



NIAGARA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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CANADA

September 4, 1980

Mr. Louis McDermott
108 High St.
Fort Erie, Ont.
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Dear Mr. McDermott,

In response to your letter of August 26, 1980, it appears that Doctor Hadley L. Anderson was a prominent citizen of Niagara-on-the-Lake, for many years.

In our publication Images of Yesterday, containing old photographs of Niagara, there appears a photo of Dr. Anderson and his daughter Annie, with the following caption: B. in 1855, came to Niagara in his early twenties and was a general practitioner for over 40 years. He lived in what was later to be the Niagara Cottage Hospital on Queen St., On his death at the age of 80, the people of Niagara donated a stained-glass window to St. Mark's Anglican Church in his memory.

The following paragraph appears in Janet Carnochan's History of Niagara:

Length of service seems to be a characteristic of the medical men of the town. Dr. Anderson, the present "beloved Physician" has ministered to the wants of our people for over 30 years, not only curing their ailments, but, in the case of the poor, giving them clothing, food and medicine without receiving any equivalent, but the treasure of which we read "laid up". It is told that four different physicians have settled here during Dr. Anderson's period, but all have left, finding little to do, some staying a longer, some a shorter time, two reasons being given the healthiness of Niagara and the popularity of Dr. Anderson.

The Anderson Memorial Window in St. Mark's Church c. 1926 reads: "for more than forty years our beloved physician" - Mayor of Niagara in 1906 - died age 80, buried Nove. 13, 1825.

In the Niagara Advance of Oct. 19, 1925 is found the obituary of Dr. Anderson. Along with several paragraphs paying tribute to his medical skill and faithful service to the community, we find the following information:

Hedley Louis Anderson was born in Fort Erie in 1845, the son of Rev. John Anderson, Rector. After studying medicine, he practised first in Gracebridge, then in 1875, came to Niagara. After 45 years of unremitting labour in his chosen profession, he retired in 1920 - spent the last five years of his life in well-earned retirement, living with his daughter Mrs. Russell.

The funeral was held Oct. 13, 1925, including many of his Masonic Brethren and Senior childfen from the schools. The service was conducted by Rev. CH.E. Smith, assisted by Rev. Canon J.C. Garrett under whom Dr. Anderson had served for many years as Church Warden. Burial took place in St. Mark's Cemetery.

Dr. Anderson was survived by his widow, Mrs. Anderson, and his daughter Mrs. Russell.

I hope that this information will be of use to you. It would seem very likely that further information about the family could be traced through the records of St. Mark's Church, which are on microfilm at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library.

Please let us know if we can be of any further assistance.

Yours truly,

Sheila McLeish
Acting Curator