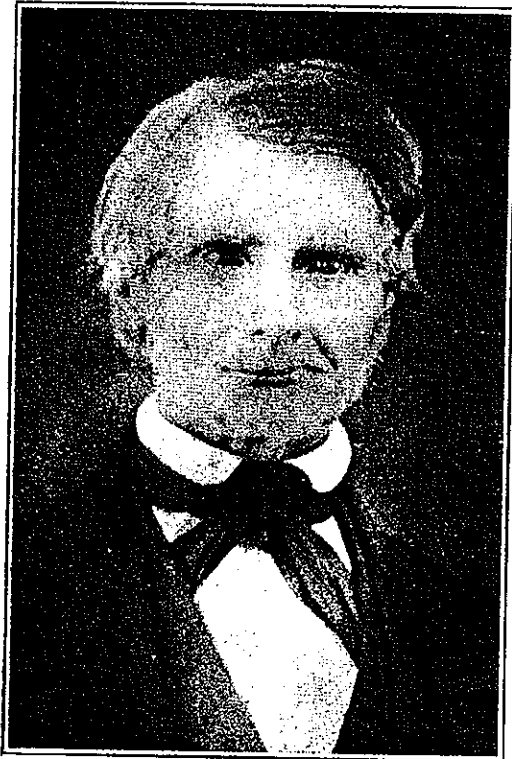


## CHARLES KENNEDY

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In Scotland the Kennedy Clan was a small one, their crest a human arm bearing an oaken branch with an acorn on it. Their kilt was red and green.

John Kennedy, Sr., was born in Scotland, but during a persecution of the Protestants, he removed to the North of Ireland. When grown to manhood, he came to America and was employed in New Jersey by the Hudson's Bay Co. During the French and Indian War, he was taken prisoner at Fort Schlosser, above Niagara Falls, and sent to France. By an exchange of prisoners, he went to London, England, where he married an English lady, subsequently returning to New Jersey, where he was in the fur business.



This John Kennedy had four sons: John II, William, Sr., Charles and Richard.

Of William nothing can be learned. Charles was a carpenter and

joiner, who lived at Middleport on the Welland River.

Richard was a blacksmith. He was granted land in Upper Canada, and started from New Jersey with another man, who was afterwards convicted of murdering him. He confessed that when fording Tonawanda Creek, he sat on the horse behind Richard Kennedy and with a tomahawk gave him a crushing blow, then threw the body into the stream.

John II was born May 8th, 1761, in Essex County, N.J. As a youth he served in a clerical capacity during the Revolutionary War, but became a school teacher subsequently. He started for Canada with his wife and five children, but his horses died and he resumed his vocation of school teacher.

Eventually he reached Oswego, and arrived at Niagara on June 8th, 1796. When at Oswego, his then youngest son, Morris, was kidnapped by the Indians, but the child was rescued.

He settled first near St. Ann's, then at Middleport where he continued to reside until his death on April 12th, 1847, aged 86 years.

John II was twice married, his sons by first wife being John III, 1787-1874; Charles, the subject of this sketch, 1792-1854; Morris, 1794-1886; Samuel, 1797-1879, and George, 1799-1870, the founder of Georgetown, Ont. There were also two daughters who came to Canada with him. By a second marriage the sons were William, 1802-1889; Jacob, 1809- ; Michael, 1815- ; and David, 1817- . There were also four daughters.

Charles Kennedy was born in New Jersey, on March 13th, 1792, and was therefore five years of age when his parents settled at Middleport.

In 1819, the settlement of the Township of Esquesing began, and among the earliest settlers was George Kennedy, who selected land at "Hungry Hollow", now the town of Georgetown, which received its name from this pioneer.

In 1816, the Gore District comprised the Counties of Wentworth, Brant and Halton, the population at that time being about 6,000 people. In 1853, Halton was set apart, but it then included the Townships of East Flamborough, West Flamborough, Beverley and Dumfries.

In 1832, the York Road from Georgetown to York (Toronto) was opened. Before this date the outlet from the back townships was to Oakville, Bronte or Port Nelson, on the shore of Lake Ontario.

By 1865 Georgetown sent a representative to the County Council.

George Kennedy and his brother Morris settled in Halton County, and they were followed shortly afterwards by two older brothers, Charles and Samuel, Charles being the subject of this sketch.

In the War of 1812-14, Charles acted as sergeant in the flank company in his Majesty's service, with credit. During his military service, it was observed that he was reserved in

manner and conversation, while others enjoyed themselves with mirth and revelry.

In 1818 he married Elizabeth Williams and moved into the Township of Esquesing. His residence was in the North-West part of Georgetown, a short distance from the present G.T.R. track. On May 12th, 1819, he was appointed a Deputy Provincial Surveyor. He combined farming with surveying as the majority of the pioneer surveyors did, and continued to practise his profession at Georgetown until his death on June 12th, 1864.

Mr. Kennedy possessed a remarkable tact for public affairs. Anything for the improvement of the county and for bettering the conditions of its inhabitants received his hearty approval and support.

About 1843 he was appointed a Magistrate in which position he gave universal satisfaction. In 1817 he joined the Methodist Church. His residence was always the home of the itinerant ministry, in fact, it was a place of rest and refreshment for the weary travellers of the day.

He was a man of peace, of sincerity and unfeigned humility.

His wife was born in the Township of Thorold, C. W., on January 30th, 1797. She died on March 22nd, 1856.

They had the following children: John IV, 1820-1886; Mary Ann, 1822-1885, married John Burt; Charles 1827 killed in mill 1835; Harriot, 1829-1829; James Willson, 1831-1884; Maria, 1834-1868, married Wm. Boyle; George H., 1836-1901; Elizabeth, 1838-1873, married first, Charles Huffman, and second, John Gamble.

John Willson Kennedy, of Georgetown, born 1870, is a son of George H., Frank Kennedy (born 1878) of the Bell Telephone Co., Toronto, W. C. Kennedy, Alexander K., and Rev. D. B. K., are sons of James Willson Kennedy.