



Peter Robinson
1785 - 1838

THE DOWNEYVILLE TIMES

**Emigration to
C A N A D A.**

MEMORANDUM of the terms on which the Government has agreed to convey a limited number of Settlers from Ireland to Upper-Canada, under the superintendance of *Mr. Robinson* and to locate them upon lands in that Province; and also of the conditions upon which lands shall be granted.

Such Emigrants as the *Superintendent* shall accept, shall be conveyed from the place of embarkation in Ireland, to their lands in *Upper-Canada*, wholly at the public charge, and provisions shall be furnished them during their voyage, and for one whole year after their location upon their respective lots.

Such Farming Utensils as are absolutely necessary to a new *Settler* shall also be found for each head of a FAMILY, or person receiving a grant of Land.

No Person above the Age of 45 Years shall be conveyed to Upper-Canada, at the Public Expence, unless under particular circumstances, in the discretion of the *Superintendent*, and no person above that age shall receive a grant of Land on his arrival in the Colony.

Every Male above 18 years of age and not exceeding 45 years to whom a certificate shall have been given by the *Superintendent* that he was accepted by him as an Emigrant Settler to receive lands in Upper Canada, shall on his arrival receive a location ticket, or order for 70 Acres of land in such part of the Province as the Lieutenant Governor or Person administering the Government shall assign. And in order that such emigrants as shall be industrious and prudent may have an opportunity of extending their possessions and providing for the respectable maintenance of their Children, an additional tract of 30 acres, adjoining every such Grant of 70 acres, shall be reserved by the Crown ungranted for the space of ten years after the location of the lot of 70 acres, to afford an opportunity to the proprietor of such larger tract of purchasing the same within the period, by paying the moderate sum of £10 Sterling.

The order or location ticket for 70 acres to be given to the Emigrant upon his arrival shall express certain duties of Settlement, and cultivation, the same in proportion as are required by the Government to be performed on lands granted in Upper Canada to other Settlers and the period to be allowed for the performance of such duties shall be also expressed in the order.

So soon as the settlement duties shall have been performed the party may obtain his Patent on paying the expence of preparing the same, which it is supposed will not exceed £2 - 10s. Sterling on each grant.

Each tract of 70 Acres so granted shall be subject to the payment of an Annual quit Rent to the Crown of two pence per acre to be paid half Yearly in such manner, and subject to such penalties and forfeitures, in the case of failure, as shall be expressed in the Patent, and the same quit Rent shall be charged also upon the grants of 30 Acres. It shall however in every case be in the option of the Proprietor to redeem the quit Rent at any time on paying of Twenty Years purchase and with respect to the original location of Seventy Acres, no quit Rent shall be chargeable until 3 Years have expired from the time of the location.

Nothing in this Act shall prevent actual Settlers in the Province if it should be clearly understood, that if the conditions of cultivation and improvement to be specified in the location ticket, shall not be performed within the period specified, or if the person locating any lot under the present system shall before receiving his Patent for the same, withdraw from Upper Canada, and remain absent for the space of Six Months without sufficient cause to be allowed by the Lieutenant Governor of the Province, the Land so assigned to such Person may be granted to another Applicant.

Fenny; Printed by Thomas Lindsay, King's Street opposite Abbey-Street



Molly Malone
Statue, Dublin, Ireland

**EDITOR'S NOTE
FROM THE DESK OF
MOLLIE MALONE, 1825**

Imbolc (or Imbolg) is a Gaelic traditional festival beginning February 1 and ending sundown February 2nd and is halfway between the winter solstice and the spring equinox. Imbolc is one of four Gaelic seasonal festivals, along with Beltane, Lughnasadh and Samhain.

In Ireland it marks the beginning of spring, and for Christians, also called Saint Brigid's Day (in Irish language, Lá Fhéile Bríde), it is the feast day of Saint Brigid, Ireland's patroness saint.

It's February 1825 in Ireland. Imbolc is a time of new beginnings and growth; and for the poor Irish citizens who hope to be selected to go to Upper Canada with the 1825 Peter Robinson Emigration, it certainly is a time of new beginnings.

**Upcoming:
Peter Robinson Events**

- Outdoor fun for children
Downeyville Hall
Sunday, Feb 9th 1 - 4 p.m.
- St. Patrick's Concert
March 14 & 15, 2025. 7 p.m.

For more information on upcoming events, follow us on Facebook, email us and/or watch for our posters

**Downeyville Hall
Upcoming Events**

- Trivia Night - Jan 31 - 7pm
- Community Cafe - Feb 2
- Progressive Euchre - Feb 7 - 7pm
- Outdoor Fun Day for Children - Sunday Feb 9 - 1 - 4 pm
- Bake Table Bingo Feb 28 - 7 pm
- Community Cafe - Mar 2
- Progressive Euchre - Mar 7 - 7pm
- St. Patrick's Day Concert
March 14 and 15 - 7 p.m.

More info - Downeyville Hall on Facebook

If you're interested in **performing** at the St. Patrick's Concert in Downeyville, Call Bob Carroll at 705-344-1305

Everyone is Welcome - A Hundred Thousand Welcomes!
Céad Míle Fáilte!



PICK UP YOUR PASSPORT FROM PETER ROBINSON

Meet Peter Robinson who led Nine Ships from Ireland to Canada. Get your passport for one of the ships to go back in time to Winter 1825 in Downeyville.

ANIMAL TRACKING & SNOWSHOEING

Identify animal tracks & learn about pioneer hunting for food, fur and more.

PIONEER GAMES

See how pioneers made their own fun with 19th Century games

HISTORICAL SCAVENGER HUNT

Find pioneer items to help you survive the winter in 1825

STORY TELLING BY THE FIRE

Hot chocolate, stories, and make your own maple taffy

ROAD HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

Sign up in advance to play a little road hockey! Text: Garth @ 705-328-5931

Come out to support the 7th & 8th generation organizers - 18 yr old Peter Robinson Immigration descendants (& friends) who traveled on these ships:

From the Regulus: Clark, Lucas, Ryan, Simon, Nicholas

From the Fortitude: Cooper

From the Amity: Crawford; and Thomas;



Many thanks to Emma Scully of Bonita Clothing and Co for the generous sponsorship of hot chocolate & goodies

THE great DOWNEYVILLE IRISH CHALLENGE

The Challenge: To find the most Irish person in the GDA. (Greater Downeyville Area)

This is your chance to prove you're the most IRISH of them all!

How? This challenge is open to your interpretation and imagination, BUT you must provide proof.

open to all in Downeyville & GDA

open to everyone regardless of age, sex or nationality.

The winner will be judged by a panel of their peers.

The winner will be proclaimed the 'Lord Mayor' of Downeyville & GDA for 2025.

The lucky winner will be presented with an Irish hat and a shillelagh and will be expected to cut ribbons and appear at certain functions in the bi-centennial year.

Come on show us your IRISH!!



Calling all citizens of Downeyville and the GDA to submit nominations for the position of "Lord Mayor for 2025".

- Who is eligible? You are! Open to all in Downeyville & GDA
- Who can submit a nomination? You can.... either for yourself or for someone you know and as many as you like.
- How can I submit a nomination? Easy email downeyvillesettlers@gmail.com or call Leann at 705-344-5232
- Provide proof? Sure, and couldn't it be a 'twinkle' in at least one eye, or could convincingly fake an Irish accent. Use your imagination! Come up with 3 reasons for each nomination. 🤔
- Candidates must accept the nomination in order to be considered.
- The 'Lord Mayor' will be proclaimed at the Homecoming and Jamboree in Downeyville, on August 3rd, 2025.



The Good Ol' Hockey Game

Was a great success!!
As the saying goes:
It's not whether you win or lose, it's how you play the game!

THANKS to everyone involved, from the players, coaches, organizers, and all the folks who came out to cheer for their team. Special thanks to, "Jessie's Tap & Grill, Ennismore", for sponsoring the ice time.

A BIT OF BLARNEY

Waitress- "Can I bring you drinks to start?"
 Paddy- "Well, I wonder, Is it too early for a pint?"
 Wife- "It is indeed!"
 Paddy- "Well, do you serve half pints?"
 Waitress- "We do sir, can I get you one?"
 Paddy- "Yes, I believe I'll have two half pints and can you put them in one glass please?"



Blarney Castle, County Cork, Ireland

FABLE OF THE BLARNEY STONE

Hear Ye, Hear ye, Hear ye, all the town criers bellowed as they circulated about the Irish countryside and towns.
 A decree has been written that all Irish peoples are to assemble at the Blarney Castle on March 17, 1494 and to bring all your lucky charms and spell breaking devices with you.
 "For our beloved Princess Blarney has been stricken with a cursed spell of the Banshee of Genachst. This decree has been put into law by the Prince of Blarney, and all who do not obey it will suffer the same afflictions as the Princess"
 Signed by the Prince of Blarney.

So on March 17, 1494 the people started gathering at Blarney Castle with all of their potions, lotions, charms and some even brought their Leprechauns. But nothing seemed to work as the Princess of Blarney's lips remained tightly sealed, and she could not speak or explain her spell binding tales of days gone by.

But lo and behold, as the last of the potions were tried, a thunderous and ground shaking rumble could be heard and felt crossing over Blarney Hill. For it was a huge cart carrying an enormous blue and grey piece of granite. The cart was pulled by a dozen oxen and led by a pair of huge Irish lads by the names of Pat and Mike.

As the cart reached Blarney Castle a crowd of curious onlookers had gathered around the stone. When the Prince and Princess arrived at the scene, Pat and Mike explained that the stone came from the mountain Mourne and whomever kissed the stone would be cured of the curse and have the gift of story telling bestowed on them.

So the Princess kissed the stone and was immediately cured of her curse. After she was gifted with the art of story telling and full of Blarney.

When the Prince of Blarney saw what had happened he purchased the stone from Pat and Mike and gave all the Irish people a piece of the stone, so they too could ward off the Banshee and be bestowed with the gift of Blarney.

The remainder of the stone was placed high up in the belfry of Blarney Castle for all the people of Irish descent and for whomever else to come and kiss the stone to ward off Banshees.

And this is the story of how the Blarney stone came to be, and cross my heart and point to heaven that as a true Irishman I do not tell any Blarney or have any skeletons in the closet.

Robert J. Hennessey

Submitted by: Eileen (Winn) Hennessey,
 a direct descendant of Richard and Elizabeth Wynne
 who came on the Brunswick from Mallow, Cork, 1825

Downeyville Calendar - February 2025



These are direct descendants of
 Daniel Scully 1796 - 1852, who came on the
 Amity from Newmarket Cork to South 1/2 Lot 3
 Con. 7, Emily



Downeyville, An Irish Time Capsule

In 1825 Peter Robinson took a small scoop out of the Irish countryside and buried it deep in the Canadian wilderness where it remained unchanged and unaffected by outside influences for nearly 100 years. These humble Irish Immigrants worked their plots of land and carried on the traditions, religion and culture, "the old ways" that they brought with them from Ireland and passed down to their children. Isolated as they were, they probably remained more Irish than the people they left behind in a turbulent and changing Ireland.

Over the next 100 years, no doubt, the modern world found it's way even to Downeyville. It is likely that each subsequent generation became a little less Irish and a little more Canadian. However, judging by the poster for the 100th anniversary of the arrival of the first inhabitants, it seemed the events listed are very similar to the events we have planned for the 200th anniversary. Could it be that some remnants of that time capsule are still alive and well and living right here in Downeyville?

Did You Know?



The potato was introduced into Ireland by Sir Walter Raleigh in 1589. It was a good fit for Ireland's climate, soil and conditions. It was easily cultivated and produced high yields on small plots of poor soil. It became a staple food for the poor, especially in winter.



READ MORE



downeyvillesettlers@gmail.com

[Peter Robinson Settlers Downeyville 1825-2025](#)

www.nineships1825.com



[Peter Robinson Settlers in Canada](#)



[www City of Kawartha Lakes, Moments & Memories](http://www.CityofKawarthaLakes.com)

[_Douro 200th Anniversary](#)

[Ennismore Heritage Days](#)

[Young's Point Bi-centennial](#)

A Poster from 1925

THE HEART OF EMILY

Downeyville's Home Coming

Hundredth Anniversary of Arrival of First Inhabitants

Dear Friend:

The members of St. Luke's Parish, Downeyville, Ont., intend celebrating the hundredth anniversary of the arrival of the first settlers in the parish. The dates of this celebration are July 14th, 15th, and 16th, 1925. On the evening of the first day at 8 o'clock a general reception will be held in the parish hall. At this reception local talent will provide musical and entertaining numbers. The second day will be taken up chiefly with a Garden Party, at which there will be another general reunion. On the evening of the third day, a play will be put on by members of the local Dramatic Club. Other details of the programme will be published later.

We are planning to make these three days as pleasant as possible for visitors, and we trust that we shall have the privilege of entertaining you and your friends. We extend a cordial invitation to you.

Kindly keep the dates in mind, July 14th., 15th., and 16th. We shall expect you.

Sincerely Yours,

JOHN C. O'LEARY,
Chairman.

THOMAS LUCAS,
Secretary.

A poster which circulated in Downeyville in 1925.

Copied from Mary Milloy Harrington's book "The Heart of Emily" as requested by Dorothy Carroll and with permission from Mary Catherine Jilesen, granddaughter of the Heart of Emily author



See our future newsletters for articles on such things as Settler's News, Poet's & Writers, Irish Myths, & Legends, Downeyville & area History, a bit of Blarney to be sure and much more!



YOUR STORIES



We would love to receive any relevant stories, quotes or poems to publish in future newsletters. Please keep them short as space is limited.

If you have anything to share, please send your submission to
downeyvillesettlers@gmail.com
or call Leann @ 705-344-5232



Happy Valentine's Day!!