A. in recognition of his contribution toward Canadian education and the welfare of this country.

In 1934 he received an honorary degree of Doctor of Agriculture from the University of Montreal, thus becoming one of the few English Protestants to be given such a degree by a French Catholic university.

Prior to the war he was elected vice-president of the National Association of Boys' Clubs in England, being the first officer of this



British association (of which the Duke of Gloucester is president) to be chosen outside of the British Isles.

Dr. Black died in December, 1941, and is buried in Kildonan Cemetery, Winnipeg.

### W. J. PARKHILL

W. J. Parkhill, one of the distinguished residents of Mulmur in the latter part of the last century, was born in the County of Antrim, in Ireland, in 1839 and came to Canada in 1856. He located near Toronto and his first employment was bucksawing wood at ten dollars per month and board. He then went to Parry Sound and spent five years in the lumber camps in that district.

About 1861 he entered the employment of William and Robert Henry as teamster at their saw mill near King, Ontario.

In 1862 he married Anne Jane Crossley, sister of Rev. H. Crossley of Crossley and Hunter of evangelistic fame.

He was promoted to manager of the Henry firm and when the company purchased the saw mill at Randwick, located on the Sixth Line, he was sent there as superintendent; he also had a financial interest in it. William Henry of this firm was the father of Hon. Geo. S. Henry, Premier of Ontario from 1930-1934.

In 1878, Hon. William McDougall, M.L.A. for South Simcoe, having resigned to seek a seat in the House of Commons, Mr. Parkhill was elected to the Legislative Assembly as a Conservative, defeating his only opponent, J. W. R. Wilson, a Bradford barrister, the Liberal candidate. In the general election of 1879 he was re-elected by acclamation and served as a member until 1883 when he left politics, saying he could not be an honest man and a politician too.

In 1899 he was appointed to the position of Collector of Customs at Midland and served in that position until the time of his death in 1913.

Long active in Orange circles he filled every office in the gift of the Order from Outside Tyler to Grand Master and Sovereign of the Grand Orange Lodge of British America. He was District Master of Mulmur from 1875 to 1880. A regular attender at every session of Grand Lodge for forty-seven years, he was on his way to the forty-eighth at St. Thomas when he received word of the death of his wife. At the time of his death he was Treasurer of the Orange Insurance Society.

### SIR JOHN S. WILLISON

John S. Willison (later Sir John) was born in Huron County on November 8th, 1856, and when a boy of about sixteen or seventeen came to Mulmur and found employment with John A. Love in his store at Stanton. He lived with the Love family and grew to manhood among the people of this municipality. Little is known of these years except that he was a popular and well liked young man.

Sir John who, as long as John A. Love lived, was a frequent visitor at his home and later a pallbearer at his funeral, always credited him with steering him into journalism. Mr. Love recognized his unusual gift and advised him that his forte was in the newspaper rather than in the commercial field.

John Willison's first effort in journalism was as a correspondent for the Alliston Herald. Later he joined the staff of the London Advertiser, and later that of the Toronto Globe. At thirty-four years of age he became editor-in-chief of the Globe, a position he held for twelve years. In 1902 he founded the Toronto News, a venture which was not very successful.

Many honours came to John S. Willison. In 1913 he was knighted by King George V. In 1917 he became President of the Canadian Reconstruction Association and in 1920 he was made President of the Canadian Colonization Association.

He died in Toronto in 1927 at the age of seventy-one years when Canada was left to mourn the loss of one of its most brilliant and patriotic citizens.



**E. A. WEIR**

E. A. Weir is another native son of Mulmur who has brought honour to himself and to his native municipality. He was born on Lot 25, Concession 6, a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Joseph M. Weir. He attended Randwick Public School, Meaford High School and then went to the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, where he graduated with a B.S.A. degree in 1912.

After one year as assistant superintendent of Farmers' Institutes in Ontario, he went West and spent 12 years in Calgary and Winnipeg as advertising manager and editor of various western farm publications. In 1924 he joined the Colonization Department of Canadian National Railways at London, England, working under Dr. W. J. Black, also a native son of his own township. In 1929 he returned to Canada as Director of Radio for the C.N.R. He initiated the first national network of radio broadcasts in Canada. Mr. Weir personally handled the Canadian participation in the first inter-empire Christmas broadcast in 1932 and many other special broadcasts. In 1937 he became commercial manager of the newly-formed Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and during the last 15 years he has been responsible for the supervision of all commercial activities of the Corporation.

Mr. Weir resides on a farm at Milliken, ten miles from Toronto. He is happily married, with three children. One of his hobbies has been the breeding of registered Jersies.

**HON. JOHN HENDERSON LAMONT**

John Lamont was born November 12, 1865, on the farm now owned and occupied by Harry Leitch. He attended Beech Valley school, receiving his public school education from Mr. R. H. McMaster. He later attended Orangeville and Brampton high schools, University of Toronto and Osgoode Hall. He practised law in Toronto for four years then went west, locating at Prince Albert. He was elected Liberal member for Prince Albert in the Dominion Parliament, but a year later resigned and was elected a member of the Legislature of the newly organized province of Saskatchewan. He became first Attorney-General of this Province. In 1927 he was appointed a Supreme Court Judge of the Dominion of Canada in which capacity he served until his death in 1936.

**JOHN BEST**

John Best was born in 1859 at Geelong, Australia, son of John and Eliza Best of Antrim County, Ireland. He came to Canada with his parents at the age of three years in 1863.

He lived at Thornton, in Essa Township, for one year, then moved to Mulmur Township to Lot 10, Con. 1 W.H.S.

He married Charlotte Thompson of Thornbury and lived on Lot 10, Con. 1 W.H.S., near Whitfield, until he moved to Shelburne in 1910.

He was first elected by acclamation to the Dominion Parliament in December, 1909, representing Dufferin riding as a Conservative, returned again in 1911 with a majority over the Liberal candidate, D. B. Brown of Orangeville, and again in the Union Government of 1917 over T. C. Dryden, Liberal.

In the general election of December 6, 1921, he was defeated by a small margin by R. J. Woods, U.F.O. candidate. He was a member of the Whitfield Anglican Church and Orange Lodge.

He served as a trustee and secretary-treasurer for the school board for 17 years.

He was a director of Dufferin Fire Insurance Company for 15 years and served five years as president. He had one son, John Chester Best, a druggist at Newmarket.

He died on June 7, 1923, and was buried in Shelburne Cemetery.

**THOMAS ALFORD LOVE**

Thomas Alford Love, youngest son of the late John A Love, was born at Stanton in 1885 and was educated in the Stanton and Alliston schools. He started his journalistic career with the Alliston Herald and later joined the staff of the Toronto Daily Star. He went west in 1902, first to Manitoba and later to British Columbia where he published the Grand Forks Gazette.

He was an officer during the first World War and afterwards was one of a group of newspaper men who toured Europe and Great Britain and were entertained at Buckingham Palace by the late King George V and Queen Mary. He served for ten years as Mayor of the city of Grand Forks and later entered the British Columbia Legislature as the member for Grand Forks and Greenwood. He served for some time as Deputy-Speaker for the House.

Mr. Love retired in 1949 and now lives at Salmon Arm, British Columbia.



### JAMES EDGAR JAMIESON

J. E. Jamieson was born at Mulmur Corners, July 20th, 1875, when quite young his parents moved to the farm on the Prince of Wales Road now owned and occupied by his brother, Herbert Jamieson. In 1902 he married Sarah M. Crisp, a Honeywood girl and teacher of the local school for eight years. For twenty years they farmed at Singhampton, then moved to a farm just south of Collingwood.

While at Singhampton, Edgar Jamieson entered municipal politics, serving as councillor, deputy-reeve and reeve of the Township of Notawasaga. In 1923 he was elected to the Provincial Legislature where he was a member for twelve years, retiring in 1934. While in the County Council and Legislature he was closely identified with roads and was instrumental in securing the Provincial Highway from Barrie to Owen Sound. For thirty years he was a member of the executive of Ontario Good Roads Association, being president in 1925 and honorary life member since 1946.

A member of the Nancy committee, he was instrumental in having the Department of Lands and Forests provide funds for the raising of the hull of that historic vessel and placing a building over it on the Nancy Island, Wasaga Beach. He died June 17, 1950.

### R. H. HALBERT

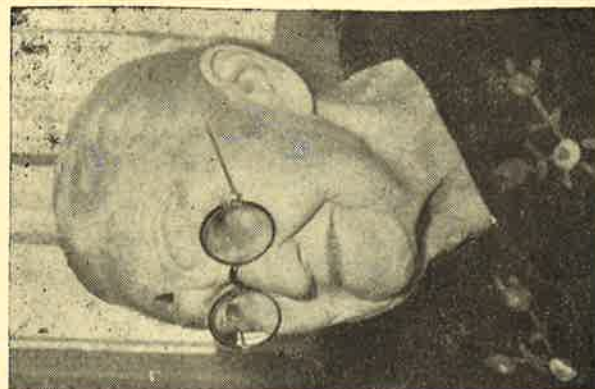
R. H. Halbert, son of the late James and Eliza Halbert, was born in Mulmur Township on October 31st, 1870. He farmed with his parents on the Third Line until 1902 when he married Elizabeth Ann Halbert, daughter of the late Adam Halbert of Mono.

After living for some years in Toronto and Shelburne he moved to a farm in Melancthon. While living here he served in the Township Council and also became deeply interested in the farmers' organization known as the United Farmers of Ontario (U.F.O.) He was the first president of this group and spent a great deal of time in organizing it, not only in Ontario but also from coast to coast.

First elected to Parliament in a by-election in 1919 he represented the constituency of Ontario North in the House of Commons until 1925. At the time of his first election to parliament he sold his farm and moved to Uxbridge where he lived until the time of his death.

A member of the United Church and a staunch Orangeman, Mr. Halbert, after his political career was completed, continued to serve the community in which he lived, in many ways, until failing health forced him to retire. He died October 11th, 1943.

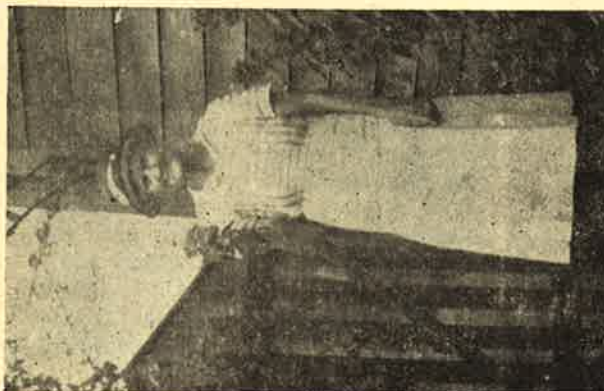
THE CLIMATE OF MULMUR ENSURES LONGEVITY — MANY RESIDENTS ARE APPROACHING THE CENTURY MILESTONE



MRS. THOMAS BATES, 96  
Formerly Jane McKee. Native of Mulmur. Born April 7th, 1855.



WILLIAM CAMPAIGN  
93-year-old native of Mulmur.  
Resides on East Half Lot 4, Con.  
7. Born July 31st, 1858.



MRS. RACHEL HAWKINS  
Of Terra Nova district, 95 years of age and still going strong. She was a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. William Perry.



## SERVICE MEN FOR MULMUR

## — 1914-18 —

\*Clarence Arthurs  
 \*Herbert Kiernan  
 \*Dalton Ferris  
 \*Herman Kiernan  
 \*Albert Callendar  
 \*John Thompson  
 Cecil Stirling  
 M. A. Colquhoun  
 E. A. Lee  
 Victor Hawkins  
 Cecil Taylor  
 Leonard Hodgson  
 Hugh Anderson  
 Russel Mustard  
 Orland Thompson  
 Wm. Gallagher  
 John Rennie  
 Albert Bowers  
 Leonard Bowers  
 Melburne Bowers  
 Colwell Gallagher  
 Charlie Cooper  
 Joseph Armstrong  
 John Tevelin  
 Albert Tevelin  
 Thomas Davison  
 Thos. White  
 Lorne Colquhoun  
 Harry Long  
 James Cauthers  
 Thos. Miller  
 Wm. Patton  
 Alfred Boston  
 Samuel Shaw  
 Roy Laking  
 Hilton McKee  
 Jos. Rutherford  
 Ed. Paisley  
 Ernest Cunningham  
 Wm. McConnell  
 Gregory Thomson

George Davison  
 Lester Hill  
 Alex McMeackan  
 \*Dan Daley  
 \*Esley Tomlinson  
 Andrew Tomlinson  
 Lewis Mews  
 \*Bert Adair  
 \*Robert Gallagher  
 \*George Berry  
 Wm. Campbell  
 Albert Durin  
 John Lusk  
 Arthur Manser  
 Hugh Shaw  
 Stanley Markle  
 Wm. Wheeler  
 Bonner Gallagher  
 \*George Prentice  
 \*John Tribble  
 Joseph Grainger  
 John Birge  
 Thomas Thompson  
 \*Fred Alexander  
 George Larwood  
 Walter Winchester  
 Albert Rinn  
 Thomas Flear  
 Norman Siddall  
 Joseph Flear  
 William Mason  
 Nelson Broderick  
 Percy Priddle  
 Alex Wiggins  
 Abraham Grainger  
 \*William Martin  
 Wes. Hartley  
 Laverne McCutcheon  
 Clifford McCutcheon  
 Oscar McCutcheon  
 George Haggerty  
 R. J. Coe

Clem. Penelton  
 George Severn  
 Rev. Wm. Coutts  
 Frank Salter  
 Wesley Hutchinson  
 E. J. Pearson  
 Frank Patton  
 Howard Steggal  
 Chas. Skell  
 Wm. Wheeler  
 Gill Wheeler  
 Chas. Wilson  
 Wesley Noble  
 Wesley Lennox  
 George Dodsworth  
 Jack Fleming  
 Ernest Shipman  
 Robert McNabb  
 Ernest Crisp  
 Roy Scriver  
 Wm. J. Foster  
 Wm. Campbell  
 John Galbraith  
 Melville Little  
 \*Edward Jenkins  
 Fred Warpole  
 Ernest Warpole

## World War II

William Lawrence  
 Cameron Johnston  
 Mervin Johnston  
 George Black  
 John Jones  
 Morton Patton  
 Kenneth Patton  
 Maurice Jones  
 Leonard Hall  
 Walter Hall  
 Allan Bradley  
 Thos. Bradley  
 Wm. Edwards

Wm. Wellar  
 Mervin Hare  
 Wilfred Pengelly  
 Russell Noble  
 Melville Leonard  
 Delmas Somerville  
 Ross Kelly  
 Irwin Shaw  
 Ellis Brett  
 Charles Hamilton  
 \*William Snell  
 Donald Tupling  
 William C. Tupling  
 Robert Wiggin  
 Rev. Jno. Witzel, M.A.  
 Herbert Newell  
 Morley Jamieson  
 Ralph Tupling  
 Burton Henderson  
 Norman Lounds  
 James A. Harold  
 Douglas Earl Hunt  
 Howard Major  
 Wayne Snell  
 Morris Copeland  
 Clarence Mason  
 Harold Mason  
 Howard Henderson

Elgin McMinn  
 William Hamilton  
 John Lounds  
 Russel Barber  
 Clifford Wallwork  
 Harold Corby  
 Robert Baker  
 Elmer Boyle  
 Glen Chipchase  
 Delmer Duffin  
 George Scriver  
 Oscar Simpson  
 Kenneth Simpson  
 John Selfe  
 Frank Tulley  
 Lorne Wilson  
 Sam Smythe  
 Delmar Smythe  
 Truman Smythe  
 Elwood Smythe  
 Sidney Joy  
 Ken. Wallace  
 \*Norman Bell  
 Lou. McCutcheon  
 Murray McCutcheon  
 Ronald Lindsay  
 Ken. Murphy  
 Kitchener McKee

R. O. McCutcheon  
 \*Walter Creamer  
 \*Austin Cauthers  
 Francis Anderson  
 Ivan L. Anderson  
 Paul A. Anderson  
 Howard S. Bailey  
 James A. Cauthers  
 J. Orville Ferris  
 Garfield W. Ferris  
 Norman A. Ferris  
 Aubrey E. Ferris  
 Emerson Greer  
 Herb C. Jennings  
 Vernon Ireland  
 Russell Kirkpatrick  
 Eugene Kowoliski  
 John J. M. Miles  
 Eldon L. Orr  
 John A. Ross  
 Samuel Robinson  
 Lily A. Shacklady  
 James E. Shacklady  
 Wilf. H. Shacklady  
 Alf. E. Seymour  
 Dave Bonfield  
 Donald Phoenix



## REEVES OF MULMUR TOWNSHIP 1851-1951

The following is a list of the Reeves of Mulmur Township and the years that they served in that capacity:

Paul Gallagher, 1851.	W. H. Lawrence, 1912.
John Cooper, 1852-3-4-5-6-7-8.	John Reburn, 1913-14-15.
Paul Gallagher, 1859.	Elijah Kidd, 1916.
Thomas Hand, 1860-1.	David Kiernan, 1917-18.
John Little, 1862.	James Barber, 1919-20.
James Aberdeen, 1863-4-5-6.	James H. McKee, 1921-2.
Thomas Hand, 1867-8.	James Henderson, 1923-4.
Colwell Graham, 1869-70-1-2-3.	E. A. Reid, 1925-6-7.
Thomas Hand, 1874-5-6.	R. H. Jamieson, 1928-9.
William Parkhill, 1877.	D. M. Gallagher, 1930-1.
Colwell Graham, 1878-9-80-1-2-3-4-5-6.	E. Ray Cunningham, 1932-3.
Robert Gallagher, 1887-8-9-90-1-2-3.	W. C. Mitchell, 1934-5.
Robert Wiggins, 1894.	R. J. Ritchie, 1936-7.
Robert J. Reaburn, 1895-6.	T. J. Mitchell, 1938-9.
Alexander Johnston, 1897-8.	Thomas Bates, 1940-1.
John A. Best, 1899-1900-1-2.	J. M. Armstrong, 1942-3-4.
Archie Greer, 1903-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11.	C. H. Siddall, 1945-6.
	Claude Duffin, 1947.
	C. H. Siddall, 1948-9.
	Claude Duffin, 1950-1.

## CLERKS OF MULMUR TOWNSHIP

John Little, 1851-1859.	Malcolm Colquhoun, 1877-1889.
Colwell Graham, 1859-1868.	Hezekiah Gilbert, 1889-1890.
Samuel L. Liang, 1868-1872.	George Laking, 1890-1915.
Duncan C. Lamont, 1872-1874.	George E. Foster, 1915-1950.
Richard Corbett, 1874-1877.	E. H. Reid, 1950-.

## TREASURERS OF MULMUR TOWNSHIP

John Little, 1851-1860.	Paul Gallagher, 1915-1933.
Colwell Graham, 1860-1868.	E. A. Reid, 1933-1937.
William Walker, 1869-1871.	E. H. Reid, 1937-1950.
John A. Love, 1871-1893.	Charles Foster, 1950-.
Robert Gallagher, 1893-1915.	

## THE CENTENNIAL HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

E. H. Reid, L. W. Newell, Mrs. D. M. Gallagher, Mrs. Harvey Mills, Mrs. Maurice Jones, Mrs. Milton Carscadden, Mrs. Charles Foster, Mrs. Gordon Walker, William Siddall, William McClinton, John Ferris, Owen Quinlan, Cecil W. Bates, Charles Foster.

*In conclusion my hope is that someone, at a later date, will finish this work and carry on the story of Mulmur then and our beloved township.*

*Edward H. Reid*