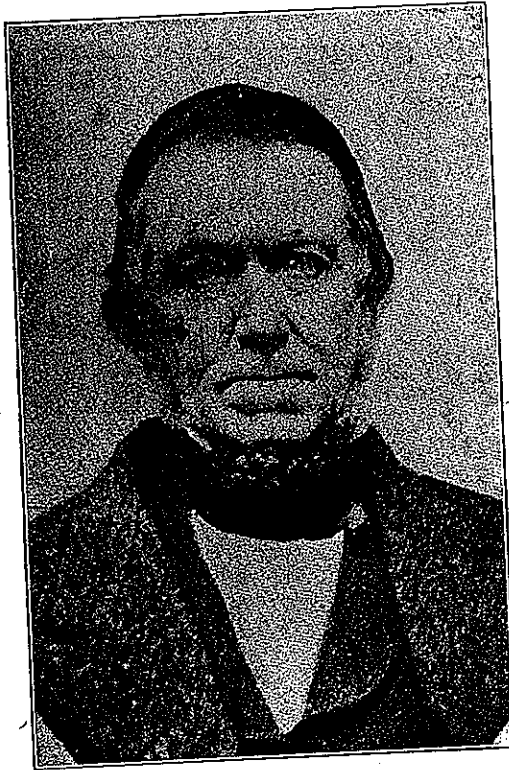


JACOB MISENER.

By Whitson D. Misener.

Jacob Misener was born in the Township of Crowland, in the County of Welland, July 18th, 1806. He was the eldest of a family of twelve children, his parents being Matthias Misener and Catherine (Vanderburgh) Misener. Matthias Misener was a son of Leonard Misener, a U. E. Loyalist, who came to Canada from Pennsylvania in 1786. One of the first works of this hardy pioneer was the erection of a comfortable log house on the north bank of the Chippewa Creek, on Lot No. 204, in the Township of Stamford. This house is still standing, and is now used as a barn for the storage of hay.



At the time Jacob Misener was born, the early settlers suffered many hardships and privations and were handicapped in various ways, but he made the best possible use of the educational facilities at his disposal and received his commission as a Deputy Surveyor on the 8th of December, 1827. He practised as a Land Surveyor until his death, on April 27, 1879, being in the seventy-third year of his age. In 1854 Mr. Misener was instructed by the Government to make certain surveys in the Townships of Wainfleet and Humberstone, and in 1856 surveyed the eastern boundary of Humberstone.

One of Jacob Misener's brothers died in his 91st year, his father lived to be eighty-one and one of his cousins lived to one hundred and four years old. Jacob Misener, like many of the early settlers, was of a very strong, hearty and robust make-up, and he weighed about two hundred pounds. He was possessed of a very genial disposition, was strictly temperate, and was always ready to assist anyone in need. He was a good neighbor and had many opportunities for the exemplification of the virtues that make a good neighbor. He owned and resided on a good farm of one hundred and thirty acres, being the north part of Lot No. 43, in the 7th concession of the Township of Wainfleet, near Wel-

landport, Ont. This farm is still in possession of one member of his family.

Mr. Jacob Misener was Reeve of the Township of Wainfleet in 1855, and his name is engraved beside the names of other officials of the County of Welland at that time on the marble slab set over the main entrance of the County Buildings. This slab was prepared under the supervision of that distinguished architect and civil engineer, Mr. Kivas Tully, who designed and supervised the construction of the buildings.

Mr. Misener practised mainly in the Counties of Welland and Haldimand, and laid out and established many farm boundaries and road allowances, and many a cut stone monument planted by him is now shown as an undisputed boundary mark. He was frequently employed on subdivision surveys and his signature is to be found on many plans filed in the Registry Office for the County of Welland. He laid out the larger portion of the Great Cranberry Marsh, in the Township of Wainfleet, into township lots, and was also engineer in charge of a drainage system for a considerable portion of this marsh. A number of the cut-stone monuments planted by him in the central portions of the Great Marsh during the winter season, later on sank out of sight and could not afterwards be found.

Jacob Misener was married three times. His first wife was Abigail Dils, to whom he was married in 1831. Some considerable time after her death he married Sarah S. Darragh in 1842, and later on after her death he married his third wife, Deborah Graybiel, in 1866.

He was the father of thirteen children, of whom three are still living. Some of his sons assisted him in his work at various times, but a number of the sons and daughters moved to various places. One son, George, went to Vancouver in 1849, another son, William H., later on went to Dawson City, Yukon Territory, and two daughters went to the State of Ohio. Agnes Misener, one of these daughters, is now superintendent of an institution of the State of Ohio at Toledo. William H. Misener now lives at Pasadena, California. The remaining living child is Mrs. Sarah Catherine Dils, who, with her daughter, resides on the old Jacob Misener homestead, near Wellandport, Ont. In politics, Mr. Misener was an old-time Reformer, and he was a member of the Presbyterian Church.

He is buried in the Wellandport Cemetery, which lies on the south bank of the Welland River.

Whitson D. Misener is a nephew of Jacob Misener.