

Stewartville, Ont.

31/18

Stewartville has the distinction of being the centre of the township of McRob.

Stewartville got the name from one, Allan Stewart who gave the land for the Post Office, Church, School Store, Blacksmith shop, and dwelling houses.

Stewartville P.O. was formerly Balmer Island P.O., getting that from a man named Balmer, who was on a crib of timber which was wrecked on the Madawaska river, and he had to remain on an island over night. As it was only an island when the water was high, and was some distance from the village they thought the name unsuitable and it was changed to Stewartville in the year 1871.

The Madawaska is bridged at the village, and is a very rough winding stream also very 'black water', the meaning of its Indian name. Stewartville was once the busiest place in the township, and was quite a lumber centre, being on the main road from Arnprior to Renfrew was the principal stopping-place for lumbermen. The business days are over, of three hotels, two stores, two blacksmith shops and a township fair, there are none. There is a Presbyterian church, school, post-office township hall where the municipal business is transacted, and four dwelling houses.

Stewartville
Renfrew Co Ont-

McNab the banner township of Renfrew County derived its name from Chief McNab, who came out from Scotland about the year 1820, viewed part of the country, went back, and came out with some of his clansmen and settled the township in the year 1825.

He tried to establish the Feudal System but the people would not submit, and they made it so unpleasant for him he had leave at last, having lost ^{heavily}. Besides his first residence in Arnprior, "General Lodge" he also had a stone dwelling about four and one half miles from Stewartville, which is still standing.

The History of McNab or a glimpse of the past, written by Mr. D. C. McNab (no relation of the Chief) is very interesting was published in one of the local ~~papers~~ and also in some of the city papers. The township of McNab was one of the finest lumber centres, pine and hard wood being taken out for over seventy years. Seventy nine years ago, there was a raft of the finest oak timber, sunk by a landslide in the Madawaska at the foot of the Flat Rapids about three miles from Stewartville. Fortunately the men had left the raft that night to attend some gathering in the neighborhood. When they came back they found their timber worth thousands of dollars gone, and is still buried there. Allan Stewart who did much for the village and township was one of the best scholars of his day, both in Gaelic and English.

He came from Scotland to this country in the year 1835, and died in 1885, at the age of 80 years.