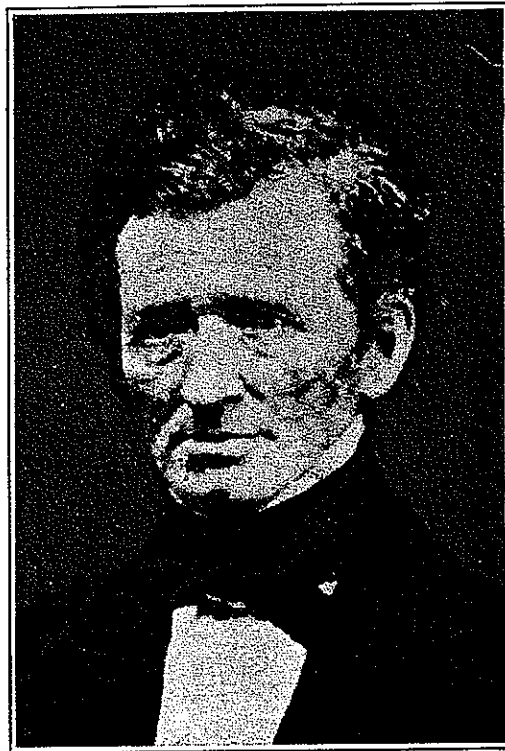


ALEXANDER CAMPBELL

By Allan R. Davis

Alexander Campbell was admitted as a Deputy Provincial Surveyor on September 20th, 1830. He was then a member of the Municipal Council of the township of Adolphustown. Henry Davis, grandfather of the present writer, who had married Campbell's sister, Sarah, was then Town Clerk; and both of their fathers had sat in that same Council since its organization in 1792. Those earliest records of municipal organization in Ontario are still preserved, and disclose some important facts, as for instance: "Water voted no fence; pigs not to run till three months old, and then to wear yokes 18 inches by 24; no person to set brush or stubble on fire without taking two Freeholders with him under the penalty of forty shillings; fences are to be 4 feet 8 inches high; the weed called Thistle, should be crushed in its growth, and the Pathmasters are to be the judges." These are but a few of the Prudential Laws which were passed from year to year, and were strictly enforced and scrupulously observed.



Alexander Campbell, grandfather of the surveyor, was one of the first United Empire Loyalists, of the Peter Van-Alstine company, to land in Adolphustown on that memorable 16th of June, 1784, fresh from the Revolutionary War. This active Scot helped to organize Fourth Town, which later became known as Adolphustown; and after holding a place in the Council for several years, gave place to his son, Archibald, the surveyor's father. One of the daughters of the original Campbell married Thomas G. Ridout, Surveyor-General, of Toronto, the father of that fervent U.E. Loyalist descendant,

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the late Lady Edgar, whose son, Professor Pelham Edgar, is a well known citizen of Toronto.

Surveyor Alexander Campbell was born about the year 1800 on the family homestead, and had two brothers, John and Archibald, and several sisters. John married Jane Huyck, of Adolphustown, and they moved to Marysville, in Hastings County, where they reared a large family, one of whom, Archibald, now 90 years old, still resides on his father's farm, but all the rest of his brothers and sisters are gone, as well as two sons and one daughter. His youngest daughter, Mrs. James Topping, still remains at Marysville. A granddaughter, Miss Carolyn Campbell, a teacher in Toronto, spends her vacations with her grandfather on the farm.

Surveyor Campbell's other brother, Archibald, married Mary Valleau, of Adolphustown, where both lived and died at a ripe age, leaving no family. A sister, Phoebe, married John Bogart, of Adolphustown, and they reared a large family, one of whom, Gilbert, succeeded Surveyor Campbell as Postmaster at Napanee. Another sister, Ellen, married Mr. MacHenry, of Napanee, who reared a family of three children, one of whom, Donald, became a prominent teacher in the high schools of the province. A sister, Laney, became Mrs. Maybee, of Hastings County, but no family survives. The other sister, Sarah, who married Henry Davis, on the opposite side of Hay Bay, raised a family of eight sons and one daughter, some of whom left large families, and many descendants remain.

Surveyor Campbell married the widowed mother of Mr. John Taylor, a prominent citizen of Belleville for many years, who recently passed away. Possessing keen business ability, this alert Surveyor, unlike most of his profession, used the latter as a hobby, while he made money in the mercantile life, as a builder, as Postmaster of Napanee, and as the proprietor of a local newspaper. He erected a beautiful stone residence for his family on the Napanee River, opposite the town. He built the leading hotel the town has ever had, known as the Campbell House, and still in active use. He made surveys in the Napanee district, particularly on the Selby Road leading northerly from the town, and becoming one of the chief arteries connecting with the vast timber areas stretching far into the back country.

Mr. and Mrs. Campbell had four children, two sons and two daughters. One of the latter, Jane Ann, married William Fralick, Napanee, and the issue of this marriage was one son

and two daughters, all of whom grew up and were married in the Napanee district. The other daughter, Mary, became Mrs. Dorland Pruyn, whose husband was deputy sheriff at Napanee for many years. A daughter lived but a few years. One son, Alex. Pruyn, was the other issue of this marriage, and he, in recent years, after burying his parents in the Taylor plot at Belleville, married Nelle Cummins, of Nevada, Missouri, and they now reside in Los Angeles, California, where Mr. Pruyn is in business. The two sons of Surveyor Campbell were Alex. and Thomas, who did not remain at home after growing up, but went to the mining districts of the United States. The former died in Napanee about 1876; and the latter, who left a wife, died in Virginia City, Nevada, leaving no issue.

Surveyor Alexander Campbell was about fifty-two years of age at the time of his death. He and Mrs. Campbell are buried in the family plot in the Napanee Cemetery, where one of their sons is buried, and also the Pruyn granddaughter. Two daughters of the Fralick family, Mrs. Thomas Huffman and Mrs. John Anderson, survive, and are residing in Seattle, Washington.

Mr. Campbell made three surveys for the Government in Upper Canada:—

Resurvey Township Seymour—1832.

Lots 28-31, Thurlow for Indians—1835.

Concession line four and five, Fredericksburg—1836.