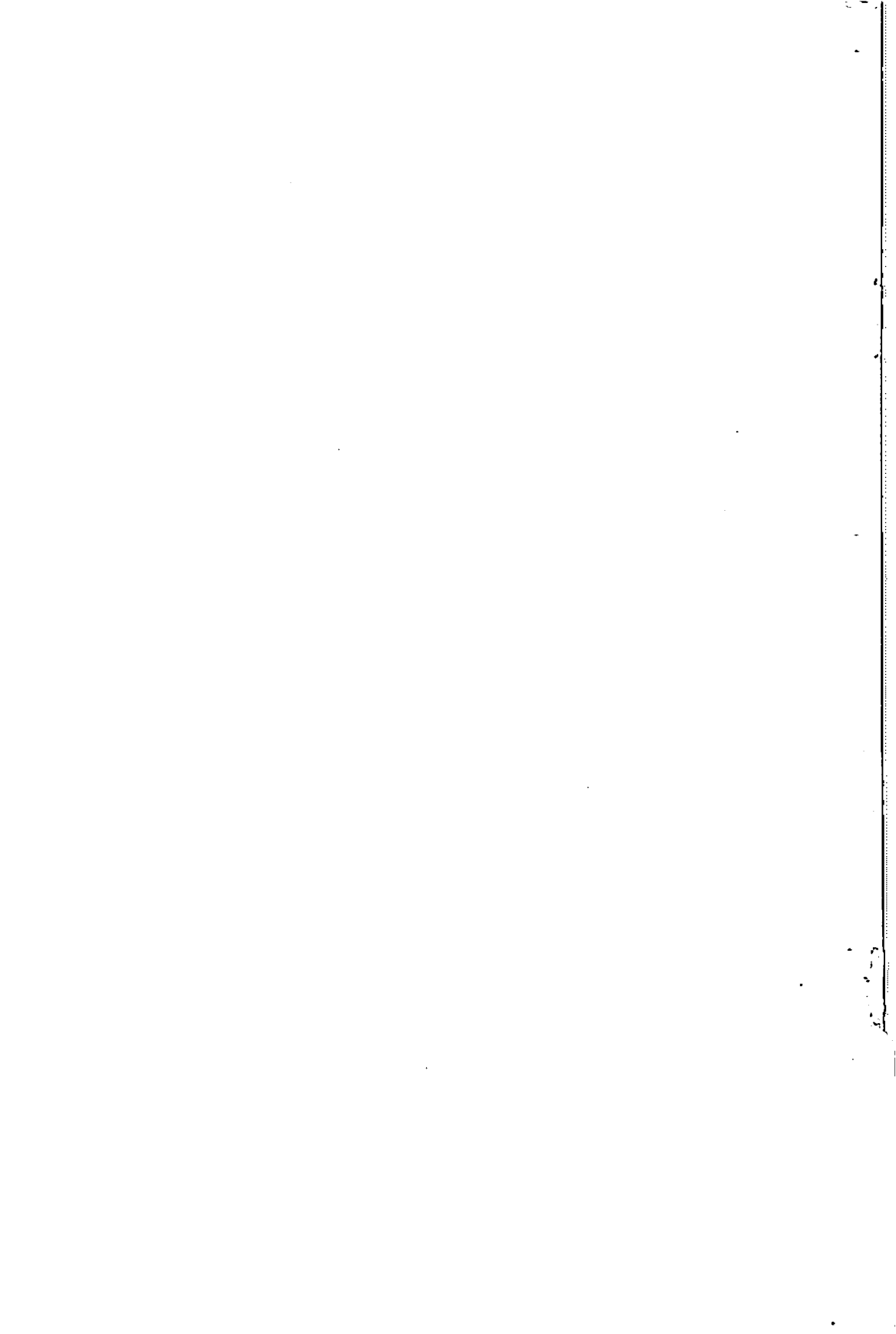


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Coverline: Genealogists from throughout Canada met at Brandon last August to participate in a three-day seminar, and talk about the founding of a Canadian Federation of Genealogical and Family History Societies. For a key to 'who's who' in this unusual photo of genealogists representative of every province in Canada, and an outline of what they were about, see page 75 ff. GH

THE COMPUTER CONNEXION

Lynn Morgan, B.A., M.L.S.



This column completes a series of three reviews that focus on the most recent releases of three best-selling genealogical software packages. *Family Roots* and *Personal Ancestral File* were reviewed in my last two columns. In this column, I examine *Roots II* by Commsoft.

Commsoft was one of the first genealogical software vendors. It began selling genealogical software in the 1970s, long before the IBM PC came on the market. The first two versions, *Roots89* and *RootsM*, ran on Heath and CP/M-based machines, many of which were home-built. The most recent offering by Commsoft is version 2 of *Roots II*. It runs on IBM PC and PC-compatible machines.

My package arrived with a slick manual, two diskettes and a 50-page sample genealogy. The sample, entitled *The Kennedy Family History*, was published using the *Roots II* program. The program diskette includes the Kennedy data used to generate the book. The tutorial section of the manual uses this data to guide you through the various features of the program. The explanation on how to create your own data file does not appear until Chapter 4 in the manual. This is some 150 pages past the introductory and tutorial sections. In principle, this is a terrific technique. One learns enough to make intelligent decisions about how to use the program before setting up a personal file. In practice, I found it less helpful. Some crucial information related to using *Roots II* with a hard disk was explained in Chapter 4, not in the 'Getting Started' chapter where one would expect to find it.

When you start the program, a menu of ten choices arranged in three groups appears. The first group offers four search options that retrieve names from the data file. The next group of options is used to analyze, display and print the data associated with the names found. The third group of options is used to create and revise data files.

The edit function lets you create and modify subject (i.e. person), marriage and source (i.e. where you found your information) records. The edit function also reports data file statistics. Each subject record contains the following information: name, record number, sex, birth date and place, christening date and place, death date and place, buried date and place, occupation, father's and mother's names, parent code (natural-born, adopted, foster child, non-person), birth code (legitimate, illegitimate, stillborn), reference field (your own code), three user defined dates and places, nine flags and two interest level codes. Marriage records contain husband and wife names, marriage date and place, divorce/annulment date and place, one user defined date and place, and three flags.

The flags are special places in each record that may mean whatever you want them to, but the stored value in the field can only be y(es) or n(o). For example, assume flag "a" means "working on family history". Every person in your database whom you know is a genealogist would have this flag set to y. It would then be possible to search for all persons in the database who are genealogists. The two

interest level codes let you record how much interest you have in doing further research on ancestors and descendants related to each person. There are four possible levels of interest for each case.

Each date has a certainty flag attached to it. "Before", "after", and "circa" may also be used to indicate approximate dates. *Roots II* supports double dates for those which fall between the 14th and 18th centuries. The install program lets you customize the exact year in which *Roots* will stop providing the double date format. Two special dates are provided to offer added control over uncertain dates. When 0001 is used as a year, the program will print "unknown" and 0000 will generate a blank date line. The program does some data verification on dates such as checking that birth date is earlier than christening date, or that a child's birth date is reasonable when compared to parents' birth dates.

Place names are divided into two fields, separated by a comma. The first place field is 14 characters and the second is 16. Screen displays and most printed reports use both fields. However, pedigree charts print only one field, with preference given to the second place field if both fields contain data. To help you enter place names quickly and to provide greater accuracy, two function keys may be used to scroll forward and backward through a list of all previously input places. By typing the letters at the beginning of a name, *Roots* will provide only those names that match those first letters. This feature may be used to ensure that place names are entered in the same way each time the same place is used.

Personal names may have up to five parts, and a total maximum length of 60 characters. Each part may be a maximum of 16 characters. If there are more than five parts to a name, parts may be strung together using an underline character in place of the blank to "fool" the program into thinking there are only five parts. Titles such as Junior are counted as one part.

Roots II helps the data entry process by automatically providing some information in a new record when you input parents followed by children. Specifically, the surname is automatically entered if you confirm it, and the mother and father's names are inserted in the appropriate places. Entering siblings in a batch will cause certain information to be copied from one record to the next, including surname, parent and birth codes, birth and christening dates and places, place of residence and parents' names.

Sources you consult in the course of doing your research may be recorded in a number of ways. One method is to use external reference (text) files and use the reference field in subject records to store the file name. A second method is to create a source record in the edit function. These records are searched, displayed and interfiled with regular subject records. The screen template is structured in much the same way but some of the labels are different. Here, name refers to the title of a book or source. Library call number and repository fields record exactly where the item was found. Author and series fields store additional information about the item. One source name may be automatically linked to subject and marriage records.

The merge/split option on the main menu is grouped with the edit function. Split allows you to create a separate file for a particular branch of your family. Merge does the reverse by combining two data files. Data files may be compressed by eliminating redundant or abandoned records.

Four search functions appear as the first group of options on the main menu.

They are called Names, Anniversary, Locations and Search. Names lets you search for and display any name or occupation appearing in your file. Names handles source records as well as subject records. Sources may be located by searching for the name of the source or the library call number. You may search for whole or partial names, by exact spelling or by soundex code. The soundex capability, used to find names that sound alike regardless of spelling, is somewhat less sophisticated than the routine used in *Family Roots*. *Roots II* requires an exact match for the first letter of the name. Locations works much the same way as Names to search for place names, except that you may not search by soundex. When you request a search for a specific location, the number of subject and marriage records containing that place name is displayed. The records containing that place name, the type of event, and the date of the event are displayed. The series and publisher fields in source records may be accessed using the Locations routine.

The Anniversary function lets you search for events that occurred on a certain day or in a particular month. Births, christenings, marriages, divorces, annulments, deaths and other anniversaries that occur on a specified date are displayed. For each event, the name of the individual, the number of years since the event took place and the year of the event is displayed. It is possible to browse through "future" and "past" dates relative to the original date requested.

The Search routine lets you specify certain criteria that are not handled by the other three search functions. In Search, you may specify a reference code, sex, living code, birth and parent code, interest level code, date range or flag to extract names from the file. Naturally, these depend on the information you filled in when creating the record. Marriage record searches let you specify date ranges, and marriage status (divorced, annulled). You may also locate all subject or marriage records containing a specified source field. The search results may be cumulated so that more than one type of search is performed to isolate a record. The results of a search are retained in memory. Subsequent searches will be restricted to subjects which had passed previous search criteria unless a new search is specified.

One purpose of the various search options is to load names into a special place called the "fetch-table". The f-table, as it is referred to, stores up to 40 names. The f-table took some getting used to. The key concept is that when the program requests a specific name to use, such as in the print or trace functions the choice must be selected from the f-table. At the beginning of your session, the first thing you must do is search for a few of the records you plan to work on and load them into the f-table. Names are placed in the table by pointing at a name retrieved as the result of doing a search and using a shift-function key combination. There is room to display up to five names at the bottom of the screen at any one time. The full list of names may be displayed using a combination of function keys.

Family, Trace, Print and Relationship are the remaining four functions on the main menu. Family displays an individual, using a name chosen from the f-table. Brief information is also displayed concerning his/her spouse(s) and the offspring of each marriage. Function keys let you move between generations on that particular family line. Trace displays the pedigree chart of an individual. The chart appears in a format significantly different from that used by *PAF* or *Family Roots*. It is a pictorial representation of the generations using small boxes and

lines. Up to six generations appear at any one time on the screen, and a total of 95 generations may be traced. As you move the cursor from one position to another on the graphic, the vital statistics and Ahnentafel number of the individual appears below on the screen. A time line chart shows at a glance dates that are missing or out of sequence. The Relationship tracks blood relationships that are up to 15 generations apart when you select two people from the f-table. It tells you what the relationship is, who the common ancestors were, and the "degree" of the relationship according to both canon and civil law. This function handles multiple relationships (ie. marriage between cousins).

The print routine generates standard and Ahnentafel pedigree charts, family group sheets, descendant charts, and heredity statistics. Calendar and anniversary lists print lists of events by date. An index to all names in the database, sorted either alphabetically or numerically by record number may be generated. If you print a complete book of charts, page number references may be automatically added to the names to provide an index to your published genealogy. The name of the person who prepared the data will automatically print on each report.

Pedigree charts may extend back 95 generations. Each position and chart is automatically numbered. A maximum of 999 numbered pages may be produced. Duplicate branches caused by two cousins marrying are not printed twice. Descendant charts list direct descendants of an individual, spanning up to 30 generations. Family group sheets list all data found in the subject records for both parents and most of the information for all children. Information from external reference files may be printed at the bottom of the page. A short version of the family group sheet omits the optional date/place fields.

The Heredity Statistics report is unique. It provides a statistical overview of the ancestors of a particular individual. This feature may be used to uncover trends in the family and to identify data entry errors. The statistics are divided into three groups: male ancestors, female ancestors and all ancestors. Ages at christening, first marriage, birth of first and last child, number of marriages, children per marriage, and number of divorces are analyzed. The percentage of records with flags set is also determined.

There is a customization program called INSTALL that lets you configure *Roots II* according to the type of printer you use. It is also possible to choose a limited number of format options for reports. For example, you may choose whether the first or last spouse of each married child will be used in family group charts. You may choose whether to include all spouses in descendant charts.

Three other programs that come with *Roots II* are SELECT, PAF2R, and SUBMIT. SELECT is a graphics utility program that allows *Roots* to display graphics screens (such as maps, coats-of-arms, digitized portraits) that were prepared using an external graphics program. Although *Roots II* does not offer a GEDCOM utility (see CG, Vol. 7, No. 4 for more details), a program called PAF2R converts PAF data into *Roots II* format. SUBMIT creates LDS submission entry forms.

Roots II is a very complex and powerful program. As a result, it is not particularly easy to learn. Other programs are more intuitive to use. It took me several sittings before I began to feel comfortable with *Roots*. This is typical of complex programs and while it isn't necessarily a bad thing, it does mean you should not buy the program if you are not prepared to invest time in learning to use it. You

certainly won't be entering your own family data at a first sitting. In particular I found the screens cluttered and the use of the f-table quite strange at first.

On the other hand, it's fairly obvious why *Roots II* is one of the best-selling genealogical programs. It works quickly, stores a wide range of data in its fixed record format and offers sophisticated searching capabilities. The manual is thorough and includes a special tutorial section on how to do genealogical research. One nice feature designed to save you grief is the revision number that tracks which version of your data base is use. This is handy when you have to go back to various backup disks to recover from a problem. The ability to display graphics from within the program is unique. Commsoft is planning on releasing a utility to generate *Tiny Tafel* charts that will using the ancestor and descendant interest flags. These are charts, described in the April 1986 issue of *Genealogical Computing* that record the names and date ranges of families stored in computerized form in personal databases.

ts II version 2 is available from Commsoft Inc., 2257 Old Middlefield Way, Mountain View CA 94043 415/967-1900 for \$195 US. It runs on IBM and compatible computers. The Roots User Group is an independent organization that publishes a newsletter for members.

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GENEALOGICALLY SPEAKING

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PRODUCTS, PUBLICATIONS, SEMINARS &
OTHER ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

1987 INTERNATIONAL GENEALOGICAL CALENDAR

27 June-4 July; 22-29 August: Heritage of Scotland International School, University of Stirling, Scotland. Two one-week courses on tracing your ancestors. Both programs include visits to the Scottish Record Office, New Register House and National Library of Scotland in Edinburgh, and the Central Regional Archives in Stirling. Send inquiries to Robert Innes, Director of Continuing Education, Pathfoot Building, The University, Stirling, FK9 4LA, Scotland.

27 June - 15 August: 1987 International Gathering of the Clans, Nova Scotia. Not a single event but at least 18 separate events, including clan gatherings for Camerons, Campbells, Chisholms, Colquhouns, Donnachaidhs, Dunbars, Grants, MacBeans, MacDougalls, MacIntyres, MacKenzies, MacKinnons, MacLennans, MacNeils, MacQuarries, Rosses, Sinclairs, and Sutherlands. For more information write Nova Scotia Tourism, Box 130, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, M3J 2M7, or call toll-free in Canada 1-800-565-7166, in continental United States 1-800-341-6096, and in Maine only 1-800-492-0643.

8-12 July: Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference, Cincinnati, Ohio. Eleventh Annual National Convention for the society. Theme is "Harvest of History 1987." More than 30 national, regional, state and local genealogical and historical societies will be participating. For more information, registration, reservations and program send SASE to Terry A. Dunn, 2276 Diamond Mill Road, Brookville, OH 45309, USA.

5-7 August: Brigham Young University Annual Genealogical Seminar, Provo, Utah. This year's seminar emphasizes areas of research and levels of instruction for the genealogist who does not find his needs met elsewhere. It includes an introductory course on genealogy with computers, as well as case studies in genealogical research in England, Denmark, and Sweden. For more information contact BYU Conferences and Workshops, 136 Harman Building,

Provo, UT 84602, USA, or telephone 801/378-4853.

22 August: Descendants' Day at the Establishments, Penetanguishene, Ontario. The Historic Naval and Military Establishments celebrates the individuals and families descended from the men and women who lived and worked there, an isolated British outpost, between 1817 and 1856. A Descendants' Grove features living family trees. Admission for adults is \$2.10, students \$1.05, and for seniors \$1.10. Special group rates are available. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information write Shirley Whittington, Public Relations Officer, Huronia Historical Parks, Box 160, Midland, ON L4R 4K8, or telephone 705/526-7838.

18-20 September: Manitoba Genealogical Society Seminar, Winnipeg, Manitoba. St. Johns College, University of Manitoba will play host to this year's MGS conference. Displays and display material are in charge of the Dauphin Branch of the society. For more information write Shirle McGimpsey, Dauphin Branch, Box 855, Dauphin, MB R7N 3B3, or telephone her either at 2044/638-3422 or 204/638-3228.

26 September 1987: Norfolk County Historical Society Fall Genealogy Fair, Simcoe, Ontario. This popular fall genealogy fair draws researchers and book displays from as far away as New Jersey and Michigan. For more information write Bill Yeager, Curator, Eva Brook Donly Museum, 109 Norfolk Street South, Simcoe, ON N3Y 2W3, or telephone 519/426-1583.

16-17 October: Alberta Family Histories Society Seminar 87, Calgary, Alberta. Theme of this 18th annual seminar is "Family Tree Climbing Can Be Fun". It will be conducted by the Everton Publishers. Cost is \$30 per person, which includes Saturday lunch and one-year's subscription to *The Genealogical Helper*. Registrations, to a maximum of 200, on a first-come-first-served basis, based on postmark dates. Limited bed-and-breakfast facilities for out-of-town visitors. Send your registration to Helen Backhouse, 1608 - 50 Avenue SW, Calgary, AB T2T 2V9. For more infor-

mation telephone Helen Backhouse at 403/287-1232.

17 October: Wellington County Museum & Archives third Genealogy and Local History Fair, Fergus, Ontario. Guest speakers, displays by genealogical and historical societies, sales tables for publications. For more information write Bonnie Callen, Archivist, Wellington County Museum & Archives, R.R. 1, Fergus, ON N1M 2W3, or telephone 519/846-5169.

SOCIETY NEWS

OGS Changes its address

Please note the new address for the Ontario Genealogical Society: Ontario Genealogical Society, Suite 253, 40 Orchard View Boulevard, Toronto, ON Canada M4R 1B9. The telephone remains 416/489-0734.

Speakers on tour

Donald J. Steel, noted author of genealogical publications, will be in Canada during August. Write care of "Brooking," Jarvis Lane, East Brent, Highbridge, Somerset TA9 5HS, England, for details.

Dr. Geoffrey Swinfield, Director of the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies, will be on tour in the U.S. during July. For details contact I.H.G.S., Northgate, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1BA, England.

Looking for Pat Mestern?

You won't find her at the Wellington County Museum. She's working for the Fergus & District Chamber of Commerce and has an office in the Fergus Market Building. Best bet is to write her at 555 St. David Street N., Fergus, ON N1M 2K5.

Pamphlet outlines

Irish research services

We received an attractive little pamphlet in the mail recently from Irish Genealogical Services outlining its mail order research services. If you're interested in learning more, including details of fees charged and services rendered, write: Irish Genealogical Services, 121 Saintfield Road, Belfast BT8 4HN, Northern Ireland, or telephone Belfast 790333.

Researching Indian History?

Here's a suggestion for you

Over the past 20 years, there has been a resurgence of interest among Indian people

and tribes to recover and preserve their past. Many have come to believe that the very future of tribes hinges, in part, on their ability to recover this rich cultural heritage.

If you have Indian ancestry, or are interested in Indian heritage, you should get yourself on the mailing list of the American Indian Institute, the University of Oklahoma, 555 Constitution Avenue, Norman, Oklahoma 73037, USA, and you can do this by writing, or by telephoning Anita Chisholm or Mary Sue Samples at 405/325-4127.

This year, the Institute has been running a workshop entitled "Researching and Writing Tribal Histories". Unfortunately, its promotional material arrived too late for us to give it advanced publicity in these pages, but we would like to record the fact here that at least one of these sessions was held in Canada, on 18-21 May, and 25-28 May at the Chateau Granville Hotel in Vancouver, B.C.

Other sessions were held in Orlando, Florida, and Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The institute believes that although many tribes continue to see much of their unique culture, history and language disappear with the death of their elders, there is much that can still be saved by concerned Indian people who learn and use the proper research techniques.

CALLING ALL FAMILIES

Calling all Campbells. Well—maybe not all of them—just the descendants of Daniel Campbell and Susan Boyd, for a reunion that will take place 1-3 August at Madoc, Ontario. Welcome also are the descendants of Thomas Boyd Campbell and Lucy Mary Adams, and those of Susan Jane Campbell and David John Walker. For final details please contact Barry Campbell, 14 Bering Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3K 0E9.

Calling all Espys. The Espy/Espey Genealogy is just off the press, writes William G. Espy. "Cousins on our family tree live in your area," he advises. The book traces the progeny of four Espy/Espey brothers who came to America in the early years of the 16th century. Distaff sides and allied families are included. Historical data on individuals has been included along with some as yet unconnected and remote lines, including Espies. The book is in three volumes, 7 x 10, hard-cover, sewn, and

printed on acid-free paper. More than 1,200 pages cover better than 12,500 indexed Espy relations. Order your copy from J. Samuel Espy, Treasurer, c/o The Citizens and Southern National Bank, Box 9586, Savannah, GA 31412, USA. Price is \$40 US per set postpaid.

Calling all Fitchetts. The Fitchett Genealogical Project announces the establishment of a computer database to compile all available data regarding Fitchet(t)s around the world. The database contains information regarding the Loyalist and Patriot Fitchets, the very early history of the family, and family branches from England and Scotland. Family trees, biographies, documents, photographs and other material are available via this database. Contributions to it are appreciated. For further information write The Fitchett Genealogical Project, 40 Winnifred Avenue, Toronto, ON M4M 2X3.

Calling all Hilliards. The first issue of *Hilliard History* crossed our desk recently, and a very creditable publication it is. Its editor, Ted. C. Hilliard, writes that he is very interested in making contact with Canadian researchers of the Hilliard name and ancestry. *Hilliard History* is published three times a year, and you may subscribe by sending \$5 (US) to Ted C. Hilliard, 3111 Pyramid Drive, Ceres, CA 95307, USA, or telephone 209/537-7619. There is also a Hilliard Family Association, and membership is free. If you are not now a member but wish to join, write to Hilliard Family Association, c/o Clayton Gault, 709 W. Avenue "D", Killeen, TX 76541, USA. When you write, send as many family group sheets and as complete a pedigree as possible. Mr. Gault will attempt to put people together who are working on the same lineage.

Calling all Johnsons. The 77th Niagara Peninsula Johnson Reunion will take place on 12 July 1987 at the Memorial Park at Welland, Ontario, at Pavilion No. 1. The reunion is scheduled from 11:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. with dinner at 12:30 p.m. For information, call or write Roy Johnson, 504 Kilman Road, R.R. 1, Ridgeville, ON L0S 1M0, or telephone 416/892-2390.

Calling all Johnsons. The 60th Johnson Reunion in Rosebush, Michigan, will take place 9 August 1987 at Rosebush Park. This is a celebration of the descendants of Daniel and Mary (Lee) Johnson, 1812. For

further information contact Robert First, 1346 E. Rosebush Road, Rosebush, MI 48878, USA.

Calling all Lardners. There will be a Lardner Family Reunion 27 June 1987 at Chase, B.C. Descendants of Eli Lardner and Mary-Ann Moss of Charlbury, England, prior to 1880, and Joseph Moss and Julia Peacock. For more information contact Laverne Aitchison, 3583 Overlander Drive, Kamloops, B.C.

CANADIAN GENEALOGIST

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notice of your family
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Calling All Families
news column.

Towards a Canadian Federation of Genealogical and Family History Societies

By George Hancocks

It was a crisp, bright, late-summer weekend with a hint of fall in the air as genealogists from throughout Canada assembled on the campus of Brandon University in Brandon, Manitoba last August. The smiling group on the cover of this month's issue has the distinction of representing national genealogical interests, in that the individuals represent every province in Canada, except for the territories, if not necessarily every genealogical or family history society.

The title of this article, "Towards a Canadian Federation of Genealogical & Family History Societies" is not meant to be facetious or sceptical. There are obvious benefits to Canadian genealogists in the participation by their societies in such a federation, not least of which should be the genuine and structured exchange of information among provincial societies which to date has eluded even those of us who constantly pursue national and international as opposed to local and regional interests. Though the creation of such a federation may prove fairly straightforward, its day-to-day operations will probably prove much more difficult, given the size and disparities of our immense country. What follows is a review of the founding of the federation, and some personal observations on the process of realizing a national genealogical federation.

The press release issued by the *ad hoc* group that formed the Canadian Federation of Genealogical and Family History Societies last August was simple and straightforward. It read:

Canadian Federation of Genealogical and Family History Societies Third Meeting, August 16, 1986. Brandon, Manitoba.

The next steps in the operation of the Canadian Federation of Genealogical and Family History Societies have been taken.

A steering committee of Laura Turnbull, Chairman, Ruth Breckman and Joan Benoit have been given authority to establish operating guidelines of the Federation. The committee will be contacting genealogical and family history societies in Canada for membership in the Federation.

We have accepted the invitation of the President of the Ontario Genealogical Society, Marie Charbonneau, to hold a meeting of all members of the Federation in May 1988 in conjunction with the Ontario Genealogical Society Annual Seminar in Ottawa.

The idea of a Federation of Genealogical and Family History Societies originated at a genealogical seminar in Regina, Saskatchewan in 1984, although it has long been talked about in genealogical circles in Canada. The chairperson at that meeting was Laura Turnbull of the Alberta Genealogical Society. The founding meeting of the society occurred in Red Deer, Alberta in 1985, which resulted in the formation of a *pro tem* executive with Dirk Hoogeveen, president, and Robert Pittendrigh, secretary (both of the Saskatchewan Genealogical Society), and Laura Turnbull, treasurer. Their objective was to form a national Canadian organization



Left to right, Delegates to the Canadian Federation of Genealogical and Family Histories Societies meeting: Alfred Fortier, St. Boniface Historial Society, Genealogical Branch, Manitoba; André Breton, Société de généalogie de Québec; Dan Johnson, New Brunswick Genealogical Society; Elsa Hochwald, Newfoundland Genealogical Society; Orlo Jones, P.E.I. Museum and Heritage Foundation; Adrienne Anderson, Alberta Family History Society; Terrence Punch, Genealogical Association of the Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society; Marie Charbonneau, Ontario Genealogical Society; Robert Pittendrigh, Saskatchewan Genealogical Society; Dirk Hoogeveen, Saskatchewan Genealogical Society; Peter Whitlock, B.C. Genealogical Society; Ruth Breckman, Manitoba Genealogical Society; Laura Turnbull, Alberta Genealogical Society; Joan Benoit, Quebec Family History Society.

of all the provincial societies, with aims similar to those of the British Federation of Family History Societies.

These aims would include publishing and distribution, fostering and upholding the goals of professionalism, fund-raising and accreditation, publishing one or two newsletters each year, speaking with one voice when lobbying government, and becoming aware of what each province is doing. The aims included the calling of a national conference when necessary, and a resolve that the Federation would keep a list of resource persons available.

Preliminary by-laws were drawn up in 1985. The name Federation of Genealogical and Family History Societies was adopted as the official name of the organization. Eligibility for membership in the Federation, and how representatives of the national executive would be selected were decided upon. Incorporation was not pursued at that time.

As might be expected, problems familiar to all Canadians began to emerge immediately. Following its founding meetings, the executive of the fledgling federation attempted to communicate with the executives of other genealogical societies in Canada with mixed results.

The executives of the three eastern genealogical societies, it would appear,

(Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick) could recall no federation contact at all, had not discussed the matter at executive level, and consequently, it turned out, had not even become members of the projected federation by paying the requested \$20 fee.

Newfoundland was aware of the proposals, and prepared to participate.

Executives of the societies of the western provinces, probably because the idea of the federation originated with them, and because they were known to each other, were aware of the federation plan, had backed it, and were anxious to see one get off the ground.

Ontario, with a very strong provincial genealogical society, more than 30 branches, and with 4,500 paid-up members, had apparently paid its fee and joined the proposed federation, but seemed a little unsure of the territory. It did, however, indicate interest in pursuing the proposal.

Quebec, with several strong genealogical societies within the province, was aware of the plan for a federation, and indicated interest, although it was not clear to this observer that any of the Quebec genealogical societies, either English or French-speaking, had actually joined the federation by paying a membership fee.

All of this indicates just a few of the problems involved in the establishment of any kind of national body in this enormous country of ours. It also reminded me very much of the dilemma OGS found (and still finds) itself in shortly after its founding — was the society the child of the branches, or the branches the children of the society?

This dilemma could well result in the undermining of a national genealogical federation before it even gets off the ground, because it is already apparent that any national body will have to come to terms with the programs already well established in various regions of the country, and particularly with the establishment in the Maritime Provinces of the Genealogical Institute of the Maritimes, at the present time, Canada's only genealogical accrediting body. Some of the federation's aims would appear to conflict with the aims of provincial genealogical societies, although they need not.

Typically, Canadians—although everyone I talk to disclaims it—love constitutionalizing. If we have a national character flaw I believe it to be endless pontification on the shape of the structures with which to regulate our lives. So much energy goes into this activity, that we lose sight of the fact that these structures are meant to accomplish something, not merely become ends in themselves. These structure or organizations, I say again, are effective only as they *accomplish* something positive—be it a newsletter, a publication, a list of resource people, a national hotline—whatever.

I frankly admit that I am from the school of those who say 'Let's do it!' rather than those who say 'Let's talk about doing it'. If I read my western cousins right, they're from the same school. So, too, are my Maritime comrades. I sometimes wonder about my Ontario brothers, but recent signs from OGS indicate the society is waking from its long sleep and actually working on and publishing information of ongoing value to genealogical research. There has never been any doubt in my mind that Quebec is of the 'Do it!' school in its own activities, although these have not much resulted in any meaningful ongoing contacts with many genealogical societies in other parts of Canada. Quebec research, at least in

the French-speaking area, tends to be U.S. and French oriented.

If we're all from the 'do it!' school, yet can't structure ourselves nationally without endless useless debate, what should that tell us? It should tell us that the real potential of a national federation lies in its initial ability to get our provincial genealogical societies *to collaborate nationally on some project or other of national genealogical value.*

It's not that I doubt our ability to form a federation. It's just that if we don't go about it the right way we're going to waste a lot of time structuring it, and more time waiting for it to reach 'critical mass'. In the process, it will be all too easy to create a mirror image of our ongoing national constitutional debate, with its attendant questions of divisions and balances of powers. How much power should the federation have? Should it attempt a national certification board when one already exists, at least for Maritime interests? Are the provincial societies going to have to yield powers to a national federation? And so on . . . it's not difficult to see the pitfalls.

The editors of CANADIAN GENEALOGIST are in a somewhat unique position in this national discussion. We have both participated in the founding of the Ontario Genealogical Society, and for more than a decade worked hard for its aims. We watched it grow from about 200 members to more than 2,000 when we decided the time had come to strike out on our own. We know something of the frustrations of 'organization making'. We are not now members of the executive of any Canadian genealogical organization, yet we regularly travel Canada to meet the people in those genealogical societies, and we have come to admire their perspicacity, ingenuity, and persistence. We have always been 'nation' as opposed to 'province' oriented, although we love our home province as dearly as those of you from different provinces love yours. Though our personal genealogical links are mainly Anglo-American, we are fascinated with those of other cultures and other lands — in other words, we've tried to get beyond purely local or regional or provincial interests in our genealogical pursuits. It was our 'national consciousness' that caused us to found CANADIAN GENEALOGIST in the first place — totally with our own resources, and without any government assistance.

Because of this, we are going to go out on a limb and offer some suggestions. Why don't we, for once, try to avoid the obvious bear-traps. Let's try to structure a national federation without endless constitutionalizing. Here is our perception of areas of importance that should be worked on.

Communication

Probably the single most important area a budding federation should pay attention to. It is absolutely essential that in the initial stages of formation, some communication should go forth regularly from the federation executive to provincial genealogical societies and family history associations. It is just as important that a wide range of people be appraised of the fact that a national federation is in its formative stages. Travelling Canada takes a lot of time, not to mention a lot of money. Regular announcements and bulletins about federation progress could help to allay provincial and regional fears that a national federation would somehow 'usurp' provincial objectives, or 'upstage' important local initiatives.

In this respect, it is possible this magazine could help. Our regular readership is

national, and CANADIAN GENEALOGIST would be pleased to carry such material on a regular quarterly basis to help the federation through its initial founding process. Take us up on it. Call or write us and ask us how we can 'do it' together.

Funding

It seems equally obvious to us that initial funding for this process needs to be more than the \$20 nominal membership fee asked of the genealogical societies on the list of the federation. By my reckoning, the \$20 fee, if everyone pays, would bring in \$460 a year. Postage for a single mailing probably costs that much at current Canada Post rates.

Perhaps provincial genealogical societies could be asked for an initial levy that would be used to create the basic communication material required to get the idea across. Or, (and lord knows at CG we're not in favor of government grants), it is possible some funding might be forthcoming from our national, and perhaps even our provincial governments to assist the founding process.

It seems to me, however, that any funding should be only on the basis of a prepared budget which would take into account the presumably modest costs of a preparatory program. It should be project as opposed to operationally oriented. If the federation is worth founding, it should look for ways to fund itself through its own efforts and through levies on its society members.

Program

It is here that I think the federation should put some major initial effort. Personally, I would like to see the federation try to identify all those provincial programs it is likely to collide with as a result of its own initial statement of federation aims and objectives, and try to sidestep them all for the moment.

Identifying these areas might involve a process something like our current free-trade negotiations. First, let's identify all those areas where we can agree, or hope to agree. Second, let's identify all those areas where we can't agree, either for fundamental reasons, or for the moment. Third, let's agree to come up with a program based on those areas we can agree on. Fourth, when that's running, let's sit down and one by one, see what we can do about those areas where we can't agree.

In this context, I suggest that a national newsletter or publication should take first priority. I have already indicated CG is willing to help on this one.

Second, I suggest that it should not be too difficult to reach agreement on a 'resource persons' list.

Third, I think the federation should work very hard to try to identify at least one, hopefully more than one program which would be of national genealogical benefit, and in which it would probably be able to convince provincial genealogical societies to participate without too much arm-twisting. This would clearly demonstrate the desire of the federation to be 'results oriented' rather than 'constitution oriented'.

Example? How about a national compendium of genealogical libraries, their locations, hours, holdings, etc. Not a large program, but one which could be very helpful, and could be published, too. Work out a general form for the information required, request participation from provincial genealogical societies, compile the material, etc.

Example? What about a national hotline for genealogical information?

Example? What about a Canadian genealogical calendar. CG currently tries to maintain a current one on as many Canadian activities as it can identify, and would be prepared to expand this activity if the information was forthcoming on a regular basis. The reports we get now are good, but often arrive at our editorial offices too late for us to give them maximum play.

Example? Perhaps a national genealogical bulletin board for computer genealogists, or more formal links with the incredible computer genealogy activity going on in the U.S.

Example? In this issue we outline the OGS index of church records project. A lot of the basic homework has been done here. Would it be too much to expect that a national federation could pick up on the OGS work and extend it to every other province? Admittedly, this is a vast project, and perhaps too much to bite off in a founding mode — but you get the idea.

National conference

I have deliberately left any consideration of a national conference till last — not because I hope it can be postponed, but because I think people should be ready for it, and it was obvious from Brandon that many people were not even ready for the idea of a national federation, let alone prepared to discuss creatively what a federation might accomplish.

Orlo Jones of Prince Edward Island put provincial fears in clear perspective when she said, in a report to the P.E.I. Genealogical Society on the Brandon meeting in the society's September, 1986 *Newsletter*:

This meeting proved quite an embarrassment to the three Maritime delegates when we were called to take our places on the platform and expected to vote on behalf of our genealogical societies. None of us had been authorized to do this, and none of us had been aware of our societies' receiving up-to-date information on the Federation . . .

The three Maritime delegates met informally and discovered that Nova Scotia had received only an initial letter from this group (the Federation) asking for a \$20 membership about two years ago, plus one other piece of communication from them; all other mail had been returned by the Post Office. . . .

The Manitoba Genealogical Society presented their suggestion for establishing organizational structure. Again the Maritime delegates expressed — and even more emphatically — that we could not commit our organizations to anything, and we could not speak as their voice since we were not given this mandate. Terry (Punch) and I stated also that, as Directors of the Genealogical Institute of the Maritimes, Canada's only accrediting body, we should be excused from orally participating in the formation of another group to accredit genealogists.

So my suggestion for the national meeting, which presumably will be held at the OGS conference in Ottawa next year, is that this meeting, far from finalizing the structure of a national federation, should be held by delegates *accredited* by their provincial genealogical societies to exchange information and participate in the actual creation of an all-province genealogical society.

It is my hope that this meeting would be prepared to act along the lines I have suggested, that is: to promote some form of national communication; to address

the issue of funding; to come up with some honest-to-goodness programs which would result in the activities of a federation becoming visible and hopefully seen to be useful; and finally, that the meeting could agree on what to agree on and leave what's disagreed on to be thought about and negotiated — and proceed with *useful* projects.

To accomplish all these things, what is needed at the start is *not* yet another constitution, but some good will among provincial groups, and a desire to proceed with a cooperative venture or two. These need not require mind-boggling resources, bagsful of money, or decades of time. Such projects *do, however, need to be selected to demonstrate the value of a federation to Canadian genealogists.*

I do not mean to suggest that the effort of constitutionalizing will have to be ignored. Obviously, constitutional concerns will have to be addressed. But whenever Canadians congregate, it seems to me they spend more time talking about what they should be talking about than actually talking about what needs to be done. It is my earnest hope that this will not become the case with the new Canadian Federation of Genealogical and Family History Societies.

LINCOLN COUNTY, ONTARIO WILLS

Abstracted by Elizabeth Hancocks, C.G.

Peter Weaver of Stamford twp, yeoman

wife Eve

youngest son George

sons William and Henry

grandson Peter Upper

William to pay £10 to oldest sister

Henry to pay £10 to second sister

Peter to pay £10 to youngest sister

Will made 31, ?, 1800, registered 28 May 1804

Robert Howey of Gainsborough, yeoman

wife Jane

younger children: Jonah, Daniel, John, Samuel, Robert, Stephen,

Isaac, Eliabeth, Anne, Jane

sons Cornelius and Daniel

daughters Elizabeth and Anna

brother Johan, wife and Daniel Robins, executors

Will made 12 December 1803, registered 21 May 1804

Stephen Coon of Clinton twp

wife Phoebe

children: Polly, Margaret, George Ransier, Joseph, William

oldest son George

Will made 8 January 1805, registered 23 January 1805

OGS church registers inventory: two views of a major project

By Brenda Merriman and Lutzen H. Riedstra

This article is presented in the belief that the procedures adopted by the OGS to gain community-wide acceptance for this project — of immense ultimate value to genealogists — might be of some assistance to genealogical societies in other provinces planning to attempt similar projects.

Brenda Merriman is a well known researcher, and author of Genealogy in Ontario: Searching the Records. As an advisor to the project, she outlines its conception, and gives some appreciation of the response to it.

Lutzen H. Riedstra is archivist of the highly respected Stratford-Perth Archives. His section of the presentation is illustrated with samples of the questionnaires OGS is using.

PART I - BRENDA MERRIMAN

The concept

The concept of this project originated at a Publications Committee meeting in 1984. Similar projects on a smaller or more local scale have been successfully undertaken by Ontario Genealogical Society and other interested groups.

For instance, a paper prepared by the Presbyterian Archives is simply a list of their holdings in church records by place name, to about 1979. An expansion of this idea is an inventory of Lutheran records held at Wilfrid Laurier University, with types of records and dates. The *Church Directory for Hamilton* consists of current names and addresses of many denominations. Obviously, the focus for this was not information about church registers. The Checklist for Waterloo & Wellington Counties shows existing churches of selected denominations according to their yearbook dates.

Finally, the Reference Guide to Roman Catholic Parish Registers, Diocese of Peterborough, prepared by Bill Amell in the Kawartha Branch, represents more the concept of genealogical value that was sought. Churches are listed with their establishment dates, locations, and dates when registers begin. Yet all these compilations have some features OGS wanted to see in its listing.

The end result of the *OGS Church Registers Inventory* will be a catalogue of all churches that existed in this province prior to 1900. The date of 1900 was chosen because it rounds out the century, and includes the first 30 years of civil registration, during which time many vital events were not officially registered. In the case of the United Church of Canada, which amalgamated several denomination in 1925, Methodist, Congregational, and Presbyterian churches will be catalogued to 1925.

The method

The information OGS needs to collect to make this inventory a valuable genealogical tool is:

Name of church or parish
Denomination
Diocese, Synod, Conference, etc. affiliation
Town, township and county
Current address, if applicable
Current status (active, closed, etc.)
Dates birth, marriage and death registers commence
Location of original registers
Accessibility
Location of copies, transcripts, microfilm, indexes, etc.
Accessibility
Some entries may include other church records
Any other helpful information such as date of establishment, associated circuit or mission ministers' names, local histories, etc.

1. In the early stages, the coordinator approached several church officials to act as Honorary Chairmen or Patrons. The main purpose of this was to inform current Ontario churches, by a mass mailing, of the nature of the project, and that some, though possibly not all of them, would be contacted in the future. The names of the Honorary Chairmen lent prestige and credibility to the project, and although our first communication asked for no reply, the response (all positive and encouraging) was tremendous. We welcomed titular assistance from a Baptist, a Roman Catholic, two Presbyterians, two Anglicans, one United Church, and one Lutheran — all names which were of some significance within their denominations. [Eds. note: at the present time, the special letterhead the society has printed to identify the project includes the following people as Honorary Chairmen: Rev. T. Melville Bailey, Rev. Terence W.B. Dempsey, Most Rev. Lewis S. Garnsworthy, Rev. John A. Johnston, Rev. Brian J. Price, Rev. Erich R.W. Schultz, Susan Margaret Stanley, Teresa Thompson.]

2. Denomination supervisors were appointed. Their first job was to make a checklist of all churches of their particular denomination using reference materials like church yearbooks, historical county atlases, directories, with the help of church archivists or historians when available. For some denominations this was easier to do county by county: for others it made more sense to work within church boundaries such as Dioceses, Conferences, and Synods.

3. Some supervisors, because of their denomination's structure, can do much or most information gathering through archival research. All will call on branch help at their own pace: for checking the initial list for possible additions, and for the actual approach to a specific church in request of information. These branch volunteers will be coached in a standard approach and method for contacting churches and collecting information.

4. Supervisors will organize their final information in a format designed for computer input. It's expected that the committee will apply for a grant to assist with the computerization and publication.

5. Supervisors will add maps with church locations, a reference bibliography, and an introduction to the denomination and its history.

6. The coordinator will oversee a general introduction, codes and abbreviations, indexing, and liaise with the computer consultant.

The final result

This reference work is intended as a guide and tool for genealogists in their search for vital events in Ontario church records, although it will also be of obvious value to other social scientists. What genealogists want to learn is what church or churches were established in the ancestral area before or during the ancestors' residence. The information will be published separately by denomination, although several smaller ones may be grouped together.

PART II - LUTZEN H. RIEDSTRA

Late in 1985, the Ontario Genealogical Society set up a Church Records Inventory Committee to catalogue the records of every church or congregation that existed in Ontario during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. This information, once collected, will then be published in a series of volumes (by denomination), much as the 1871 census index is presently being published. The end result will be an Inventory that describes the name of the church/parish/congregation, its denominational affiliation, its geographical location, dates when registers began, location and accessibility of original registers, location of copies, indexes or transcripts, and any other information helpful to researchers.

In order to do this, the committee consists of a number of supervisors, each having responsibility for one or more denominations. It is the role of the supervisor 1) to organize the churches or congregations into logical geographical areas, usually by place and county; 2) to contact the OGS branches (branch contact persons) for their assistance in visiting the churches/congregations and recording the information needed; and finally, 3) to receive the completed forms and organize them for computer entry.

Besides the supervisors, other persons, especially branch contact persons, will have to be involved in finding the information. Hopefully, the branches, once contacted by the supervisors, will be able to find local members who can be helpful in locating and recording the local church registers. Before anyone goes out, however, there will be a workshop with the branch helpers to explain in detail what should be recorded and how to approach the churches involved.

To date, we have had about four main committee meetings. The committee has now contacted the various church archives or central bodies, to get some support from them. Eight persons who represent these organizations are now honorary chairmen for the project and appear at the top of the committee letterhead.

As well, letters were sent to about 3,500 individual congregations, and other archives and libraries, in order to find out what they have or know about, and to ask their cooperation on the project. It was the feeling of the committee that approaches to churches at all levels should be cautious. It must be remembered that these are *their* records, not public records, and their cooperation is absolutely necessary if the project is to be successful.

In order to assist in obtaining the cooperation of various churches, we have reiterated that we are making an inventory of the records, and are *not* indexing or transcribing them. We will also include in the inventory notes about restrictions on access to originals or to the information contained in them.

The termination date for records and congregations to be included will usually be 1900. However, in the case of Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregational, this will be 1925 (union). In the case of Lutherans and other German-speaking

Description of Original Records, Registers, continued

Type:	<u>BUR</u>
Dates:	<u>1792-1900</u>
Comment:	<u></u>
Type:	<u>CON</u>
Dates:	<u>1846-1890</u>
Comment:	<u>SCATTERED YEARS</u>
Type:	<u>MIN</u>
Dates:	<u>1850-1900</u>
Comment:	<u>ANNUAL VESTRY</u>
Type:	<u>BVL</u>
Dates:	<u>1900-</u>
Comment:	<u>MONTHLY CHURCH NEWSLETTER</u>

Submitted By _____, Branch _____ OGS # _____

have existed but for which no records can be found.

Besides the letters mentioned above, the committee has been establishing a format for retrieving the information. A draft of one of these forms is illustrated. A few minor revisions have been suggested and will probably be made before contact with the branches starts. A list of abbreviations for the various types of records has also been established. The committee members are listed below. No supervisors have yet been found for Congregational; Mennonites & Tunkers; Jews; Irvingites & Apostolics; Plymouth or Christian Brethren; Seventh-day Adventists; and Salvation Army. Volunteers would be welcome.

ABBREVIATIONS FOR COMPUTER DATA ENTRY

Type: (Use an Abbreviation)

Dates:

Comment: Describe in more detail if necessary,
as in REP and MIN
Notes in brackets indicate where such
description enlightens the researcher

BAP Baptisms
MAR Marriages
BUR Burials
CON Confirmation Lists
MEM Membership or Communion Rolls
MIN Minutes (Name of Board, Committee, Session, Group, etc)
FIN Financial, accounts
BUI Building & Property records (Church plans, cemetery plans
acquisitions, additions)
REP Reports (Name of body reporting)
COR Correspondence (By whom, subject)
BUL Church bulletins, newsletters
LEG Legal material
SER Sermons (By whom)
HIS Historical, biographical material (Church/minister history)
GES Guest Books
BAN Records of Marriage Banns
PHO Photographs, drawings

Samples of REP and MIN:

Missionary
Annual Meetings
Congregational Meetings
Board of Trustees/Managers/Elders/Stewards etc
Sunday School
Choir
Youth/Couples Groups

Abbreviations being used on the project to speed computer entry of data.

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Historical Genealogy or Why Genealogy Must be Recognized

By Terrence M. Punch, CG(C)

Terry Punch is well known to readers of CANADIAN GENEALOGIST as the author of Genealogical Research in Nova Scotia, and as a genealogist whose work is having a great affect on Nova Scotian genealogical teaching and research. The editors of this publication feel Mr. Punch has a message for genealogists and historians alike. Copies of the book referred to here may be obtained from the Generation Press book service.

When Canada was a confederation of just four provinces, you might have observed a single individual walk along the street by your house. That one person might have been a history professor, a genealogist and a biographer. In one memory, animated by one understanding intelligence, resided the informed observer of the human past.

By the end of World War One this was no longer possible, because the academic historian had become specialized and professionalized. In the 1920s the specialist, informed by a sense of history, wrote and lectured mainly of politics, much as a later generation of academics, imbued with a sense of politics, studied and taught history. Even more recently, most of the territory thought of as belonging to history has been worked upon by others: anthropologists, folklorists, demographers, economists, geographers and socialists, so that people have come to speak of economic, political and social history as though they were fundamentally different, rather than differing perspectives on the same study of mankind through time. In the last analysis, however, history must embrace either everything that has happened or else nothing.

Just as history lost an important dimension when it parted company with genealogy, the converse is equally true. By the 1920s, genealogy fell on hard times in North America, harder in Canada than in the United States which at least possessed genealogical societies with premises and funds. Without a profession of genealogy, the family historian in Canada was left few options. If one had Loyalist roots there was an interest and some literature. If one's ancestry could be traced to New England or to Great Britain, one breathed a sigh of relief, because now one was within hail of help.

Destitute of organization, deserted by all but a few of the academic community, Canadian genealogy stagnated. In both Canada and the United States genealogy had a poor image. It was laid open to the charge of being overly concerned with aristocratic ancestry, implying that one did family research as a quest for a forebear in whose glory descendants might bask. Without educated leadership, genealogy lacked system and theory, methodology and direction. Self-help and earnest individual effort could accomplish only so much. The image persisted of the family genealogist being an older person encumbered with a heap of binders, a vast number of questions and no interest in anything beyond The Name, meaning the one line upon which they are working.

Anyone who examines the membership list of a genealogical society will quickly perceive that the majority of such members want something: help and reassurance and perhaps the company of people who will not mock what they are trying to do. Most members of most genealogical societies are amateurs, people who are tracing their own ancestry as a labour of love. Not only is this a worthy project, but a commendable one. The children and grandchildren of those people will have their family heritage and a better sense of who they are and where they came from. The more that people can be encouraged to go beyond name and date research, and relate people to a historical and social context, the better for their finished research, and the genealogy generally.

Having reached the stage of forming societies, genealogists could be found operating on several levels. Those who knew more about some aspect of the research shared their experience. Teams copied cemetery markers and made indexes to assist the research of others. It was the pooling of efforts by scores and possibly hundreds of ordinary family historians that caused the formation and has sustained interest in genealogical societies.

A second stream of genealogical practitioners was emerging, however. Usually, though not necessarily, university-trained, these people had been imbued with or had by temperament an interest in the community as a whole, and in explanations that went beyond the obvious. In a sense, such genealogists wanted context and information beyond the skeletal family tree. They wanted to know how and why, as well as who and when. In another direction they practiced macro-genealogy, a form of cooperative or computerized data extraction that arranged the information about all the people rather than merely about the family to which they were related. Here we touch again upon examples of how the more advanced or far-thinking practitioner is generating helpful resources for those who remain content to work away upon their own families.

Still within the area of helping the less experienced genealogists we have had the writing of research guides: provincial, international, local, by type of record, ethnic, and so forth. As one such writer I have found that one cannot simply produce a book of lists, but must present a methodology as an integral part of the work. Otherwise, one is writing an inventory and not a guide.

Migration had figured largely in North American family history, and it is tempting to embark on a digression explaining how a study of population movement is a natural area for cooperation between the genealogical and academic communities. However, it has a special significance for genealogists in that family members moved away from the established home to other communities, provinces and countries, largely for reasons of economics and employment. The phenomenon of dispersion has created a large group of North Americans who live too far from the home of their forebears to make regular lengthy research visits. Enter the hired researcher, the paid party who acts as the eyes of a client in search for evidence.

When a client engages the professional services of a researcher one wishes to feel confidence in the latter's capability and honesty. How can this be established? Evidently, if Joe Blow has plugged away in a library or archives off and on for twenty years he should have learned something, but whether he has learned twenty things from twenty mistakes, or one thing from doing it wrong twenty times is not so easily determined. It is easier to judge honesty than it is to judge

competence.

Just as a need for researchers calls forth a profession of genealogists, so the need for a standard of competence necessitates agencies that can determine the competence of people proposing to be researchers. In several nations (U.S.A., Britain, Australia) certifying agencies have arisen *sui generis*. In each case the original body was composed of people of recognized probity and competence, and, unless one wishes to argue that there should be a universal "pope of family history", each nation or region must be deemed to possess a pool of reasonably capable people who respond to a need in their country or area.

If genealogy is to speak with authority and intelligence to the academic world, the former must have its house in order. A dialogue becomes possible when both parties speak the same language, share concerns and seek means of helping one another as well as themselves. If my remarks have not been a hymn of praise to academic historians, neither have I implied that genealogists have a spotless pedigree in the present century. Much as one might wish otherwise, the agenda for dialogue may just have been published and written for us south of the border.

The book that I believe demands the attention of every thoughtful professional genealogist is an edition, compiled and contributed to by Robert M. Taylor, Jr. and Ralph S. Crandall. In *Generations and Change: Genealogical Perspectives in Social History* (Mercer University Press, Macon, Georgia 31207, for \$28.50 U.S.), the editors bring us a selection of articles that address the need for a bridge between genealogy and academic history and other disciplines. The contributing authors include anthropologists, genealogists, geneticists, historians, and sociologists, a roster that proves that it is possible to transcend the "great divide" that has separated genealogy from its sisters. In presenting specimens of what can be done through the use of genealogical methodology of data in conjunction with a second field of study, the editors and author have opened the way to dialogue.

Social scientists will have to reconsider their philosophy if they are to view genealogy as an equal or any sort of partner in their investigations of our past. Without certification agencies and training programmes and professionalism, few genealogists, if any, can aspire to equality with the social scientists. It will also demand of genealogists whose interests rise above finding their own family tree that they follow proper presentation formats, document with care, and try to adopt imaginative community-wide subjects for their study. It has been too compelling for the one-family pedigree collector to link a batch of names and dates without much effort to provide the social or other context against which those lives were lived.

Generations and Change is a seminal book, but its impact depends upon its being read and discussed by and between historians and genealogists. Some of both groups will remain entrenched in their stances, but most I should think will welcome and appreciate this call to dialogue. They will be the readership of this book; hopefully, they will discover the way into a future of cooperation and mutual appreciation between social scientists and genealogical professionals.

The collection fairly teems with ideas that challenge the mind. Robert Charles Anderson ("The Place of Genealogy in the Curriculum of the Social Sciences"), Elizabeth Shown Mills ("Ethnicity and the Southern Genealogist: Myths and Misconceptions, Resources and Opportunities"), Andrejs Plakans ("Genealogies as Evidence in Historical Kinship Studies: A German Example"), David Hackett

Fischer ("Forenames and the Family in New England: An Exercise in Historical Onomastics"), Patricia Trainor O'Malley ("'Belovied Wife' and 'Inveigled Affections': Marriage Patterns in Early Rowley, Massachusetts"), and the entire section on genealogy in migration research will open your eyes and perhaps, as they had it in the 1960s, "blow your mind". If one cannot read more than one chapter, that one should be the editors' "Historians and Genealogists: An Emerging Community of Interest".

Any reader of the entire book is cautioned that their minds will reel with ideas for research projects, or simply questions that demand answers. Hopefully, a few academic social scientists will read the collection and grasp the point that, rather than disparage or ignore the achievements of genealogical research, they make use of the findings. Again hopefully, some leading genealogists will find in this volume some suggestions for how they can augment their efforts and include research into the socially significant details of families and communities upon which they work. If people on both sides the road read the same book and then converse on the basis of community of interest, we will see more studies anchored in sound empirical evidence coming from the academic world, and more genealogies that attempt explanations and quantification by their authors.

Beyond consideration of any one book, however, there are the concerns that interest those who care about Canadian genealogy. On the amateur level — and the word "amateur" is not used pejoratively here, but as distinguishing some genealogists from others who are "professional" — there is need for greater cooperation among people so that many researchers do not spend huge amounts of time combing through masses of records for tiny returns in relation to the work expended. This means more indexing and the development of finding aids so that the tedious collection of names and dates can be done more quickly, leaving people with more time to flesh out findings with information about lives and the context within which ancestors lived. On the professional level — and this may mean those who work for hire or those who work above minimum standards — we need more training programmes geared towards genealogy, accreditation in those regions that feel ready for it, the publication of more articles about the state of the art in Canada, and the opening of discussion with those in the academic social sciences who are interested in talking to us.

Canadians owe our American friends, such as Taylor and Crandall, a debt of thanks for their book. Its lessons can be assimilated and considered as we contemplate a future in which genealogy can become more relevant by growing into a full discipline. Genealogy is much more than an intelligent parlour game for those who want it to be. For many, it does not matter, but for a few it is of central importance. For us, it may be a case of "Read, consider, discuss, act."

Genetics for Genealogists

Part III: Expression of Inherited Characteristics

By John R. Tkach, M.S., M.D.

The picture I have painted so far makes genetics look pretty simple. Genes are either dominant or recessive. If a person inherits a dominant gene for brown eyes, he will have brown eyes. If he does not inherit the dominant brown gene, he will have blue eyes. Well, yes and no. Unfortunately, it is not that simple. Many additional factors can influence the expression of genes. It is possible, for instance, to inherit a gene for a disease but never actually get the disease. This commonly occurs in psoriasis.

Psoriasis is an inherited disease. About 2% of the population in North America have psoriasis. More than that carry the genes. Psoriasis is a skin disease that produces scaly red plaques characteristically on the elbows and knees. Minor injuries tend to induce the plaques of psoriasis, but streptococcal throat infection can induce it also. Some people carry the genes but never actually get the disease. Some people have a few small lesions as children and then are never bothered by it again. Some have terrible lifelong outbreaks. I have had two women almost die of it. I had to resort to dangerous strong anticancer drugs to save their lives.

This sort of variation in the expression of genes makes the study of human genetics very confusing. It also makes the pedigree mapping of inherited characteristics and diseases difficult. Remember our consideration of eye colour? People don't just have brown or blue eyes. They have various other shades determined by how the packets of pigment are distributed in the iris. To make matters worse, eye colour changes with age.

Similarly hair colour, hair distribution, intelligence, muscular strength, emotional stability, and, in fact, most characteristics are modified by many influences. The clearcut patterns we genealogists would desire are obscured and altered by variability in age of onset, sex limitation, penetrance, variable expressivity, modifying genes, environmental influences, and other factors.

Psoriasis exhibits variable penetrance. That is, not all the people who inherit the genes get the disease. Although the genetics of psoriasis are only partly understood, it appears to involve the interaction of several genes on different chromosomes.

We now believe that cancer involves two genes on different chromosomes. To get a cancer, one must inherit a specific gene for getting the cancer. On a different chromosome is a gene that determines the location (the specific tissue to be involved) for the cancer. As long as those two genes are on separate chromosomes, the person will not get the cancer.

Certain chemicals, ultra-violet light, X-rays, and so on can break the chromosomes. A repair enzyme will patch the broken arm of the chromosome back where it belongs. But, sometimes, the repair enzyme will attach the broken arm of the chromosome to the wrong chromosome. If the random patch job unites the location gene and cancer gene on the same chromosome, cancer will develop.

In psoriasis, chromosomal breakage is probably not involved. We do not understand why psoriasis has this tendency to "variable penetrance". Additionally, psoriasis looks a little different from one person to the next. We call this "variable expression". Incomplete penetrance and variable expression are the human geneticist's two big headaches.

A more common and serious problem is diabetes. More correctly, it is called diabetes mellitus. Fifty years ago, we physicians thought there was just one kind of diabetes. It was thought to be due to a single recessive gene. Let's call the gene for making insulin "I".

"I" means a healthy gene that makes insulin correctly. Insulin is a hormone that the body makes in response to increased blood glucose (sugar). Insulin forces the sugar out of the blood stream and into the cells. If the blood sugar remains too high too long, it increases the thickness of the blood, the osmolarity. Undesirable byproduct chemicals such as acetone build up in the blood and are toxic. The body tries to eliminate the excess sugar and acetone by increasing urine output. This causes excessive thirst.

Excessive thirst and the need to go to the bathroom to urinate more frequently are the first signs of diabetes. If left untreated diabetes damages the blood vessels, causes brain damage, damages the kidneys, causes heart attacks, blindness, and muscle loss.

Now consider the sick gene "i". It does not make insulin correctly. If a person has the genotypes "II" or "Ii", he can make insulin and is healthy. With the genotype "ii", he cannot make insulin correctly and has diabetes. The parent of genotype "Ii" is heterozygous. If two parents of "Ii" have children, the probability is 25% for each child, that that child will be "ii" and have diabetes.

But, the "Ii" type carriers are healthy. They don't know they carry the defective gene. If a carrier "Ii" marries a diabetic "ii", the probability that each child will have diabetes rises to 50%. If two diabetics "ii" marry, the probability is 100% that each child will have diabetes.

What I have told you about diabetes is generally true. This is the way we used to think of diabetes. Usually diabetes starts by age eight. Prior to the use of injectable insulin, diabetes was fatal. Most people with juvenile onset diabetes did not live to reproductive age in spite of dietary control.

The problem is that as time went on, doctors observed things that did not make sense. Some children did not develop diabetes until age 15. In fact, some people did not get in until age 70. If the person had two defective insulin genes, why did he not have diabetes from the first day of life? To make matters more confusing, fat adults who developed diabetes could lose weight, control their diets, and the diabetes would seem to go away. How could this be?

Today we have modified our definition. We say that diabetes is due to a recessive gene "of variable expressivity" and "incomplete penetrance". There are several types of inherited diabetes. It is not just all one disease. In addition, some viral infections can damage that pancreas where insulin is made and produce diabetes as a non-inherited disease. There are various types of inherited diabetes with many different possible genes. There may be defects in the control of release of insulin, defects varying in the age of onset of diabetes, defects in the molecular structure of insulin that decrease its effectiveness, and defects in how the pancreas

ages to name a few. However, we still divide diabetes into two basic types: juvenile onset and adult onset.

Variable expressivity and incomplete penetrance are the rule for most inherited characteristics.

Medical advances have allowed thousands of people who would have died before child bearing age to live and have families, to reproduce and pass on their bad genes.

Consider a population of randomly mating individuals. If we start with one in ten individuals carrying the recessive gene for diabetes, after 14 generations, about 75% of the population will carry the gene for diabetes. Eventually, all the individuals in the population will carry the diabetes gene.

Here then, is the dilemma of modern medicine. By medical advances, we keep alive individuals with disease genes. They spread their genes through the population. After some number of generations, it is likely that genes for diabetes, hemophilia, mental illness, mental retardation, musculoskeletal diseases, neurological disease and so on will be carried by virtually everyone. What is the limit to which an individual can carry bad genes and still live and reproduce? We do not know yet. We call this "genetic load". There may come a time when the genetic load of our species is so great that the species becomes extinct. Is modern medicine leading the human race to ultimate extinction.

OBITUARIES FROM THE WEEKLY GUIDE & NEWS, PORT HOPE, ONTARIO

Compiled by Elizabeth Hancocks, C.G.

18 January 1884

Robert Benjamin Marsh, resident of Hope twp, born in the Old Marsh homestead at Port Britain in 1809, died 3 January 1884. He left the Province about 25 years ago and moved to Missouri then to Montana, and was living in Washington territory near the Sound when he died.

Mrs. Susan Oke, relict of Thomas, of Welcome, died 16 January 1884 at the residence of her son-in-law John Curtis. Her maiden name was Honey. She was born in Cornwall, England and came to this country in 1831, was married to a former husband and had one son, Peter Hiller who lived in Albion, New York. She lived nearly all her life at Welcome. She was a Bible Christian. She leaves two daughters and two sons; Mrs. John Runnals, Welcome; Mrs. John Curtis, Port Hope; Paul Oke, Welcome; John Oke, Port Hope, and a large number of grandchildren.

25 January 1884

Mrs. Betts, relict of Hiram, formerly of Hope twp, died 12 January at the residence of her son Charles, of Burr Oak, Michigan, in her 95th year of age. She was the sister of the late Myndert Harris, whose father brought his family to Port Hope in 1793. She was the last surviving member of the first resident family in this town. The late Myndert Harris died in 1878, at 92 years. The late Mrs. Jane Marsh died at 92 years, Mrs. Haskill, widow of Timothy is about 92 years, her brother Justin Johnson lived to be 90. Mrs. Bowen, resident of this town, relict of Israel, is almost 90. Pioneer life is favorable to longevity.

Letter from Sophiasburg: unrequited love

Submitted by Bert Pearsall

Through the lines of this letter, it's not difficult to imagine a young man writing by the light of a candle, in the dark days of January more than a century and a half ago. This letter is one of those treasures that speaks directly to the heart, and if you have such a document in your trove of family papers, count yourself blessed.

Oliver Persell (Pearsall) was the third child of John Pearsall and Hannah Abrams. Of Dutch descent, they and their six children travelled from Long Island, New York, by wagon to Sophiasburg, Prince Edward County, Ontario, and purchased 100 acres of land from John Rightmeyer, who moved to the Lincoln County, Beamsville area.

John Pearsall lived to age 92 (1784-1876), and is buried in Bethel Cemetery. Five more children were born in Canada.

Oliver failed in his suit for Ann Hart, but married Lucretia Huff from Huff's Island. They had five boys and three girls, who in turn bore them more than 30 grandchildren.

Of Ann (Alexander) Hart, Pearsall was able to find no further trace. He did find an Emma Alexander who married James McConkey, son of Andrew McConkey and Ester J. Arthur. They settled in Hillier township, Prince Edward County, and although they had five children, none married. That Anne and Emma are the same person would be pure speculation.

One interesting note. There was a postal service (pre-stamp) at that time, but the absence of a postmaster's seal on this letter indicates it probably was hand-delivered.

Sophiasburg January 5th 1835

My Dear Ann

It is with gratitude that I now take my pen in hand and Collect my wandering thought together in order to address you as I have no sinister motive in writing this letter. I hope you will pardon me for my freedom it was the recent Conversation I had with you in Mr. Clerks respecting this letter which has Corroberated thoughts which I fondly but I suppose hopelessly Cherished when I consider the happiness I have had in your Company in days gone by forgetting myself. I seemed to be talking with you but alas the thought of you serving me as you done before breaks those Chains of love and I feer I shall again be left to ponder Alone and you know my Dear Ann I have a regard for you I must confess whether you have for me or not I Cannot in reality tell and if you have I hope you never will have reason to Complain for I shall thank you if ever I have it in my power to she that tender regard I have for you. I hope my Dear as soon as this comes to hand that you will send me a few lines and let me know as much of your Mind as you know of Mine as you know there is Nothing will give me so much pleasure as the

Sir, please write January 5. 1835

My dear Anne HART

It is with gratitude that I now take my pen in hand and collect my wandering thoughts together in order to write you as I have sometimes done in writing this letter. I hope you will pardon me for my freedom it was the recent conversation I had with you in Mr. Stubs respecting this letter which has corroborated thoughts which I secretly but I suppose happily cherished when I found the happiness I have had in your company in days gone by forgetting myself. I seem to be talking with you but also the thought of serving me as you did in your breast those chains of love and I in I shall again be left to ponder I have and now know my dear Anne I have regard for you I must say I do not know whether you have for me or not I cannot in reality tell and if you have I hope you never will have reason to complain for I shall think god if ever I shall it in my power to show that tender regard I have for you I hope my dear Anne as soon as this comes to hand that you will send me a few lines and let me know as much of your mind as you please.

perusell of a few lines from one that I value so Dear thank you I am out of my apprenticeship and I am my own Master. I have my health and my trade and I think the sooner I Change the single life it will be the better and the half of that lies in your breast how soon or late I may enjoy the Matrimonial state of life.

No more at present but remains your ever admiring lover till Death.

Oliver Persell

Nothing
of mine as you know there is will give me
so much pleasure as the perusal of a few
lines from one that I value so dear thank
god I am out of my apprenticeship and I am
my own master I have my health and my
trade and I think the more I change
the single life it will be the better and
the half of that lies in your breast how
soon or late I may enjoy the matrimonial
state of life

As I am not present
but remains your full admiring
lover till death

To J. Oliver Russell



Michael Purcell's Family Bible: a sequel

By Terrence M. Punch

One piece of genealogical research tends to stimulate another, but here's a piece of research that came out of left field to modify and expand an original piece of work published in CG Vol. 8, No. 2, pages 103 to 109. In "The Family Bible of Michael Purcell: a study in extracting information", Tom Murray, our indefatigable B.C. correspondent, published the entries of a bible he had picked up for \$3 in a used bookstore in Victoria to demonstrate how it is possible to extract a large amount of information from a very meager source. We wondered aloud, in the introduction to that article, how the bible had found its way from Guysborough County, Nova Scotia, to Victoria, B.C. That piqued the curiosity of genealogical sleuth Terry Punch of Nova Scotia, and by gosh—he's got an answer—or at least gives an informed guess at the answer!

The story not only makes fascinating reading—it demonstrates something we've been hoping would happen with CG since we started publication. We've always hoped we could bring people in our gigantic country closer together spiritually and intellectually, if not physically, by the exchange of genealogical information, and by stimulating researchers in one part of the country to react to the needs and questions of those in another. Tom Murray and Terry Punch couldn't live father apart — and we're in the middle. But all of us are closer together as the result of our pursuit of those clues of our Canadian identities. We hope more of you will do what Tom Murray did — do some work on other families besides your own; and that more of you will do what Terry Punch didn't — pick up that research and add to it as a result of in-depth local knowledge. As for us — we stand ready to publish it all!

Need a detective? Ask a genealogist — anywhere in Canada. For the solution to the mystery, read on . . .

Thomas Murray's point about care in extracting information from private documentation is timely, while his action in purchasing and putting on record the genealogical data is commendable. The old handwriting confused him on one point, however. In the list of deaths, the sixth name is not Brown J. Purcell, but Bro. Wm. J. Purcell, O.M.I., and therefore this is the death record of the William John Purcell of the birth records. The initials O.M.I. represent the Order of Mary Immaculate, more commonly called the Oblates.

Dating the several bishops and therefore, perhaps, the printing of the bible, is tricky. Francis P. Kenrick of Baltimore died in 1863, and archbishop John Hughes of New York the following year; McCloskey succeeded Hughes in New York and in 1875 became the first American cardinal of the Roman Catholic Church. As the *imprimatur*, or *imprimi potest*, means that something has been examined and may be printed, the Bible may have gone into several printings even after the death of one or more of its episcopal sponsors through the presses. One need only see that McCloskey was bishop and not archbishop at the time of the *imprimatur*

to realize that the Bible was based on plates set before 1864.

By examining the marriage records at the Public Archives of Nova Scotia, the following was found. Married 26 November 1872 at Ohio, Antigonish County: Michael, age 30, bachelor, merchant at Lochaber Lake, son of Edmund Purcell and Margaret Shaw of Roman Valley, Guysborough County, to Honora, age 25, spinster, daughter of Finley Gillis and Mary McGillivray.

This supplied enough points of identification to connect this family group to a Purcell family written up by Rev. D.J. Rankin in 1929 in *A History of the County of Antigonish, Nova Scotia*, page 354. Rankin is notoriously defective in terms of giving dates, while his style of presentation is confusing. Partly to fit Thomas Murray's findings on a family tree, and partly to clarify and augment Rankin, here is the basic family tree.

Mathias Purcell of the Parish of Borris, County Tipperary, Ireland, probably about 1765, and had five children who went to Newfoundland and eight years later to Nova Scotia: Edmund, Patrick, Mathias, Johannah and Mary. Rankin gives a brief summary of what happened to the four younger children. We follow the eldest, Edmund Purcell whose petition for land in 1826 gives his age as 31, and states he had married in the year during which he had been in Nova Scotia. The above record makes clear that this was Margaret Shaw of Guysborough Intervale. Rankin states that she was a Protestant who became a Catholic, perhaps for her marriage. They had seven sons, of whom Edmund, Thomas, Patrick and William can be followed in Rankin. Thanks to the 1871 census returns and to the Bible presented by Murray, we can augment the data concerning the three remaining sons of Edmund and Margaret (Shaw) Purcell:

John Purcell, born c1828, was a miller in Roman Valley, N.S.; married Margaret Brennan, born c1828, and had: Edmund, died young; James, born c. 1862, died February 1871; John Frank, born c. 1864; Anne E., born c. 1866; and Sarah Jane, born c. 1868.

Mathias Purcell, born c1837, was also a miller at Roman Valley; married Mary Jane Brennan, born c1831, and had several daughters, given by Rankin.

Michael Purcell, b c1840 (census), or 1842 (marriage record), and died in 1910 (bible); m 1872, Honora Gillis, b c1845 (census) or 1847 (marriage record), and died 1938 (bible). They had issue:

1. Edmund, an Oblate brother, b 1874, d 1953.
2. Mary Elizabeth, b 1878, d 1878.
3. Margaret Laura, b 1879, d 1914 at Lourdes, N.S. (nun).
4. William John, an Oblate brother, b 1881, d 1936.
5. Finlay Howard, b 1883, d 1904.
6. Thomas Sears, b 1885.
7. Joseph Leo, b 1888, d 1889.

Unless Thomas Sears Purcell married and had children, the progeny of Michael and Honora (Gillis) Purcell is extinct. It is easy enough to follow the provenance of the Bible from its possible purchase date in the 1870s until the death of Mrs. Purcell in 1938. It would then very reasonably have gone to the religious, and eldest son, Edmund. As he died in 1953 in Mission City, B.C., the Bible probably came to the west coast with him. However, the really interesting question is: "Who entered the particulars of Edmund's death in 1953?" Was there a close

relative (brother? nephew? niece?) in British Columbia sometime in the past 33 years? If one point is the value of extracting information from old Bibles, another is the ongoing excitement of the chase. There is always another question to be answered: genealogy is like that.

SELECTED COMPUTER RESOURCES FOR GENEALOGISTS

Compiled by
the National Genealogical Society
Computer Interest Group

Computer Interest Group

National Genealogical Society Computer Interest Group (NGS/CIG). Meetings held in the Washington, D.C. area.

General articles on computers for genealogy

Anderson, Ester A. "On Getting Involved with Computers: Some Guidelines for Genealogists," *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, vol. 70, no. 3 (September 1983) pp. 197-220. Includes list of computer references and selected bibliography.

McKay, Jack. "Personal Computers for Genealogists," *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, vol. 69, No. 1, (March 1981), pp. 3-8. Discusses cost and configuration of computer system suitable for genealogy.

Programming techniques

Brewster, Keith, "Who's Afraid of the Big, Bad, Matrix?" *Creative Computing*, vol. 7, no. 12, (December 1981), pp. 168-173. Useful techniques for array and matrix programming.

Dwyer, Thomas A. and Margot Critchfield. *A Bit of BASIC*. Reading, Mass.: Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, 1980. Contains an excellent brief course in programming in BASIC.

Mitchell, Edward, Part 1, "Searching Techniques," *Creative Computing*, vol. 8, no. 9 (September 1982), pp. 160-170; Part 2, "Introduction to Data Structures," vol. 8, no. 11, (November 1982), pp. 207-217; Part 4, "Searching Techniques," vol. 8, no. 12, (December 1982), pp. 284-294. A series of articles on data structures, sorting, and searching.

Telecommunications for genealogists

Family Historians' Network. Electronic bulleting board for family historians and genealogists. Requires use of computer or terminal to call 703/978-7561, 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. weekdays, noon to 6:00 a.m. weekends and holidays.

"Genealogical Telecommunications," *Genealogical Computing*, no. 4 (January 1982), pp. 12-13. An article explaining the use of computer telecommunications for genealogists.

They Went West.4: The Cluffs of Ireland and Huron County

By Beryl Robbins

Settlers in the Canadian west came from many countries, not least of which was Ireland. The Cluff family is typical of many Canadian migrants who can trace their roots from Ireland first to Huron County, Ontario, then to Manitoba, and finally to parts further west – Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, and frequently even the U.S. coastal states of Washington, Oregon and California. As we have often said before, the trail of Canadian migration can best be found in the west, rather than in Ontario. As is often the case with overseas families, the history of the family resides with the family that left, not with that part of the family which stayed. We welcome this article as one more example of the path of westward migration in our country, and urge any of our readers with similar stories to send them along to us for publication. Only by getting such stories in print will it be possible to accurately track the migration process in our country – something that, till now, has never been undertaken with genealogical passion.

The author of this article, Beryl Robbins, welcomes any additional information or knowledge of family connections. Her address is 83 Mattinee Bay, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R2G 1X9.

Among the early settlers in the Municipality of Turtle Mountain Manitoba, was David Cluff, who homesteaded on 24-3-16, six miles north of the present town of Holmfield.

David Cluff was born on 24 April 1840. His parents came from Ireland, his father from Enniskillen, County Fermanagh, and his mother from Tipperary. They settled in Huron County, Ontario, after crossing the Atlantic in a sailing vessel, spending almost eight weeks on the water. They were beset by storms, much illness, and there were some burials at sea.

As a young man David volunteered for service in the 33rd battalion of Seaforth, and served during the Fenian raids. He became a color Sergeant, receiving his honourable discharge in 1872.

In 1870 he was married to Margaret Cordno, who was born in Peterhead, Scotland, in 1853. She came with her parents to Canada, and they were also on the water between seven and eight weeks.

Her family settled first in Oxford County, Ontario and later moved to Seaforth in Huron County.

In the early 1870s there was a great movement of settlers from Ontario to the west, especially to Manitoba. The Cardno family and David Cluff decided to make this move. They settled at Pilot Mound, but after the first year, David travelled a little farther west and applied for the homestead mentioned above, where he built a log house and moved into a new neighbourhood. Like their neighbours, they were real pioneers and suffered the hardships common to those who were opening and building up a raw country.

Their main supplies had to be brought from Emerson, some 90 miles distant.

The neighbours usually arranged these long journeys in parties, and as some had only oxen, the travelling was very slow, and they would be away weeks at a time. Mr. Cluff had a team of colts brought out from Ontario with his settlers' effects. These horses, named Pat and Frank, were well known in the neighbourhood, and lived to be 25 and 27 years old.

Among the many hardships encountered in the early years, frozen crops were indeed a heartbreak. The wheat was useless for flour, and the other grains were fit only for feed and sold for next to nothing, a year's work wasted. Other drawbacks included the terrible blizzards in winter, snowing and blowing for days at a time, when it was almost impossible to get from the house to the stables.

Another terrible hazard was the prairie fire. When these started there was nothing to stop them and they swept mile after mile across the open country. Every settler turned out with ploughs trying to make breaks--even the women and children out with sacks attempting to save their house and meagre possessions. At the home of James Watson, less than two miles from the Cluff farm, two children were burned to death, caught between two sections of the fire and unable to go forward or back.

Such common hazards tended to emphasize the wonderful community feeling that was established among these pioneers, for each one, without reservation, helped his neighbour. The building of a house or stable brought everyone together. Hard work was shared, a sick person, or indeed a sick animal brought help from far and near.

The Cluff house was built of logs with plaster in between. There was a large living room-kitchen and an upstairs divided into bedrooms by drapery curtains. A deep dugout underneath the house made a good cellar which was entered by a trap door in the kitchen. The house was kept white-washed both inside and out.

After the house was built the greatest need was for water. Several wells were dug, at first by hand with men taking turns with a spade, going down to 40 feet or more. Later wells were bored. The Cluff farm had good water, but not in sufficient quantities, particularly in the winter months. This made it necessary to melt snow. A large boiler was kept on the back of the stove, and huge blocks of snow were cut and carried in. This water was used for washing clothes and for making warm mash from bran and shorts to feed the poultry and milking cows. An ironical fact is that many, many years later one well caved in and another sunk a few yards from it turned out to be an artesian well, with water flowing from it unceasingly.

Soon it was necessary to form a school district and build a school. The district was named West Derby. The school was a log building with homemade desks (slanting top, and shelf underneath) and a painted blackboard. The pupils used slates and pencils. A copybook was one of the requirements. It had a line of script at the top and the pupil had to fill that page making it as much like the sample as possible.

From the beginning, the school was of prime interest to the Cluff family. Mr. Cluff was school trustee for many years. Another intimate association lay in the fact that since the school was less than a mile from the farm, most of the teachers boarded at the Cluff home. This brought something of an outside interest to both parents and children.

Before the school was built church services were also held in the Cluff home,

and many distinguished Anglican clergymen arrived and stayed overnight on Saturday, preaching the sermon at 11 a.m. Among these were Archbishop Machray, Archbishop Matheson, Canon O'Meara, Canon Phair and many others. All the neighbours attended despite their own religious affiliations. Great were the preparations for the clergymen; much cooking and baking, since everyone who could stay after church was invited to the midday meal. Of course the spare bedroom was prepared with the best linen, the precious "double Irish Chain" quilt, crocheted bedspread, as well as the linen towels hand woven in Scotland by Mrs. Cluff's grandmother, and used only on the most special occasions. Clergymen and travellers alike were made welcome and provided with food and sleeping accommodation.

In attempting to give a picture of the pioneer life of this period it is necessary to refer to the never-ending work. Apart from the seeding, harvesting, haying and threshing, there were the long hauls of grain to be sold or ground into flour. Then the whole winter of "going to the bush" for wood to be cut and piled for the year's fuel, the excess cut into cords and hauled to market. Mr. Cluff was very proficient in the use of the axe in the bush, having acquired much experience by helping his father clear the bush off three fifty-acre farms in Ontario. He was able to pass this skill on to his sons when they were old enough to help.

By degrees animals were acquired; horses, cattle, sheep for a time, and always pigs. There were many cows to milk. Mr. Cluff was the first in the district to introduce the Polled Angus breed, and was proud of his herd of black cattle. After the milking, the milk was strained into low pans and placed on the cellar floor to cool. When the cream rose it was skimmed into stone crocks. When there was enough, it was churned into butter. At first a dash churn was used, later a barrel churn which was turned with a handle. Butter not needed for the home was either packed into wooden firkins, or shaped into rolls and sold. At a later date it was made into one pound blocks, or prints, as they were called.

The garden and the poultry were also Mrs. Cluff's work. She was a good gardener, and grew all the vegetables she needed as well as a quantity to give away to neighbours who were not so successful. She was always anxious to try everything and sent away to the experimental farms for seeds and cuttings. She had all the small fruits, black, red and white currants, gooseberries and raspberries. These along with such wild fruits as strawberries, blueberries, and cranberries, were made into jams, jellies and "preserves".

Poultry, too, was a special pride — hens, turkeys, geese, ducks and even guinea fowl and pigeons were raised. The eggs were packed in boxes, in layers of oats to keep them from being broken in transit to market. The dressed poultry, as well as the wild ducks and geese which were plentiful in the fall made a welcome change from the endless cured pork. Of course in the early winter a beef was butchered and frozen, providing winter meat.

Turning from work to recreation, in the winter the country dance was enjoyed by most. Two or three sleigh loads would arrive at the Cluff home; usually Mrs. Cluff's twin brothers, Dave and John Cardno came from Pilot Mound for the winter visit, and as they both played the "Fiddle" the music was there. There was usually someone to chord on the organ and if violins were lacking, a mouth organ or concertina would do. Playing cards was quite popular. Euchre, Redro, Casino as well as whist, all had their day. As the family grew the children all became

great readers. When Lady Aberdeen was at Government House in Ottawa she started a library system for isolated Communities and books could be obtained free. Mrs. Cluff sent for many of these, and of course, neighbours were glad to exchange reading matter.

The school picnic in summer and the annual Christmas concert which everyone helped make a success were annual outings, and later when the railroad came through (and what great rejoicing that brought), the villages and towns soon came into being to bring further attractions, as skating, curling, and the very popular Fall Fairs.

For the men and boys, hunting was a worthwhile sport. Mr. Cluff and his sons were good shots, and in season brought home elk and moose, as well as rabbits, geese and ducks. Once a live mink was caught and kept as a pet for a long time.

Perhaps one of the more or less forgotten incidents in the life of the early settler is the pedlar, of which there were various types. The most common was the far-eastern fellow, usually a Syrian, who tramped from farm to farm carrying two heavy cases. These contained a variety of articles, needles, pins, cheap jewelry; staples such as table cloths, towels, and scarves. He would stay overnight, and pay with a few baubles for the children.

Another type was the man with a covered cart. His wares usually were in greater demand as he had an assortment of kitchen utensils, farm tools and so on. His visit was often opportune and saved a long journey to buy them.

Other passing travellers included bands of Indians and Metis. They were frequently changing camps, and also looking for, and digging Seneca root. They would break their journey at the farm. Mrs. Cluff was very good to them, giving them bread, vegetables and chickens. They had very thin shaggy ponies, several dogs, and lots of children. They would pitch their tents just down the road from the house.

Accident and illness was dreaded in the early settlements as medical aid was not readily available. However, among the many young Englishmen and Scotsmen, who for one reason or another came to Canada, was a young medical student (he had failed to graduate) and he was known as Dr. Ramsay. He and a man named Michael O'Hearne lived on a homestead a mile or so from the Cluffs. They became friends as Mrs. Cluff baked bread for them once a week, as she did for many of the neighbouring bachelors. Dr. Ramsay was a great help in the neighbourhood. Once Alex, the Cluff's eldest son who loved experimenting, decided to blow up a muskrat's nest in a large slough near the house. He dug a trench leading in to the dome-shaped nest, filled it with gunpowder, and without a fuse, lit it with a match. It blew up in flames in his hand, which was badly burned. He was afraid to let his mother know for fear of punishment, and when she did find out his hand was in serious condition. Dr. Ramsay was sent for and stayed all night with Alex working with the hand, then came regularly to dress it. The hand was saved, and in after years was able to perform many operations when he, too, became a doctor.

There were seven children in the Cluff family:

Ann Ida married Alexander Davidson, who died in an accident in a grain elevator at Cartwright. She later married again and lived at Brucefield, Ontario. In 1963 she celebrated her 92nd birthday.

William Alexander became a school teacher, was Principal of Cartwright school

for four years. He later attended Manitoba Medical College, took post graduate study in New York, and specialized in Ear, Eye, Nose and Throat and practised many years in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. He married Helen Alice Power. He died in 1940.

George farmed near the old homestead, and later near Belmont. He married Clara Isobel Durham. He retired to live in Killarney, Manitoba where he died in 1958.

Agnes Mary married Robert Watson; lived in Killarney, died in 1961.

Margaret Beatrice married R.W. Smith, lived in Regina, then moved to Vancouver where she died in 1947.

John Reginald married Olive Myrtle Pinkerton, farmed at Matador, Saskatchewan. Died in 1933.

Alice Maude Edith taught school for eight years. Married Richard H. Hart. Lived in Winnipeg until 1957 then moved to Vancouver, B.C. where she still lives (1963).

Mr. and Mrs. Cluff lived on the old homestead until 1912. They were unable to cope with the farm work any longer and none of the family was at home. They first went to live with a grandson, Cluff Davidson, at Matador, Saskatchewan. Later they went to Winnipeg to live with their daughter Alice. There Mrs. Cluff died in 1920, and David Cluff died in 1922. They are both buried in St. John's Cemetery, Winnipeg.

Their lives were more or less typical of pioneer settlers, with the usual ups and downs, joys and sorrows, successes and failures, which all contributed to the building of a community. The achievements, when added to a procession of similar endeavours across the prairie, formed the foundation upon which was built the great Canadian West. "They builded better than they knew."

The New England background of some Kings County Planters

By Phillip P. Thorpe

"This subject offers enough scope to compose a weekend seminar or a lecture series. I will fight various temptations to get carried away and focus on a few specific concerns," writes Phillips K. Thorpe.

In this carefully thought-out genealogical paper, first presented in September, 1985, to the Genealogical Committee of the Kings Historical Society, Thorpe tries to answer several questions pertaining to the New England ancestry of some Canadian families, with specific reference to some of his own family lines — Thorp(e), Porter, Miner, and Rogers families. His questions may sound familiar to genealogists whose work has taken them into the same area.

1. Who were our 1760 Planter ancestors and why did they come here?
2. How can we explore their New England backgrounds?
3. Who can we trust to guide our research?

We like Mr. Thorpe's approach to his work, particularly his refusal to take anything for granted in his family research. Anyone with new England ancestry will find his work fascinating. Mr. Thorpe lives and works in Calgary. Readers may contact him at 2220 Paliswood Place, SW, Calgary, Alberta T2V 3R2.

PART I

Where did the Planters come from?

An excellent account of the pre-1760 origins of the Planters is found in *The History of Kings County* by A.W.H. Eaton. In the chapter on "The Coming of New England Planters to Cornwallis and Horton" (pages 58-89) the Connecticut connection is obvious.

Not all documented materials recognized the validity of this connection. *The Genealogy of the Family of Joseph Alexander Kinsman* (1974) deserves great praise. In reply to his request for criticisms I challenged Donald Kinsman, the author, on only one point. On page 11 he wrote that "Those from Connecticut were assigned land in Annapolis County, those from Massachusetts in Kings County and those from Rhode Island in Hants County, Nova Scotia". Perhaps he was misled by the name of Cornwallis township and incorrectly assumed it was in Annapolis County.

Other local reports have not erred thusly. *The Atlantic Advocate* of June 1960, Vol. 50, No. 10, page 44 reported that "Annapolis County has become a new Massachusetts, Kings County a new Connecticut and the present West Hants, a new Rhode Island". A small booklet by Leora Webster Cross (in your library) called *The Acadians and The New England Planters* maintained the focus of Connecticut origins of Kings County families. On page eight I found a specific town given as the origin of many Planters. "The New England Planters were mostly from the Town of Lebanon, Connecticut, whose first settlers were of superior stock, the very best intellectual and religious material for a new plantation that Northampton, Eng. could furnish."

My research has found no cause to question the reports of Connecticut family origins and indeed Lebanon, Connecticut must have suffered a great loss as the Planters departed for Nova Scotia. However, I have frequently questioned the "Northampton, Eng." reference above. With many thanks to you I think I now have the answer. As I prepared these notes I rediscovered the following on page 70 of *The History of Kings County*, acknowledged as a quote from the *Strong Genealogy*:

"Lebanon, Connecticut has had a remarkable history. The first settlers who went there from 1695 onwards were of superior stock, the very best intellectual and religious material for 'a new plantation' that Northampton, Norwich, etc., could furnish. . ."

I have not examined the context from which this quote was taken, but based on other research of the 1700 founding of Lebanon, Conn., I believe this refers to other New England towns. Norwich lies just downstream from Lebanon which is on a tributary of the Thames river. The Thames runs from Norwich to New London on the south coast of Connecticut. Another parallel river, the Connecticut, has its origins much further north and runs past Northampton, Hampshire, Massachusetts on its way to the south coast of Connecticut at Lyme, New London County, Connecticut. Indeed we must look for our English origins of most Planter families much earlier than 1695. This will become more obvious in Part II as I explore the background of a few New England Planters.

Why did the New England Planters come to Nova Scotia?

I will only comment briefly in this area because various demographic studies have addressed the coming and going of people along the Atlantic seaboard. After the expulsion of the Acadians in 1755 the political powers were keenly aware of a need to repopulate the area. They established their priorities (and prejudices) and evolved a plan. Naturally they communicated through the channels of ongoing alliances in New England. The offers of land, religious freedom, political participation and military security were supplemented by contributions of supplies and transportation.

Having visited the New England homeland of these Planters I have struggled to answer the question: "Why would they leave that place." Even with the tempting offers from Nova Scotia there must have been just cause to leave home and friends in New England. Without going into lengthy explanations, suffice it to say that they needed land. New England had been inhabited by our English ancestors for over a century. By 1760 most of the accessible land along the waterways was occupied. Migrations were pushing outward from New England into New York, Ohio and Delaware. Some Indian encounters in these other territories gave cause to reconsider the Nova Scotia offer. Transportation along the waterways was common and overland ventures were repelled by hills, forests and hostile Indians. I cannot believe that these pre-Loyalist Planters were astute enough to have anticipated political changes. They were responding to the pre-1760 situation only. I am content to accept the belief that they came for land and new opportunities. We owe much to their strengths and good sense.

PART II

Oliver Thorp — one of my Planter ancestors

As usual I turned first to *The History of Kings County* for data on my family. Although the information on pages 843-4 was less than one page long it was adequate to start with. Most of the data has since been found in the primary source *The Cornwallis Township Book*. It gives some major clues to Oliver's ancestors by naming his parents, Peter and Abigail and the parents of his wife Hannah (Edgerton) Stark, daughter of Joseph and Eunice Edgerton. Speculations, however, are dangerous and reference to the New Haven, Connecticut family of William Thorpe proved costly. Whereas the writer had "no doubt" that there was a connection between these families I trust that I will unquestionably prove otherwise.

Before developing my research results, let me first mention one researcher who followed the wrong lead. F.E. Corwell of Boston, Massachusetts published many Nova Scotia genealogies in *The Yarmouth Herald*. (see Crowell's scrapbook #109, in the Public Archives of Nova Scotia). In the issue of Tuesday, 7 March 1933, the Thorp family appeared. Following down from William¹ Thorp, one of the founders of New Haven, Connecticut he came to Peter⁴ Thorp (Peter³, John², William¹) baptized 19 December 1731 resided in Fairfield Connecticut. He married 18 April 1754, Abigail Ward baptized 17 December 1721, daughter of Moses Ward. Children Peter, Jabez, Oliver. He then lists Oliver⁵ Thorp as the Cornwallis Planter. Do I need to explain that this Peter and Abigail were not likely the parents of an adult grantee in Cornwallis in 1760?

My research, although generally proceeding backwards from known facts, is presented in a descending chronological sequence. I will pick up on the earliest known Thorp in New England that leads down to the Planter Oliver. James¹ Thorp was early in Dedham, Massachusetts. He married 8 November 1657 to Hannah Newcombe, daughter of Francis and Rachael Newcombe (Hannah was born 15 October 1637 in Boston after her parents arrived in 1635 on the ship *Planter* from Albans, England). Excellent records on this family (and all others in Dedham) for several generations can be found in Published Vital Records and Church Records by Don Gleason Hill. (I have copies of some of these.)

The second generation leads to a son Peter² Thorp (James 1) born October 1695 to Abigail White, daughter of John White. Various references for this marriage included American Marriages. . . (Clements), Dedham Church Records, and the White genealogy. Peter began to reach out for new lands. Lebanon, noted in Part I had lots of appeal. On 9 September 1714 Peter Thorp of Dedham, Suffolk County, Massachusetts Bay, New England purchased 100 acres of land from Joseph Bradford of Lebanon, New London County, Connecticut (Lebanon Land Records, Vol. 2, p. 536). This venture was terminated in 1718 when Peter's oldest son James received the land from his father and sold it to Joseph Swelland of Lebanon. Peter's next move was on 1 October 1722 (Vol. 3, p. 449) when he bought 93½ acres from John Woodward and John Woodward Jr. of Lebanon. (He was listed as of Dedham, Massachusetts). On 9 October 1722 (Vol. 3, p. 451) Peter Thorp (still of Dedham, Massachusetts) bought a 69-acre farm from Philip and Hannah Cowley of Lebanon. On 12 October 1722 (Vol. 3, p. 450) Peter Thorp late of Dedham, Massachusetts now residing in Lebanon bought 67 acres

from John Webster of Lebanon. These three purchases enabled him to become established in Lebanon (actually a parish called Goshen) which was sometimes identified as being in Windham County, later in New London County, Connecticut. He left his son James in Dedham and moved to Lebanon (perhaps more to James' liking since he had quickly returned there in 1718). Both branches prospered and amazing parallels evolved as descendants spread out from Dedham to Ohio and Lebanon to Nova Scotia.

Besides land records the Thorp families in Lebanon were well documented in probate and church records. Both Peter Thorp (who died 1 September 1734) and his wife Abigail (who died July 1742) left wills which I have copied from Probate records. They both named a son Peter Jr. and some grandchildren but not the one I wanted. I have data from the Goshen cemetery but during my visit there a few years ago I did not find the tombstone.

Moving into the third generation I will try to shed more light on an area too long buried in confusion. We find here a son Peter³ Thorp Jr. (Peter 2, James 1) born 1 January 1698-9 in Dedham, Massachusetts. Peter accompanied his parents to Lebanon. Two Thorp girls married in the Lebanon First Congregational Church in 1724 — Abigail to Joseph Gay and Hannah to John Foster. Although the date of marriage is not available, Peter Thorp Jr. made "confession of ye sin of fornication" 7 March 1725. Peter Thorp appears as member 219 recorded in 1725 and Mrs. Abigail Thorp wife of Peter as as member 235 also recorded in 1725. (She was admitted to communion 11 April 1725 and elsewhere (p. 73) noted as 'publicly owning the Covenant' on 13 June 1725 where she was listed as Abigail wife of Peter Thorp Jur.) While focused on the First Congregational Church records of Lebanon let's observe the baptisms of three children:

Mary Thorp 13 June 1725 (same day as mother owned the Convenant)
Elijah Thorp 3 July 1726
Eliphalet Thorp 7 September 1729

Here we have the beginning of the second family with parents called Peter and Abigail Thorp. The younger family was somewhat inclined to roam.

The next record of Peter³ Thorp and wife Abigail is on the 1729 list of founding members of the Goshen Congregation Church (a parish near the Peter Thorp Sr. lands — near Lebanon.) Abigail became a member there in 1730 along with many other wives of the founding male members. Land records soon find them in Windham, Windham County, Connecticut. There the landholdings were tenuous at best and totally sold out after the 1734 death of Peter Thorp Sr. In Windham the baptisms of three more children (listing the father as Peter Thorp) introduces our potential Cornwallis grantee, Oliver. The three baptisms in the Windham Congegational Church were:

Timothy Thorp 8 August 1731
Oliver Thorp 2 July 1732
Abigail Thorp 18 August 1734
(see records of the Congregational Church on Windham, Connecticut
1700-1851, published in 1934)

Before leaving the Peter³ Thorp family I would like to identify his wife Abigail.

She was born 4 November 1703 at Simsbury, Connecticut the fourteenth child of Capt. John and his second wife Sarah (Strong) Higley. Two good Higley genealogies are found in *The Higleys and Their Ancestry* by Mary Coffin Johnson and *The History and Genealogies of Ancient Windsor, Connecticut 1635-1891* by Henry Read Stiles Vol. II, pp. 387-391. Both accounts give data collected by Mary Coffin Johnson, and list Abigail Higley as wife of Peter Thorp Sr., however in Stiles, a note was added to say that

"This family may not be correctly given. It is possible that Abigail H. married Peter Thorpe Jr. (see Prob. Rec. Windham County, II, 63)."

This reference is to the probate of Peter Thorp Sr. where Peter Thorp Jr. is listed amongst the heirs.

The marriage of Peter³ Thorp and Abigail Higley has not been found in the Lebanon records. The date may be more closely established from her father's probate files. It was reported in the Higley book that "Abigail Higley Thorp is mentioned in the settlement of her father's estate. Her authoraph is preserved among the receipts in the executor's accounts given 10 January 1724, at which date it appears she had gone from Lebanon to Simsbury to transact business for herself and her two sisters, Midwell and Susannah, who also resided there." Since New Years was then on 21 March, the date 10 January 1724 would actually be in 1725 by our calendar. That would be six months before her first child was born and quite likely that she was then married. I plan to obtain copies of the Simsbury probate records for that date to confirm that she signed as Abigail Thorp.

Probate records again help to establish her death date which was between 18 August 1734 (baptism of a daughter Abigail in Windham) and 7 March 1748-9. This last date was from *Early Connecticut Probate Records, Vol. III 1729-1750*, pp. 283-4 where her mother's estate was distributed to "Benoni Bissell, Nathaniel Higley, Josiah Higley, Issac Higley, Sarah Loomis, Susannah Blackman, and to heirs of Abigail Thorp their mother's part." This range of dates spans the July 1742 date of death of Abigail Thorp Senior which is too often given in error as the date of death of Abigail (Higley) Thorp, the Higley book not excepted. I am inclined to suggest that she may have died in 1734 at or near the time of giving birth to a daughter Abigail.

Although this was at the time of death of Peter Thorp Sr. (1 September 1734), I wonder if losing his wife explains the selling out of Windham lands and the possible return of Peter Thorp Jr. to Lebanon. Of course he may have returned to farm the 93½ acres in Lebanon that his father bought of Mr. John Woodward and willed to him in his will of 1 April 1732 as recorded in Probate in November 1734. However it may be that Peter Thorp Jr. had received this as an inheritance when he was married — in this will his father said he gave him the deed dated 1 September 1724. It also appears that he squandered his inheritance by selling it on 7 March 1727-8 to Joseph Trumble (see Lebanon Land Records, Vol. 4, pp. 81). Was this just cause for Peter Thorp Sr. to state in his will that "my will is that neither he nor his should have any more out of my estate."?

To date I have not accounted for the later movements of this family. Some research results suggest that at least one of the sons of Peter³ Thorp Jr. was killed in the French and Indian Wars (see *Collections of the Connecticut Historical*

Society Vol. IX (1903) — Rolls of Connecticut Men in the French and Indian War 1755-1762). In the 1756 campaign both Timothy and Oliver Thorp were listed in the "Expedition against Crown Pointe". On a "muster roll of the Sixth Company in the Third Regiment in the Service of the Collony of Connecticut. . ." for that year was entered: "Timothy Thorp Serg. inlisted April 7 dead September 20". It is also possible that the daughter Abigail, baptized 18 August 1734, was married 12 August 1755 to Abel Metcalfe in Norwich-Bozrah, New London County (see *Early Connecticut Marriages*, Church Records by Frederick W. Bailey, Fifth Book, page 52). The Metcalfe residence in Lebanon was established by the birth of a large family between 1756 and 1777 recorded on the Lebanon township records Vol. I page 205.

I have implied that Oliver⁴ Thorp (Peter 3, Peter 2, James 1) was motherless at a young age and that the family left Windham in 1734 and returned to Lebanon. Since I have not located land records or other data on Peter³ Thorp I have assumed that he resided in Lebanon for some time or deceased leaving small children with his mother. In her will, dated 29 April 1740, his mother named daughters Ruth Royes (Royce, Rice), wife of David and Sarah Thorp as inheritors of 22 acres of land given to her by her husband Peter Thorp deceased, with a legacy that they pay specified sums to some of her grandchildren as they reached age 21 male or 18 female. The selection of grandchildren listed were:

grandson - Elijah Thorp, son of Peter Thorp £10

granddaughter - Abigail Thorp, daughter of James Thorp £10

grandson - James Thorp son of James Thorp £10

Oliver⁴ Thorp (Peter 3, Peter 2, James 1) may have had a tough childhood in Lebanon, Connecticut. His mother may have died when he was young and certainly by the time he was a teenager (1748-9). Likewise his grandmother and possibly his substitute mother died when he was 10 (in 1742). His service in the French and Indian War and loss of a brother Timothy and other relatives would not have encouraged continued residence in Connecticut. Indeed at age 25, single and without farmlands he was a prime candidate for emigration to Nova Scotia in 1760. Before I rest my case that this individual was the Cornwallis grantee — receiving $\frac{1}{2}$ share (the portion allotted to single adults) as recorded on the first effective Cornwallis grant given 21 July 1761 — I would like to explore the background of his future wife.

In the Cornwallis Township records (and also *The History of Kings County*) the marriage of Oliver Thorp and Hannah (Edgerton) Stark listed their parents, as stated earlier. From land and probate records in Lebanon Connecticut I have determined that Joseph and Eunice (Meigs) Edgerton owned farmlands near to that of Peter Thorp Sr. In the Windham, Regular Probate Records (Vol. 5, pp. 439-442) when the estates of Joseph and Eunice Edgerton of Lebanon were distributed to the heirs on 13 January 1758, Hannah Stark was called the "Second Daughter of Said Deceased" and received a quarter part of the lands, half the house, privilege in the well, and a third of her mother's moveable estate. The mother's estate was divided in equal thirds to two daughters and one son, but the father's estate went $\frac{1}{2}$ to the son and $\frac{1}{4}$ to each daughter (Windham Special Probate Records, Vol. 3, p. 132).

The *Goshen Congregational Church Records 1728-1895* further serve to identify Hannah (Edgerton) Stark. The marriage of Zephaniah Stark and Hannah

Edgerton was recorded there 26 Oct 1757 (Vol. 1, p. 252). Hanna Stark was admitted to communion 29 October 1758 (Vol. 2, p. 13). Also two children of Zephaniah Stark were baptised there, a daughter Eunice baptised 29 Oct 1758 — the same date as Hannah was admitted to communion — and a son David baptised 2 November 1760 (Vol. 2, p. 25). This last date might suggest that at least the mother Hannah did not emigrate to Nova Scotia in early 1760.

In his erroneous account of the Thorp family referred to earlier, F.E. Crowell tried to explain the situation. He identified Zephaniah Stark as son of William (the Stark lineage can be researched in the book *Aaron Stark Family*, by Charles R. Stark). Crowell states that Zephaniah “came from Lebanon, Connecticut to Nova Scotia in 1761 (I think that date is used because of the dates of the effective grants) and died on return trip to Connecticut for his family.” Zephaniah was indeed granted Nova Scotia lands and Oliver Thorp received title to them after his marriage to the widow by a purchase at public auction (Kentville Land Records for Cornwallis, Vol. 1, p. 301, dated 9 January 1779). Zephaniah and Hannah Stark were in Lebanon on 21 March 1761 when they sold the lands in Goshen parish that Hannah had received from the division of the Edgerton estate, to Jonathan Avery (Land Records of Lebanon, New London Co., Vol. 10, p. 369).

My conclusions on the background of this Planter family are obvious. In connecting the many pieces of the puzzle I have explored many sources, primary and secondary. I can only restate the basic premise of any genealogical researcher — primary sources are most reliable, but you cannot afford to overlook secondary sources. Even secondary sources with proven errors deserve a second look — (only the account by Crowell mentioned Zephaniah Stark's return to Lebanon for the family and his ensuing death). I have found land and church records are especially valuable in pre-Planter New England research, as are wills and probates. I trust the examples given here serve to illustrate the variety of sources available.

Samuel, Elisha, Israel, John and Simeon Porter

Only these five Porter Planters have been selected because of their proven or assumed relationships. If they are truly related then a common New England ancestry should be derived. Turning first to two local sources we should review *The History of Kings County (Eaton) pp. 780-782, and Planters and Pioneers Nova Scotia 1749 to 1775* by Esther Clark Wright (Revised Edition, pp. 245-247).

From *Planters and Pioneers* we should pick out the senior members, namely Samuel Porter and wife Remember. Samuel is called “son of Thomas and Abigail Holbrook Porter”, and “uncle of John and Simeon Porter”. Turning thus to John and Simeon Porter we find they are listed as “sons of John and Abigail Knapp Porter”. So our New England search for this family should try to find (1) Thomas Porter and his wife Abigail Holbrook and (2) their sons Samuel who married Remember and John who married Abigail Knapp. In *Planters and Pioneers* the home of this last couple is listed as Lebanon Connecticut, where their sons John and Simeon were born. This focus for our New England search is further enhanced by Eaton (*The History of Kings County*, page 71) when the names of John and Samuel Porter are included on “a certain ‘Rate List’ in Lebanon for levying the minister's salary, drawn up in 1741.”

Before leaving Nova Scotia a search of local sources is recommended. Samuel

Porter died 16 April 1761 in Cornwallis N.S. (Cornwallis Township records, etc.). His will was written 3 April 1761 in Cornwallis, N.S. and proved 28 July 1761. It was probated in Windsor and the Probate Office there can provide photocopies. In the will he refers to a wife and sons Elisha and Israel, and daughters Abigail, Phebe, Sarah, and Lydia. From the livestock given to Elisha and land to Israel (2/3) and daughters Abigail and Phebe (1/3) these children and the others as well must have been local residents. The only Elisha Porter then in Cornwallis who would logically benefit from the livestock (a mare, two cows, a yearling bull and spotted swine) would be the Cornwallis grantee by that name. Since Elisha was a full grantee in his own right, he did not receive an equivalent land inheritance as willed to his younger brother Israel. It would appear that Israel was single and living at home for two reasons: first, he was single and not counted as an adult in the Cornwallis land grant — his father's will would restore him to a full share (2/3 of 1½ share); and second, his father referred to his (future) widow's "comfort and support and Israel's", implying that Israel was at home with his mother.

Already we have established some reasonable doubts regarding the value of secondary sources and the importance of primary sources. Israel was not identified as a son of Samuel in either *The History of Kings County* or *Planters and Pioneers*. I must also challenge the two wives of his that appear in *Planters and Pioneers*. He was no doubt too young (actually born 16 August 1743 in Lebanon, Connecticut — from Lebanon Vital Records) to marry Anna Johnson in 1756, and a 1793 marriage to Elizabeth Harris was too late for his six children born 1766 to 1779 (his wife was already called Elizabeth in the list of births in the Cornwallis Township book). Likewise Elisha was not identified as a member of this family although he and his wife Meriam were witnesses at the marriage of his sister Abigail to Stephen Chase (see *History of Kings County*, pp. 225-226). He has too often been identified as a son of Joseph Porter and Joanna Dodd (Crowell's Scrapbook #109 and *Planters and Pioneers* page 245). Another error in the last reference lists Miriam Russ as born 1 December 1748. That date was actually the marriage date for an Elisha Porter to Miriam Russ in Lebanon Connecticut. (First Cong. Church Records of Lebanon, and Bailey, Early Conn. Marriages, Second Book, p. 44.)

If Elisha Porter and wife Miriam, married in 1748 and came as Planters in 1760, they would be expected to have children other than those recorded in the Cornwallis Township Book between 1761 and 1768. The land records in Kentville again prove helpful. In Volume 10, page 299, two records dated in October 1836, relate to the disposal of lands of the late Elisha Porter, identified as father of the two participants. The first, Isaac Porter of River Philip, Cumberland County can be identified as the son born 13 March 1768 in Cornwallis. The second, Jacob Porter of Falmouth, Kings County must have been a son born prior to 1760. How fortunate we are to be able to turn to *Falmouth, A New England Township in Nova Scotia* by John V. Duncanson. The Jacob Porter born 1759 and his descendants on pages 364-367 of that book, cannot be other than the son of Elisha identified above.

Finally, before leaving this branch of the Porter family, I must mention one special descendant, Mrs. Frances (Porter) Eaton of Wolfville. Some of the materials I have referenced above were exchanged over the dining room table with

Frances and her late husband Chuck. His Porter research notes are a treasure house of data that deserve preserving by this Society or some other archival facility. I trust they will not be lost through the passage of time and the departure of devoted researchers like Chuck.

After having possibly dwelt too long on local genealogical sources, I should move into the New England arena. One further delay will serve to introduce again John and Simeon Porter (remember — the nephews of Samuel?). Since these Cornwallis Planters were identified as my ancestral family, I have collected extensive notes on their descendants. Perhaps I should just say that anyone interested in John and Simeon should contact me. I have developed a particular interest in this family because through their marriages I have found Mayflower and Loyalist ancestry. Mrs. Frances (Porter) Eaton and I share a common Miner as well as Porter ancestry. Two Mayflower lineages have been traced through the Miner family. References to that material follows in the section on the Miner Planters.

Moving at last to Lebanon, Connecticut I would like to first confirm the births of John and Simeon Porter. Vital Records (Town of Lebanon, Volume 1) include the births of John 17 February 1723-4 and Simeon 10 January 1725-6 and six other younger children of John and Abigail Porter. This same source also includes the births and deaths of various children of Samuel and Remember Porter. It is unfortunate that the start of Elisha Porter's family does not appear here — but it may be discovered nearby. After all, his 1748 marriage was recorded in the church here. Other valuable data in these records include the 28 October 1747 marriage of John Porter Jr (the Cornwallis grantee) to Phebe English, daughter of Richard and Mary English and the births of their first six children.

Simeon Porter, son of John and Abigail (Knapp) Porter, drifted slightly away from Lebanon for his 13 March 1755 marriage to Sarah Kilbourn in Hebron, Tolland Co., Connecticut (Hebron Vital Records and Bailey, *Early Connecticut Marriages*, Third Book, page 91). I have not located any records of their children born between 1756 and 1759 (nine or ten are recorded in Cornwallis Township book from 1760 into the late 1770s). At least one son David must have been born prior to 1760. He is named first son in Simeon's will (Kentville Wills, Vol. 1, page 174). Two of Simeon's sons, John and Luther, married two daughters of Thomas Miner of Horton, Amy and Eunice, of whom more later.

Primary research in Connecticut can again be applied to correct another error. In *Planter and Pioneers* and other secondary sources, I have found Simeon's wife's (Sarah Kilbourn) parents given as Josiah and Mary (Mack) Kilbourn. This clue is sufficient to direct one's research into primary records in Hebron, Tolland Co., Connecticut. In the Hebron Vital Records I found the 6 June 1728 marriage of Josiah Kilbourn to Rebecca Tillotson. Rebecca died 15 September 1740 and Josiah married second on 14 July 1741 to Mary Mack. The birth of Sarah Kilbourn on 5 April 1736 clearly places her in the first family and with a mother different from the one most often quoted. The Connecticut Kilbourn ancestry is an interesting study and can begin easily in books including *The History of Ancient Wethersfield*, Vol. 2, by H.R. Stiles. A particular sidelight on Josiah Kilbourn (Sarah's father) is found in *The History of Gilsum, New Hampshire 1752*, pp. 347-8. This excursion into another state and discovery of a third wife is off the topic so back to the Porters.

I think I have avoided the inevitable for too long and must now confess. Land

records, town records, church records, probates and other primary sources in Lebanon, Connecticut have not produced the proofs of the Porter ancestry that I wanted. Some necessary connections have been made but for the most part we are stuck with secondary sources. One such source was referred to in the *Nova Scotia Genealogist*, No. 28, (Summer 1979), page 225. Robert F. Kirkpatrick suggested there that we "study *The American Genealogist* No. 40 (Oct 1964) pages 214-5". I have followed that suggestion time after time and still question the results. I will refer to some of the results below and trust that continued research will produce satisfactory confirmation.

This article refers to *A Genealogy of the Descendants of Richard Porter. . .*, by Joseph W. Porter, printed in Bangor, Maine, 1878. It follows from Richard¹ Porter who settled at Weymouth, Massachusetts in 1635, to Thomas² Porter of Weymouth who married Sarah Vining and died in 1671-2. Getting to Thomas³ Porter (Thomas 2, Richard 1) is easy even with his posthumous birth 3 Feb 1672 (born after death of his father). Page 21 of this source expands on his marriage to Abigail Holbrook, born 1675, daughter of Captain John and Abigail (Pierce) Holbrook and their family. Of course this genealogy is also a secondary source and errors and omissions are to be expected here as readily as elsewhere. The recording of only four children: Thomas, Abigail, Ebenezer and Joseph appears inadequate. Especially of major concern to us are the omissions of the brother John who married Abigail Knapp and Samuel who married Remember.

These omissions may be accounted for on the basis of residence. Thomas³ Porter had removed from Weymouth to Taunton, Mass. about 1701 where he worked as a cordwainer. The four children accounted for above were all residents of Taunton. On page 33 of this genealogy we do find that one son Joseph ventured into Lebanon, Connecticut. There he acquired a wife Sarah, daughter of James Pineo. After Joseph's death, she is again found in Lebanon, Conn., and married to a Sullard. We are informed that Joseph and Sarah were residents in Taunton where their children were recorded. Since John and Samuel were supposed to reside in Lebanon, Conn. their absence from the genealogy can be accepted. We still must prove their relationship to the Thomas of Taunton.

In the Lebanon Conn. land records (Vol. 6, pp. 391 and 398) Samuel Porter and John Porter (both identified as "beloved sons" of Thomas Porter of Taunton, Bristol County, Massachusetts Bay, New England, cordwainer) each obtained 86 acres of land in Lebanon. These land transactions dated 31 Aug 1737 included portions of the 140-acre tract of land that Thomas³ Porter purchased of John Partridge by deed dated 16 April 1716 (Lebanon land records, Vol. 3, page 37). I am most thankful for these documents and now approach several secondary sources without total disbelief. We might note in passing that the 1741 Lebanon Rate List mentioned in *The History of Kings County* could well refer to our now identified Samuel⁴ and John⁴Porter.

Having endured the struggle to identify the Porter lineage I must conclude that all sources have been helpful. Learning to expect errors and not quitting in total disbelief is part of the process. Interested readers can further pursue the New England Porter connections through other primary or secondary sources. One such devoted reader of Porter lineages, Francis A. Porter of Fayetteville, N.Y., recognized the value of the connection of Lebanon, Conn. and Taunton, Mass. Porters. He prepared a 12-page account of *The Ancestry and Descendants of John*

Porter, of Lebanon, Connecticut. A copy of his work was found inserted into the *Genealogy of John Porter* by Henry Porter Andrews 1893 in the State Library, Empire Plaza, Albany, N.Y. A helpful researcher sent me a copy of that account which has the same information on our Planter ancestors as I have developed above. Another possible indicator of successful research is that we all arrive at the same conclusions.

Sylvanus Miner and sons Thomas, Sylvanus and James Miner

In presenting the Miner family I am going to focus mostly on secondary sources. I have two reasons to justify this extreme faith. First part of the material is my own and second I almost never have found cause to question any data on this family from whatever source.

Having said that and then turning to pages 749-750 in *The History of Kings County* I almost formulated a retraction. I have no idea how Dr. Brechin traced and Miner family "to John Miner Sr. who settled at Stratford, Conn. in 1657 or 58". Furthermore I know the document suggesting that a Miner ancestor was knighted has interested some but it has not proven the right to bear arms for any descendants.

On a positive note I must say, as I would for any Kings County family, that this is a great place to start a search. Indeed such details as the 5 March 1711 baptism in Stonington (Conn) of Sylvanus Miner, the senior Planter exceeds most expectations. Even his parents names are given. A double benefit of finding baptism dates for his children is totally uncommon. Thomas Miner (Sylvanus), the junior Miner grantee, was documented with a full family expansion. I must not fail to note that Thomas' marriage on 16 October 1674 to Sarah Witter (daughter of Samuel Witter — another Planter from Connecticut) reconnected my Mayflower lineages. (*My Mayflower Pedigree(s)* — a copy is in your library.) Two connections between the Miner and Porter families discussed earlier are more clearly shown here. Two of Thomas' daughters, Amy and Eunice, married John and Luther, two sons of Simeon and Sarah Porter.

At this point I will hasten to list a number of secondary sources for the Miner family. Most should not fail to trace the New England origins to Thomas¹ Miner who settled in Stonington Conn. The *Thomas Miner Society*, of which I am a member, was founded to perpetuate his memory and trace his descendants. My 1981 visit to Stonington Conn. was a thrilling occasion. I used that visit and others as opportunities to see the homeland of these and other Planters. I recommend that you also explore New England towns and reflect on the 1760 origins of the Planters.

Local documentation of the Miner family appeared first in *The Miner Family, Horton Branch* by Walter N. Miner (1932). I drew heavily on that work as I wrote *Miner Planter Has Major Successors* (1981). More extensive genealogies on the Miners are available in *The Lyon's Whelps*, by John A. Miner (1970), and his subsequent expansion in *Thomas Minor 1608-1981* (1981). Other first-hand experiences can be explored in *The Minor Diaries, Stonington Connecticut* by John A. Miner (1976). These diaries were written by the immigrant Thomas Miner for the years 1653-1684 and his son Manasseh for the years 1696-1720. Finally, good family genealogies of many Stonington families are found in *History of The Town of Stonington. . .*, by Richard A. Wheeler (1900).

My final comment on this Planter family is a repeat warning to check the dependability of your sources. Those sources listed above each offer reasonable bibliographies. Use them. Check the data sources and "if" you find errors notify the authors wherever possible. We do try to provide correct data and corrections if necessary.

Stephen Rogers of Cornwallis and Roland Rogers of Horton

Again starting with *The History of Kings County* pages 805-6 we are offered a challenge. The opening speculations on New England origins are concluded with the disclaimer "of all this we are not certain". Not to fear, however, we have started from less and succeeded. The missing data on Roland (Rowland, Rolen) Rogers, some gaps in the Stephen Rogers family, and of course their New England origins are crying out for answers.

The missing Roland Rogers data can be derived from various local primary sources. We can be spared this research effort if we want to use a well documented secondary source. I would expect only a small margin of error can be found in his article, "The Family of Rolen Rogers, a New England Planter in Kings County", by Allan B. Robertson of Hantsport, Hants Co., N.S. (see *The Nova Scotia Historical Quarterly*, Vol. 9, No. 2, June 1979). His bibliography does confirm a suspicion that he focused only on local sources.

The descendants of Stephen Rogers have held reunions in Kings County for years. I have newspaper clippings of one of the first in 1960. A handwritten genealogy (39 pages) entrusted to Cora Wollaver of Blomidon was written and photocopied some years later. (I treasure this collection of volunteer contributions.) From this and other sources the surname of Stephen's wife Lucretia is assumed to be Baker. Their son Lemuel married Eunice Bennett, daughter of Zadock and Mercy (Hackett) Bennett. Besides the unnamed son James (sometimes said to be an only child) who married Abigail MacDonald, I have found just cause to list four other children: Daniel, Lemuel, Silas and Eunice (see Kentville land records for Cornwallis, Vol. 4, p. 343-4). When the land was partitioned on 23 September 1811 (Land Records, Vol. 5, pp. 270-271), this family included some spouses and as a witness Eunice Thorp, their mother, who remarried my ancestor Timothy Thorp. I would welcome proof of the relationships of these assumed five children of my ancestor Eunice (Bennett, Rogers) Thorp by her first husband Lemuel Rogers. Her first marriage was in Horton on 7 December 1786 and her second was ten years later in November 1796 — an adequate time span for five children.

So much for my speculations, now back to New England origins. I have a copy of *Vital Records of Lyme, Connecticut, 1665-1850* (published 1976). These records document several generations of ancestry of many Planter families. I was especially pleased to find Zadock Bennett (father of Eunice) and his ancestry. Also many Rogers were identified. In particular from page 257 we find Stephen, son of Jonathan and Alice Champion born 15 March 1734-5 and a sister Lucretia born 1 January 1725-6. On page 56 it appears that Lucretia married on 4 May 1750 to her cousin Roland Rogers of New London. The births of four children follow for the years 1751 to 1760.

All of this data has been combined with other New England sources in *James Rogers and His Descendants* (pub 1902?). You would be well advised to explore

the full text and explore other relationships. Suffice it to say here that Rowland⁴ Rogers (John 3, Joseph 2, James 1) married his cousin Lucretia⁴ Rogers (Jonathan 3, Joseph 2, James 1) and that Lucretia was Stephen's sister. Should we be surprised that on 19 February 1765 Stephen traded his Cornwallis land grant with Elnathan Palmeter of Horton (see Kentville land records, Horton Vol. 3, p. 606). He retained possession of these lands in Horton, nearby his sister, until 1800. He may have only occupied these lands for a short time because after the births of two sons in Horton, a daughter's birth is recorded in Cornwallis in 1769.

Conclusions

The test of this presentation includes many details that I cannot expect to discuss in a reasonable time limit. I hope I can mention enough to stir your interest and challenge the imagination. I trust many will read and re-read the full text which should not fail to illustrate the value of all sources. In closing I want to thank you for this opportunity to be here, and especially to finally put in writing some of the results of my research. I trust that this material will prove helpful to many of you and others in their quest for Planter ancestors.

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John Prebble, *Culloden*. London; Secker & Warburg, 1961, p. 45.



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The Heart of Emily: A History of Downeyville in Poetry, by Mary Milloy Harrington. ISBN 0-9692472-0-6. Shamrock Publishers, Mississauga, ON, 1986. Softbound, 6 x 9, 200 pp, plus viii, price unknown. Available from Marie Titus, 640 Rathburn Road East, Unit 15, Mississauga, ON L4Z 1C6.

This is truly one of the most remarkable "genealogies" I've seen in many a moon. It's actually more a compilation of local material about Downeyville in the "heart" of Emily Township, Victoria County, Ontario. But it's all in verse — and good verse, at that.

The book is in three parts. The first talks a bit about the Ireland these settlers left and includes — in verse — a list of the family names of those who migrated. It then goes on to list, concession by concession the names of all the grantees who received their original deeds from the crown, the location of the lot, and the date of patent for each lot, along with other lists of genealogical value. Part II deals with stories about the township itself and some of its historical happenings and sites. My favorite is the one about remedies and cures.

Part III is all about the people of the township, all portrayed with sympathy, wit, and humor. "Kennaley's Party", for instance, rings with overtones of "McNamara's Band."

The book is the work of Mary Milloy Harrington, who was born in Downeyville in 1903. She was a fourth generation descendant of Patrick Milloy, an Irish immigrant who settled there. It was published posthumously by the author's daughter, Marie Titus, in memory of her parents. What a memorial! Much more enduring than stone. GH

Understanding Colonial Handwriting, by Harriet Stryker-Rodda. ISBN 0-8063-1153-3. Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1986. Paperback, 26 pp., \$5 plus \$1 postage.*

Harriet Stryker-Rodda's excellent pamphlet on colonial letterforms and script is back in print, and about time. It's one of the best things ever done on colonial handwriting. In a few succinct pages, she demonstrates the process of handwriting development, and illustrates the ways colonial forms differ from later letterforms. She provides a comparison of English and American handwriting and examples of name forms and signatures to prove her central thesis — that the reader must find meaning in a group of symbols without needing to see each letter of which the whole is composed.

The Getty of Ireland, 1631-c1865, by Robert C. Gettys. Falls Church, Virginia, 1987. Softcover, 7 x 9½, 125 pp. approx. Available at *no charge* until supply is exhausted. Send postage only to Paul Gettys, Box 4068, Falls Church, VA 22044, USA; \$1 (US) for book rate, or \$2.20 (US) for first class.

The author states that the purpose of his book are twofold: to serve as a resource for the research of a Getty or related family, and to interest the reader in Scotch, Ulster-Scot, or Scottish-Irish history.

If your name is Getty, or you are related to the Getty family, this has certainly got to be the bargain of the decade. Mr. Getty subtitles his work "Abstracts and Notes from a General Search of the Records of Ireland," and the 125-page book is certainly that. Some 69 pages are given over to abstracts of the records he unearthed in his search. The balance

of the book is taken up with maps pertaining to his family's name, an exhaustive Getty index, and a place-name index. There is one particularly good map which Mr. Gettys uses as a frontispiece to his book. It shows Ireland from 1603-1625, and outlines the extent of the 'Plantations' at this period.

The *Getty of Ireland* contains abstracts of records from sources in Ireland for Getty and related families. The basic data, as recommended for a general search of Irish records by official and private genealogists in Dublin and Belfast, is here.

The material is not exhaustive and does not represent only one Getty family. More than half the search concentrated on the period before 1845 in County Londonderry, north Antrim, and adjoining areas of Ulster.

The information is arranged chronologically and thereunder by locality. This allows the reader to view the people over a period of time, and to some extent, by the circumstances of their lives. The data is presented verbatim, although some clarification is added. A few items of anecdotal interest are given.

I found the approach unusual, but interesting. I can only say wistfully that I wish I belonged to the Getty family so as to be able to take advantage of this excellent research.

EH

Births, Marriages and Deaths: Abstracts from the Renfrew Mercury, 1871-1900, by Aldene and Les Church. ISBN 0-9692789-0-X. Renfrew, Ontario, 1986. Available from the authors at 16 Lorne Street North, Renfrew, ON K7V 1K8. Softcover, 6½ x 8½, 131 pp., surname index, \$10 plus \$2 postage.

This is a volume of genealogical data from an area in which material is hard to come by. It contains a complete listing of vital records from the *Renfrew Mercury* for the period noted. It is particularly valuable because it contains vital information for families in other parts of Canada, including the Ottawa Valley, Manitoba, British Columbia, and Pontiac, Quebec.

Ethnic content is varied. The book covers such Scottish names as McLaren, McGregor, Stewart, Robertson, Campbell; Irish names such as O'Brien, O'Connor, O'Harro; French names such as Landreau, Imbleau, Brunet; Germanic names such as Ringsleben, Vandusen, Scheel, as well as many of English derivation. It has nominal index of surnames, as well as an index of officiating clergy. Well done Aldene and Les Church. EH

Cobourg Star, 1831-1849: Births, Marriages, Deaths. Vol. 1 transcribed by Percy Climo, 1980; Vol. 2 transcribed by William Amell, 1985. Kawartha Branch, OGS, Peterborough, 1985. Published with the aid of the New Horizons Health & Welfare Canada grant. Softbound, 8½ x 11, Vol. 1, 151 pp.; Vol. 2, 195 pp., each \$19.95 plus \$2 each postage.

These volumes contain exceptional material for genealogists, and we are delighted to see the Kawartha Branch of OGS putting their time and energy into such a project.

The *Cobourg Star* was the first newspaper ever printed in what was the old Newcastle District of Ontario. As such it has a special value.

Volume 1 contains the transcriptions of vital records from the paper, together with the funeral accounts for 1826-1877 of T.B. Clench of Cobourg. Volume 2 contains abstracts of news stories of tragic events — accidents, drownings, fires, and other fatal events. Any of you who have researched early newspapers know how dearly they loved to revel in this gore. This sampling is no exception. While most of the material relates to what are today Peterborough and Northumberland Counties, there are also items from throughout Ontario and some from Quebec. Even the death of King William IV in England is mentioned.

Births, marriages, and deaths get their own sections, which facilitates research. The marriage notices themselves make these volumes worthwhile, since this is an area where marriage records are notoriously difficult to find. EH

British Burials and Births on the Gulf Coast: Records of the Church of England in West Florida, 1768-1770, by Winston De Ville. Ville Platte, Louisiana, 1986. Available from Ramona Smith, Box 894, Ville Platte, LA 70586, USA. Paper, 5½ x 8½, 31 pp., index, \$4.50 US postpaid.

In 1763, England became the master of that part of the Gulf South called "West Florida",

a land stretching from east of Pensacola, Florida, to the Mississippi River on the west. The territory included Mobile, Baton Rouge, Natchez, and numerous smaller settlements. It is from this English domination that Alabama, Mississippi, and the Florida Parishes of Louisiana became 'Anglo', as they are today, instead of 'Latin' as they once were. Pensacola is where the recording ecclesiastic was stationed.

These records are the only known registers of the Church of England on the Gulf Coast. Although they cover a relatively short period, the information they contain is of primary importance to large numbers of families today. It was these Englishmen and their families who were the vanguard of the Anglo-Americans who migrated to the deep south later, during and following the American Revolution. Based on copies of manuscripts in the archives of England, some 180 family names are included in this reference work. EH

Desendants of James McCabe and Ann Pettigrew, by Allan E. Marble. ISBN 0-88082-015-2. New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, 1986. Available from the New England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA 02116, USA. Hardbound, 252 pp., + xvii, illustrated, indexed, \$30 US, plus \$2 US postage.

Anyone who is familiar with Dr. Allan Marble's careful work in *A Catalogue of Published Genealogies of Nova Scotia Families*, will recognize his skilled hand in this exhaustively researched genealogy. It chronicles a particular family, the McCabes of Pictou, Nova Scotia, from 1767 to the present day.

While significant numbers of the family remain in Nova Scotia, many families migrated to western Canada, New England, California, and other parts of North America. Additional chapters discuss the origin of the McCabe family, and provide information on Nova Scotia McCabes who were not apparently related to James McCabe.

Dr. Marble's thorough research gives detailed genealogical details of some 262 McCabes. The origins of James McCabe and Ann Pettigrew, thought to be Irish, have not been definitely determined, as Dr. Marble is clear to point out in Chapter I — but not for lack of trying.

The descent of the other 261 McCabes has been pinpointed with Dr. Marble's usual acuity. All in all, this is a classic genealogy by a thorough researcher who has left no stone unturned in his quest for North American McCabes. It is cast in the classic form, as well as being well illustrated and thoroughly indexed. It is the kind of genealogy any researcher would do well to emulate for clarity of thought, presentation, and research. EH

Scottish Family Histories, by Joan P.S. Ferguson, assisted by Dennis Smith and Peter Wellburn. ISBN 0-902220-68-3. National Library of Scotland, Edinburgh, 1986. Available from the National Library of Scotland. Hardbound, 7½ x 10, 254 pp. + xii, £10.

This beautifully printed book is not merely a delight to use, it is the standard reference tool for genealogists and family historians seeking up-to-date information on printed Scottish family histories. It's the kind of book that can save you a lot of wasted hours, if you can luck into connections with any of the books mentioned in its pages.

The present revised edition, comprising some 3,200 entries, substantially extends the scope and extent of the earlier edition of 1960, and includes, for the first time, a listing of the extensive holdings of the National Library of Scotland.

The first publication in 1930 became a standard work in its own right. It contained not only library lists, but also listed articles from periodicals. In 1960, the Scottish Central Library published *Scottish Family Histories Held in Scottish Libraries*, which was compiled from lists of the holdings of 76 libraries in Scotland, and it contained 2,000 titles with their locations. The present work updates the periodical list from 1930 to date, as well as adding the listing of the National Library holdings.

The work is alphabetically arranged, with a short description of the material contained within each book or article, the date of publication, and the name of the library in which it can be found. Needless to say, this is a must for any researcher with Scottish ancestry. EH

Ellen Virginia Kauffman (Rickard), by Patricia Jean Minger (Vorenberg). Quinsept, Lexington, MA, 1986. Softcover, Cerlox-bound, 8½ x 11, 250 pp., \$19 US.

If you want to see what you can do with the *Family Roots* program in preparing a genealogy, this book is a good place to start. It is the genealogy of Steve Vorenberg's wife's

family, and Pat has used Steve's program to compile it. In that respect, it's as much a demonstration of the capabilities of the program as it is a family history.

Pat Vorenberg asks the reader to treat the book as a 'notebook' and send her updated information on any family lines the reader might happen to know about. She also adds in a short section on how to use the compilation: "If you send me a copy of your new information, I can enter it in the computer and print a replacement sheet for you which will have the new revision date.

"If you have a computer and are using *Family Roots*, we can send you a data disk with the information contained in this book. Since we will be supporting the GEDCOM standard, it is also possible to provide the date in that form for you to adapt to your own computer."

The results of using *Family Roots* Version 3.0 are seen in this compilation. You might wish to purchase it for that reason alone. It is also, needless to say, an excellent genealogy, and if you're related to the family you'll find it extremely worthwhile. GH

American Surnames, by Elsdon C. Smith. ISBN 0-8063-1150-9. Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1986. Softbound, 6 x 9, 370 pp., + xx, bibliography, index, US \$12.95 plus \$1 postage, or Can \$17.95 plus \$1.50 postage.*

I guess I first became interested in names by reading Chapter 10 of H.L. Mencken's classic treatise *The American Language*. I remember being in turn fascinated and repelled, and finally outright flabbergasted by the variety and often outright comicality of names.

I never thought I would find anything more exhaustive than Mencken's treatise, but there is — it's *American Surnames*. Names have always fascinated me, and Elsdon C. Smith's 1969 classic, here republished in paperback by the Genealogical Publishing Company, has me in its thrall. In turn scholarly, witty, and sober, *American Names* is reading for many a long winter night when the novel doesn't quite suit, poetry's out, you've read the paper at least twice, and the television's playing yet another mindless round of reruns. It's a book for dipping, not necessarily for steady reading . . . but you might surprise yourself and read more at a sitting than you first expected. If you want to be amused, titillated, entertained and educated, pick up this book, learn, and laugh. What more can I say?

The book covers abbreviated names, surnames derived from animals, changes of names by immigrants, ethnic names, names indicating nationality, surnames from place names, European names, Asian names, names of Blacks and Indians, surnames without vowels, surnames from Christian names, landscape names, Jewish names, surnames from history, garbled names, comic or odd names, hyphenated names, and a lot more. It is the best treatise on American names ever published, and should be in every genealogist's reference library both for serious study and comic relief.

One item useful for genealogists is his list of the 2,000 most common surnames in use in the United States today (and, I venture to guess, probably in Canada, too). They're ranked in order of frequency, with an estimate of the number of persons bearing that particular name. Johnson (my wife's family name), is in number 2 position, right after Smith. Hancock(s), stands a mere 561st. I take heart, though, from the fact that, as Smith says: "John Hancocks is a name that has come to be a jocular term for one's signature, from the first signer of the Declaration of Independence. It also, in some cases, has acquired the connotation of 'name'."

Elizabeth has a slightly different point of view. Her maiden name means, of course, "son of John". I always told her mine had something to do with raising chickens, or 'head rooster', or some such. Now she has discovered, through dipping into *American Surnames*, that 'Han' or 'Hann' is a nickname for 'John'. When you add the diminutive 'cock' to it, guess what it becomes? That's right — she's still a Johnson — by any other name still as sweet. Ah, the vicissitudes of genealogical research! GH

WHAT'S IN A NAME

A Queries Section by Elizabeth Hancocks, C.G.



AITKEN - LORIMER - PATERSON: Dr G A (Ken) Paterson, 24 King's Garden, Toronto, ONT M8X 1S6. I need to tap into the vast genealogical resource material that was stored in the brain of the late Jessie Lorimer, nee Aitken, wife of Douglas Lorimer, of Ancaster, ONT and Montreal - mother of four boys. Jessie was a cousin of my father Jesse George Paterson, D.D.S., both born Alliston, and of Max Aitken, Lord Beaverbrook.

COOPER: Irene Nicolich, Rt 3, Box 1357, Hoquiam, WA 98550 USA. Thomas and Sarah Cooper from ENG. Poss lived Northumberland or Durham Co, ONT. Children: Elizabeth Jane m John Griffin, to Victoria Co c1863; Hannah; Thomas; Mary Ann m John Parkins/Perkins, to Laxton twp, Victoria Co, 1871; Jennie m a Rutter; Kezia m Charles Bowins, in Laxton twp 1871; Joseph; Maria m a Lake. After Thomas Sr died Sarah m a Mr Campbell. Seek desc and info on all.

DUNLOP - FORREST: Mrs Inez M Robinson, 16414-105A Avenue, Edmonton, ALTA T5P 0V7. William R Dunlop b 1837 SCOT, to Canada with prts Andrew Dunlop and Jean Reyburn, 1843, settled in Perth Co. William m 1857 Margaret Forrest b 1838 SCOT. Who were her prts? They had nine sons and two daus. Margaret d 1881, and William moved to Manitoba then to Saskatoon, SASK, where he died in 1924. Any info on these fams greatly appreciated.

GOULD - MIDDLETON - FOSTER: Kevin W Long, 20 Felicity Dr, Scarborough, ONT M1H 1E3. Mary Ann Gould, d/o Jacob and Martha, b 1828 IRE, m Thomas Middleton, s/o Thomas & Mary, 1861 in King twp, York Co, ONT. Known children: David; Mary; Catherine; Eliza; Howard. Ann Gould, d/o Jacob & Martha, b 1845 IRE, m George Foster, s/o George & Christine, 1871 in King twp. Known children: Eltie Ann b 1873; George b 1875. Both fams lived in King twp till mid 1870s when believed to have moved to either northern ONT, or northern US. Seeking desc, any info appreciated.

HALL: John W Hall, 3680 W 8th Ave, #206, Vancouver, BC V6R 1Z1. James and Jane Hall (nee Breakey) both b IRE, poss married in Port Hope, ONT, 1835. Lived in Cavan twp, Durham Co, ONT, until 1867. Am trying to determine relationship to other Halls who lived in Cavan or elsewhere.

HALL - HUGHES - BRIGGS: D S Erkfriz, 7905 Eston Rd S, Clarkston, MI 48016 USA. Widow Harriet Hall Hughes b 1802 CAN, m Luman Phelps 1835 in Whitby twp, Ontario Co, ONT. Witnesses: William Briggs and Lewis Hall (Bro? b 1805) Need prts of Harriet.

HILLIS: Dave Johnson, 175 Locke St N, Hamilton, ONT L8R 3B1. James Hillis c1827-1883 m 1852 Jane McClure, lived E Garafaxa twp, Dufferin Co, ONT. Was he s/o James Hillis c1804-1880 of Toronto twp, Peel Co, and his first wife (name unknown)? James Sr m2 Mary Smeltzer.

JESSIMANE: Lillian M Rook, 7219 Brookcrest Place, Annandale, VA 22003 USA. Peter Jessimane b 25 Dec 1859 (SCOT or ONT?), d 7 Dec 1930 Toronto, ONT, m Catherine Tudhope (when, where?) b c1862 Oro twp, d 11 June 1925 Toronto. Children: Christina Blanche Eleanor b c1888; Jennie Evelyn; Hazel b 1891. Need info on anc, contact desc.

JOHNSON: Roy Johnson, RR 1, Ridgeville, ONT L0S 1M0. Seeking any info re anc and desc of Henry Johnson c1744-1808 m1 Mary Morgan? Children: Rebecca 1763-1808 m 1785 Joseph Brown 1755-1821; Mary c1765-1815 m 1795 Andrew Templeton 1766-1834. Henry m2 Naomi Taylor, a widow (need maiden name) who had a son Edward Taylor 1769-1836 m 1801 Hannah Collard 1785-1853. Children of Henry & Naomi: Jeremiah 1772-1851 m 1792 Elizabeth Durham 1766-1852; Nathan 1772-1851 m 1798 Mary Dennis 1776-1860; John 1773-1857 m Susannah Stewart; George m Ann; Henry Jr 1780-1854 m Elizabeth Smith 1794-1854. Henry Sr m3 Naomi (Corwin) Hixon 1753-1825 and they had Joseph b 1795 m Elizabeth Petrie?

KINCARDINE TOWNSHIP PIONEERS: Wanita Fletcher, RR 4, Kincardine, ONT N2Z 2X5. Research for township history in progress: pioneer families for Kincardine twp and villages of Millarton, Bervie, Kingarf, Glamis, Armow, Inverhuron, Lorne, Stoney Island. Much info gathered but need input from desc. All letters will be answered. Need pictures, and info on anc and desc.

LEDERACH: K Baker, 2170 Sherobee Rd, #806, Mississauga, ONT L5A 3P8. Anna Lederach was the wife of the Rev Valentine Kratz, b 1754 Pennsylvania, d 1824 Lincoln Co, ONT, to Canada 1799. He was the first Mennonite Minister in Canada 1801. They had 10 children. Would like vital statistics for Anna and names and dates of her prts and her siblings.

LEFEBVRE/LEFEVER/BEAN: Theresa Olson, 10225 Mississippi Blvd, Coon Rapids, MN 55433 USA. Need info regarding birth of Mary Cordelia Lefebvre/Lefever/Bean c1854, d/o Joseph & Sophie? (need any info on her prts). She m Ls. Elzeur Bourgeois 20 Feb 1871 at St Anne, Manchester, NH. Witnesses: Eli Lefever and Celina Lamanash. She d 17 May 1926 Edmonton, ALTA (a resident of Lega, ALTA). Would like to correspond with all persons researching Bourgeois lines; male and female.

LOGAN - CARMICHAEL: Barbara Logan, 7480 Nootka St, Powell River, BC V8A 1K7. James Carmichael Logan b 1860 m Jane (poss Cameron) c1884 in Nova Scotia; had son William Howard b 1886, and dau Ann b c1888. Moved to North Dakota, USA, and had children: Allan Cameron b 30 Mar 1890; James Stanley 1892; Tilley 1894. Moved to Enderby, BC, 1900s. He had two older sis and half bro Harry. Who were Jame's prts? Pa was said to have bro's who were sea captains.

MACKLEY: Irene Nicolich, Rt 3, Box 1357, Hoquiam, WA 98550 USA. John and Rebecca Mackley from ENG. Children: Hannah; William Cross; Ann; Rebecca, m Baptist (called Albert) Courtmanche. Poss Northumberland or Durham Co, ONT, c1837. Rebecca Jr lived Victoria Co after marriage. Seek desc and all info. **PIERCE/PEIRCE:** Brian Pierce, 190 Chalet Cres, London, ONT N6K 1C6. Would like to make contact with desc of any Pierces from "Pierces Corners" Marlborough twp, Carleton Co, ONT. I have will of John Pierce who died at Pierces Corners in 1851 leaving land to one son and four grandsons and three

nephews. Will share info.

SHEARD: Mrs Mary Edith Wegener, 3181 Maple Rd, Newfane, NY 14108 USA. Mary Jane Sheard b 12 June 1848, and brother Charles b c1844, in Sherbrooke, QUE area, children of Able b c1816 ENG. Will exchange info on family.

STEWART - HAMILTON: Claudia Stewart, Box 30, Penetanguishene, ONT L0K 1P0. Paul Stewart m Ann Hamilton. Paul from IRE to Toronto 1845 as city missionary. Children: David Hamilton b 1834; John Hamilton 1836; Paul Henry 1839; Sarah 1849. All buried in St James cem, Toronto. Paul Henry was Deputy Treasurer of Simcoe County 1886-1895. Seek info and desc.

THOMAS: Reginald Sandison, 581 Hillcrest Dr, Paradise, CA 95969 USA. Stephen Thomas b c1820, m Susannah Wigle, d/o Joseph, c1850. Lived Gosfield twp, Essex Co, ONT 1861, and in Mersea twp, Essex Co, 1871. I need his prts, grandprts, etc. Census says he was born in Upper Canada.

TREACY - PEARSON: Vivian Treacy, 52 Mabelle Ave, #205, Islington, ONT M9A 4X9. William John Treacy b 1847 E Nissouri twp, Oxford Co, ONT, s/o John & Catherine, m Amanda Pearson b 1855, prob Kent Co, d 1892 with an infant dau in a typhoid epidemic. Other children: John Edward b 1884; William Lionel 1886; Willard 1890. Amanda's bros were: Eli; Joseph; David; all who lived and died in Kent Co (Dresden, Ridgetown, Thamesville, and Kent Bridge area). Info sought regarding Pearson anc & desc.

WALKER: C. B. Campbell, 14 Bering Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3K 0E9. Searching for the descendants of David John Walker (b Hungerford, 1854, of parents Daniel and Mary) and Susan Jane Campbell (b Madoc, 1848, of parents Daniel and Susan). Marriage took place 5 October 1880 at Madoc.

WATSON: Mary Stevenson Cooper, 213 Verbena Court, Oshawa, ONT L1G 3E8. Mary Ann Watson, b c1838 prob b Stirling, SCOT d/o John and Elizabeth Watson; m Joseph Stevenson, b SCOT, poss St Ninian's Parish. Emig to Australia poss 1861, then to Canada c1871, settled in Huntington twp, Hastings Co, ONT, and bd there. Children: Margaret Elizabeth, Christina, Alison, Mary Ann, Isabella, Blanche, Joseph Milford, Arthur. Last three sis settled in Alberta and BC. Relatives George, Cecil, Clarence, Robert F, Stanley settled in Havelock area. Am seeking all desc.

WELCH: William D Amell, 421 London St, Peterborough, ONT K9H 3A2. Patrick Welch 1797-1880, b IRE, m Ann Gannon 1799-1877 b Co Sligo, IRE. During 1852 census they lived in Cornwall twp, Stormont Co, ONT. Prts buried in RC cem, St Andrews West, ONT. Children: Patrick b 1838; James 1842; William 1844 (these three disappear after 1861 census); Mary Ann m 1849 Patrick Glancey; Ellen m 1857 Hugh Fraser; Bridget m 1870 Silas Rupert; Thomas m 1860 Mary Ann Kavanaugh. Will share info.

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