

C A T A R A Q U I

F O R T F R. O N T E N A C

K I N G S T O W N

- - - - -

----- K I N G S T O N -----

- - - - -

"Walk about - - and go round her.

"Mark ye well her bulwarks, consider her
palaces; that ye may tell it to the
generation following."

- Ps. 48 : 12-13

- - - - -

1937

[KPL 1945]

ST. PAUL'S OLD GRAVEYARD

- - 0 - -

"How many thousands in the years to come
 Will pass indifferently those common tombs,
 Drawn by the passion of your fiery fame
 To gaze upon the store above your bones?"
 --Richard Addington.

THE BLOCK OF LAND on which St. Paul's Church stands was set aside at the time of Loyalist settlement as a burial place, and although in this instance under the care of the Church of England, early "Instructions" to the Governors provided "that burial grounds be indiscriminately open to any persuasion." The part of Queen street, west from King, leading to the graveyard was given the significant designation of Grave street.

One hardly knows how to write of this place of lonely and forgotten graves - the "neglected spot" - where early Loyalists and others were laid to rest. Here repose, in now largely unmarked graves, the remains of many whose names were household words in the pioneer days of Kingston, men and women who wrought mightily in rearing her institutions on firm and solid foundation.

It should have been prized as one of our most sacred possessions, but, alas, to the shame of the Church having this God's acre in trust, and to the inhabitants at large, the hand of time and the elements, assisted by the despoiler and desecrator, have had full sway for nearly three-quarters of a century; with the result that the burial place has become a spot of desolation, with few of its monuments or headstones left standing.

It is strange that, in the general ruin, even the tomb of him who was called the "Father of the Church in Upper Canada," and the "Little Gentleman," and the place where other members of his family were buried, should have shared in this neglect; going to wreck until a descendant of the Stuart family from across the seas came and made repairs, closed the plot and posted a notice requesting that the place of sepulchre of his worthy forebears be respected.

At one time the old graveyard contained numerous handsome and beautiful specimens of the mason and sculptor's art, in varying design of tomb, monument and gravestone. Many of the plots were also enclosed by finely wrought iron railings and stone curbing, but these have long since

disappeared. As late as the Fall of 1933, when a visit was paid to the graveyard, evidence was found of several of the few remaining headstones having been freshly broken, and in one instance pried from position. A stone of the Sir William Johnson group being one of the number. It is difficult to understand the mentality of persons who commit wanton acts of this nature.

The only exception to the general deterioration and vandalism throughout the years has been the burial plot of the Cartwright family, which has been preserved in reasonable good order through foresighted provision made by a former member of the family.

The writer was fortunate enough to preserve an article written by one who visited the old burial ground some forty years ago, and published in the Kingston "News." It is most interesting and the narrative is now used to assist in recording information respecting some of those who found resting places in the old church yard.

Entering from Queen street, not far from the gate on the left, and close to the stone wall, is a weather beaten gravestone marking the resting place of Hugh Christopher Thomson, who died April 23rd, 1834, in the prime of life. His father, Archibald Thomson, moved to Kingston from Markham about 1791, and it is presumed Hugh C. was born the same year. The father was the contracting carpenter for building the first St. George's church. During the War of 1812, Hugh Thomson with his brothers, Andrew and Edward William, served as volunteers. He afterwards conducted a general store here, entering into partnership with George H. Detlor, well-known in Kingston annals. Mr. Thomson took an active interest in the community, being identified with St. George's church and also Treasurer of the Midland District School Society. In 1816 he married Elizabeth Ruttan, a daughter of a United Empire Loyalist of that name who had settled, in 1784, at Adolphustown. Hugh Thomson was a staunch Tory and in 1819 founded the Kingston "Herald," of which he became proprietor and editor. He represented Frontenac in the Provincial Parliament in 1825-29-31. Besides his widow, he left two sons, one of whom was the Rev. Charles Edward Thomson, rector of St. Marks, Toronto Junction. His widow afterwards married the Rev. Dr. Townsley, Rector of St. Paul's church. The Thomson home stood on Princess street (site of Salvation Army barracks), and became known as "Townsley cottage," but in later years better known as the residence of William Pipe. A grandson, H. A. Thomson, Esq., Belleville, has in his possession a beautiful silver cup inscribed as being presented "by the Friends of Free Discussion, resident in Kingston, Upper Canada, to their fellow townsman - Hugh C. Thomson, Esq., Editor of the 'Upper Canada Herald' - as a token of their regard for his manly independence in the conduct of his paper." Edward William referred to as a brother was one of the contractors

connected with the building of the Rideau canal, and was President of the Board of Agriculture for Upper Canada.

Standing out prominently and attracting the eye is the mausoleum of the Stuart family, the members of which lived pure and useful lives devoted to the welfare of their fellows. Here lies John Stuart, the Missionary to the Mohawks and the first Rector of St. George's Church. His work for the church and people has already been referred to in preceding chapters, and we will be content with quoting the inscription on his tomb:

"JOHN STUART D.D., Last Missionary to the Mohawks, First Minister of St. George's congregation, Ecclesiastic Commissary for Upper Canada and Father of the Church therein.

"Born at Paxton County, Colony of Pennsylvania, March 10th, 1740.

"Died, August 15th, 1811, in the 72nd year of his age."

"Sleep sweetly, tender heart in peace!
Sleep, holy spirit, blessed soul,
While the stars burn, the moons increase,
And the great ages onward roll.

"Sleep till the end, true soul and sweet!
Nothing comes to thee new or strange,
Sleep full of rest from head to foot,
Lie still, dry dust, secure of change."

His wife, Jane Stuart, whose maiden name was Okill, born in Philadelphia of English parentage, survived her husband by almost ten years. She died at Kingston, 10th June, 1821, and was buried in the family plot.

It is recorded in Dean Starr's booklet, "Old St. George's," that the remains of the Venerable Archdeacon Stuart, in 1862, "were laid alongside those of his father in the old churchyard on Queen street--the last interment to take place there." George Okill Stuart had succeeded his father as Rector of St. George's in 1812, filling the office until his death, being eighty-six years of age.

Charles Stuart, fourth son of the Rev. Dr. John Stuart, is also buried in the family plot. He was born at Montreal, 1782, and died at Kingston, being buried December 26th, 1816. He was Collector at Kingston in 1794 and later became a Sheriff.

In close proximity to the Stuart tomb was a modest headstone marking the grave of Nancy, Wife of Smith Bartlett, Esq., who died February 11th, 1819. Her husband

was associated for some time with Thomas Dalton, the firm name being Thomas Dalton & Co., in the conduct of the old Kingston Brewery. In 1819, Smith Barlett, however, retired and became cashier of the Bank of Upper Canada, filling the position for a considerable period.

Near the door of the church stood a stone engraved: "In Memory of Colonel Lyons Foster, many years Assistant-Adjutant General of Upper Canada, who died May 7th, 1845." He came to Kingston as A.D.C. to Sir Gordon Drummond during the War of 1812. The Duke of Wellington was a relative of this British soldier. Colonel Foster's wife was the sister of Thomas Kirkpatrick, Esq., the first Mayor of Kingston. After his death members of the family removed to Toronto.

The next tomb was the handsome one of Sir Robert Hall, but the top stone was broken un twain. The stone had a coat-of-arms on it and the motto: "Fidet et Merito." He had been a gallant sailor, born in Cork, Ireland, served his King, and died here on February 7th, 1818, aged forty years.

Side by side with this dilapidated tomb, were two others almost in as bad a state. The first marked the resting place of Anna, wife of the Hon. George H. Markland, who died May 27th, 1847. The second that of Thomas Markland, who died January 31st, 1840, at the age of 83 years. His tomb bore the epitaph:

"How loved, how honored once, concerns thee not,
By whom lamented, or by whom forgot;
This heap of earth alone remains of thee,
'Tis all thou art, and all that we shall be."

But Thomas Markland was not forgotten, for he had been one of Kingston's most active early citizens, interested in all good works. He had been in business originally with Robert Macaulay, but evidently the partnership was dissolved previous to 1800. He was a Justice of the Peace and Magistrate; a Trustee for the market place; one of the original promoters of the first St. George's church, in 1792, and one of the first Wardens of the parish, and we have seen in a preceding chapter interested in the care of the sick and hospitalization. He was agent for the Bank of Montreal on its opening here in 1818.

Another among the wrecked tombs is that of the Smith family, where rest the bodies of James Smith, who died January 11th, 1813, ages 55, the inscription recording the stone was placed there by his brother Peter, who died thirteen years later, age 73, and was buried beside him. A stone also records the memory of William Smith, who died July 8th, 1835, age 26. But, poor Peter, thou and thy good works are not forgotten. Peter Smith was one of the early merchants and a most useful citizen in his day.

Hard by the Smith plot was the grave of Mary, the young wife of David Washburn, who departed this life December 23rd, 1817, aged 22 years. David Washburn was a business man in those far away days, and we are informed had the singular faculty of getting into hot water with all and sundry.

In the same vicinity reposes Elizabeth, wife of Christopher A. Hagerman, whose death occurred at the age of 33 years, on July 8th, 1832. Mr. Hagerman was a prominent man in public life, becoming Solicitor General for the Province, and represented Kingston in Parliament at the time of his wife's death. He later became a Judge and Chief Justice, residing at York.

A few steps more and we stand before the graves of Hugh Earl, Commander of the Provincial Navy, who died January 28th, 1841, and that of his wife, Anne, daughter of Major-General Sir William Johnson, recalling incidents in connection with Kingston's most early days, both of whom have been referred to when mention has been made of those stirring times..

Next to the last named we find buried Robert Macaulay and his wife Ann, daughter of John Kirby. Robert Macaulay was born in Omagh, Ireland, in 1744. He came to Kingston as elsewhere recorded from Carleton Island, shortly after settlement, and died in September, 1800, aged 56 years; his wife died January 20th, 1850. Close to them is buried their son Robert, a barrister, who died February 7th, 1823, at the age of 26 years.

Among other graves are noted those of Joseph Lemoine, a grandson of Sir William Johnson, and son of Lieutenant Lemoine of 24th Regiment; and of Henry Murney, vessel owner and merchant, a most prominent citizen of his time, who died August 13th, 1835, at the age of 76 years - Murney Tower still perpetuating his name; also his son William, who predeceased his father by three years at the age of 23 years.

As regards the Cartwright plot, the first name inscribed on the monument is that of Richard Cartwright, who was born in London, England, in 1720. He died in October, 1794, and his wife, Johanna Beasley, in September, 1795, both being buried at Kingston. Mr. Cartwright, sr., had been a Justice of the Peace and one of the early Church Wardens of the parish. Then comes the name of their son Richard, the Canadian pioneer, who was a member of the Legislative Council of Upper Canada, a Colonel of Militia and Justice of the Peace. He was associated in business with the Hon. Robert Hamilton, and had been instrumental in bringing John Strachan (later Bishop) as a teacher to Kingston. He died in 1815, at Montreal, and was buried there; but his widow, Magdalen Secord, died at Kingston in 1824 and is buried in the family plot.

There is record of the death of a daughter Mary Magdalen, and also of James and Richard, who both died in 1811, aged 25 and 23 years respectively. In 1812, Hannah, 20 years, died, and in 1814 Stephen Henry passed away at 13 years. Two years after the mother's demise, Thomas Robison, age 27, died in 1826. There were two other brothers, John Solomon and R. David, who lived to middle age, filling honorable positions. The first became Judge of the Midland District and also represented Lamox and Addington in the Provincial Parliament. The second took holy orders in the Anglican church and for twelve years was assistant minister of St. George's, when the Rev. George Okill Stuart was rector.

The narrator of forty years ago, for some reason, did not make a complete tour or survey of the graveyard, for numerous burial places, with stones standing at the time, to the rear and east side of the church, were not included in his remarks, which were confined solely to resting places of those interred to the west of the church.

Mention should be made of the burial here of Sir Richard H. Bonnycastle. He was born in England, 1791, and died at Kingston, 1847. His grave was located in the section now occupied by St. Paul's Sunday school, and the stone was set in the rear wall of the building. He served during the War of 1812, being present at the taking of Fort Castine, Penobscot Bay, later coming to Upper Canada, holding the rank of Captain in the Royal Engineers. He was an aide to Colonel Wright, R.E., who planned and had charge of the building of the present Fort Henry; when Colonel Wright was recalled to England, Captain Bonnycastle took charge of the work and completion of the fort. He was in command of the troops and militia during the Rebellion of 1837-8, terminating with the Battle of the Windmill, at Prescott. For his services he received Knighthood. He ranked as Lieutenant-Colonel of Royal Engineers and Militia of Canada West. Besides his military standing, he was of literary ability, writing (1) "The Canadas", 1841; and (2) "Canada and the Canadians," 1846. He travelled extensively throughout the then Canada West and also in the neighboring States of the Union. Sir Richard was apparently an artist of some ability, for he was elected President of the first Artists' Society in Ontario, formed at Toronto in 1834. The earlier citizens of Kingston held him in very high regard and often spoke of him.

The present writer made a survey of the old graveyard in April, 1934, finding, apart from the enclosed Stuart plot and the Cartwright group, the following stones then remaining, many of which, however, were difficult to decipher through age and their dilapidated condition:

Hugh C. Thomson, died April 23, 1834.

Hannah, wife of John Coy, died May 3, 1860, age 69.

Sarah Helen, died Nov. 5, 1836, age 5 years, and
Mary Ann, died July 11, 1814, age 6 mos.,
daughters of Thomas and Sarah Darley.

James Henry Dickinson, died November 2, 1851, age 33.

Anna, wife of George H. Markland, died May 27, 1847.
Thomas Markland, died January 31, 1840, age 83 years.

Mary Rebecca Mackerass, died November 6, 1816.

Michael, son of M. Spratt, Master Attendant, H.M. Dock
Yard, died July 28, 1824, age 1 year.

Thomas Simpson, died January 18, 1822, age 22 years.
Also Mary, daughter of Thomas and Margaret Simpson,
died March 2, 1811 (?), age 3 years.
Also James, son of Thomas and Margaret Simpson, died
July 3, 1818, age 2 years.

Sir Robert Hall, Knight, died February 7, 1818. This
stone has coat-of-arms on it and the motto:
"Fideli et Merito."

Elizabeth Hagerman, wife of Christopher Alexander
Hagerman, died July 8, 1832, age 23 years;
and also Infant Daughter Sarah Maria.

Margaret Cook, wife of Thomas Cook, died August 4, 1806.

William Smith, died July 8, 1833, age 26 years.
James Smith, died January 11, 1813, age 55 years.
Peter Smith, died August 15, 1826, age 71 years.
Also Ann Smith, died April 12, 1846, age 75 years.

Mary Washburn, wife of David Washburn, died December
23, 1817.

William Robison, Portland, Maine, died March 12, 1851,
age 62 years.

Eliza, wife of Samuel McGowan, died November 21, 1840,
age 31.

Samuel McGowan, died October 29, 1847, age 57.

Eliza D., died May 8, 1841, age 6 months.

Lucinda, died September 1, 1815, age 36 (first wife
of S. McGowan).

Ann, wife of Joseph Forsythe and daughter of William
and Mary Bell, died August 1, 1799, age 23 years.

Colonel P. S. Tidy, C.B., age 60 years, died while in
charge of 24th Regiment of Foot Guards.
(Cannot make out date.)

Robert Macaulay, merchant, died September 1, 1800.
 Also Ann his wife, died January 20, 1850 (?).
 Robert Macaulay, son of above, Barrister, died
 February 7, 1823.

 Mary Kirby, daughter of John Kirby, died January 7,
 1837.

Johnson Group--Children and Grandchildren of Sir
 William Johnson:

- ✓ Hugh Earl, died January 28, 1841.
- Jane Earl, daughter, and wife of Colin Miller, died
 March 28, 1863.
- A stone to a daughter of Sir William Johnson, possibly
 that of Ann Earl.
- ✓ Magdalen Ferguson, daughter of Sir William Johnson and
 wife of John Ferguson, died January 19, 1818.
- A broken stone--that of Joseph Lemoine, grandson of
 Sir William Johnson.

 The Cartwright plot contains monument and twelve markers.
 Detail record already given.

--- 1842
 Isabella Deacon, died 1812. This stone half buried in
 ashes at rear of church.

 ✓ Sophia, wife of Captain P. V. Wood, 11th Regiment, died
 May 6, 1815.

ANN EARL

 Margaret Hays (?), granddaughter of Sir William Johnson,
 died October 21, 1831, age 21 years.

✓ William E. Murney, Barrister, died June 6, 1832. This
 stone standing against rear of church. Age 23
 years.

✓ Henry Murney, died August 13, 1835, age 76 years. This
 son in same position as above.

 Charles Oliver, Barrister, died 1818 (?).

Robert T. Lbot, Esq., died December 12, 1843.

 Martha Price, wife of Thomas Henderson, died August
 28, 1851, age 62 years.

 Elizabeth Metcalfe, wife of John Metcalfe, died April
 21, 1811.

Also Margaret Soaden (second wife) - cannot make out date.

 Most of the remaining stones as noted are in very bad
 state, and in a few years will possibly also disappear,
 although members of St. Paul's in 1936 took steps for their
 preservation.

One came away from this old and neglected burial place
 with a somewhat saddened heart.

Other Early According to the historian Greniff, there
is authority for believing that during the
Burial Places French occupation the burial place at Fort
Frontenac was located near the present
TetardPont barracks site, in the vicinity of the approach
to La Salle causeway. This appears to be reasonable, for it
gave protection from any deprecation on the part of unfriend-
ly Indians. He also considered that in event of any of the
French dying at a distance from the Fort, use was made of
friendly Indian burial places.

In some cases early Loyalist settlers set aside a plot
in connection with their land for burial purposes. Such
a private burial place existed at the corner of University
avenue and Stuart street (site of Macdonnell annex to Ben
Rish hall), where members of the Merchser family found a
resting place.

While the Church of England had for its burial place
the early graveyard on Queen street, yet as the town grew
other religious bodies made arrangements for their own
places of sepulchre. With the building of St. Joseph's
church, the Roman Catholics used the land to the rear of
the church fronting on Bagot street, between William and
Johnson streets, for this purpose - but the bodies were
later removed to the old Roman Catholic graveyard on
Ordnance street (now part of Frontenac park).

x
Synod records respecting early burials (St. George's
church), indicate that at about 1828 two graveyards were
in use, referred to as the "Old Graveyard" and the "New
Graveyard." This is taken to mean that some burials took
place at the old place (St. Paul's church) and others at
the new cemetery which they had also secured at the head
of Ordnance street. The Scotch Presbyterians of St.
Andrew's church were the first to obtain burial ground
at this location, following the erection of the church in
1820. At and following the War of 1812 burials increased
and these were further augmented by cholera scourges in the
late 1820's. At this time the new burial grounds, known
as the "English, Irish and Scotch," (Frontenac park), came
into general use.
x

Another early place was at the southwest corner of
the present Johnson and Barrie streets, including the land
on which Bethel church stands. This graveyard was secured
in 1822, for use in connection with the old "Union" church,
the forerunner of the Congregational, and it is known
members of the Methodist church were buried there. Even
as late as the 1880's grave stones were still standing
alongside of Bethel church.

The later cholera epidemics in the 1830's and '40's,
taxed the space for burial purposes in these various places,
bringing about the incorporation of the Cataragui Cemetery
Company in 1850, and opening of our present cemetery.

A By-Law was passed in 1863 prohibiting further interments within the City limits, following which dates many bodies were removed from the older burial grounds to the new one at Cataragui.

Burials a century, or even less, ago were not conducted as is now the custom. It was interesting to note recently the reminiscences of a rural resident, who had passed the four score mark, in this regard. He had followed the occupation of carriage maker in early life, and said: "In those good old days the carriage maker was also the coffin manufacturer, and when need arose a coffin would be made to order. Coffins were made at prices ranging from \$2.50 to about \$18.00. They were usually made of pine, although some were made of oak or ash, and not infrequently they had to be made in the night when death unexpectedly visited the community, and there was not a coffin to suit or fit on hand. There were no hearses and the remains were drawn to the cemetery on a spring wagon, a vehicle found on most farms. Many farmers made their own coffins as required. Handles for them could be purchased in Kingston, as a supply was always kept on hand." In towns, cabinet makers in some cases made coffins and caskets as a side line.

In Kingston, a hundred years ago, there was at least one hearse, for an advertisement in the "Chronicle and Gazette" of August 8, 1835, read:

NOTICE

The subscriber respectfully informs the public that he is prepared to hire the Hearse under his charge for funerals, on the following terms:

To the Congregation of St. George's Church, to whom the Hearse belongs	S 7 - 6
To all other persons	10 - 0

William Rice,
Sexton St. George's Church.

It is remembered funerals fifty to sixty years ago were, in a sense, spectacular in their way. Today there is an abundant floral display, then few flowers but much mourning trappings of one kind or another. The hearses were very ornamental in design, usually having three upright ornaments along the top on each side, and a cross upright in centre of the top when required. From the side ornaments hung heavy black cords with tassels at the end. These cords or ropes were held by the bearers as they walked three on each side of the funeral coach. The pall-bearers themselves usually had crape bands around their hats, also crape bands around their off side arms, or

sometimes a shoulder sash with the ends hanging down at the side of the body - and one must not forget the black cotton gloves passed around rather freely to mourners by the undertaker. If the deceased happened to be a member of a fraternal society or lodge, the members attended in full regalia. The afternoon funeral of a prominent or popular citizen took on somewhat the nature of a half holiday with many spectators along the line of march.

But gradually a change came, bringing about our present mode of conducting burials.
