1901-1903 Miss Annie Geddes.
1903-1907 Miss F. McDonnell
1907-1909 Miss Isobel McIntyre.
1909-1910 Miss Annie Campbell.
1910- Miss Ada Kennedy (4 months). Sept.-Dec.
1913- Kelso Carson (6 months). Jan.-June.
1913-1914 Miss Edith Halpin.
1914- Christmas 1915, Miss Florence Hoskin.
1916- Miss Bessie Watterworth (6 months). Jan.-June
1916-1917 Miss Kate McGuire
1917- Christmas 1918, Miss Wynona Bryden
1919 Miss Jennie Wright, (6 months). Jan.-June.
1919-1920 Miss Jennie McIntyre.
1920-1923 Miss Mary Hammett.
1923-1924 Miss Madge McMillan, (6months). Sept.-March.
1924- Miss Jennie Poole, (4months). March-June.
1924-1926 Miss M. Templeton.
1926-1930 Miss Gertrude Campbell.
1930-1940 Miss Edna McColl.
1940-1941 Miss Shirley Langford.
1941-1942 Miss Nancy Robb.
1942-1945 Miss Florence Leitch.
1945-1947 Miss Joyce Hunt.
1947-1959 Mrs. Gertrude Campbell Page.
1959-1960 Miss Maureen Rodgers.
1960-1961 Mrs. Leta West.
1961-1965 Miss Marion Murray.
1965-1966 Mrs. Annie Brown.

Music Teachers

1936-1938 Miss Elsie Paton.
1938-1941 Miss Orpha Leeming.
1941-1944 Miss Annie McWilliam.
1944-1950 Mrs. Margaret Welch.
1950-1955 Miss Joyce Miller.
1955-1956 Mr. George Robb.
1956- Mr. Harold Edmonds, (6 months).
1957- Mr. Gary Martelle, (4 months).
1957-1959 Mrs. Florence McCorquodale.
1959-1964 Mrs. Pete McIntyre.
1964-1965 Mrs. Alice Lingard
1965-1966 Mrs. Annie Leitch.

1957

Tyrconnell School 1957

Back row - left to right
Susan Littlejohn, Eleanor Manchester, James Vandermere, John Vandermere, Robert Campbell, William Manchester, Gregory Gow, Mrs. Gertrude Page (Teacher).

Second row - Mary Margaret Littlejohn, Mike Brown, Larry Jacques, Marilyn Campbell, Virginia Jacques, Mary Brown, Winn Ann Gow, Judith Campbell, Terry Page, Elizabeth Gow.

Third row - Clifford Manchester, Louis Marcus, Grace Pearce, Linda Page, Robert Manchester, Rachael Vandermere.

Fourth row - Donald Littlejohn, Janice Page, Jamie Littlejohn.

THE TALBOT SETTLEMENT.

This section had often been visited by hunters and squatters, and here the aborigines had often camped, as Indian relics are often picked up to day. But the first permanent settler was Colonel Talbot, founder of the Talbot Settlement, who permanently settled here in 1803, accompanied by George Crane. Mr. Crane remained with the Colonel for three years, and then settled about four miles west of Port Talbot, concession 11, lot 15. He was a soldier in the British army, and came to Canada from England. He married Isabella Finlay, a native of Glasgow. Mr. Geo. Crane died intestate, and in consequence his estate all went to his eldest son, and Anthony was left to carve out a fortune for himself. This he managed to do with great success, having no other aids than industry and perseverance, and now an old man of 83, is still very active, both physically and mentally, this year (1895) taking a trip to New York, witnessing and taking a deep interest in the International yacht contest between the Valkyrie and Defender.

Following Mr. Crane were Col. Patterson, Mrs Story, her son Walter and Mr. John Pearce, who settled in 1808, John Pearce settled on lot 10, concession 10; Walter and Mrs. Story on lot 11, concession 10; Col. Patterson on lot 12, concession 10; and Mr. Stephen Backus on lot 13, concession 10 in 1810.

John Pearce was a native of Rhode Island, but came to Canada from Pennsylvania, as also did Col Patterson, Walter and Mrs. Story, who were natives of Ireland. His son, John, who was born on November 14, 1818, still resides on the old homestead, and is hale and hardy.

Mr. Backus came to Canada from Pennsylvania, but was born in New York State. He married Anna Story a native of Ireland. The old homestead is now occupied by their son, Stephen.

From the fact that so many early settlers were natives of Ireland, the country where they settled was called "Little Ireland.

Mr. Pearce, Col. Patterson and Mrs. Story, along with their families and a hired man, thirteen souls in all, started from Erie, Pa., and rowed in a large open boat, around the eastern end of Lake Erie, by way of Buffalo, always keeping near the shore. But Walter Story walked around by land alone and drove their cattle. They were a month on the voyage, from the time they left Erie till they arrived at Port Talbot. They always landed at night, built a fire, and for shelter stretched up their canvas on poles, under which they slept, except the hired man who slept in the boat, which they anchored five or six rods from shore, by means of a rope fastened to a large stone. On one rough and stormy night the hired man called to those on shore that the boat was leaking and splitting in two.

The men on shore at once waded out and threw everything out of the boat into the water. Fortunately the things all came nearly to the shore, and it kept the women busy gathering them in. They then pulled the boat to the beach. They were in a pitiful state, being far from their destination and other settlers. They at once set to work to hunt something to fix their boat. After travelling a few miles they found a piece of another old boat. This they burned to get the nails,with these they nailed up their own and resumed their journy.

When they came to Long Point, for then the present island was joined to the mainland, and it was a long distance around it, they carried all their articles across t his portage, or Carrying Place, as it was called, and shoved their boats on skids. Although this neck was sand, yet there was quite a rise after leaving the water, and they had to shove one end at a time, and it was a very difficult and wearisome task. From here they proceeded to Port Talbot, and were welcomed by the Colonel, especially as they had with them their looms and wheels for the manufacture of woollen and linen goods, showing that they meant to hew out a living for themselves. After stopping at Port Talbot for about a month, harvesting the Colonel's wheat, they proceeded west to the lots on which they made their homes.

The first thing the settler had to do was to chop the timber off a piece of ground, pile the trees which were cut in log lengths and burn them. Then a shanty was built. These were always made longer than they were wide, and the cracks between the logs were filled with moss, thus making them warm and comfortable. They were always made of logs, as the settlers had no ther tools but an axe, The roof was either made of basswood poles hollowed out like troughs and laid side by side with bark downward,and another laid with the bark up over the crack of the bottom two,or of clapboards, which were cut out of oak about the same thickness as shingles, and about three feet long, laid double on poles of the roof with poles on these again to hold them on. The floor was made of basswood logs split in two, and laid side by side with face upward. For windows a hole was cut in the wall and over this was spread a greased paper.
A hole was cut out for a doorway, and a door made of rough plank split out of oak.For light at night they had nothing but the light from the old fireplace, but generally had tallow candles, or a rag in a small dish of grease. The fireplaces were generally built up with clay, but sometimes the back part of the fireplace was built of mortar, and the flue of stones, and some had only a hole in the roof for the smoke to pass out. They baked their bread in a dutch oven or bake kettle. This kettle was sometimes hung on an iron crane, but was generally set on hot coals,with coals on the lid or cover."Bread thus baked",says on old settler "was sweet, if not sweeter,than bread now baked in fancy ranges".

The next thing was to plant a patch of corn and potatoes. The corn was planted with an axe or hoe.When planted with the axe, the axe was driven in the ground slantingly and the corn dropped in the hole.

This prevented crows and other animals ffom pullig it up. The potatoes were just dropped on the ground and covered with leaves and decayed roots. Before the trees were chopped off, the ground was clear of grass and weeds, but afterwards weeds found their way there, and these the settlers cut out.

The new comers did not work the land as it was new and did not need it. They sowed their grain by hand and went over it with a harrow or large hand rake, and covered what they could with leaves, roots and loose earth. They sowed wheat chiefly, but also barley, peas and oats. They cut their grain with a cickle, similar to those now used for cutting corn, but the point was much longer and narrower and the edge was rough like a file. With this they would draw in what they could reach and catch it in one hand, and with a quick pull cut off the heads, as they did not want to save the straw, and three handfuls wereconsidered a sheaf.

The squatter, who was on John Pearce's place when he settled, had two acres of wheat, and they cut it all with scissors and butcher knives. A good man could cut, bind and set up a n acre of wheat a day when cutting with a sickle.

They threshed their grain with a flail and cleaned it with a blanket. This was done by two persons, each taking an end of the blanket and flapping it, while another let the grain run on the ground or floor. A stump was hallowed like a bowl on the top by burning it, and in this was set a stone. On this they put their grain, and over it, another stone with a handle in it which they turned, and by this means ground their grain.

They grew flax and raised sheep. From the flax, they made tow and spun and wove it into tow-cloth and linen for summer wear. The wool they spun and wove on their looms into flannel and cloth for winter wear. They also grew such vegetables as cabbages and turnips.

In winter they were generally chopping, and the cows and oxen were fed on basswood browse. In summer there was grass and also browse, on which their cattle lived, grew and fattened, and even the calves fattened if shut up and fed on browse. The calves were shut up and allowed to suckle the cows for a short time each night, which generally brought the cattle home. But still they often wanderd off, and cows from the lake have been found north of the marsh. But if the settlers had hardships they wre as happy and often happier than the people are to-day. They were always freindly one with another always helping one another by exchanging help and gathering at bees and raisings.

The settlement was prosperous until the outbreak of war in 1812, when their hardships and privations began. In 1813 some of the regulars of the American army went through

on the Talbot Road and burned Col. Talbot's mill, which he had in working order in 1808. After the mill was burned the settlers had to go to Long Point to mill or grind their grain on a hand mill. In winter they took it on sleds drawn by oxen. Whenever they came to hills, the hills being very steep and slippery, they had to carry their grain over on their backs, and as their sacks held about three bushels it was very hard work. In summer they took it down by boat, as it was easier, and they had no wagons, only sleds. Some of the settlers farther west, who did not have oxen,used to take their grist down on a hand sleigh on the ice in winter, and on their backs in summer.

In 1814 a party of robbers and plunderers came through and robbed people of whatever they had. They took all their clothing and bed coverings. The ticks were torn from the beds, ripped open and the feathers scattered around. They took the ticks with them to carry whatever they could pick up. They cut their goods from off the looms and one woman tells of having had hold of one end of a piece of fine linen and the plunderers the other. They had a tug-of-war, but she won the day. The men took the settlers' horses, packed their spoils on them and rode away.

All the settlers belonged to the militia, and they willingly gave their services to defend the country during the war, many of them taking part in the battle of Lundy's Lane. among those who did were Col. Talbot, John Pearce, Col. Burwell and Capt. Wilson,John Pearce being in a skirmish in which the horses were shot down before they could get them unhitched from some pieces of artillery, the same being taken and retaken three times by contending forces. Mr. Pearce while doing duty at Turkey Point, was given a pear to eat. He saved the seeds and planted them when he arrived home,and three of the trees are still living and bearing fruit on his farm here.

Again the rebellion of 1837-38 the sons of these early settlers, always loyal to their country, took an active part, many of them doing duty along the frontier at the Detroit River.

Col. Talbot was always very kind and agreeable to the settlers.He brought on supplies for himself and always more than he wanted for his own use. These he gave to the settlers and his place was the headquarters for supplies. There the settlers got their groceries and if any of them were sick it was always there they went for medicine. The Col. also brought on sheep, pigs, horses, cattle, apple, pear and cherry trees, currant and goose-berry bushes.The settlers as soon as they settled got some bushes and trees and very soon had plenty of fruit.

They raised everything they needed and did not want much money. But they required some especially to payf for tea, sole leather , salt and their taxes.

2