

THE CABOOSE



NEWSLETTER OF THE CUMBERLAND TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY (CTHS)

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Editor's ramblings (by Jeannie Smith)

The summer's gone, and all the roses falling...but it was a memorable season!

Once again, the CTHS has made a hit in Navan. We won 2nd prize and \$50 with our float in the Navan Fair Parade August 13th. Only a few books remain to be sold from the second printing of 'Murder in Navan'. Dale's Cemetery Book will be printed in September and a revised CTHS website will soon be on line.

The Cumberland Township Historical Society continues to arouse interest in local history. I'm looking for stories and pictures for the November issue. Send in your memories of people who served in the wars of the last century so that younger generations will be reminded of the sacrifices of past generations.

Our Society

The Cumberland Township Historical Society (CTHS) was founded in 1986. We are a non-profit, volunteer and community-based organization whose goal is to preserve Cumberland Township history.

Our newsletter

The Caboose is published six times each year by the Cumberland Township Historical Society.

Our Executive

- Randall Ash, President
- Martin Rocque, Vice-President
- Jeannie Smith, Secretary-Treasurer and Newsletter Editor
- Verna Cotton, Director
- Dan Brazeau, Director
- Jean-François Beaulieu, Director
- Dorothy-Jane Smith, Director

Our address and local history room

Cumberland Branch
Ottawa Public Library
Local History Room
1599 Tenth Line Road
Ottawa, ON K1E 3E8

Our World Wide Web address

www.cths.ca

The CTHS has proposed that the name of the new school in Navan be 'Dr. I.F. Kennedy Elementary School'. Please submit suggestions of names to Principal Cathie_Whyte@ocdsb.edu.on.ca by September 13th.



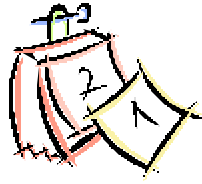
2nd Prize winners at the 2005 Navan Fair!

Next meeting of the CTHS

The next General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 7th at 7 p.m. Gilles Chartrand will talk to us about "W.C. Edwards Mills." The meeting will take place in Rockland at *Les Jardins Bellerive* on 2950 Laurier St. Be sure to bring a friend along. Light refreshments, as always, will be served.

Society calendar

For more information on these and other upcoming 2005/06 events, please contact a member of the executive committee or visit our website at www.cths.ca.



Sept. 7 th	CTHS Meeting Guest Speaker-Gilles Chartrand "W.C. Edwards Mills" Rockland
Sept. 10 th	Cumberland Community Association Event. Market Street will be closed for a giant garage sale
Sept. 17 th	"La noce d'Antoine et Corine" Comédie musicale ... Église de Sarsfield; 8 pm. Contact Robert Dessaint 835-2608 or Nicholas Dessaint 835-7590
Nov. 2 nd	General Meeting at the Regional Police Station 10th Line. Katie Zeizig will be the Guest Speaker. "Newcomers to Cumberland in the Sixties"
Jan. 4 th	CTHS Meeting "Logging on the Coloungue River" video

Visited our local history room lately?

The CTHS has given the Cumberland Women's Institute \$100 to replace the copy of "The Cumberland Tweedsmuir History" that has been missing from the history room since April 2004. Mel Clendenan donated \$100 to the WI in 2003, to honour his late wife, Lorna Farmer and this was used to reproduce the local history book. When this first copy is returned, the CTHS will have two valuable documents!

Contact us

If you have questions or suggestions regarding any aspect of the Society including The Caboose, our local history room or anything else of interest to you or to the Society, you may contact any member of the executive by phone or by email:

- Randall Ash, President (833-3207) randall2620@rogers.com
- Martin Rocque, Vice-President ((819)776-3890) martin.rocque@sympatico.ca
- Jean-François Beaulieu, Director (841-0424) jeanfb@sympatico.ca
- Jeannie Smith, Secretary-Treasurer and Newsletter Editor (833-2877) gsmith2877@rogers.com
- Verna Cotton, Director (835-2490)
- Dan Brazeau, Director (834-8336) danbrazeau@rogers.com
- Dorothy-Jane Smith, Director (225-3554)

We've got mail!

I believe some of our CTHS members might be interested in my latest publication concerning the death records of the Quyon United Church for the years 1859 to 1930. In addition to what the ministers wrote in each entry, I have provided selected additional genealogical information to help researchers confirm the identity of ancestors and/or relatives. Some entries include members of the Lough family. The cost is \$10.00 plus \$2.00 postage and handling per copy. I will certainly consider quantity discounts if several members were interested.



Randy D. McConnell
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(613) 828-1228



I would like to thank the staff of the Caboose for your help. It has been greatly appreciated. Your wonderful newsletter has been a great source of information not to mention very interesting reading. I was surprised to see my inquiry in your January 2005 edition. I had several replies.

Although I have not yet been able to connect my Spratt family from Hawkesbury to John Spratt and his spouse Margaret Lee I was able to make a connection to one of their children. One of their daughters, Mary Spratt, married John Somerville who was the grandson of my 3rd great grandparents. John Somerville remarried after the death of Mary in 1889 and any information I had included John and Mary's children as well as the children of John and his 2nd wife. Trying to make connections takes quite a bit of detective work. The Spratt and Hayes families of Hawkesbury are definitely connected to the Spratt and Hayes family of Cumberland. The difficult part will be figuring out how the oldest members of both these families from both areas are connected. And now we know that the Somerville Family from Chatham Quebec is connected. Thomas Hayes (1837) (sp Alice Walsh) of Bearbrook is the son of Jane Spratt who is also connected to the Somerville line.

I am still looking for the parents of Mary Ann Hayes (sp. Charles A. Armstrong) or the parents of John Spratt (sp Margaret Lee) all from Cumberland.

Maureen Mooney-Chapman
Carrying Place, Ontario



I think the CTHS newsletter is the most informative and inspiring newsletter I have ever read.

Thank you.
Sheila Levac (our newest member)

Old #10

Written by Hubert Hodges for the 'Cumberland Homecoming' in 1981

Sung to the tune of Murray McLaughlin's "The Farmer's Song"

Submitted by Gladys Eggert

*Old Number 10 was our School down the line
It always seemed so far away.*

With pencils and crayons, we'd work at our desks

And look at the blackboard each day.

The teachers who taught us, they kept a close eye

On all of us in their own way.

Now this is the time we look back on those days

Now it's nice to be here for today.

Chorus

Memories from days of the School house

It's gone from our midst once again.

We're back here this week to meet with old friends

For we all knew Number 10.

There were Hodges, Fitzpatricks, Deavys and Scharfs

Dumas and Lindleys there too.

*The Charlesbois, Edwards and Bradleys also
Among others to name just a few.*

*Our teachers were Ada, Dorothy and Myrtle
Hilda with her flaming red hair.*

*Who knows what happened at old Number 10
We know-'cause we were all there.*



SS #10 circa 1910-11

The teachers...

courtesy of Sue Flemming and Elaine Findlay (Tweedsmuir History)

1884	James Cotton
	Charles Walsh
	Essie Martin
	Alice Dunning
	Irene Dunning (supply)
	Miss Dewar
	Mr. Forrestt
1908-09	Mary Millar
1910	Claude Hall
	Louise Kennedy
	Georgina MacEachern
	Bessie Chamberlain
	Norman Sharkey
to	Miss Shane
	Bessie Garvock
	Margaret Blair
	Douglas Ferguson
	Miss Shields
1920	June McLaughlin
1921	Agnes McGillin
1922	Myrtle Adams
1923	Ruby MacDonald
1924	Kathleen Clare
1925	Kay Clarke
1926	Jessie MacIntosh
1927-32	Ada Armstrong
1933-34	Dorothy Scharfe
1934-35	Myrtle Duncan
1935-40	Hilda Dawson
1940-41	Frances Steele
1941-42	Norman Leviton
1942-43	Madeline Findlay
1943	Emily (Mamie) Barton (Sep-Dec)
1944	Miss Groves (Jan-Jun)
1944-45	Lois Stevens
1944-45	Edith Davis
1945-47	Muriel Morin
1947-48	Letitia Russell
1948-49	Wes McCullough
1948	Hazel MacLeod (supply?)
1949	Clara MacGillvray
to	Mrs. Gaye (spare)
1951	Wes McCullough (spare)
1951-52	Helen Clark
1952-54	Reg Waterman
1954-57	Letitia Russell
1957	Mrs. Grey (Sep-Dec)
1958	Tish Russell (Jan - Jun)
1958-62	Frances Cox
1962-63	Miss A. Thompson
1963-65	Olin Beach

MUSIC TEACHERS

Miss Alma Metcalfe
Mrs. Scott

The Wish Book: Eaton's Catalogue

Eaton's catalogue is now only a memory. However it may be a rare collector's item to some. Those who shopped in Eatons' sixty-four modern stores, which stood in cities from coast to coast, during the 70's and 80's and as late as 1998, would be unaware of the store's beginnings.

Timothy Eaton, founder of Eatons, was born in Ireland in 1834. He was one of eight children, who with their mother struggled to make a living as his father had died before his birth. Timothy left school at thirteen to work in a dry goods store. The working hours were very long. Many nights he slept under the counter too tired to go home. The Great Potato Famine hit Ireland in the 1850's. Timothy, like thousands of his countrymen, left Ireland for Canada.

Timothy had learned some things about business in Ireland and now in Canada, he was eager to try his own ideas. In 1856, he opened a small store with his brother in St. Mary's, Ontario, near Stratford.

He moved to Toronto, opening his first store on Yonge Street December 8th, 1869 with a staff of three, a man, woman and a boy. Two signs appeared in the store window. One read "Cash Only" and the other said "Goods satisfactory or money refunded." These policies created quite a stir because where cash was involved, customers were accustomed to haggling for the best price. Timothy Eaton's goal was to give "the greatest good for the greatest number." Five years later, after opening the first store, he was sending out 40,000 flyers each month and using newspapers to advertise his sales and bargains. In fact, Eaton invented "bargain day" as a way to sell off old stock. His motto for employees was "Early to bed, early to rise, never get tight and advertise!" Timothy hated tobacco. Consequently, it was never sold in Eatons Stores.

The catalogue ordering business began in 1884, the first such operation in Canada. The luxury of ordering items from home was wonderful. Eatons Catalogue and the Bible were the only books in many homes. This catalogue came to have many uses other than the one for which it was printed! Many immigrants and children learned English and to read by associating words with pictures in the catalogue. I well remember my family using the catalogue to price items they wished to purchase on rare shopping trips to local stores. If prices were more expensive, they didn't buy locally, they ordered from the catalogue.



Ethel Findlay

There wasn't a special Christmas catalogue in those days. Items for gift giving were ordered in early fall or as available money permitted. Orders would include yarn, material for dresses, shirts and other wearing apparel, towels or material to make roller towels, shoes, coats and numerous household items. Other items considered as luxury were certainly available but were purchased only as very special gifts. I recall items such as two dolls, a little horse with a mane and tail, also a sleigh. There were also pocket knives, lockets, rings and numerous other very lovely gifts. Hockey sticks, pucks and sweaters were popular.

In order to appreciate the value of being able to order from Eatons catalogue, you must remember that trips to any store were few and far between. Travel was by horse drawn vehicles over mostly dirt roads. Staple food items were the major purpose of each trip with a few necessities worked in. There was no money or time to shop for other than very useful and necessary items. This was true particularly during depression years.

For very special occasions such as weddings, christenings and first communions, from those catalogue pages you could either choose material to make appropriate clothing or purchase ready-made lovely outfits. Beautiful engagement and wedding rings could also be chosen. Just about anything you could imagine was available from those wonderful pages!

Each year a new catalogue was printed and when it arrived by mail, the dog-eared one from last year was relegated to the outhouse where the recycling process began-reading material, then finally toilet paper!

Timothy Eaton died in 1907 at age 72, his son Craig took over the company. However, over the next ninety years, several of the Eaton family headed the Eaton empire. Eaton's catalogue business was discontinued in 1972. Eaton's management began to change focus in 1998 by shutting down their electronics and appliance business, along with their furniture and rug departments, in favour of higher profit from fashion products. This change proved fatal. There was a major attempt to turn financial losses around. However, by August 1999, there were massive terminations and liquidation sales began.

Sears Canada announced a major deal in September 1999 under which it would buy all of the T. Eaton Co. shares, several stores, the Eaton name, trademarks, brand and web site. Sears suffered loss in the Eaton stores and in February 2002, the Eaton's brand was discontinued and the stores converted to the Sears banner.

Eaton's had once been a retail giant and a part of Canadian history over 130 years prior to its fall in 1999. Some of the major factors were department stores in Canada at the time consisted of The Bay, Sears and

Eaton's. The three competed furiously. Eaton's was sandwiched between The Bay discount tactics and Sears' appeal to the masses. Signing of the Free Trade Agreement in 1989 complicated this situation by bringing into Canada a full array of foreign companies. Most notable of these was U.S. based Wal-Mart capturing 30-40% of the market in five years. Others have since followed.

With the demise of Eaton stores and the catalogue, a way of life is now a memory and the effect the catalogue had on Canadians is now history.

Written by Ethel Findlay 2005

La Famille Foubert

La Famille Foubert, impliquée dans le commerce des fourrures, formée une petite bourgeoisie Canadienne - Française au 19e siècle



2) Gabriel Foubert dans la région de Buckingham en 1784.

Gabriel Foubert, l'aîné des enfants de Jean-Baptiste et Geneviève, quitte Vaudreuil et s'installe avec sa jeune famille dans l'Outaouais en 1784 selon des sources primaires. Cependant il a sûrement été attiré par la traite des fourrures à Vaudreuil. Gérard Parizeau dans son livre sur Saint - Michel de Vaudreuil, nous dit que «plusieurs voyageurs partent aux printemps dans les grands canots de la Compagnie des Bourgeois du Nord Ouest et aussi de la Compagnie XY». Peter C. Newman parle de la provenance des recrues de la Compagnie du Nord Ouest ".Most of their recruits arrived (with letters of recommendation signed by their local curé)from villages near Montreal: -- Sorel, Vaudreuil, Longueuil, Rigaud, Ile Perrot, Chateauguay, Chambly, and Pointe-Claire, --but Trois Rivières and Québec also contributed their share."

a) Gabriel Foubert associé de William Fortune en 1796 Selon Pierre - Louis Lapointe, M. William Fortune, un important loyaliste du Bas - Canada, avait obtenu une concession de 1000 acres de terre à Pointe Fortune en 1788. Pierre-Louis Lapointe raconte qu'en juin 1795 William Fortune, voulant coloniser la région de Buckingham la fait arpenter et soumet ensuite quatre listes d'associés au Comité des terres. Trois de ces listes sont acceptées. La deuxième liste, celle du 11 avril 1796, mentionne 11 noms dont Abijah Dunning, Zalman Dunning et Abijah Dunning fils dont il sera question plus tard. La troisième liste, datée du 13 avril 1796, signée par James McGill notable de Montréal, mentionne onze noms dont celui de Gabriel Foubert. Selon Lapointe les Dunning se retrouvaient sur la liste finale du premier mai 1801, mais pas Gabriel Foubert. Le Canton de Buckingham fut officiellement créé le 20

novembre 1799 par William Fortune mais les familles Dunning vendent leurs 1200 acres de terres à Buckingham en 1801 afin de s'établir dans le canton de Cumberland.

b) Gabriel Foubert travaille pour la Compagnie XY de 1801 à 1804. L'auteur Rich mentionne que la compagnie XY fondée en 1798-1799 fut connue plus tard sous le nom de Alexander Mackenzie and Company. Pierre-Louis Lapointe mentionne la présence de plusieurs postes de traite de la Compagnie XY (Alexander Mackenzie) et de la Compagnie du Nord Ouest en Haute - Rivière du Lièvre et au lac des Sables. Le 21 janvier 1801, la Compagnie XY de Montreal adresse une liste mensuelle de factures d'articles à Gabriel Foubert en charge du poste de traite La Barrière situé sur la Rivière La Lièvre.

c) Gabriel Foubert cherche à obtenir une terre en 1802 et 1803. Pendant qu'il travaille pour la compagnie XY, il essaie de nouveau d'obtenir une terre avec l'aide d'une lettre d'avocat au Lieutenant Gouverneur, des lettres de recommandation et d'une lettre qu'il adresse lui-même au Comité des terres. Un mémorial manuscrit daté du 5 février 1802, rédigé en anglais par l'avocat de Gabriel Foubert, Me Edward Bowen, fut envoyé de Québec au Lieutenant Gouverneur Robert Milnes. Cette lettre mentionne que Gabriel Foubert a été milicien volontaire pendant la guerre contre les Américains, fait prisonnier puis amené au Fort Stanwick où il a beaucoup souffert. En tant que vétéran il a donc droit à une terre. L'avocat demande 1200 acres en son nom et aux noms de sa femme et de leurs sept enfants. La famille qui vit dans le canton de Templeton sur la rivière des Outaouais depuis 18 ans, a été la première à habiter la région de l'Outaouais.

Un mémorial manuscrit, daté du 23 mars 1802, rédigé par K W. Ryland, secrétaire de Sir Robert Milnes et adressé au Comité du conseil par ordre de Son Excellence le Lieutenant - Gouverneur, appuie la requête de Gabriel Foubert demandant l'obtention d'une concession de terre dans le canton de Templeton, en récompense de ses services et de sa longue colonisation dans cette province.

Un certificat affidavit manuscrit, daté du 2 janvier 1803, à Montréal, rédigé en français et signé par M. Joseph Mondion, certifie que Gabriel Foubert est un homme honnête et fidèle à sa Majesté. M. Joseph Mondion est un voyageur sous contrat avec la McTavish and Frobisher Co. en 1798 et 1802. Richard Reed décrit aussi Joseph Mondion comme étant un colon «In 1786, Joseph Mondion had settled with his family on a farm at the portage around

Chat Falls, where he hoped to trade with the voyageurs who used the Ottawa River as a route to the West, but by 1800 he left." En janvier 1801, Joseph Mondion est mentionné dans les livres de comptes de la Compagnie XY comme étant en charge du poste de traite des Chats dans le Pontiac.



Foubert family member

Un certificat, daté du 2 janvier 1803, rédigé et signé à Montréal par le Capitaine Joachim Génus, certifie que Gabriel Foubert a été milicien sous son commandement en 1775. Témoin Joseph Mondion. L'aveu et le dénombrement de 1782, mentionne Joachim Génus comme possédant quatre terres dans la Seigneurie de Vaudreuil dont trois ayant chacune une maison et une grange. Le capitaine Génus se fait bâtir une maison en 1796 dans la Seigneurie de Saint-Michel de Vaudreuil, maison devenue monument historique.

Un certificat, daté du 4 janvier 1803, rédigé et signé par Joseph Lecuyer, négociant de Vaudreuil devant Joseph Mondion, certifie que Gabriel Foubert est un homme honnête et fidèle à sa Majesté.

Dans un mémorial manuscrit, daté du 5 janvier 1803, rédigé en français et signé par Gabriel Foubert lui-même du Canton de Suffolk district de Montréal, il prête serment de la véracité des faits mentionnés dans le présent document rappelant son implication comme milicien volontaire en 1775, lui donnant droit à une terre, puis comme colonisateur depuis 18 ans dans la région de l'Outaouais et comme loyal sujet de sa Majesté. La lettre est scellée de deux sceaux.

Un second affidavit manuscrit, daté du 5 janvier 1803, rédigé et signé à Montréal par Joseph Lecuyer, appuie la demande de M Foubert. Dans ce document M. Lecuyer prête serment à l'effet qu'il connaît M. Gabriel Foubert depuis longtemps et relate les faits militaires de M. Foubert. Il certifie que ce dernier habite avec sa famille dans la région de l'Outaouais depuis 18 ans où il fut le premier à s'y établir.

Un certificat manuscrit, daté du 8 janvier 1803, rédigé et signé par M. Alain Chartier de Lotbinière, certifie que Gabriel Foubert, à sa connaissance, à toujours été un homme honnête et bon sujet fidèle à sa Majesté. A l'époque, M. Chartier de Lotbinière est Seigneur de Vaudreuil, de Rigaud et de Lotbinière, et

aussi président de l'Assemblée législative du Bas Canada.

Lors de sa rencontre du samedi, 7 mai 1803, le Conseil exécutif du Bas Canada rend sa décision concernant la demande de Gabriel Foubert: «On the petition of Gabriel Foubert for a grant of land to himself and his family in reward of his services during the American war. The committee recommends that the petitioners be obtained 1100 acres in any township set apart for loyalists and other militiamen upheld» M. Foubert doit prêter un serment d'allégeance pour recevoir sa terre.

The McGonigle Sisters

By Jeannie Smith with research by Ann (Goneau) Blake

For years, a little wooden cross preserved the memory of the McGonigle sisters and marked the spot above Cumberland Village where their bodies were found in 1890. Now all that remains is their story.

When Julia (Sauve) McGonigle sent her oldest children Mary 14, and Eliza 12, off to school in Cumberland on the rainy morning of Tuesday, October 7, 1890, little did she know that it would be her last farewell. Because the weather had been wet and dreary, 35 year old James McGonigle and his 28 year old wife, assumed that their daughters had remained in the village, at the home of Joseph Foubert, as they had done in past on rainy nights. The 1 ½ mile walk west, over the hill and through the bush to the McGonigle home on the Gamble Farm, could be damp and muddy on a dark autumn evening.

Anxious about the welfare of her daughters, the next day, Mrs. McGonigle implored James to leave his labour as hired man for John Gamble, and call on the Fouberts. James was shocked to learn that the girls had not spent the night at Foubert's nor had they attended school on October 8th. He then travelled to his brother-in-law, Charles Wilson's in St. Joseph (Orleans) to inquire about the girls. When he had no luck, both men returned to Cumberland and formed a search party.

"They explored vainly till 10 o'clock when one of the parties suddenly came on the two bodies, cold and dead, lying on their backs with their heads together, in an unfrequented by road, about an acre from the road travelled to the village. They lay side by side, as though placed in that position by their murderer. It was a ghastly sight. By the dim light of the lanterns the bodies could be seen outlined against the dark earth. The faces, which presented a sickening appearance, were upturned. The tongues protruded from the mouths and the eyes, which were bulged and glassy, looked upward in speechless terror. Around each neck was a dark circle, the witness to the awful death of strangulation which they had suffered. The clothes on both bodies were all disarranged and there were apparent outward evidence that they had been

brutally outraged. On the person of Mary, lay a schoolbook, as though it had been hastily thrown there by the murderer when he fled from the scene of his awful crime."

"Mr. A. N. Dunning...gave instructions to the crowd not to touch the bodies until the coroner, (Dr. James Ferguson) had noted the position in which they lay, etc. The coroner was then notified and having taken preliminary evidence, the bodies were removed to their late home on a cart". (The Evening Journal Oct. 9, 1890)

John Gamble, age 64 and his 18 year old son William, passed Mary and Eliza about 4:00 pm on October 7th, on the path heading from the village. About 200 yards later, the Gambles, approaching the village, met Narcisse Larocque, who had walked up over Cameron's Hill from the Winsor Hotel where he had been served drinks by Willie Winsor.

On the morning of October 9th, Narcisse Larocque was woken from his sleep at the home of Frank Larocque and arrested for the murders of Mary and Eliza McGonigle by Constables Peter McLaren and D. Lavergne. The evidence was circumstantial. Larocque had slept the night of October 7th in own his bed where he lived with his cousin Edouard Larocque 3 miles east of the village. He had come home just after 6:00 pm and appearing wet, with muddy boots, he ate supper then went directly to bed. On the morning of October 8th, Narcisse told Edouard and Mrs. Larocque that he was heading to James Hamilton's and Peter O'Toole's to hire on as a shanty man for the winter. Narcisse, aged 25-30, a robust 5'5", was well known among the river men and frequented Ranger's Hotel on Murray Street in Ottawa. Larocque claimed innocence in the murders but admitted that he had met the girls on their way home from school on October 7th and then had stopped to smoke a pipe.

A post-mortem held at the undertaking establishment of James Stevenson was conducted by Dr. James Ferguson, his son Dr. William D.T. Ferguson from Rockland, Dr. Robert Mark and Dr. William Ianson from Ottawa, and Dr. Chipman from the General Protestant Hospital.

"Death in their opinion resulted from strangulation. Both girls had been so violently outraged as to cause rupture. From the position of the finger marks on the throat Dr. Mark inferred that the murderer had choked one to death with each hand.On the little hands of the younger girl, the doctors found lacerations which they believed could have been caused by strong finger nails. ... The wound on Mary's head might have been inflicted with a blunt jack knife." (The Evening Journal Oct. 11, 1890)



Crown Attorney Maxwell led the inquest on Friday, October 10 and heard testimony from Mr. & Mrs. Ed. Paquette, Mrs. Ed. Larocque, Mr & Mrs. John Magurn, Constable Peter McLaren, Mr. Duncan McRae, Detective Grier (from Toronto), Willie Winsor, Benjamin Barnardt and Mr. George Brown who was the girls' teacher. Asked about the verdict, Coroner Dr. James Ferguson responded, *"Of course I do not know but there is every reason to believe from the evidence given that the jury will bring in a verdict finding that the children came to their death by strangulation with rape and that the evidence points to Narcisse Larocque as the perpetrator and that it will be*

necessary for him to clear himself. It may, in fact, be stronger." (The Ottawa Evening Journal Oct. 11, 1890)

James McGonigle told the Ottawa Evening Journal Reporter *"Larocque is guilty. So firm is my belief that if the word "no" would save him from the gallows, I would let him die ten thousand times before I would utter it. The children were enticed, not forced. The poor simple little ones trusted his word and went with him to their death. ... I would to God he had taken these two little ones when three years ago He took three away from me by black diphtheria. Had they gone then and escaped this terrible ending, it is a happy man I would be."*

The little girls lay for viewing at Stevenson's undertaking establishment, a short piece from the Cumberland Church. The coffins were covered with flowers. The pall-bearers for Mary were Cecil McRae, H. Faubert, Hazelton Dunning and Willie Winsor; for Eliza, they were W. Dunning, Jas. Gamble, S. Cameron and E. McCallum, all young men. They wore white shoulder and hat bands and carried the bodies to the horse-drawn hearse. At the 3:00 PM funeral on Monday, October 13th, Rev. Beall officiated, assisted by Rev. White. St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church was crowded with school children, the bereaved family and a saddened community. A line of 30 carriages made its way to the graveyard. As the funeral procession passed by the school house, more students fell in line. Eight of the oldest girls wore white bows of ribbons on their left shoulder to correspond with the male pall bearers. The scene at the Dale's Cemetery was tragic. Mary's and Eliza's parents, aunt and grandmother sobbed and moaned pitifully at the open grave.

"When the last of the earth had been thrown in that was forever to cover from sight the remains of the children, Mr. McGonigle took his wife by the arm to lead her away. There followed the most distressing scene of all. The mother's grief broke forth with increased force, as she wailed, "Oh I cannot go

away and leave them." (*Evening Journal* Oct. 13, 1890)

On the evening of Saturday, October 11, 1890, Narcisse Larocque was taken to L'Original Jail and his trial began April 28th, 1891. He was convicted of the murders and hung on June 4, 1891.

The Prisoner's Last Night (*Ottawa Evening Journal* June 3, 1891)

"Larocque, with the unvarying indifference that has characterised him throughout, slept soundly last night, and this morning he disposed of a good breakfast. He is believed now, when not eating and sleeping, to realize to some extent the awful situation in which he stands, but it does not affect his manner, and he is apparently determined to brave it out, the only comment he has made on his approaching doom is that man can die but once. So far, he has neither confessed nor denied the crime of which he was found guilty. He talks quite freely to the guards of his coming execution, and seems to be as much interested as anyone else in the details. He, however, avoids all illusion to the crime itself."

After an interview with Ken Smith, the nephew of the McGonigle girls, and his daughter, Sharon McNeely, I learned that the girls had been dragged to the spot where they were found and had been covered over with leaves. Larocque also worked for James Gamble and Mrs. Julia McGonigle, Gamble's laundress, had washed out the dirty, wet clothes on the morning of October 10th. "Little did I know that I washed out the blood of my daughters." Larocque said that he had butchered pigs. Apparently, Larocque had sauntered over to the quarry after murdering the girls and washed away the blood from his shirt. A knife had cut through Eliza's temple. This was the method that Larocque used to slaughter pigs. Julia McGonigle abandoned her French Canadian upbringing and told the priest to "Never darken my doorstep again."

*"The fact that the prisoner's body was clean in the middle and dirty on the chest and legs did not prove he had washed himself, as it was a common thing for farmers' bodies to be in that condition owing to dust, hay seeds, etc. getting under their clothes at the top and bottom. The cuts on the cheeks of one of the girls were said to have been made with a knife; it had not been proven that Larocque ever had a knife. The fact that Larocque offered to go with the constable and show him his tracks on the swamp road and that the prosecution refused spoke strongly for the prisoner." (*Ottawa Evening Journal* April 30, 1891)*

The community moved the McGonigle house from the south end of Quigley Hill Road to the east side of St. Mark's Anglican Church so that the family could have a new beginning. James McGonigle died in 1912, aged 58, while working in his garden. His wife Julia died at age 83 in 1943. Their children: Julia, Mrs. Clarence Smith 1896-1977, Eliza, Mrs. Francis Deavy,

1892-1963, William 1887-1945, James 1888-1962, Mary Purdy 1891-1982, Alice Kidder 1895-? Annie-1881, Sam-1883, Sarah-1884 and Emily-1886 all died from diphtheria in June 1887. Many McGonigle relatives still live in the Cumberland area: Deavys, Smiths, Findlays, Cotes. The little cross has been blasted from the top of the quarry. Now houses rest on the edge and their occupants know little about the murders of Mary and Eliza McGonigle.

GONE HOME

A song composed by Frederick Richmond on the death of the two little girls, Lizzie and Mary McGonigle, and dedicated to their parents and friends. Thanks to Mary Wilkie, eldest daughter of Ken and May (Hewens) Smith.

Yes, gone to your Heavenly home,
On the earth, dear girls, no more to roam:
Yes, gone to sweetly, calmly rest
On your dear loving Saviour's breast.

Chorus: Between the rising and the setting sun
In Cumberland an awful crime was done;
Two little girls were foully slain;
Their dear faces we'll ne'er see again.

Ah, fond mother, on that fatal day,
When thy darlings went from home away,
Little didst thou think of the awful fate,
Which for thy dear ones in Gamble's bush did wait.

Call him not a man who did the cruel deed
Which has caused two fond parents' hearts to bleed;
Call him not a man - worse than a fiend of hell
Was he who did the deed so foul, so black, so fell.

Yes, angels who live above the starry sky,
Who saw the fell deed from on high;
Ye swift winged messengers, sweet comfort bring
To the poor parents, while the saints in glory sing.

Thou, Almighty God, who dwells above-
Thou, God of mercy, justice and of love-
Be Thou, O God, to them a friend,
And thy protecting care to them extend.

Weep not, fond mother, thy babes are no more,
Gone, gone to the angels on the other shore;
Free from sickness, death and pain,
Why wish them back to earth again?

Dear loving mother, 'twas hard to part
With the cherished idols of thy heart;
'Tis only for a little while-- you will meet again
Thy loved ones on Heaven's bright and shining plain.

Rest sweet babes, with God's saints and angels there
In yon spirit world - so bright, so fair;
Rest, dear babes, with Jesus and the angel band,
In yon blest, yon glorious heavenly land.

Weep not, fond mother, but trust in God,
And bend, calmly bend, to His chastening rod.
He is thy God, thy Father, thou art His child;
Bow humbly, bow to Him, and be a Christian mild.