

# CONNECTIONS

Journal of The QUEBEC FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY WINTER 2010 ~ Volume # 32 ~ Issue # 2



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Date & Time: at 10:30 am - for dates, time and directions visit the QFHS webpage at: www.qfhs.ca

and click on "Happenings" then "Lecture Series"

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# The Gregorian Calendar

by Dawn Miller Ouellette ~ Editor

The month of February is a good time to, once again, remind ourselves of discrepancies in dates that may arise due to the various years in which the Gregorian Calendar was adopted in different countries. The calendar as we know it today was introduced by a papal bull issued by Pope Gregory XIII on February 24th, 1582. Only a few Catholic countries, which included Spain, Portugal and parts of Italy, adopted the Gregorian calendar that year. Therefore, in those countries, Friday, 15 October 1582 follows Thursday, 4 October 1582. In France Monday, 20 December 1582, follows Sunday, 9 December 1582. Many Dutch provinces, including modern day Belgium, also adopted it that year and Holland in 1583. Most Protestant countries refused to adopt a calendar introduced by a Catholic pope and continued to use the Julien calendar. England and its colonies did not adopt the Gregorian calendar until 1752 which made it necessary to make a correction of 11 days whereby Wednesday, 2 September 1752 was followed by Thursday, 14 September 1752. This change was accomplished by Chesterfield's Act [ aka: The Calendar Reform Act | passed by Parliament in 1750. As the new year, according to the Julien calendar, began on March 25th the year 1751 was a short year for England and its colonies, only 282 day - from March 25th to December 31st. A new year then began on January 1st, 1752. Scotland had begun celebrating the new year on January 1st, 1600 - which made 1599 a short year in that country - but they did not adopt the Gregorian calendar until 1752. In some documents you may see OS (Old style) or NS (New Style) to indicate which system is used. Or they may use a double dated system such as: 10/21 February 1750/51. But this is not always the case - for example: Our school history books teach us that Charles I was executed in 1649 . . . . but apparently Parliamentary records give the year as 1648 (as, according to the Julien calendar still in use in England at that time, the year did not end until 24 March), Therefore if you are fortunate enough to come across an ancestor's correspondence from one country to another during this time period the year may be written as 1664/65, even a birth, marriage or death date may be double dated in the same way. So, it is always wise to know when the country in which you are researching adopted the Gregorian Calendar. There are numerous sites on the internet that give a much more detailed explanation and dates of its adoption in most countries.



on behalf of the QFHS Executive Committee BEST WISHES FOR 2010



# **Cover Photo:**

The photo on the cover of this issue of *Connections* is from a vintage postcard of the old Montreal Forum. I chose this photo to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the *Montreal Canadiens Hockey Team*. Founded on December 4<sup>th</sup> 1909, it has been the pride of Montreal sports fans for over a century and the oldest professional hockey franchise in the world. The 'Forum' opened on November 29<sup>th</sup> 1924 and was the home of the *Montreal Canadiens* from 1926 to 1996 - a landmark building familiar to generations of Montrealers and hockey enthusiasts worldwide.

For your Spring Calendar:

The Quebec Family History Society has scheduled a number of activities for the Spring of 2010. There are five all day seminars planned, plus free monthly lectures in March, April and May, as well as a Book Sale on June 12<sup>th</sup>. See News & Notes on page 3 for the speakers and topics to be presented at the QFHS Free Lecture Series and Seminars on pages 4 and 5 for dates, times, and details of the all-day seminars. Reserve early for the seminars as these interesting and informative workshops are always extremely popular.

# **Articles in this Issue:**

The Haunted House of Sir George A. Drummond on page 6; Patriots' Prison on page 8; and Ediface Gilles Hocquart on page 10, are three extremely interesting articles, submitted by Robert Wilkins, about the history of some of Montreal's more notable buildings - all with photos. In Treasure in France, on page 22, Ranson Vrooman recounts the story of the frustrations, trials, and tribulations his grandparents encountered while trying to collect an inheritance in France. Surviving the Russian Quagmire 1942 - 1945 on page 28, written by Peter McLoughlin, tells how one of his friends was forced to serve in the German army - sent to the Russian front in World War II. On the preceding page I wrote a short article about the Gregorian Calendar, reminding everyone that when researching you may encounter a difference in dates depending on place and year of the event. There are also two Letters to the Editor on page 11 which give added information to an article and a photo which appeared in previous issues of Connections. My thanks to Susan for the information she submitted on members of the Mechanics' institute. Also, thanks to Marianna for her comments about the postcard on the cover of the Autumn 2009 issue - confirming that the photo is of Quebec City and not Montreal. I am always looking for old postcards or photos of places in the province of Quebec to use on the cover of Connections originals can be scanned in and sent as a jpeq file. And, of course, articles are always welcome. On page 21 we have Queries from members needing help in finding their elusive ancestors. Also, Lorraine has once again filled the pages of Computree with interesting websites to visit and more information on genealogical software and Pennie lists some surnames from the Norma Lee Collection and another 49 new books and cds added to the QFHS Library Acquisitions.

THANK YOU to everyone who submitted articles, fillers, photos, etc to Connections in 2009
WISHING YOU ALL HAPPY RESEARCHING

and BEST WISHES IN 2010

Dawn Ouellette ~ Editor

Happy New Year

# **QFHS NEWS AND NOTES**

# ROOTS .... RESCHEDULED!!

Due to the uncertainty concerning the Grande Prix Formula One Auto Race in Montreal in 2010 "ROOTS" has been postponed until June 2011.

After long and careful deliberation the "ROOTS" planning committee decided to reschedule the fifth International Conference on Family History Research, sponsored by the QFHS, until June 2011. Further details, including a list of speakers, topics, events and a registration form will be published in upcoming issues of CONNECTIONS and on the QFHS website at <a href="https://www.qfhs.ca">www.qfhs.ca</a>

# **QFHS on FACEBOOK:**

The QFHS Facebook page is now up and running - Thanks to Jackie Billingham and Susan Gingras-Calcagni. If you are a member of Facebook - registration is free - the name to look for is: **Quebec Family History Society Facebook Page**. We welcome input from all members.

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# DO YOU HAVE FRIENDS WHO WANT TO JOIN QFHS?

New members can join QFHS using our on-line membership service with Paypal. Visit the QFHS website at: www.qfhs.ca and click on Membership to use this service

# **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**

<u>Duty Librarians:</u> once or twice a month. Training is provided. A great way to meet the members and find out more of what is available at the QFHS while helping others with their research.

<u>Cemetery Transcribers:</u> to help record and preserve our heritage. Transcribing the headstones of cemeteries in the Province of Quebec as a member of a group or as an individual project. If you are interested in participating in either or both of these projects contact QFHS Secretary, Joan Benoit at adm@qfhs.ca Or by telephone at: 514-695-1502

<u>Computer Data Entry:</u> assist us by entering genealogical data for our online searchable databases - births, marriages, deaths, census information, cemeteries, land indexes and more. This can all be done from the comfort of your own home . . . . anywhere in the world.

For further information contract John Reid at: jvreid@securenet.net

# **QFHS SPRING BOOK SALE:**

Open to the public ~ EVERYONE is WELCOME ..... so bring a friend and join us at the QFHS Spring Book Sale where a variety of books in all genres will be on sale. on Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010 ~ from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Quebec Family History Society Library / Heritage Centre, 173 Cartier Avenue, Pointe Claire, Quebec

Anyone wishing to donate books may drop them off at the QFHS Library Books of all kinds are welcome: novels, short stories, history, geography, mystery, romance .. etc

# **QFHS NEWS AND NOTES**

# **QFHS FREE PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES**

Held the second Saturday of each month September to December and March to May at 10:30 am Due to the possibility of inclement weather conditions no lectures are held in January or February.

Location: St. Andrew's United Church 75 - 15th Ave., Lachine, Quebec

Date & Time: for dates, time and directions visit the QFHS webpage at: www.qfhs.ca

and click on "Happenings" then "Lecture Series"

Please note that these lectures are now held the second Saturday of each month at: 10:30 a m

# **SPRING LECTURES ~ 2010**

Date: Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Time: 10:30 a.m.~ at St. Andrew's United Church 75 - 15th Ave., Lachine, Quebec

Speaker: Sharon Callaghan

**Topic:** Sharon will talk about her book *Paths of Opportunity*, which evolved from a

desire to discover more about the Irish Montreal experience of her

great-grandparents.

Date: Saturday, April 10th, 2010

Time: 10:30 a.m.~ at St. Andrew's United Church 75 - 15th Ave., Lachine, Quebec

Speaker: Merle Kastner and Rosalee Kovalsky

**Topic:** Lovell's Directories "What they are and their amazing secrets".

# **UPDATE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS**

To ensure that you receive all QFHS correspondence please send any changes in your e-mail address to: QFHS Secretary, Joan Benoit at: **admin@qfhs.ca** with a copy to Jackie Billingham, QFHS Public Relations at: **jbillingham@sympatico.ca** Also, if you are not receiving e-mails about upcoming QFHS events and wish to please contact Jackie at the above e-mail address.

~ Visit the QFHS website at www.qfhs.ca for the Easter schedule of library hours ~

# DEADLINES FOR UPCOMING ISSUES OF "CONNECTIONS" ARE:

SPRING / SUMMER Issue ..... February 15<sup>th</sup>
AUTUMN Issue ..... July 15<sup>th</sup>
WINTER Issue .... October 15<sup>th</sup>

Anyone wishing announcements to appear in a specific issue please submit the material before the deadline date

# **SEMINARS ~ SPRING 2010**

Once again the Quebec Family History Society is offering a series of *one day intensive seminars* given by experts. These seminars examine various facets of genealogical research within a given country or province - including the latest databases available at the QFHS and on the Internet, or on a subject related to family history research. This Spring there are FIVE *one day intensive seminar* planned. There will be time in the afternoon to ask your specific genealogical questions and seek research guidance

Please Remember that Space is Limited to 15 Persons for each seminar The first 15 for each seminar who pay are guaranteed a seat We will stop one hour for Lunch ~ Please Bring a Lunch

# A GENEALOGICAL DAY IN THE BRITISH AND CANADIAN ARMIES 1660-1945:

Everyone whose ancestors came from the British Isles has ancestors who served in the Army. This seminar will examine the various sources like Army Lists, Pension Records, Muster Rolls, Personnel Files, Medal Rolls, War Diaries, etc. that are used in genealogical military research. The seminar will also examine the most important Web Sites used in Army genealogical research.

Lecturer:

Gary Schroder, and others Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Date: Time:

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. ~ at the QFHS Library

Fee:

\$30.00 for Members // \$ 40.00 for Non-members

A FULL DAY WORKSHOP on SCANNING and EDITING - For documents and Photographs:

As a follow-up to the November 1<sup>st</sup> seminar "What do I do with all this Family History Stuff". We will expand on Preservation and Organization of your family history documents and photographs as digital images. This will be a practical seminar / workshop. It will examine how to scan documents and photographs and then edit the digital images to suit your needs. It will discuss the techniques for scanning and editing, and include practical demonstrations with your material. So bring your own material along to be scanned.

Lecturer:

Bob Dunn and Derek Hopkins Saturday, March 20th, 2010

Date: Time:

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. ~ at the QFHS Library

Fee:

\$30.00 for Members // \$ 40.00 for Non-members

#### **LEGACY FAMILY TREE VERSION 7**

The new version of the program will be used to demonstrate how Legacy works. Compare some of its features to those of Family Tree Maker or your current program. This program has been highly rated by several sources and is worth considering, especially if you are planning to buy or upgrade in the future. The course will also include tips on how to download your family tree from your current program to Legacy, even if you just want to try it out. Thanks to the generosity of the Millennia Company, owners of Legacy Family Tree, EACH PARTICIPANT WILL RECEIVE A FREE CD OF THE STANDARD VERSION OF LEGACY 7 and A FREE BROCHURE. IN ADDITION, THERE WILL BE A DOOR PRIZE OF LEGACY 7 DELUXE QFHS WILL ALSO RECEIVE A COPY OF VOLUME 1 OF THE TRAINING VIDEOS, WHICH MEMBERS MAY CONSULT.

Lecturer:

Lorraine Gosselin

Date:

Saturday, April 17th, 2010

Time:

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. ~ at the QFHS Library

Fee:

\$30.00 for Members // \$40.00 for Non-members

Note:

if you have specific topics or questions you would like included in the course.

E-mail Lorraine at computree 'at' yahoo.com at least a month before.

# **SEMINARS ~ SPRING 2010**

#### A GENEALOGICAL DAY IN QUEBEC:

This seminar will examine the main sources used in Quebec genealogical research regardless of whether you ancestors originated from France, England, Ireland, Scotland, etc. Church Records, Civil Registration Records, Censuses, Notarial Records, Passenger Ship Lists, Newspapers, Cemetery Records, Land and Judicial Records. There will also be emphasis on the most important web sites used in Quebec family history research and the wonderful new databases available on the site of the Bibliotheque and Archives Nationales du Quebec.

Lecturer: Sharon Callaghan, Lorraine Gosselin, and Gary Schroder

Date: Saturday, June 5th, 2010

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. ~ at the QFHS Library
Fee: \$30.00 for Members // \$40.00 for Non-members

# A GENEALOGICAL DAY IN IRELAND:

Come and Discover How to Find Your Irish Ancestors !

This seminar will examine the major Irish genealogical resources used in family history research in both Ireland and Northern Ireland. And, will also explore the exciting new Internet developments in the World of Irish Genealogy. From Civil Registration to Probate Records to Land Records,

Lecturer: Gary Schroder and James Joyce

Date: Saturday, June 19th, 2010

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. ~ at the QFHS Library

Fee: \$30.00 for Members // \$40.00 for Non-members

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# FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS ON ALL SEMINARS PLEASE CALL SUSAN SANFORD at: 514-482-3418

# THANKS TO IBM and ROYAL BANK FOR THEIR ONGOING SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT

#### IBM COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM:

The Quebec Family History Society and Heritage Centre gratefully acknowledge and thank *IBM* for its recent gift and ongoing support through employee involvement in the Community Grants Program. We are also appreciative of the synergy between QFHS member Jack Leclaire an IBM pensioner and IBM for past and potential future support.

# RBC VOLUNTEER GRANTS PROGRAM:

The Quebec Family History Society and Heritage Centre gratefully acknowledge and thank Royal Bank for recent gifts and ongoing support through employee involvement in the RBC Volunteer Grants Program. We are also appreciative of the synergy between QFHS members Susan Gingras Calcangi and Bruce Henderson, both Royal Bank pensioners, and Royal Bank for past and potential future support.

# THE HAUNTED HOUSE OF SIR GEORGE A. DRUMMOND

by Robert N. Wilkins [montreal\_1900]

There was a widespread belief amongst many Montrealers in the early 1900's that an old, dilapidated home on otherwise majestic Sherbrooke Street was in fact haunted. It was first gardeners, then coachmen, that laboured attentively in the affluent vicinity of the residence in question who began to relate the tale to an intrigued city. Although living in the early years of an ostensibly enlightened twentieth century, this colourful hearsay spread speedily and amenably around an otherwise modern Canadian borough.

The building affected was the long-established holding of Sir George A. Drummond and set in the very heart of Montreal's eminent Golden Square Mile. It had been abandoned and aimlessly boarded up after the prominent industrialist moved his family to a specially constructed ornate, brownstone mansion which was located just nearby. In that tumbledown condition it remained for some fifteen years. Many a vintage Notman photo depicts the two Drummond houses standing side by side, separated only by a considerably more modest Mansfield Street.

The derelict home was a dated greystone structure with a wide flight of about a dozen steps running up to its rather large entrance portico. It was not particularly flamboyant in style; nevertheless, with the passage of time, it progressively assumed the character of a decaying Victorian manor house, which made it most appropriate for the setting of a spine-tingling macabre story.

Shortly after the distinguished owner moved to his new home in 1889, the windows of the forsaken building were destroyed - there being mischievous boys in the early 1900's as well. The broken casements were rapidly boarded up, leaving the edifice looking even more forlorn and troubled. Needless to say that, with such a ghostly appearance, it didn't take long for faint rumours to begin spreading that strange, eerie sounds could be discerned from within the ruin - particularly after darkness fell!

At first, people didn't seem to think too much of it until a domestic, working in the fabled neighbourhood, asserted that she had seen a flickering light through the wooden planks that had been fixed over the broken windows on the top floor. Presently, one of the shutters broke free of its upper hinge leaving it dangling in the wind, creating an even more sinister look.

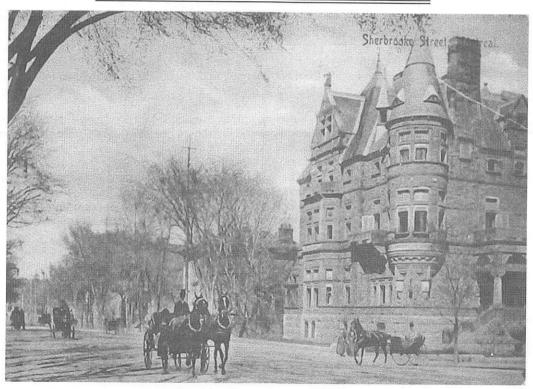
About a fortnight later, Montreal was all a buzz with the startling account of a seemingly upright citizen who, returning from a church social, passed in front of the sorrowful structure situated directly across from a desolate McGill campus. It was nearing midnight and as she glanced up at the celebrated property, she distinctly saw a twinkling candle in that very same picture window with the broken shutter. Frightened, she hurriedly crossed to the north side of the street from where she cautiously glimpsed back once more at the deserted Drummond home. From this new privileged perspective, she could see deep into the upper floor and recounted how the lighted taper hovered unnaturally in the air in the middle of the otherwise dark and dismal room.

For a period of time the disused, confounding residence became the routine talk of the city. Subsequently, several respectable citizens made it their business to obtain stealthy access to the dank edifice in order to see for themselves what exactly was going on within its uncanny walls. A few emerged with unnerving tales of bizarre experiences, while others made reference to ghastly and peculiar encounters with unknown beings. One spoke of his hand being seized in a grasp of steel by some invisible force existent in a shadowy chamber. Some sensed a fiendish presence loitering defiantly about them. All made it their business to flee the site as quickly as their unsteady legs would carry them. At no time would any return.

It was never really determined what exactly the gallant and well-intentioned ghost-busters had so acutely undergone during those clandestine visits to the then infamous property on Sherbrooke Street. It was certainly not the spirit of the banker Sir George Drummond as he was still very much alive in his undisturbed mansion across the way, and would continue to live there until his death in 1910. What is known is that these paranormal happenings precipitated the eventual removal of the mysterious house from the city landscape. Yet oddly, despite its demolition, even more evocative anecdotes now began to circulate concerning a vagrant, late night spectre hovering, homeless, throughout the general area of the McGill University campus. However, with the passage of time, these chilling legends eventually vanished from public discourse, like the displaced phantom itself, I suppose.

'Enlightened', did I say?

As for me, any time I find myself sauntering about the intersection of Sherbrooke Street and Mansfield, particularly during tenebrous times, I glance anxiously about, pick up my pace, and quickly decamp the area - lest the ghoul's clammy hand should seize me by the gullet!



A vintage postcard photo of the Drummond homes on Sherbrooke Street.

The haunted home is the one in the background behind the trees.

It was strongly believed by many Montrealers at the time that the older home was truly haunted.

# PATRIOTS' PRISON LA PRISON DES PATRIOTES

by Robert N. Wilkins montreal 1900

Tucked in at the busy intersection of St. Catherine Street and de Lorimier Avenue in the city's east end are the celebrated remains of the oldest public building on the Island of Montreal. Constructed from 1830 - 1836, Montreal's 'New Gaol' was rapidly dubbed the 'Pied-du-Courant' Prison because of its proximity to the fast-moving St. Mary's Current in the adjacent St. Lawrence River. At the time, the facility replaced an earlier jail that stood near the Champ-de-Mars.

No sooner had the new penitentiary been completed that it was used to incarcerate, at different times, over 1300 patriots who participated in the insurrections of 1837 and 1838. Twelve were even executed on that very site by the British colonial authorities of the day. The very public hangings took place over the main entrance (then located on what is today Notre Dame Street) of the prison and each execution contained its own particularly dramatic moment.

For instance, Joseph Duquette, at the age of 20 one of the youngest of the condemned patriots, was so paralyzed with fear that he had to be carried firmly to that ominous square atop the scaffold. Once there, the noose was too loosely affixed about the neck of the sobbing and trembling man. Regardless, the death trap was quickly sprung, causing him to crash face first into one of the beams below. The drop was so badly bungled by the hangman that the untoward Duquette was left dangling with the rope drawn tightly over his bloodied nose and mouth. Despite agonisingly pathetic pleas for his life from both himself and the dumbfounded crowd below, his bruised and battered body was dragged back to the scaffold, the rope reset, and the drop repeated, this time successfully. In all, twenty minutes of unmitigated horror.

Perhaps not surprisingly, the solid stone structure quickly thereafter took the name 'La Prison des Patriotes', a designation that stuck. Interestingly, the entirety of the late Pierre Falardeau's epic 1999 film 'February 15, 1839' was shot within the walls of the old penitentiary.

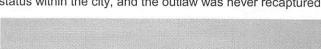
The historic edifice was constructed following the model of a prison in Philadelphia which had been terminated just a few years earlier. There were three wings, one of which was reserved for women, quite an innovation for the period. It served as Montreal's principal jail until it was replaced in the early twentieth century by Bordeaux Penitentiary in the city's north end.

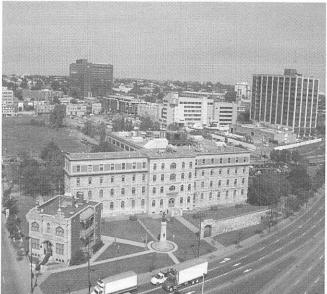
The imposing compound was originally meant to hold 225 prisoners and was simultaneously deemed to be sufficient for the ensuing two centuries. However, as the city's population grew so did its level of urban crime and at times there were over 500 inmates within the besieged institution. Other offenders were sent to penal establishments as far away as Trois Rivières and Quebec City. Today this jewel of Montreal heritage is owned by the Société des alcools du Québec that has, since 1921, unceremoniously used much of the building as a storage warehouse. However, aware of the location's notable background, the SAQ sponsored the creation of an Interpretation Centre in the basement of a part of the prison which survives to this day and where the doomed patriots were held until the day of their deaths.

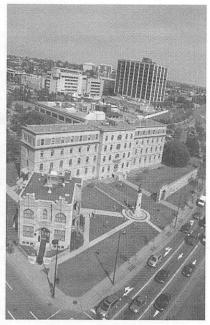
Much of this colourful display focuses on the role the jail played in the 1838-39 executions and the other 14 hangings of common criminals that took place throughout the years. In the latter category, one of the most notorious was that of Thorvald Hansen, a Danish drifter who had been in Montreal only a few days before brutally murdering Eric Marrotte, a seven-year old Westmount boy. For his totally unprovoked offense, Hansen was sent to the gallows within the walls of that

same old prison on, appropriately enough, Friday, June 13, 1902.

Other interesting stories surface, however, including that of one daring convict who successfully escaped the dank structure by burrowing through a sewer conduit to eventual freedom. As unimaginable as it might seem, the desperado initiated his getaway by entering a 25 centimetre. latrine pipe which, when followed, emptied into a collector drain at the corner of Notre Dame and de Lorimier. He later emerged from the underground network some three kilometres away from the seemingly well-fortified prison! His pungent escapade rapidly earned the convict a folk - hero status within the city, and the outlaw was never recaptured.







The Interpretation Centre, which is located at 903 De Lorimier Avenue, offers curious visitors individualized guided tours that last about an hour and a half or, alternatively, the possibility of touring the centre on one's own. There is no charge for either, and plenty of free parking. The museum is open Wednesday to Friday from 12 to 5, and Saturdays and Sundays from 9:30 to 5:00. Telephone: 254-6000 extension 6245. A heritage building like no other, ask for my guide, Francois, an extremely knowledgeable and welcoming young man.

Robert N. Wilkins is a retired Montreal-area high school teacher. He is currently indexing the death announcements that appeared in the now defunct Montreal Star. This data base, at present, covers the period January 1900 - April 1909 and contains over 103,000 obituaries and death announcements. Further information can be obtained by telephoning 514-524-5247 or by writing to montreal 1900@hotmail.com

Mr. Wilkins' BLOG is found at www.forgoodmeasure.tk

# **EDIFICE GILLES HOCQUART**

Home to the Montreal branch of the Quebec Archives by Robert N. Wilkins

Built in the popular neo- classicism style of the day, and situated on what was once picturesque Viger Square, the old 'Ecole des hautes etudes commerciales' was inaugurated on October 4, 1910. The Commerce School, a purely secular institution, was the first in Canada. It remained at that historic site until it relocated in 1970 to the Université de Montréal, after which the elegant edifice served, up to 1988, as one of several campuses of Dawson College.



The H.E.C. (its French acronym) was the result of the initiative of the then premier of the province, Sir Lomer Gouin. Designed by the architectural firm Gauthier and Daoust, the building cost \$100,000 in the money of the day and was considered a critical investment in helping francophones compete on an equal footing in the mostly English - speaking world of business.

Today, re-named and refurbished, the Edifice Gilles Hocquart is home to the Montreal branch of the Quebec Archives. Since May 11, 2000, it is also the tranquil meeting place of genealogists and family historians from all over who are busily piecing together the puzzle that is so often one's family story. In fact, a quick glance at the mandatory sign-in ledger reveals that that is about the only reason people frequent the spotless facility.

All civil status records over a century old are now housed in the archives on Viger Square. These

documents are essentially the fabled second register that religious institutions were obliged to keep and to forward to the local Protonotary Office at the end of each year. All that changed on January 1, 1994 when the Quebec government took direct control for keeping records of births and deaths.

Since its revival as the Quebec Archives, the building took the name Hocquart in memory of one of the better intendants (there were not too many good ones) who administered Quebec while under French rule. Gilles Hocquart is also considered to be the father of Canadian archival records.

The reading room is worth the visit in itself. A large space with three wrap-around galleries, it was originally home to Montreal's Commercial and Industrial Museum. When it closed its doors in 1956, the area became the library of the H.E.C., a vocation it has more or less kept with the Quebec Archives today.

There are over 17,000 visitors a year, many of whom are out-of-province day trippers determined to track down their Quebec origins. The staff is thoroughly professional and friendly, though occasionally struggling with English in what are more often than not rather complex conversations.

Even if you are not interested in researching your ancestors, pay the Hocquart building a call. Its restoration in 2000 fetched it the Quebec Order of Architects' Prix d'excellence for that year and is a fine example of what can be achieved when structures are preserved instead of demolished. A leaflet entitled a 'Self-Guided Building Tour' is available at the main entrance for those who venture inside.

Oh, and don't forget to check out the 'Four Giants of St. James Street' which were donated to the Archives in 1999 by Power Corporation. You can't miss them - they tower over you ominously just before the security desk!

The Edifice Gilles Hocquart is found at 535 Viger East and opens six days a week at 9:00 A.M. It is closed on Mondays.

# **Letters to the Editor of Connections:**

'Of Stone Sheds and Firemen' - Connections, Spring / Summer 2009 Susan McGuire, Historian, Atwater Library and Computer Centre

In Robert Wilkins article "Of Stone Sheds and Firemen," about the 1877 St. Urbain Street fire in the Summer 2009 issue of Connections, he notes that the coroner's inquest was held at the Mechanics' Institute ( now the Atwater Library and Computer Centre ).

There was another connection with MIM: Three of the jurors were past-presidents. At least one more was an MIM member.

**David Brown,** Foreman of the jury, was a builder, who came to Montreal from Scotland in 1833. He was president of the Mechanics' Institute in 1844 and 1859. He was a charter member of the Mount Royal Cemetery.

Alexander A. Stevenson was president of the Mechanics' Institute in 1865 and in 1886. He came to Montreal in 1846 from Scotland, entered the printing business, and became well known in the Montreal Field Battery. He was a city councillor intermittently from 1861; among his interests was fire prevention, and he was made chairman of the fire committee in 1886. He was the first to suggest making Mount Royal into a park.

Charles Garth was president of the Mechanics' Institute in 1855. He had come to Montreal from England as a small child, and eventually carried on the business started by his father, George Garth. They were successful plumbers, steam and gas fitters, brass founders and coppersmiths. He was a director of the Montreal General Hospital and for a time was a city councillor.

**Alexander McGibbon** joined the Mechanics' Institute in 1849, and served on MIM committees. Born 1829 in the Petite Cote area of Montreal, he ran a successful gourmet grocer business. He served for a time as city councillor, was a director of the Montreal General Hospital, and was an active member of the Montreal Snowshoe Club. Later, he served as Inspector of Indian Agencies and Reserves in the North West Territories.

# Suggestions of some illustrations that may be of interest:

Photos of A. A. Stevenson and Alex McGibbon are on the McCord Museum photo website.

The 1868 (p 566) and the 1874-75 (page 366) of Lovell's Directories have ads from Charles Garth & Co.

David Brown's photo is also on the McCord Museum photo site, but I am not altogether certain that it is the same David Brown that was president of the Mechanic's Institute. Although I haven't had the time to investigate for myself at the McCord, my supposition is that the McCord's David Brown is also the Mechanic's Institute David Brown.

<u>'Cover Photo' - Connections Autumn 2009:</u>
Marianna O'Gallagher, Author and Historian

"I think I can see Kerhulu's Restaurant sign and the ON from the bottom of the SIMON'S store sign on Cote de la Fabrique in QUEBEC CITY! A friend of mine did, in fact, point out her father and mother on that very post card."

# QUEBEC FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY ON-LINE DATABASES

# **Now Available for QFHS Members**

This is a work in progress and we are continually adding data

# To gain access:

You must be a paid up member - with an email and mailing address registered with QFHS

# Here's how to do it:

Go to the QFHS webpage at: www.gfhs.ca

click on "Databases" on left side list, then click on "Members Login"

# Type in:

Your QFHS Membership Number

Your User Id:

+

Your Password:

\*

# ★ For your User ID & Password:

Contact the QFHS Help Desk at: helpdesk@afhs.ca

With a successful login you will be taken to the *Members Menu*. Click on Surname/ Forename Details" to enter the system

# Having Trouble???

Contact the QFHS Help Desk: helpdesk@qfhs.ca

# **TO BECOME A QFHS MEMBER:**

To apply for membership to the *Quebec Family History Society*, or to renew your *QFHS* Membership just complete and submit the Membership Form found on the QFHS website or in the Spring / Summer issue of *Connections*.

# Membership Offers You:

Use of all QFHS Library facilities - books, microfilm, microfiche, CD collections, and computer databases - including ancestry.ca, within the library. You may also borrow books and journals. You can request microfilms and books through Inter-Library Loan from other sources such as the National Archives of Canada, or the American Genealogical Lending Library. (these Requests must be viewed in the QFHS library). You will receive three copies of the QFHS journal, Connections per year and reduced rates on all seminars and workshops. You will also meet other family historians and have an opportunity to discuss any genealogical problems you may have.

# QFHS is now on FACEBOOK:

The QFHS is now on Facebook - Thanks to Jackie Billingham and Susan Gingras-Calcagni. If you are a member of Facebook - registration is free - the name to look for is: **Quebec Family History Society Facebook Page**. We welcome input from all members.

# LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS ~ WINTER 2010 Submitted by PENNIE REDMILE - LIBRARIAN

# **NEW BOOKS AT QFHS**

1.	Genealogical Dictionary of Maine & New Hampshire GS/210.3/N6/1979
	by Sybil Noyes, Charles Thornton Libby, Walter Goodwin Davis
<b>2</b> .	The Mayflower by Kate Caffrey
3.	A Catalogue of British Family Histories
J.	edited by T.R. Thomson
4.	A Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place-Names
	by Eilert Ekwil
<b>5</b> .	Plymouth Colony Marriages to 1650
	and Mary Chilton's Title to Celebrity
_	by Charles J Libby GS/210.4/L5/1978
6.	Mayflower Families Through Five Generations, Vol 1
-	edited by Lucy Mary Kellogg, F.A.S.G
7.	Mayflower Families Through Five Generations, Vol 2 edited by Robert Moody Sharman, C.G, F.A.S.G
8.	Mayflower Families Through Five Generations, Vol 3
0.	edited by Anne Borden Harding
9	No Ordinary Man: George Dawson 1849-1901
10.	Massachusetts Officers and Soldiers 1702-1722
	Massachusetts Officers and Soldiers 1702-1722 edited by Mary E Donahue
11.	Divided Hearts Massachusetts Loyalists 1765-1790 – A Biographical Dictionary
	compiled by David E Maas
12.	Queen Victoria's Little Wars
	by Brian Mitchell
13.	Mayflower Ancestral Index Vollume 1
	compiled by Milton E. Terry Ph.D
14.	National Dictionary of Biography (England)
15.	The Domestic Architecture of Old Quebec by Christine Cameron (Norma Lee)
16.	by Christine Cameron (Norma Lee)
10.	Montcalm St Sacremont – nature et Architecture (Qcc. City) (Norma Lee)
17.	Ireland: A Short History — The Great Irish Famina
	Ireland: A Short History – The Great Irish Famine A Short History of Ireland
18.	Les maisons et les églises du Québec des XVIIe et XIX siècles
	par Hélène Bédard (N Lee)
19.	Anglican Parish of Trinity Newfoundland & Labrador GS/110.3/T7/2005
	Index of Parish Registers,
	Baptisms 1915-1979, Marriages 1907-2001, Burials 1904-1950, Confirmations 1890-1964
20.	The Royal Montreal Regiment 1925-1945
•	by R.C, Fetherstonhaugh, LL.D
21.	Gagné Family Chart
22.	Willock Family Chart Vertical File

Vol 1 REF/GS/150.4/T3/1975/ v1	
par L'Abbé C Tanguay, A.D.S. (7 volumes)	
Dictionnaire Généalogique des familles Canadiens	.85
par René Jetté	
Dictionnaire généalogie des familles du Québec GS/150.3/J47/1983/ c2	.75
Fonds Legendre 1842 1860	20
Fonds Joseph Gamache 1856-1876	
Journals : mai-mai 1836-1837	
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Papiers familiaux 1782-1945; Correspondance 1819, 1928	
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	34.
Ross Family Fonds (50 Giles)	.00
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Ross Family Fonds (St Giles)	.70
Reconnaiseance de dettes par rang 1832-1889 Ross Family Fonds (St Giles)	32.
Livre terrier (suite) 1889-1930; Livre de comples terrier 1821-1825; Peconnaissance de dettes par rang 1832-1889	
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Ross Family Fonds (St Gilles)	30.
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Ross Family Fonds (St Gilles Seigneury	.82
Livre censier 1807-1847; Livre censier, Craig's Road 1820-1839; Livre censier 1823-1847	00
Promesses de vente 1850-1896;	
Acts 1820-1883; PV plans d'arpentage 1740-1912  Ross Family Fonds (St Gilles Seigneury	.72
PV plans d'arpentage 1/40-1912; mutations de terre 1/82-195/	
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(Lotbinière) Acts concession 1738-1967; Concession par rang 1808-1867	30
	.24.
	10
Genealogy In Ontario: Searching The Records - 4th Ed.  By Brenda Dougall Merriman	.02
Panealony In Ontario: Searching The Records - 4th Ed	35 **

39. 40.	Vol 2       REF/GS/150.4/T3/1975/v2         Vol 3       REF/GS/150.4/T3/1975/v3
41.	Vol 4
42.	Vol 5 REF/GS/150.4/T3/1975/v5
43.	Vol 6 REF/GS/150.4/T3/1975/V6
44.	Vol 7 REF/GS150.4/T3/1975/v7
45.	Origine des Familles Canadiennes-Françaises
	Extrait de l'État civil Français
	par R.P.Archange Godbout, O.F.M
46. **	'Minganie, de la Basse Côte-nord et du sud du Labrador 1847-2006 ; Tome 1 : Baptêmes
	Par Réal Doyle REF/GS/110.3/D6/2007/v1
47. **	Minganie, de la Basse Côte-nord et du sud du Labrador, Tome 2, mariages et sépultures
	par Réal Doyle REF/GS/110.3/D6/2007/v2
48.	Strays Index (Oct 2009)
	compiled by Bruce Henderson
<b>49</b> .	The Official Guide to Family Tree Maker 2009 GS/000.9/P3/2008 by Tana L. Pedersen

# A WARM THANK YOU TO THE DONORS:

Claire Dewar, Barbara Douglas, Edward Doyle, Norma Lee's Estate, Luc Lepine, Gary Mair, Barbara Nicholas, Don Porter, Edith Ritchie, Barbara Winn, \*\* QFHS Purchase

We have duplicates of some cds sent by Family Tree Magazine
The <u>DUPLICATES ONLY</u> may be borrowed by members.
They are in a plastic bag in the metal cabinet in the spare room

# **QFHS ON-LINE LIBRARY CATALOGUE**

You can now search the QFHS Library Catalogue on-line at: **www.qfhs.ca** - just click on "databases", then "search catalogue". Members may borrow three books and / or five periodicals for up to three weeks. *All* members may borrow books from the library, no matter where you live. ~ The Reference ( *REF*/) books will not be loaned ~

Due to the staggering rise in postage costs, we have added a new designation for large books & looseleaf binders. *RES* (stands for **Reserved**). All members may borrow these books, *BUT* mail requests, will be charged the postage BOTH WAYS. It will be awhile before we can add RES to existing books. All large book loans will be the responsibility of the borrower to pay the postage.

# **SURNAMES FOUND IN QFHS COLLECTIONS:**

Our volunteers have worked very hard to organize our special collections, to help us easily search for specific topics or surnames. We urge everyone to check these valuable resources. Sharon Callaghan spent several years sorting and identifying each item in *Miss Norma Lee's Collection*. I am including the surnames (A-F) from Sharon's index, identifying the information, for each. There is a full index inside the top drawer. Miss Lee lived in Quebec City, but her collection includes many other areas of Quebec.

We have two collections covering Gaspé,

The Guignon Collection: (orange filing cabinet)

Jackie Billingham and Rita Cloghesy organized it And compiled an index 

David McDougall Collection (other grey filing cabinet)

organized by Judy Mowat. (index in the top drawer)

# From Miss Norma Lee Collecttion:

John Adams
V.J. Adams – correspondence re HAWKINS
Amy-Leboutillier Family – charts, history

Baillairge Family – notary doc, photos, notes, chart..

Alvin Baker – newspaper articles in Baker's Inn cards

Marguerite Bastien – note with marriage

Bell Family - family chart

Bezanson Family – family chart, cards

Bezeau – family chart

François Bigot – Maison Claverie, marches, jugement.

Henry Birks – store, family newspaper articles.

Helen Blackmore – books, notes.

Blaiklock Family charts, notes

John & Marge Braive – chart, letter

Breakey- Scott, chart, newspaper article ref Breakeyville

Bryce - chart, notes, letter

Cadet Farm – ownership
Christina Cameron – articles, notes, cards
Campbell – Cann - chart, notes, cards.
W. Darling Campbell – notes
G.V. Clark –correspondence, notes, info on "crimps"
Coffie-Mackenzie – chart, notes
J.E.Collins letters, information
Couillard-Hébert – family chart
Cummins – letters from Irish immigrant

Joly De Lotbinière chart, card
J. Dollard – chart
Drouin-Coté – charts
Duchene- McLaren –charts, notes
Marie Dupuis dite Cantone, (wid/ Rbt Woods); Wood Family Hist, inventory

Eckart-Torrence – family chart & details
Edward, Duke of Kent, notes, articles, Rbt Wood, Mme St Lauent, more
M Edwards –family details, notes, articles, Nickinson family
Farquhar-Craig family charts, diary of ship voyage, newspaper articles
R.W. Finlayson – correspondence
F.W. Franck – duels' notes, info request, Collard articles
Malcolm Fraser – article, notary doc.

C.E.Furtaw- -family charts, correspondence

#### **VISITORS to the QFHS LIBRARY:**

We welcome visitors to the QFHS Library ~ Visitor Fee is \$10.00 a day.

Any person is welcome to come in and ask for a tour or look around - and No Fee will be charged. A visitor wishing to use the QFHS facilities: computers, microfilm/fiche machines, books, etc will be asked

to pay the \$10.00 a day fee. This fee includes friends of members and members who have not renewed their membership.

# **INTER-LIBRARY LOANS: - Canadian National Library and Archives**

Members are able to borrow books, newspaper films, census for the Province of Quebec and other provinces of Canada, church registers on films for other provinces, military records - from the Canadian National Library and Archives. Loan requests may be submitted by e-mail to the QFHS or in person at the QFHS library. All material must be read in the Quebec Family History Society Library. Postage fee is: \$3.00 for 1 to 3 microfilms; \$5.00 for 4 to 6 microfilms

ONTARIO PUBLIC ARCHIVES: - The Ontario Archives offers inter-library loans.

Ontario Archives has provided the Quebec Family History Society with a binder describing all research material that can be borrowed: i.e. wills, pre-1869 church registers.

All material must be read in the QFHS library. Postage fee: 1 to 3 films \$3.00, 4 to 6 films \$5.00

# Q.F.H.S. SPRING BOOK SALE:

Open to the public ~ EVERYONE is WELCOME ..... so bring a friend and join us on Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010 ~ from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Quebec Family History Society Library / Heritage Centre, 173 Cartier Avenue, Pointe Claire, Quebec for the Q.F.H.S. Spring Book Sale where a varity of books in all genres will be on sale.

Anyone wishing to donate books may drop them off at the QFHS Library Books of all kinds are welcome: novels, short stories, history, geography, mystery, romance .. etc

# **LIBRARY LOAN - REQUEST BY MAIL**

You are permitted 3 books for 1 month; 5 periodicals for 1 month.

1 month from date of mailing.

Please list the books by priority that you would like to borrow.

State title of Book or Periodical and the Call Number or Vol / Iss #

The Collection is outlined in the QFHS 1997 Catalogue of Periodicals, Micro-films/fiche

This catalogue may be borrowed by QFHS Members

New books are listed in each issue of Connections.

Name:

Address:							
	Membership #						
TITLE OF BOOK / PERIODICAL	CALL NO: PERIODICAL VOL / ISS #	REQUEST REC'D OFFICE USE ONLY	DATE DUE				

For your convenience photocopy this page and mail to:
QUEBEC FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY
P.O. BOX 1026, POINTE CLAIRE, QUEBEC H9S 4H9
Please write LIBRARY LOAN on the envelope

# The Year 1909

.... One hundred years ago .....
Here are some statistics for the Year 1909:

The average life expectancy was 47 years.

Only 14 percent of the homes had a bathtub.

Only 8 percent of homes had a telephone.

There were only 8,000 cars and only 144 miles of paved roads.

The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.

The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower

The average wage in 1909 was 22 cents per hour.

The average worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year.

A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2000 per year, A dentist \$2,500 per year,

A veterinarian between \$1,500 & \$4,000 per year, A mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year.

More than 95 percent of all births took place at HOME.

Ninety percent of all doctors had NO COLLEGE EDUCATION!

Instead, they attended so-called medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press AND the government as 'substandard?.

Sugar cost four cents a pound. Eggs were 14 cents a dozen, and Coffee was 15 cents a pound. Most women only washed their hair once a month, and used Borax or egg yolks for shampoo. Canada passed a law that prohibited poor people from entering into the country for any reason. Five leading causes of death were:

- 1. Pneumonia and influenza
- 2. Tuberculosis
- 3. Diarrhea
- 4. Heart disease
- 5. Stroke

The American flag had 45 stars. The population of Las Vegas, Nevada was only 30 !! Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and ice tea Hadn't been invented yet.

There was no Mother's Day or Father's Day.

Two out of every 10 adults couldn't read or write.

Only six percent of all Americans had graduated from high school.

Marijuana, heroin, and morphine were all available over the counter at the local corner drugstores. Back then pharmacists said, "Heroin clears the complexion, gives buoyancy to the mind, regulates the stomach and bowels and is, in fact, a perfect guardian of health."

Eighteen percent of households had at least one full-time servant or domestic help.

There were about 230 reported murders in the ENTIRE U.S.A.!

Now, information - such as these statistics - photographs, videos, even your family tree can be sent to other people around the world in a matter of seconds via e-mail. You don't even have to retype, just address it and hit the forward button on your computer.

What a difference a century makes !

received via e-mail - and reprinted for your reading enjoyment

# **OBITUARIES**

The QFHS is saddened to say goodbye to these friends of the society. We extend our sincere condolences to their families. Joan Benoit, Secretary

# Dr. Robin Rye

Robin passed away on Wednesday, October 7th, 2009.

Robin was a member of the QFHS for 14 years. he was a gentleman and a scholar. He was a quiet man with a sense of humour. He was a prominent member of our research committee for ten years and enjoyed the challenge each research request presented. With a little extra time on his hands at the end of a research morning, he would ask if there was a "quick and dirty one" he could end the day with. We would search out a request for help which appeared straight forward. He often came back to the office shaking his head because the answer was not as obvious as first thought. When QFHS began compiling its searchable online database index Robin volunteered to assist. He would enter the data from the comfort of his home.

# **Pearl Louise MILLER**

Pearl passed away in the Lachine Hospital on November 4, 2009

Pearl became a member of the Quebec Family History Society in 1996. She prepared and served the refreshments that were always enjoyed at our monthly lecturers in Lachine. Each December Pearl and Ane Marie Rogers always set a festive table for our December gathering. Pearl had little information to assist her in her research, the oral history she was told was not totally correct - but she persisted. Within a few years she was visiting found relatives in Ireland. Pearl's research material has been generously donated to the Quebec Family History Society.

# QUERIES . . . . . .

Compiled by Diane Wilson

#### **CAN YOU HELP?**

#### WOLSTENHOLME

Searching for information WOLSTENHOLME, Sarah, born c1874 England, came to Montreal in late 1901 and worked for William Duncan Armstrong of 80 University Street. Did she marry? Where and when did she die? Joan Benoit, admin@qfhs.ca

#### **ROBERTSON & SHAW**

Seeking birthplace of Margaret ROBERTSON and information about her birth family in Quebec. Would like to connect with someone who may have information about the family background of my great, great grandfather James SHAW and his wife Margaret ROBERTSON.

Margret (Margaret) ROBERTSON was born November 3, 1829 (where?), married James Shaw in Quebec and died c1913, age 84 (according to family). 1901 Ontario census shows her as 72 and living on the family farm in Torbolton District 52, Ontario

James SHAW was born c1822 in England and died in Torbolton region of Ontario c1883. In 1879 James Shaw owned farm land – Concession 1V, Lot 7 in Torbolton region of Ontario. (His father Robert SHAW was born c1770 in Cottonworth, Yorkshire England, died Sept 8, 1848 in Quebec and was buried at the Lachute Protestant Cemetery – Stone #271)

Children of James and Margaret: The first two were born in Quebec (where?) - Robert Shaw born c1854 and James Robertson Shaw born c1856.

Perhaps in the greater Montreal area – Lachute, seeing as Robert Shaw Sr was buried at Lachute cemetery. The next seven were born in Torbolton region of Ontario, now part of Ottawa.

Ms. Robin Pattison, rpattison@telus.net

#### HORTON / PENDERGAST / PRENDERGAST

Searching for information for HORTON: George, b.1781 Greenwich County of Kent, England died 24 Aug. 1865 Seigniory of DeRamsay, Joliette, QC. Canada Wife: Elizabeth PENDERGAST or PRENDERGAST

Children: Samuel, James, George Read, John P., Lucy Horton Read, Susan Horton Dennis,

Catherine Horton Barter Sarkiw, Mary Ann Horton Hibbard.

gramagus1939@hotmail.com

Queries with e-mail addresses may be viewed on the QFHS webpage home addresses appearing in *Connections* have been deleted visit the QFHS website at: www.qfhs.ca

And click on "Queries"

The QFHS also offers genealogical research services conducted for a fee
For further information visit the QFHS webpage at: www.qfhs.ca
and click on "Research Help"

# TREASURE IN FRANCE

by Ransom Vrooman

In the year 1900 Clara D Gatignol married Andrew Howard Ransom [ McNab ] as he was known at that time. Shortly afterwards the McNab was dropped as he had never been adopted, but only under care of the McNabs after his parents [ Christina Dalrymple & Richard Ransom] died when Andrew was only 10 years old.

On a sunny day in October. Wednesday the 17th, Clara and Andrew were married at 2 pm, in Chambly, Quebec The wedding dinner followed and at 5.30 pm they were on the Montreal and Southern Counties train to Montreal. The newly married couple was met at the Montreal station at 7.05 by Andrew's brother, and spent the time at his home until they had to leave at 9.15 to catch the train to Ottawa.

The next day was Thanksgiving Day and they arrived in the downtown Ottawa station at 2 am. They had a very pleasant

room at the "Brunswick', and in spite of their late arrival, were out sightseeing at 8 am. following an excellent breakfast. The first stop was the Parliament Buildings, which they toured. and then went through Parliamentary Library. Since Clara had spent several years at Coligny College, they returned to visit her old 'haunts', where they received an invitation to return for tea on Friday afternoon. Next day the newlyweds visited the Zoological Survey, before going to tea at Coligny College as invited. This they greatly enjoyed, and afterwards visited Knox Church

Saturday it was necessary to bid Ottawa 'good-bye' and catch the train to Montreal. arriving there at 11 am and on to Chambly at 5.35. Sunday was spent quietly at home.

Shortly after the New Year, 1901, a letter came from a notary in Puy de Dome, Auvergne District, France, "Land o' Goshen" said Clara. 'that's where Dad was born !"

When opened, the letter sounded too good to be true.



Mr Gatignol Senior had died in France and there was an inheritance for Clara when she reached the age of 29, which would be on January 13th. But one big drawback immediately appeared. The inheritance had to be collected person. "Goodness gracious. Andrew" Clara cried "That means we have to travel across the ocean to France. How can we afford that ?" "I don't know Clara, but we will find the money somewhere." Andrew replied, and he began to look at possibilities

Soon realizing that they had

not enough savings to pay for such an extensive trip, they began to search elsewhere. Andrew's brother Walter was not rich, but was comparatively well off, and Andrew decided to approach him. This was not an easy task, but Andrew finally got up the courage to explain the situation to Walter, and after considerable discussion and an agreement to repay the money immediately on their return with the inheritance.

Walter agreed!

So, the tickets were purchased, and Clara & Andrew sailed out of Montreal for Paris in September 1901, two young people, in love. and not at all sure of what was ahead of them.

The Atlantic was kind to them, and the weather was relatively good for the crossing, so they enjoyed every minute of their first ocean excursion. Paris was not so kind. There were six railway stations in the big, beautiful city, and it took a lot of questioning to find out that the trains for the Auvergne region in the south of France left from the Gare du Lyon. From the Trans-Atlantic crossing they had arrived in the Gare de l'Est, and, after finding a pleasant little Pension, they spent many days enjoying the sights of Paris and taking photographs with their newly purchased camera. They visited the Tour Eiffel, the Hotel des Invalides (containing Napoleon's tomb), the Arc de Triomphe, the Church of the Madelaine, Sacre-Couer and the Boulevard Montmartre, of course the Louvre and many other wonderful sights in Paris, with even a trip to Versailles. Where they could not take photographs, they purchased post-cards - many excellent black & white photos of Paris. However, when the time came to head south to the Auvergne their troubles began. No-one at the station could tell them how to get to Latour d'Auvergne, Departement Puy-de-Dome, and after several hours of futile questioning, Clara finally sat down on their steamer trunk and began to cry. It was at this point that fate intervened. A tall friendly Frenchman approached them to ask whether they needed help. "Oh yes", said Clara, and proceeded to tell him their problem. Well to their delight this man knew the area to which they were travelling very well. "Take the express train to Clermont-Ferrand and change there in the station for the small branch line to Latour d'Auvergne. You will have no trouble finding it when you arrive in the main station there". Delighted with this information, they thanked him profusely, purchased their tickets and checked their trunk. Next day they were on their way, still not knowing what lay ahead. Without further problems they travelled to Latour d'Auvergne in the Arrondissement d'Issoire, on the small local train and landed at

the station there. Of course the station agent knew Mme Gatignol and arranged for a horse cart to take them to her home, where they arrived tired and rather dirty from the trip, but relieved to be at their final destination. If they had only known the problems that lay ahead! In these times Latour d'Auvergne was just a small village, not a major tourist attraction. Of course they felt that a small village was just since they were used to the French-Canadian village of Chambly. So they were warmly welcomed by Mme Gatignol -Grandmere to Clara - but not by the whole family. The scenery around the village was unusual and breathtaking, especially since the altitude was 3,380 feet. The local dialect or patois was difficult to understand at first, but as time went on they became used to it and were able to converse easily. In their early days there, Clara & Andrew took many walks about the countryside, enjoying the inspiring views. Their camera was busy, as in Paris, and they had several pictures of both the scenic views and of members of the Gatignol family. One picture shows the donkey cart, on which they rode on occasion - with Andrew standing beside the donkey.



They initially met with the local avocat, a M Vigier, but soon discovered that he was not in favour of them receiving the inheritance, and had to look for assistance elsewhere.

One day as they were returning from a long walk, they met a relative who was not quite so pleasant. As they met she said "Point du salut hors de l'eglise de Rome" (No salvation outside the Church of Rome) and quickly walked on. Now they understood what it meant to be a Protestant in a Roman Catholic village in France. This unpleasantness reduced Clara to tears. However her usual happy nature soon returned and she was able to face the rest of the family.

As the time went on, Christmas approached. They had hoped to get their business done quickly and be home by then, but that was not to be. Much of the time in the next year was spent in Latour d'Auvergne, but the family homes were crowded and they were not able to stay for any length of time there. So some time was spent in the city of Clermont-Ferrand and there were some trips back to Paris, including December 1901 and Christmas as well as visits to Lyons and Nice.

Andrew developed into an experienced photographer during this trip and took many photos. Unfortunately he did not have access to a full photo lab facility and as a result many of the photos were not 'fixed' properly and have faded badly. A letter written July 24 1902 by Andrew to his brother Walter explains this fact. Legal proceedings dragged on - not helped by the solicitor in charge of M. Gatignol's estate. Letters were required to prove the claimant [Clara Gatignol Ransom] was who she said she was, and that her character was faultless. that she was indeed the daughter of Jean Gatignol, and thus the grand-daughter of Donat Gatignol. Clara had all the originally required papers, but the local court, pressed by the estate notary, M. Vigier, required additional records.

Jean Gatignol, Clara's father, had died March 28 1876 and her mother, Sarah, had remarried to Jean's good friend and colleague Antoine Boy on July 13 1893. Both men had attended the Training Institute for French Protestant Preachers in Glay, France and had come to Quebec as Protestant evangelists in 1868 on the SS Moravian from Liverpool to Quebec City. The two friends quickly started out to spread the gospel of Protestantism in French Quebec. Antoine (or Anthony) was already married, and Jean married in 1870. They quickly but separately set out on their evangelization of the French Roman Catholics under the auspices of the French Canadian Missionary Society.

In a book by R.P. Duclos 'Histoire Protestantisme Francais, there is a section on the village of Chambly, Quebec which explains the situation in the area:

"Under the name Chambly there were two small villages, of which one - Chambly Basin was essentially Roman Catholic, while the other - Chambly Canton was inhabited by a working group of people (weavers) through which a wind of independence had passed. The two villages were set on the banks of the Richelieu river, which flowed down from Lake Champlain. Dominating the Richelieu was a fort, already ancient, constructed during the which commanded the French reaime. thoroughfare of communication between New England and New France. On this river the Indians came all the way to Quebec. This fort, established at the lower rapids to stop the invaders, also reminded folks of times of unrest and trouble. Peace had only been established during the second half of the previous century. Attracted by the industry created by S P Willet, longtime mayor of Chambly Canton, a good number of English Protestant families came to settle down. A place of worship was built. Meanwhile the French and the Canadiens had only a Roman Catholic church into which came very little light for the spirit or the mind. The proprietor of the factory, struck by the situation, invited the evangelization commission to establish a school and a mission. This was soon accomplished.

Many men of God had worked in this field and all had given out their efforts with joy. Meanwhile it is time to mention particularly

Antoine Boy, who arrived from Glay in 1868. After having worked in Three Rivers & Duclos. he was drawn from Scottstown to Chambly. where the work demanded much faith and The families that were most courage. interested were united and a school was started for the children. The original recruits were joined almost at once by others, and before his growing family understood Boy had constructed a house to which he added a school & a presbytery. Supported by the generosity of Christian friends and sustained by the offerings of the employees who worked in the spinning mill, Boy could look to the future in planning great projects. Unfortunately his naturally delicate health gave out, after 12 years of assiduous work, during which time he raised the necessary funds to build a worship hall and accommodation, to teach and to preach, Antoine Boy was forced to cease his work. The illness came on surprisingly, in the midst of a work which he loved. He died on the 10 July 1905 in Scottstown, where he had passed many years of his life.

Chambly, which by his death had sustained a serious loss, was struck by another loss: the mill which was a source of prosperity for everyone was destroyed by fire. For several months there was hope that the ruins would be rebuilt, but such was not to be. Since it was necessary to live, the families that were unable to sustain themselves by farming moved away. This resulted in a mass exodus which transformed the village's population. With newcomers it was necessary to redo the work of earlier days. Since that time the services have been assumed 'tant bien que mal' by the students and pastors from Montreal, but the Presbytery which encircles the big garden is always empty. Needed for this work is a young man with experience, with faith, and with a great deal of courage."

Antoine, as a good friend of the deceased Jean, and married to Clara's mother, wrote many letters attesting to the education,

character, and experience of both Clara and Andrew, as shown here in copies of Oct 23, 1901 correspondence.

'This is to certify that Mr Andrew H Ransom MacNab is of irreproachable character, and has taken a course in the Business College of Montreal and has been head book-keeper in the City Ice Co. for several years. Therefore I take much pleasure in recommending him.

Signed, Anthony Boy

Missionary under the auspices of the Board of French Evangelization of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Chambly Canton Que Canada 23 October 1901' In French, translated:

'This is to certify that Mme Andrew H Ransom MacNab is of irreproachable character and that she graduated from the Ottawa Ladies College, where she received an excellent education in English, and following that she has taught for five years under the auspices of the Board of Montreal with much success, in both French and English. Therefore I take pleasure in recommending her.

Signed, Antoine Boy

Missionaire sous les auspices du Comite d'Evangelization de l'Eglise Presbyterienne du Canada

Chambly Canton Que Canada 23 Octobre 1901' Eventually after many additional delays, Antoine was irate enough to write the following letter – practically accusing the notary of acting in bad faith, and of attempting to prevent Clara from receiving her rightful inheritance.

Chambly Canton P. Q Canada 8 Jan 1902.

To M Vigier - the Notary

Latour D'Auvergne Puy de Dome France Sir, Permit an old friend of the deceased Jean Gatignol of Latour D'Auvergne, who died here in Canada in 1876, to write a word to you about his daughter, Mrs. McNab, who left for France with her husband in the month of September last in order to claim (obtain) her father's inheritance, which was set aside by her grandfather, Donat Gatignol, until she reached the age required for the inheritance.

Now it will soon be four months since she arrived in Latour d'Auvergne, at the home of her grandmother, and with all the necessary papers to prove that she is really the legitimate daughter of the deceased Jean Gatignol and thus to take possession of the rights and properties held for her during her childhood. You already know all this, Sir. For this reason I have no need to tell you this history because you have been in communication with her mother over a period of 10 to 15 years and you have available (in your hands), two or three copies of these papers.

How is it then, Sir, that you fail to decide for such a long time an affair that is clearly legitimate. Is it by chance possible that you would be so spiteful as to try to deprive a child of her father's inheritance, on the pretext that there were certain irregularities in the preparation of her papers? Sir what interest would you have then in seeking to deprive the daughter of my friend of the property of her father? The eldest son of Mr Donat Gatignol, who had these properties in his possession for more than 20 years, perhaps has promised you a share of this inheritance?

And would you thus be sufficiently dishonest, sufficiently resentful (disrespectful) of your profession, you, a notary whose character should be something so respectable and whose name should inspire the feeling of justice and confidence that you would accept it [ie part of Sarah's inheritance]? Be that as it may, Sir, I ask you to do your duty (job) and to deliver justice to the daughter of my friend, and to hurry, (speed it up) or else we will appeal to a higher court than yours.

I write this to you to point out that Mrs. McNab is not alone in the world, but that she has friends in Canada and also in France - friends who would take her case in hand and defend her. I honour you, Sir, and tell you that I am a Frenchman from France, having come to Canada with Mr. Jean Gatignol 33 years ago Antoine Boy - Missionary

[The above was in French, translated rather literally by Ransom Vrooman in April 2000 - the PS was English ] The PS note to this letter follows:

PS Keep this letter for you, we are sending one just the same to the notary today.

Your mother." (ie Sarah Duclos Gatignol Boy) While this court battle was proceeding there were many periods when there was nothing to do but wait for the next session to convene. Andrew explains how he put in some of this time — again in a letter to his brother Walter. In explanation of what was taking so long Andrew continued in his letter to his brother Walter, as follows:

"We have had to go to court over our affair out here, we have had to speak before the Tribunal, we had our lawyer, our attorney, notary, etc, all there — we made a great impression on the President du Tribunal, who was very nice to us, however we won our affair and the old uncle was almost put out of court for making a disturbance. Our affair has been like some great play, in several acts, only it is a play in reality. The judgement will be rendered on Friday (July 25 1902)"

Much later in 1902 Clara and Andrew finally returned to Canada, more kknowledgeable about France, perhaps more understanding of the French way of life, but not much wealthier than when they arrived. They had only enough money from the inheritance to pay their debts in Montreal, and they had a wonderful travel experience, so they returned to their life at home happier and healthy. It was indeed a Bon Voyage!

In May 1904 Clara and Andrew had their first child — Gwyneth (mother of the author) who lived until 1999, the longest lived of the family. She married Harold Vrooman and spent most of her life in Hamilton Ontario, where she and Hal both died. Allegra was born in July 1908, but was a premature baby and died in Sep of the same year. Rosmore was next, born in Dec 1909. He was in the Royal Canadian Air Force during World War II, a civil engineer and a teacher later.

Paul was the next child, born in Sep 1911 and died of whooping cough in Jun 1912. Malcolm, the last child was born in May 1913. He became a Presbyterian minister, was a missionary to China for 5 years (1946 –1950) and then returned to Canada to take up

various positions with the Presbyterian Church in Ontario until his death in 1995.

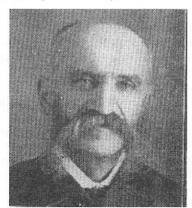
The children had families of their own, resulting in 8 grandchildren, and 14 great grandchildren (6 of whom were born while Clara and Andrew still lived)



Andrew & Clara's 50th Wedding Anniversary



Jean Gatignol



Antoine Boy

# **SURVIVING THE RUSSIAN QUAGMIRE – 1942 – 1945**

by E. Peter McLoughlin

This short historical account is a tribute to man's indomitable courage when faced with unimaginable horrors.

Three old friends of mine served in the Russian campaign known as Operation Barbarossa during the second world war. At the end of that invasion, the remnants of the defeated Nazi army simply disintegrated and the European war ended abruptly. Hitler's adventure consumed twenty million souls, on both sides, before it was over. All of these three survived, a miracle in itself. Dieter, a Whermacht infantry captain, was wounded at Stalingrad and at Moscow, before being repatriated home. The second, Ted, had a rougher time, fighting for three years as a Lieutenant in one of the two Ukrainian divisions Germany put together to battle the Soviets in Southern Russia – he managed to escape in 1945, grab a civilian suit from a farmer, and infiltrate through the Allied lines to Italy. The third, Albert, is the subject of this epic story. All three became Canadians.

My account starts in Gimli, a small mostly Icelandic town on the shores of Lake Winnipeg, where I was stationed on an RCAF training base, running a test flight for T-33 jets. The Catholic priest in the town, Father Albert Bertsch, was a tough, well built German with clear blue eyes, aged about 35. His blonde, crew cut hair topped a six foot four inch frame.

One wintry Sunday my wife, Helen and I asked him to drop over for dinner when he was available. "Great idea, Peter, how about Wednesday evening?"

Incidentally, he had been bugging me to take him up in a jet for six months. My reply was always the same, "Father Albert, you are a German, you look German and you sound German". There would be no way I could pass him off as a visiting American officer!

On Wednesday, Albert parked his car and trudged through the snow to our tiny, twenty by twenty cottage which sat on the edge of the frozen lake – our only companions were the odd wolf or deer meandering through the woods. That was the luxury of air force life in 1955. After dinner, as we relaxed with a drink, I asked him, "Father, tell me your story and how you ended up at this isolated little place?" There was a full minute of deep silence before he started into this unforgettable tale of a three and a half year battle for survival.

"In 1941, I was a seminarian at a large monastery in South Western Germany. Early one morning a truck load of S.S. troops halted outside and came into our classroom. Without any formal introduction the officer in charge addressed our group and stated, "Gentlemen, as of now you are all conscripted into the German Army". There was a shocked silence.

Finally, a number of the seminarians stood up and burst out in anger, "You can't do that we are all training to be priests and refuse to fight!"

The S.S. officer coolly replied, "If you feel so strongly about this please step outside". That group of fifteen were simply put up against the wall and executed. The rest of us joined the army. The S.S. then proceeded to execute all the teachers and finally, in a brutal action, decapitated the Abbot who had refused to take an oath to Hitler. (I was told this year the monastery has a plaque on the wall honouring those slaughtered).

Within a year, Albert had been trained as a signals under officer and was attached to the GD(Gross Deutschland) armoured division, the German Army's premier unit. There he stayed for three and a half years, fighting the Russian war.

1941 had been a cake walk, as the well trained and equipped Germans tore the poorly organized Russians to pieces. They roared through to the very gates of Moscow, a distance of 2,000Km,

[28]

where the Soviets managed to halt them. The Germans now faced the reality of a freezing winter that stalled their tanks, froze their bodies and weapons that refused to fire - almost replicating Napoleon's fatal attack of 1812.

It was a stalemate situation for most of 1942 when Albert joined the division. Slowly they began to face a more determined and different enemy. Guerillas attacked whenever they let their guard down. These peasant troops were starting to hate the Nazis for the cruel treatment so many villages suffered, and this feeling only grew stronger with each passing month.

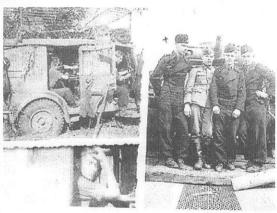
By 1943 the tide was turning. New Allied equipment had arrived and the Soviet Army was better trained and led. The key point that year was the battle of Kursk, at the end of July, when a rolling battle of over 1500 tanks ensued; the largest the world had ever seen. At the end of two weeks, both armies were devastated and the German High Command began to consider an alternative strategy . . . retreat.

As you may know, 1943 and'44 turned into twenty four hour battles, day in and day out. Hordes of screaming Soviet infantry hurled themselves at the Germans, suffering horrendous losses as they were ripped apart by superior fire power; but they refused to even slow down. (The political officers in the units had strict orders from Stalin, to shoot anybody who hesitated to attack). Artillery shells bombarded everything that moved, making rest an impossible luxury. Soviet tanks rolled over them, crushing troops like matchwood. These elite GD troops became exhausted and demoralized, as there was no respite, or pause, in the onslaught. To quote Albert, "It was hard to make friends because they simply disappeared in a flash of torn flesh and blood when you least expected it. Yes, I had some good officers that I admired, who were trying to defend Germany, not Nazi party men, very heroic types, but they were all killed."

At one stage, when we were getting close to East Germany, the GD Tiger tanks came across a huge bunker, holding more than four thousand troops – a quivering mass of humanity too exhausted and shell shocked to continue fighting. Albert entered the shelter and yelled out, "Comrades, come with us we are retreating back to Germany". No one stirred. They had ceased to hope for life, but just waited for the cold to consume them, the Russians to kill them, or for life to end. One officer even handed Albert a Knight's Cross, a very rare and valuable decoration

saying, "Take it with you please." Bertsch refused .

I used to imagine Albert, well protected, sitting in a sixty ton mass of steel; but no, the communications platoon operated out of flimsy, large Jeep-like vehicles with antennae sprouting out from all angles (ref. photo). Due to the importance of this unit a platoon of tanks was assigned to protect the 'eyes and ears' of the division. Our intrepid character, Albert, also took additional risks – listening to the Swiss radio at night so he could pass on the news to a few trusted officers. One night he was almost caught – a bang on the door, "Open up!" Tearing off his headset and twirling the radio dials, he admitted this Lieutenant, who was actually after the blood of this suspected traitor.



Operating in Russia - 1942/5

"What are you doing? Why is your headset off?" Albert's explanation was not satisfactory. "Report to my office in the morning", was the order. He was sentenced to fight with a rifle on the infantry front lines for three days. Albert survived. At least it was an improvement over being automatically executed!

By late winter of 1944/5, they arrived at Danzig on the Baltic coast, where the army was desperately attempting to move their troops onto ships and avoid the rapidly approaching Soviets – only two days away. The ships refused to take off the GD men and, so I was told, the regimental commander turned his 88's on to the vessels and said, "Take us with you, or you'll be blown out of the water!" It worked, and they managed to cram 600 men into a tank landing craft and headed West to Memel, their last battle ground, The remaining 4,000 were captured or killed by the advancing Russians.

Of the 100,000 men who served in the GD division, during those three and a half years, only 150 survived to surrender to the British a few days later. They were an exhausted, starving bunch of men in rags, who had been given a rifle and 60 rounds of ammo. – "If you meet the Soviets, fight to the death, if you hit the British, just surrender", was their last command.

Albert's war was over. He was alive and in one piece. After a three month sojourn in a P.O.W.

camp, Brother Bertsch took two weeks leave, before rejoining his monastery. In 1951, he immigrated to Canada and, after I saw him, decided to become a padre in the R.C.A.F. Served his time until 1975 and retired as a major. In his final phase of life he married Edith and lived quietly to a little town near Ottawa. Albert died this spring two weeks short of his 88th birthday. A truly remarkable man in anybody's book.

#### Author's Note:

Photographs and references are from Albert Bertsch, with contributions from Kampfgruppe Haase, Ottawa.

If you want a vivid history of that campaign get a copy of "The Forgotten Soldier" by Guy Sajer – available on the net for a few dollars.



Note Iron Cross Second Class beside Canadian C.D.



The Computer Page is researched and edited from your queries and suggestions by QFHS member Lorraine Gosselin (E-mail computree@yahoo.com)

#### OBTAINING GENEAL OGICAL INFORMATION FROM RELATIVES.

The Legacy Web site suggests three "proven methods" for getting responses from your living relatives at legacynews.typepad.com/legacy\_news/2005/11/three\_proven\_me.html.

#### IRISH STREET DIRECTORIES FROM PRONI

Heather LeBlanc reports that PRONI (the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland) has added 30 street directories to its on-line information. The dates range from 1819 to 1900 and can be consulted at **www.proni.gov.uk/asearch.jsp**.

# SCOTLAND BURIAL RECORDS PUBLISHED ONLINE

Angus Council, Scotland, is the first authority to put its burial records online. More than 200,000 burial records, dating from the 1800s, are being published online for the first time. Consult **www.deceasedonline.com**.

# **NATIONAL LIBRARY OF WALES**

If you have Welsh ancestors, this is an excellent site to search. They have recently given free online access to 190,000 wills, or about 800,000 documents, dating from the 14<sup>th</sup> century to 1858. See www.ilgc.org.uk/index.php?id=genealogicalsourcesatnlw. Contributed by Derek Hopkins and others.

# FAMILY SEARCH RELEASES MILLIONS OF NEW RECORDS ... AGAIN!

If you haven't yet bookmarked **www.familysearch.org**, now is the time, as there are frequent announcements of which countries' records have been added. Look at 'Search Records' and then click on 'Record Search Pilot' to find traces of your ancestors.

# **HOW FAMILY SEARCH USES TECHNOLOGY TO TRANSCRIBE RECORDS**

If you're interested in the process of microfilming the records to which we eventually have access, read how technology helps FamilySearch volunteers hit major milestone at **tinyurl.com/lzgo9n**. Family Search volunteers expect to have transcribed more than 325 million names by the end of 2009, just three years since the organization began its online indexing program, the site states.

# **BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS - UK**

FreeBMD is an ongoing project, the aim of which is to transcribe the Civil Registration index of births, marriages and deaths for England and Wales, and to provide free Internet access to the transcribed records. Member Derek Hopkins has been heavily involved in this project for some time and urges you to consult the nearly 176 million records at **FreeBMD.rootsweb.com**. For records of birth, baptism, marriage, death and burial taken from non parish sources, Derek suggests you consult **www.bmdregisters.co.uk**.

# 440 YEARS OF LONDON'S HISTORY NOW ONLINE

18 million parish records from over 1,000 London parishes now online at **Ancestry.ca**, which QFHS members can consult at our Library/Heritage Centre.

#### RECORDS OF 82 YEARS OF CANADIAN IMMIGRATION TO THE UK NOW ONLINE

Journeys of more than 2.6 million Canadians travelling and immigrating to the UK appear on **Ancestry.ca**, access to which is available to our members at the QFHS Heritage Centre. It details all passengers who arrived by sea in the peak period of British immigration Thousands of Canadians will have ancestors in the collection. Consult *The UK Incoming Passenger Lists 1878-1960.* 

#### **SEARCHING IN FRANCE? MAP OF FRENCH ARCHIVES**

France's GenWeb has made available a clickable map of France on which you can see which Departments have made their archives available on line. The overseas ones are also included. The colour shown for each department lets you know if their archives are on line now; but even the ones in construction refer you to information for that particular department. www.francegenweb.org/~archives/archivesgenweb/?id=carte.

# **NEW ONLINE QUERY SERVICE**

Genealogy guru Dick Eastman announced the release of **GenQueries.com**, a free service that provides an online database for genealogy queries for individuals as well as advertisements for societies, professional and amateur genealogy researchers, authors, publishers, genealogy web sites, adoptee searches, and more. There is an extensive FAQ list. For the moment, queries will remain on line for 365 days. This service aims at a much wider exposure than queries posted on sites devoted to specific geographical locations or specific family names. Well worth visiting and bookmarking.

# **EASTERN TOWNSHIPS BLOG: MISSISQUOI**

The moderator of the Missisquoi mailing list, Nancy Cunningham, has started a blog for those interested in Missisquoi and Stanbridge genealogical information. She is currently moving her files here and you might find it easier to locate information. **missisquoigenealogy.blogspot.com**.

# EARLY IRISH MAPS AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES (TNA)

Thanks to Derek Hopkins for this information. TNA has made available for the first time online a collection of early Irish maps (c.1558 - c.1610). There are more than 60 different maps depicting plantations, fortifications and townships in Ireland during the reigns of Elizabeth I and James I. They are among the earliest cartographic representations of Ireland. You can obtain more information at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documentsonline/irishmaps.asp.

#### **DIGITIZED FAMILY HISTORY BOOKS**

The Family History Archive is a collection of published genealogy and family history books on the Brigham Young University's library Web site. The archive includes histories of families, county and local histories. www.lib.byu.edu/fhc/index.php

#### "10 GENEALOGY BLOGS WORTH READING"

You just might find something new and interesting in this list compiled on the About.com site, see **genealogy.about.com/od/blogs/tp/genealogy.htm**.

#### TECH TIPS - DIGITAL CAMERAS AND ALL-IN-ONE PRINTERS

#### PICTURES FROM DIGITAL CAMERAS

Surprisingly, I receive a lot of comments, both from friends and QFHS members about the difficulty of placing pictures taken with a digital camera on their computers, and then, the best way to send them via E-mail. The simplest tool is to use the CDs that come with the cameras. In general, the software they contain is quite good and easy to use. If you misplaced the CD, the camera company's Website often has downloadable instruction booklets.

#### **PRINTERS**

A question was also asked at one of the courses about all-in-one printers. *Consumer Reports* magazine evaluates them in the November 2009 issue. You should be able to find this in a library, if you are not a subscriber.

Reminder: if there is no 'www' shown for a site, it isn't required, so please don't add one.

#### SUGGESTIONS AND REQUESTS

Please continue to send in any suggestions for subjects or sites. If there is a specific subject for which you cannot find a site, another member could probably help you, so send in requests for this as well. If you use regular mail or drop a note in my mailbox at the QFHS library, please include your name and a telephone number or e-mail address.

Note also that not all material can be used, and that we reserve the right to edit submissions. Please accept my apologies if I forget to give credit to a contributor: in the three-month period between issues, it is easy to forget the source of the contribution.

Note that mention of a product or a web site on the Computer Page does not imply endorsement by the Society

Send your genealogical computer questions/ tips/ reviews/ etc. to *Lorraine Gosselin* c/o *CONNECTIONS* P.O. Box 1026, Pointe Claire, QC, H9S 4H9
OR E-mail to computree@yahoo.com

#### GENEALOGICAL SOFTWARE

by Lorraine Gosselin

( write to computree@yahoo.com if you want to submit questions or suggestions )

This is a column grouping information about various genealogical software programs. It includes news, Web addresses, questions received via E-mail, and questions not answered at courses or answered at one session but not asked nor answered at another.

#### PICASA FACE-RECOGNITION SOFTWARE MAY HELP GENEALOGISTS

It wasn't designed for this, but some genealogists have had success identifying ancestors on family photos by using Google's Picasa software. See this site for the techniques used: ancestorsearch.blogspot.com/2009/08/how-google-picasa-face-recognition.html.

#### **LEGACY FAMILY TREE, VERSION 7.0**

If you want to try out the new version of Legacy before signing up for our course, you can download a free copy of the basic version at www.legacyfamilytree.com.

#### FAMILY TREE MAKER 2009 - WHERE ARE THOSE REPORTS??!!!

During the course on FTM 2009, given recently at our Library, we agreed that three familiar reports we liked and that were included in the old versions of FTM appeared to be missing. It later turned out there is an update that can be downloaded, which should appear the next time you open the program. The details of the update are at tinyurl.com/ygeqk52 Original address:

ftm.custhelp.com/cgi-bin/ftm.cfg/php/enduser/std\_adp.php?p\_faqid=4574&p\_created=1233768049.

Downloading the update, I found that the *BOOK* section now has an additional icon, labelled "Genealogy Book", which will help create a book by putting together various charts and reports you can create using FTM. Unfortunately, it does not seem possible to change the order of the documents until version 2010, so you must insert them in the order you wish them to appear.

The CUSTOM REPORT now can have columns for the data items you choose by following the instructions in the above update and exporting to a spreadsheet; however, I found this much too involved and time-consuming for most people and thus wrote Ancestry to complain on all our behalf. This is what they answered: "When we re-wrote the software we changed the way that report displays. Unfortunately there is not a way to switch back to the columns of the old version. I will forward a feature request onto our developers saying that you would like the option to switch back to the old view." Maybe in their next update ...

The ANCESTOR CHART is still missing but there is a new Family Tree Chart that does provide a direct line of ancestors; the results do look a bit strange, however.

#### WISH TO BUILD YOUR OWN GEN WEBSITE (EASILY AND FREE!)

Read Dick Eastman's comments at **tinyurl.com/yh8lyfh**. He's writing about Google Sites: "Google Sites is a service that allows consumers to easily create web pages by using an editor that is about as easy to use as a word processor."

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS ~ 2010**

#### **GENE-O-RAMA**

The Ottawa Branch of The Ontario Genealogical Society will presents the 27th GENE-O-RAMA

on: 26-27 March 2010

New Location: Library and Archives Canada, 395 Wellington, Ottawa ON

Visit the OGS - Ottawa webpage at: http://ogsottawa.on.ca

For information on Gene-O-Rama go to: http://ogsottawa.on.ca/?page\_id=101

For a complete GENE-O-RAMA brochure go directly to:

http://ogsottawa.on.ca/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2009/12/GOR10Brochure.pdf

#### QFHS SPRING SEMINARS ~ 2010:

Please Remember to book early for the *QFHS Spring Seminars* as Space is Limited to 15 Persons for each seminar. The first 15 for each seminar who pay are guaranteed a seat. These are one day intensive seminars, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. So, bring a lunch and join the fun. Complete details for these FIVE seminars may be found on pages 4 and 5 of this issue of *Connections*.

#### **QFHS SPRING BOOK SALE:**

Open to the public ~ EVERYONE is WELCOME . . . . . so bring a friend and join us on Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010 ~ from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Quebec Family History Society Library / Heritage Centre, 173 Cartier Avenue, Pointe Claire, Quebec for the QFHS Spring Book Sale where a varity of books in all genres will be on sale.

Anyone wishing to donate books may drop them off at the QFHS Library Books of all kinds are welcome: novels, short stories, history, geography, mystery, romance .. etc

#### **QFHS FREE PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES ~ SPRING SESSION:**

Held the second Saturday of each month - March, April and May at 10:30 am Location: St. Andrew's United Church 75 - 15th Ave., Lachine, Quebec Date & Time: see page 3 for details of the March and April 2010 lectures for May dates, time and directions visit the QFHS webpage at: www.qfhs.ca and click on "Happenings" then "Lecture Series"

## DEADLINE FOR THE SPRING / SUMMER EDITION OF "CONNECTIONS" is FEBRUARY 15th 2010

Anyone wishing announcements to appear in this issue must submit the material by the deadline date

#### **CEMETERY INSCRIPTION - SEARCH REQUEST**

A search for **Specific Surnames** can be requested in one or more of the many Cemetery Listing holdings of the QFHS Library.

COST:

Members: \$ 5.00 per SURNAME per CEMETERY
Non-Members: \$ 8.00 per SURNAME per CEMETERY

whether or not there is an entry found for the desired Surname/s is to be <u>paid in advance</u>. Each variant Surname spelling is considered a separate request. All data recorded will be included in our reply to your request.

( Please print in Ca	pital Letters)			(If Known)	
SURNAME		NAME		DATE of DEATH	AGE
1	1		-		
2	2		-		
3	3	·	-		
4	4		-		
NAME OF CEMET	ERY 1				_
TOWN/TOWNSHIP	_				_
COUNTY/PROVING	CE				_
RELIGIOUS DENO	OM		<del></del>		=
REQUESTED BY:					
EMAIL	_ ADDRESS _				<del>-</del> _

Send your <u>prepaid</u> Cheque or Postal Money Order and a Self-Addressed-Stamped Envelope (SASE) to: THE QUEBEC FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY Attention: "CEMETERY GRAVE LISTS"

Indicate your preference of a response by email.

#### **QFHS - ANCESTRAL SURNAME LIST - MEMBERS INTERESTS**

THE PURPOSE OF THE QFHS ANCESTRAL SURNAME LIST IS TO INFORM MEMBERS OF THE VARIOUS SURNAMES BEING RESEARCHED. QFHS MEMBERS WISHING TO HAVE SURNAMES INCLUDED IN THE NEXT EDITION MAY SUBMIT UNLIMITED ANCESTRAL SURNAMES FREE OF CHARGE BY PHOTO COPYING AND COMPLETING THIS FORM.

#### PLEASE NOTE

ONLY QFHS MEMBERS WILL HAVE THEIR SURNAMES INCLUDED IN THE PRINTED AND INTERNET VERSIONS.

# SEND THE COMPLETED FORM TO: THE QUEBEC FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY ANCESTRAL SURNAMES P.O. BOX 1026 POINTE CLAIRE, QUEBEC, CANADA H9S 4H9

MEMBER NAME			MEMBERSHIP#	
ADDRESS		CITY		
PROVINCE/STATE		COUNTRY		
E-MAIL ADI	DRESS			POSTAL/ZIP CODE
ENTRY#	SURNAME	PERIOD	COUNTRY	COUNTY / PROV / STATE / TOWN
1.	(EXAMPLE) HOPKINS	1800's	ENGLAND	Dorset Shaftesbury
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				
11.				
12.				

visit us at: www.qfhs.ca

# QUEBEC FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY In-Depth Research Request Form

Our Volunteer Researchers are prepared to assist you in your family history research — using the resources of the Quebec Family History Society Library, Archives Nationale du Quebec and the Quebec Provincial Library

This form can be photocopied from Connections
OR completed on-screen from the QFHS website at: www.qfhs.ca
and printed on your printer. You may also print it and then fill it out.
Please print clearly and use CAPITAL letters.

RESEARCH FEE = \$20.00 AN HOUR. State the number of research hours

Births, Marr Protestant,	riages and Deaths wer , Roman Catholic, J	re registered by the church. ewish		
State Dates	s as m/d/y			
Circa Date	of Birth	Place of Birth	Religion	
Circa Date	of Marriage	Place of Marriage	Religion	
Circa Date o	of Death	Place of Death	Religion	
Name the coor was last	ommunity or region of known to reside	Province of Quebec where far	mily settled	
What specif	fic information or gene	eral information are you seeking	g about this person?	
Have you or What source	r other people conduces were searched?	ted research concerning this p	erson?	
Membershi	p Number	Name		
Address:		City:		
Province	Postal Cod	de		
Payment:	Visa #	Expiry Date		
	Cheque	Money Order		

#### QUEBEC FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

www.qfhs.ca

The Quebec Family History Society Library and Heritage Centre, located at 173 Cartier Avenue, Pointe Claire, Quebec, has an extensive collection of genealogical and historical information consisting of: computer databases, microfilms, microfiche, CDs, rare books, private papers, family histories, cemetery inscriptions and indexes, maps, and books and genealogical journals from around the world, with digital imaging equipment to make excellent copies of anything you find. This information pertains, not only to Quebec, but to other provinces, the United States, England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, France and many other countries. QFHS Members can also borrow additional research material from other sources such as the National Archives or other libraries through the QFHS Inter-Library Loan system. Our own journal, Connections, contains a wealth of information as well as interesting and informative articles. Workshops and seminars are given throughout the year on how to use these resources, and others - including the internet - to trace your ancestry. The QFHS Library is open six days a week and Wednesday evenings - except during July and August when Summer hours of three days a week are in effect. Duty librarians volunteer their time and expertise to help you in your quest. And, there are always fellow QFHS members willing to share their knowledge, give advice or lend a helping hand. The QFHS Free Public Lecture Series is held the second Saturday of each month September to December and March to May in Lachine where speakers discuss a variety of topics of interest to family historians. There is always a question and answer period after each presentation and a chance to meet and mingle over coffee, juice and cookies afterwards. The QFHS also has an on-line book store which carries books on Genealogy, Quebec Census Transcriptions, Church Register Transcriptions, Crown Land Grants of Quebec, Monument Inscriptions, back issues of Connections, and a number of QFHS publications and QFHS promotional items. Orders to this store can be made on-line from the QFHS website or by mail.

Located off Autoroute 20 on Cartier Avenue [ exit 49 ] - between St Jean and St Charles Free two hour parking on the street - Free all-day parking lot off Salisbury Road behind the Library Bus stops 211 and 201 approximately 100 feet north of the Library, in front of the CLSC 211 bus from Lionel Groulx or Ste Anne de Bellevue - 201 from Fairview Shopping Centre

Regular Library and Office hours:

Monday to Friday: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

<u>Library ONLy is also open - [ September to June ]</u> Wednesday evenings: 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Sunday: 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. / Closed Saturday

Summer and Holiday Hours will be published in CONNECTIONS and on the QFHS website

Mailing Address:

Quebec Family History Society

P.O. Box 1026, Fax: Pointe Claire, Quebec E-ma

Canada H9S 4H9

Phone: 514-695-1502

Fax: 514-695-3508 E-mail: admin@gfhs.ca

Annual QFHS Membership Renewal is due: August 1st

# **CONNECTIONS**

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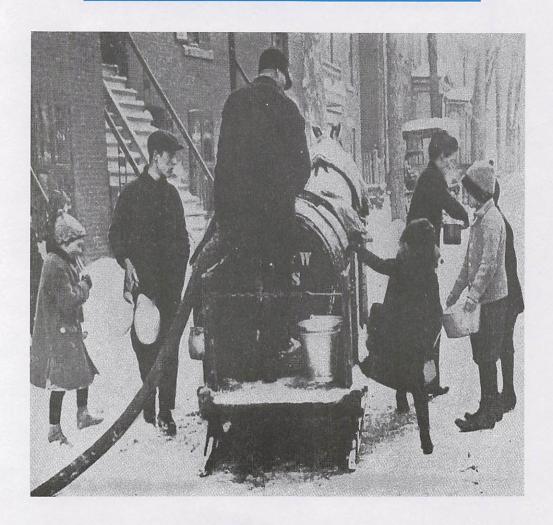
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Monday to Friday 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Wednesday 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

SUMMER HOURS: Complete details - See QFHS NEWS and NOTES - on page 2

July & August: Open ONLY Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays - 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

QFHS MONTHLY LECTURE SERIES: Held the second Saturday of each month September to December and March to May

Location: St. Andrew's United Church 75 - 15th Ave., Lachine, QC

Date & Time: at 1:30 pm - for dates, time and directions visit the QFHS webpage at: www.qfhs.ca

and click on "Happenings" then "Lecture Series"

"CONNECTIONS" VOLUME 32 No: 3 ~ SPRING / SUMMER 2010, ISSN 0707.7130

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VOLUME #32 ISSUE #3 SPRING / SUMMER 2010

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THE COVER PHOTO IS OF A MONTREAL WATER CART - CIRCA 1914

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#### **QFHS - ANNUAL BOOK SALE:**

# For Your Bookshelf

The QFHS will be holding its annual Book Sale on Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010 - from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. At the QFHS Library / Heritage Centre, 173 Cartier Ave., Pointe Claire, Quebec **Everyone Welcome . . . . Bring a Friend** 



#### **ROOTS HERITAGE 2011**

The QUEBEC FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

will, once again, be hosting
AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH
in MONTREAL in JUNE 2011

ALL EVENTS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ALL LECTURES WILL BE IN ENGLISH further details.

including a list of speakers, topics, events and a registration form will be published in upcoming issues of CONNECTIONS and on the QFHS webpage at: www.qfhs.ca



is AVAILABLE AT THE QFHS Library ... FOR FREE



Please remember to renew your QFHS membership by August 1st.

Membership Renewal Form for the year 2010 ~ 2011 will be found in the center of this Issue of Connections

Dawn Quellette ~ Editor



#### **Cover Photo**

The photo on the cover of this issue of Connections is of one of the horse-drawn water carts which supplied fresh water to the citizens of Montreal in the early 1900s. This photo was submitted by Robert Wilkins with his article 'the water Famine of 1914' which can be found on page 5.

#### Other articles in this issue

Montreal's Notorious Car Culture, on page 7, also submitted by Robert Wilkins, is an interesting account of the early days of the horseless carriage and of the first pedestrian fatality in Montreal caused by an automobile. The Search for Miss Lebeau, on page 8 is a cry for help from Clare Dickson of New Zealand. Clare has hit a brick wall in her six year search for a WWII acquaintance of her father, known to her only as Bunny Lebeau. At the suggestion of QFHS member, Bruce Henderson she has submitted this article and wartime photos hoping that someone will be able to help locate Miss Lebeau or her descendants. An Extremely Short History of the Martins of Martinville, on page 11, is a request by Lorraine Gosselin for help in finding her ancestor, Henry Martin and a brief history of her branch of the Martin family in Quebec. Both these articles include a number of photos, some are not very clear - but still interesting just the same. Golf and the Sunday Walking Stick, on page 17, is an interesting and amusing bit of history, I thought our readers would enjoy, about how our Victorian ancestors cleverly outwitted the authorities of the day with the help of a walking stick. In his article on page 19 Robert Wilkins describes The Strathcona Memorial in Dominion Square, erected in 1907 to the memory of the Canadian soldiers who served in the South African Conflict of 1899 - 1902. On page 21 you can read the article from Susan McGuire's blog, Historical Overview of the Atwater Library. Both are interesting articles about two of Montreal's historical landmarks.

#### Also in this issue:

There is an updated list of books for sale through the QFHS Book Shop, you can also visit the On Line Book Shop on the QFHS website. Library Acquisitions on page 13 lists all new books, Cds, microfilm, and microfiche now available at the QFHS Library - there is also a new VHS video on the Great Irish Famine. Computree, on page 25, has a number of interesting sites to visit and news on Genealogical Software. As you will see in News and Notes the QFHS has signed a new agreement with ancestry.ca. allowing FREE access to all QFHS members at the Library to the millions of records available on ancestry. We have also received the third edition of the National Burial Index of England and Wales, which contains over 18 million burial records - this summer come in, relax, and enjoy the friendly atmosphere of the QFHS Library / Heritage Centre while you search for those elusive ancestors in these and the many other records available. Also, come and browse through the new and used books for sale at the Annual QFHS Book Sale on June 12th. Or, sign up for one, or both, of the interesting seminars that will be given in June.

As of 2011 all QFHS members will have the option of receiving Connections electronically. This will be a PDF version of the original printed issue of Connections magazine. Access will require your membership number, a user name and password. You will then be able to print it off or read it on your computer screen.

Memberships and renewals are the lifeblood of the QFHS so I urge you please remember to renew your annual membership before August 1st and maybe even consider giving a QFHS membership to a friend or family member as a gift. It makes a wonderful, unique birthday, Christmas or other special occasion gift for anyone interested in finding out more about their own family history.

#### HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER

Editor ~ Dawn Ouellette

## **QFHS NEWS AND NOTES**

#### **QFHS LIBRARY & OFFICE - SUMMER HOURS:**

The QFHS Library and Office Summer Hours will commence the week of June21st. 2010 July & August: will be open ONLY on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays - 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Last Sunday afternoon open June 13<sup>th</sup>
Last Wednesday evening open June 16<sup>th</sup>

Closed: Wednesday, June 24<sup>th</sup> - St-Jean Baptiste Closed: Wednesday, July 1<sup>st</sup> - Canada Day Closed: Tuesday, Sept 1<sup>st</sup> - Labour Day

Closed: August 30<sup>th</sup> through to September 6<sup>th</sup>

Regular hours will recommence on Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> 2010

#### **ANCESTRY.COM**

The Quebec Family History Society has signed a new agreement with *Ancestry.ca* Which will ensure that QFHS Members will have FREE access in our Heritage Centre to the Deluxe Edition of all *Ancestry*'s databases not just for Canada but for the entire World including, of course, United States, the British Isles, Europe, Australia, etc. Billions of Records are available to QFHS Members.

QFHS President, Gary Schroder

#### **QFHS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL:**

★ Please remember to renew your QFHS Membership before August 1st 2010 ★ The QFHS Membership Renewal form will be found in the center of this issue of Connections. This form may be used when renewing by mail or in person - with cheque or money order. You may also pay by VISA. The Quebec Family History Society now offers you the capability to renew your membership on-line using our partnership with PAYPAL. Visit the QFHS website at: www.qfhs.ca and click on Membership to use this service.

Do you have friends or relatives who wants to join QFHS? New members can join QFHS using our on-line membership service with Paypal.

#### **IMPORTANT**

The QFHS provides its members with an extensive library relevant to all facets of genealogy, as well as computers with free access to millions of records from pay-per-view databases and other equipment, all in rented quarters. The associated costs for major expenses such as rent, utilities, taxes, insurance and the cost of publishing *Connections*, must come from the fees paid by our members. This year we have had a major jump in these costs. Therefore, In order for us to exist and to continue providing these services, we have found it necessary to increase membership fees We hope our members will understand and continue to support us.

Dorothy Weller, Treasurer

## **QFHS NEWS AND NOTES**

#### **QFHS - ANNUAL BOOK SALE:**



Is your bookshelf cluttered with books that you will never read again?
Why not donate them to the QFHS for their annual book sale!
Anyone wishing to donate books may drop them off at the QFHS Library

The QFHS will be holding its annual Book Sale on Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010 - from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

At the QFHS Library / Heritage Centre, 173 Cartier Ave., Pointe Claire, Quebec OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

EVERYONE WELCOME . . . . BRING A FRIEND

#### ROOTS .... RESCHEDULED!!

Due to the uncertainty concerning the Grande Prix Formula One Auto Race in Montreal in 2010 "ROOTS" has been postponed until June 2011.

After long and careful deliberation the "ROOTS" planning committee decided to reschedule the fifth International Conference on Family History Research, sponsored by the QFHS, until June 2011. Further details, including a list of speakers, topics, events and a registration form will be published in upcoming issues of CONNECTIONS and on the QFHS website at www.qfhs.ca

#### **REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS**

#### **Duty Librarians:**

The Quebec Family History Society is currently recruiting duty Librarians. Volunteers are required once or twice a month on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays and should to be comfortable with computers to be able to assist members with the use of the QFHS Library computers. Training will be provided. This is a great way to meet the members and find out more of what is available at the QFHS Library while helping others with their research. If you are interested please phone Joan Benoit at the QFHS @ 514-695-1502 for more details.

#### DEADLINE for the AUTUMN ISSUE of CONNECTIONS is: July 15th 2010

Please submit all material by the deadline date

#### **SEMINARS ~ JUNE 2010**

A reminder that the Quebec Family History Society is offering TWO all day intensive seminars in June. These seminars will examine various facets of genealogical research for finding your ancestors - including the latest databases available at the QFHS and on the Internet. There will be time in the afternoon to ask your specific genealogical questions and seek research guidance

Please Remember that Space is Limited to 15 Persons for each seminar The first 15 for each seminar who pay are guaranteed a seat We will stop one hour for Lunch ~ Please Bring a Lunch

#### A GENEALOGICAL DAY IN QUEBEC:

This seminar will examine the main sources used in Quebec genealogical research regardless of whether you ancestors originated from France, England, Ireland, Scotland, etc. Church Records, Civil Registration Records, Censuses, Notarial Records, Passenger Ship Lists, Newspapers, Cemetery Records, Land and Judicial Records. There will also be emphasis on the most important web sites used in Quebec family history research and the wonderful new databases available on the site of the Bibliotheque and Archives Nationales du Quebec.

Lecturer: Sharon Callaghan, Lorraine Gosselin, and Gary Schroder

Date: Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ~ at the QFHS Library

Fee: \$30.00 for Members // \$40.00 for Non-members

#### A GENEALOGICAL DAY IN IRELAND:

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Lecturer: Gary Schroder

Date: Saturday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010

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Schedule for the Autumn and Winter seminars will appear in the Autumn issue of *Connections* and on the QFHS website at: **www.qfhs.ca** 

# The Water Famine and the St. Louis Square Fire of January 1914

By Robert N. Wilkins (montreal\_1900)

Late Christmas Day 1913 a major break of approximately sixty feet in length occurred in the principal conduit bringing water into the City of Montreal. There had been a problem earlier that December in the very same spot for which a temporary repair job was quickly completed. Everyone knew that Montreal was very vulnerable in so far as its water repository was concerned because of the simple fact that

there was just one supply route.

The now broken pipe ( which was nine feet in diameter) was the sole feed of water into a city of more than 350,000 people. The ruptured culvert located was immediately back of the Verdun Protestant Hospital for the Insane, which was more commonly referred to at the time as the Lunatic Asylum

( today it is called the Douglas Hospital ).

So enormous was the task of correcting the misadventure that it took until the end of the day of January 2 to do so. This meant a full eight days with virtually no water whatsoever for Montrealers.

Fortunately, there had been a major snow storm shortly before the Christmas Day breach so citizens could bring buckets of snow into their homes for them to melt there. The city also sent out horse-drawn watercarts to help alleviate the suffering. The ringing of a bell would announce the arrival of the wagon on

any given street. The few institutions which still had artesian wells on their property ( like the Hotel Dieu ) quickly re-activated them, putting them to good use.

The old Western Hospital on Atwater (today the Children's) had the good fortune to be situated strategically close to the City of Westmount which had its own independent water supply network. Thoughtfully, the town's

fire department deployed a temporary fire hose in order to furnish the hospital with the precious liquid.

One of the main suppliers of bottled water in those days was the Laurentian Water Company. In the midst of the crisis, demand increased to such an extent that the company was forced to limit its delivery to

forced to limit its delivery to established clients, many of whom were in Westmount. It wasn't the water that was lacking but rather the ability to deliver it. In fact, many rigs, destined for Westmount, were encircled by thirsty Montrealers to whom drivers were forced to sell their supply!

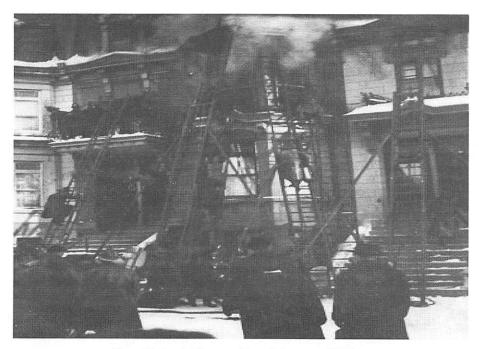
During the eight day drought, everyone feared fire. In the middle of the crisis, a near panic - stricken Montreal Fire Chief Tremblay reported to the City Hall that there was just enough water left in the McTavish Reservoir for one big fire. In addition, stories circulated within the city that the dam at the junction of the River St.



Lawrence and the old aqueduct was about to burst. Had this happened, it is believed that all of Point St. Charles would have been flooded. What everyone dreaded finally occurred at 290 (today's address) St. Louis Square when fire broke out at 14:25 on Thursday, January 1, 1914.

Combating the blaze was indeed aggravated by the water disruption. In fact, despite the enormity of the conflagration, the firefighters were reduced to battling it with only three streams of water, the pressure for which was thoroughly inadequate. Indeed, at times no water whatsoever was emanating from the hoses in question. Only the heroics of the men and their remarkable ingenuity contained a fire which it was originally feared would raze the entire block bounded by St. Louis Square, Laval, St. Denis, and Sherbrooke Streets.

In terms of the potential for real catastrophe, it was perhaps the most dangerous eight days through which Montreal had ever passed up to that point in its history. However, exactly 84 years to the month later did this city experience anything equal in possible peril, and that was the Great Ice Storm of 1998.



The St. Louis Square Fire of January 1914

The photo on the preceding page and on the cover of this issue of *Connections* is of one of the horse-drawn water carts sent out by the City of Montreal to supply fresh water to the citizens of the city during 'the water Famine of 1914'.

# MONTREAL'S NOTORIOUS CAR CULTURE HAD AN EARLY START

By Robert N. Wilkins

A little over a century ago, a scarcely-known individual by the name of Antoine Toutant unwittingly made Montreal history. As the unfortunate labourer was crossing the intersection of St. Catherine Street East and Maisonneuve (today, Alexandre-de-Sève) he was struck by a 'speeding' automobile. While his wife and son (who were with him at the time of the accident) escaped with their lives, Toutant died shortly afterwards. His unenviable claim to fame: he was the first pedestrian ever killed by a motorized vehicle in the City of Montreal.

The tragic story took place the evening of August 11, 1906. The automobile in question was driven by Hernold Thomas Atkinson, a chauffeur with the Dominion Park Company. Quebec law at the time decreed a maximum speed of six miles an hour (10 kph) within cities, towns, and villages. When approaching intersections, 'machines' were expected to reduce further their speed to an astonishing (at least by today's standards) four miles an hour (6.4 kph). Nonetheless, when a newspaper reporter of the day, installed himself for about an hour at an intersection on Dorchester Street, he counted a total of seventeen vehicles passing in front of him at an average velocity of 15 miles an hour (25 kph).

By all accounts, Atkinson was also travelling considerably faster than the legal stipulation. Regardless, then, as now, not all provincial road regulations were attentively enforced by the municipal authorities. It also seems that the accident occurred as Atkinson overtook an immobilized tramway which had come to a halt to take on passengers. However, ordinances from the period prescribed that drivers wait until that process was completed before continuing. In a sense, the street car was like a stopped school bus - not to be passed under any circumstances.

Instead, Atkinson pulled ahead on the left of the trolley, striking Toutant outright as he stepped unknowingly in front of the offending vehicle. Mrs. Toutant's dress was torn by the automobile as she nimbly saved herself by stepping quickly onto the sidewalk on the north side of St. Catherine Street. Her husband, however, was declared dead twenty minutes later at Notre Dame Hospital. Needless to say, Montrealers were particularly horrified by the event, perhaps especially because the victim's body was very badly mangled in the incident. Moreover, many in the general public were still not totally comfortable with these new 'machines' which were suddenly and stealthily prowling the streets of the city.

Not surprisingly, Toutant's death became the subject of much controversy. Even the Automobile Club ( the forerunner to the CAA ) weighed in with their opinion that the speed directives, although unwarrantedly strict, had to be obeyed by all drivers. In fact, all regulations as they applied to automobiles had to be observed, they argued.

That same evening, Atkinson was charged with manslaughter and, exactly a month after the accident, he was sentenced to six months in prison for his part in this Montreal first.

There exists an interesting irony to this whole unhappy affair. it was on the very same day of Toutant's death that Pope Pius X promulgated St. Christopher to be the patron saint of automobile drivers throughout the world. But then again, it wasn't Atkinson who was killed!



#### THE SEARCH FOR MISS LEBEAU

"My New Zealand father knew his French-Canadian wartime friend as Bunny" submitted by Clare Dickson

My father in the RNZAF was flight lieutenant *Peter Henry (1921-2001)*. In the 1943 – 1945 period during WWII he was in the Commonwealth Air Training Plan instructing pilots, stationed mainly at Camp Borden near Barrie, ON, except for short periods at Trenton ON, Hagersville ON, Greenwood NS and Moncton NB.

I have been doing some family research - in particular, on my father's log-book and papers and have encountered mention of different parts of Quebec: of Mount Royal, Montreal and Bark Lake, QC (in the Rouge Valley) and its residents in particular Frank Jarvis. ex-R.A.F. who was the secretary / curator of Brig. Gen. Hamilton Gault's estate at Mont St. Hilaire. Frank was from all accounts a wonderfully hospitable character that gave great support to the visiting Services' personnel in WW2, including my Dad. Over the years, Frank invited hundreds of service personal to his cottage at Bark Lake which was a very isolated place without roads, electricity or other modern conveniences.

Amongst Dad's papers were a couple of postcards from Frank to Dad, and some photographs featuring Frank Jarvis and friends. These pictures are some of the tangible evidence I have regarding this period in my Dad's life and it is through them I hope to obtain a lead and break down my family history "brick wall".

Dad was great friends with a Miss Lebeau whose nick-name was "Bunny" and who may feature in one of the photos, RCAF pilot Bob Shepherd who lived in Mount Royal and Frank Jarvis who lived on Cote St Antoine Road in Westmount. [\*\* note Frank wrote a St James St. address on the card he sent Dad so may have lived there at the end of the war] Miss Lebeau may have had a son about the end of the war who would now be aged around 65 years old. Shortly before he died my father said

he would like me to find Miss Lebeau or any of her surviving family. Unfortunately few clues to Miss Lebeau are left. I don't know her first name, birth date or birth place. I do not know what she looked like other than I was told she was in one of my father's photos. Thus I am trying to contact those friends and associates from the period still living in hope that a clue will be unearthed. Several years ago I did make contact with a former RCAF Camp Borden, ON couple who thought they had known the Miss Lebeau in question but were unable to give any certain information which was a great disappointment.

In 2001 I spoke to a number of pilots who had been stationed with Dad in Canada, including a fellow RNZAF pilot friend of Dad's in the C.A.T.P. in Canada, called lan McCrone who did all he could to help my quest but he could not remember a Miss Lebeau from the time when he was stationed with Dad at Trenton (Oct to Dec 1943). Ian told me that he went on a number of week-end-leave trips with Dad by train and then taxi to Bark Lake and remembered Frank Jarvis well and all the service personnel that were quests of Frank's. many of whom would later see active service. and be killed. Recently through a stroke of luck I made contact with Helen who was a contemporary and friend of Frank Jarvis and a regular visitor to Bark Lake during the later years of WWII. Unfortunately she could not recall a 'Bunny' Lebeau but did recall that many young women from Montreal also went to Bark Lake in those days. I am anticipating her review of some photos from the period. When my niece, Mary, was at McGill as an exchange student (architecture) in 2006, she met a young man at a party and he happened to be wearing one of the famous Bark Lake Sailing T shirts. This led her to other families of the current Bark Lake clan. These 'Bark

Lakers'. have continued to show the same

spirit of goodwill in helping me with my historic quest, that my father and many others enjoyed during WWII in Canada particularly from Frank Jarvis.

Below are several photos from the period taken in the winter of 1943-45 when my father was about 23 years old. It would be highly appreciated if any readers could contact me if they recognized any of the people in these photos and have any information, e.g. any names, particularly the names of the young women and where they came from.

Clare Dickson (nee Henry) Email: dicksons@ihug.co.nz Tel: 0064 9 810 9748 292 Wairere Road, RD2 Waitakere, Henderson 0782, Auckland, North Island, New Zealand



#### Photo 1

The woman in the middle is believed to be Marion Flower a New Zealand nurse working in Canada and a good friend of Frank Jarvis. Probably taken at Bark Lake or Mt Tremblant, QC by Frank Jarvis. Who is the other woman? Dad labelled this photo: "Going home"

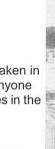


Photo 2 Leaning on this snowmobile which was parked on frozen Bark Lake, from left to right are Frank Jarvis, Marion Flower, an unknown woman whom I believe also appears in Photo 1, and my father.



Photo 3

Do you recognize this woman who I believe may be the same unidentified woman as in Photos 1 and 2. Frank Jarvis is on the right. Frank wrote that this photo was taken at Mt. Tremblant QC and he named the man on the left as "RAF lad" who was rumoured to have been part of Guy Gibson's "Dambusters" crew.



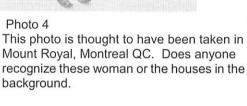




Photo 5 Who is this girl? Where is this house located? Unfortunately the picture quality is poor but this picture is taken in front of the same house as Photo 4.

## AN EXTREMELY SHORT HISTORY OF SOME OF THE MARTINS OF MARTINVILLE, COMPTON, AND COATICOOK, QUEBEC

By Lorraine Gosselin

There are at least two different sets of Martins who once lived in Martinville.

What I call the founders and the others. We descend from the others.

Researchers in our family know of two branches of our own Martins. There was John senior, also referred to as Joshua in Channel's History of Compton. My ancestor Frederick Martin was a relative of his, most probably his younger brother.

John, his wife Mary Jane Paul, and their son Joseph, lived in a house in Compton when the 1861 census was taken. In the same house lived my great-great-grandfather Frederick Martin and his wife Eliza Kelly. This is probably enough to confirm our assumption that they were related, but in later years, John's daughter Helen was called "cousin" by my great-grandfather George, Frederick's son. There is also a picture of John's granddaughter that is signed to my grandfather Henry. Another item linking the families is the identical photo held by the two branches. My cousin John Fowler, of Ottawa, believes it is a picture of his "Grandpapa Martin", while in my family, we think of it as a picture of Henry, father of Frederick, taken in Barnston. But that is all we have of that generation of the Martin family. Henry is as far back as we have managed to go but we have yet to discover a mention of a plausible Henry in any records . . . so far. We have very little information about Henry's sons John/Joshua and Frederick. When Johns wife,' Mary Jane Paul, died in 1926, the newspaper notice stated her husband came from Three Rivers. I have not been able to identify any information for Frederick, not even on his marriage records. The census records indicate that both John and Frederick were born in Canada East and were French Canadian in origin. Although we do not know very much about the men in this family, oddly enough, we do know quite a bit about the women. John's wife, Mary Jane Paul, was born on the ship that brought her parents Michael Paul and Harriet Pike from Manchester, England - born on the Atlantic Ocean - according to the census of 1861.

Michael Paul was a sailor in the "Queen's navy". Frederick's wife, Eliza Kelly, came from Ireland, probably in the 1840s. Family lore says she came from County Clare, but this still has to be confirmed. She was the daughter of Daniel Kelly and Margaret Blake. Eventually, her brother Michael came to Canada also, and married Catherine Qualy at St-Michael Catholic Cathedral in Sherbrooke. They moved to Lowell around 1900. All the descendants of Michael Kelly are dead and buried in Lowell, Mass.

There are only three living descendants of Frederick Martin and Eliza Kelly: besides myself, there is my cousin Barbara Filion and her son Pierre in Venise-en-Québec (Missisquoi Bay).

On the other hand, there are still descendants of John who live in the Townships, in the small towns around Compton and Lennoxville, as well as in and around Ottawa. Many of them lie buried in the cemetery in Martinville and some of them in Compton.

#### **DATES & FACTS**

Henri / Henry MARTIN - may have come from Three Rivers, may have lived in Barnston at some point. Assume had at least two sons, John/Joshua and Frederick.

John/Joshua MARTIN was born May 20, 1832, probably around Three Rivers. He married Mary Jane PAUL at the Universalist Church in Ascot on September 2, 1856. Mary Jane was born on May 27, 1838, on a ship on the Atlantic Ocean. John died in 1920 and Mary Jane in 1926. They are both buried in the Protestant cemetery in Martinville, along with at least one of their nine children. They lived in Compton and other small towns in the Eastern Townships. Their children were Joseph, James A., John M., Levi Henry, Joshua, Ellen Anne, Eliza J., Hattie J., and Fred Charles.

Frederick MARTIN was born about 1835. He married Eliza KELLY on August 25, 1860 in the Anglican Church in Compton. He died in 1911 and Eliza died in 1929. They are both buried in St-Edmond Catholic cemetery in Coaticook, Quebec. At one point, they lived on a farm in Barnston. They had only one son, George Henry (1861-1952) and he had only one son, Henri. Note that Henri/Henry appears in several generations in this family and that the names Fred and Eliza also appear in Johns family.

SOURCES Channell, L.S. History of Compton. Ascot Universalist church records. Martinville cemetery headstones. St-Edmond de Coaticook parish registers. Compton Anglican registers.

#### **HELP US FIND HENRY!**

There are at least three branches of these families looking for more information on "their" Martins - the Smiths from Bulwer, the Fowlers from Ottawa, and myself, in Montreal. So if you can furnish some clue, we would be most grateful.

Please contact Lorraine Gosselin at computree@yahoo.com, subject: MARTIN.



written: from Hattie Martin to Henry



Eliza Kelly Martin



George Henry Martin



Henry Martin

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2.	by Trudy Duivenvoodenmitic
3.	compiled by Janice Nickerson
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4.	Memories of Snowdon in the 1950s (Montreal) collected by Bill Conrod
5.	Veritas: A History of Selwyn House School, Montreal 1908-1978 by Edgar C Moodey with R.A Spiers
6.	Histoire de la Famille Lavergne
7.	Par B.C.Payette
	by S Stephen Penton MA; LL.D
8.	1939-1945; Bank of Montreal
9.	Our Tribute Everlasting 50 Anniversary Sir Mortimer B. Davis Jewish General Hospital 1934-1984
10.	by Alexander Wright
10.	United Church of Canada Presbyteries. Ottawa, Sherbrooke, Quebec, Laurentians
11.	Vol 1
12.	Quyon United Church 1859-1930 compiled by Randy D McConnell
13.	Historical Maps of Canada
14.	by Michael Swift
15.	Marching To Armageddon by Desmond Morton
16.	*Combattre pour la France en Améique
	Les soldats de la guerre de sept ans Nouvelle- France 1755-1760  Marcel Fournier, director of publication
17.	Canada and Her Commerce, Dominion Commercial Travellors Association ed. by James Hedley
18.	Creating Family Newslatters
19.	by Elaine Floyd
20.	By Ginette Duquette
	by Brereton Greenhaus + MH/100.99/G7/1999

21.	Bishops University Annual 1949
	(Lennoxville, Qc.)
22.	The Way We Were by Ken Bell
23.	From Ayrshire, Scotland,to Canada:
	The History Of a Hutchison Family in Scotland and Canada by J. Lawrence Hutchison FH/000.9/H8/2009
24.	The Upper Edwards, Lossie, Scotland, to Rockland, Ontario by Helen Elizabeth Wayman FH/0009/E4/2009
<b>25</b> .	Nordic File: How to find Genealogy Sources in European Countries
	by Jacques Gagné Vol 1
26.	Vol. 2
27.	North American road Atlas:
	United States, Canada,& Mexico REF/HG/000.8/N6/1989
28.	The Scottish Tradition in Canada edited byy W. Stanford Reid
29.	The Oxford Companion to Scottish History edited by Michael Lynch
30.	A Dictionary of Scottish History by Gordon Donaldson

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C4025	Frelighsburg Twp (12 cemeteries) Missisquoi County, Quebec (Birch)	\$30.00	\$8.00	\$38.00
C4030	Greenwood Cemetery, Prescott County Ontario (Cotton & Belanger)	\$18.00	\$4.00	\$22.00
C4040	Hawthorn-Dale Cemetery, Montreal, Quebec (QFHS)	\$24.00	\$6.00	\$30.00
C4045	In Memory of Chelsea's Historic Cemeteries	\$15.00	\$5.00	\$20.00
C4050	Lachute Protestant Cemetery - Argenteuil County	\$21.00	\$5.00	\$26.00
C4055	Mount Herman Protestant Cemetery Quebec City	\$80.00	\$10.00	\$90.00
C4070	Philipsburg Protestant Cemetery, Mississquoi County	\$12.00	\$4.00	\$16.00
C4080	Rawdon Area, Montcalm County (Six Cemeteries) (QFHS)	\$18.00	\$5.00	\$23.00
C4090	Richford, Vermont Cemeteries, Index toQuebec references (Simmons)	\$30.00	\$7.00	\$37.00
C4100	Sorel Christ Church (Anglican) Cemetery Inscriptions , Richelieu County (QFHS)	\$7.00	\$4.00	\$11.00
C4110	St Anne's Cemetery, Richmond County (R. Woods)	\$17.00	\$5.00	\$22.00
C4115	St Armand TWP Cemeteries Missisquoi County, Quebec (Birch)	\$30.00	\$8.00	\$38.00
C4120	St James Anglican Cemetery, Ormstown, Chateauguay County (QFHS)	\$12.00	\$4.00	\$16.00
C4130	St Matthew's Episcopal, Chateauguay County (Lang)	\$5.00	\$3.00	\$8.00
C4140	St Paul's Presbyterian (United) Cemetery, Chateauguay County (Lang)	\$10.00	\$3.00	\$13.00
C4145	Stanbridge TWP Cemeteries (Book 1) Missisquoi County, Quebec (Birch)	\$30.00	\$8.00	\$38.00
C4145CD	Stanbridge TWP Cemeteries (Book 1) CD Version Missisquoi County, Quebec (Birch)	\$30.00	\$8.00	\$38.00



# QUEBEC FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICE

MEMBERSHIP YEAR AUGUST 1ST, 2010 TO JULY 31ST, 2011

MEMBERSH	HIP NUMBER:	
NAME:	[SURNAME]	[ GIVEN NAME ]
ADDRESS:	[STREET NO.] [STREET]	[ APT. ]
	[CITY]	[ DDOWNOT   DTATE ]
	[CHY]	[ PROVINCE / STATE ]
	[COUNTRY]	[ POSTAL CODE ]
TELEPHON	E ()[HOME]	[BUSINESS]
E-MAIL ADD	DRESS	
NAME OF FAM [ A FAMILY M	MILY MEMBER [ IF APPLICABLE ]:EMBERSHIP INCLUDES TWO ( 2 ) PEOPLE LIVING	G AT THE SAME ADDRESS ]
In 2	011 all QFHS members will have the option	of receiving Connections electronically
ANNUAL ME	EMBERSHIP FEE	PAYMENT BY VISA AVAILABLE
Control of the Contro	VIDUAL OR FAMILY MEMBERSHIP	NAME:
	NATION	VISA #:
		EXPIRY DATE:
G.S.T. AND P.S	T. ARE NOT APPLICABLE.	

#### PAYMENT BY "PAYPAL" IS ALSO AVAILABLE.

FOR EASY ACCESS TO THIS SERVICE VISIT THE QFHS WEBSITE AT: www.qfhs.ca - AND CLICK ON MEMBERSHIP

~ OR ~

REMOVE THIS FORM AND MAIL IT WITH CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER BEFORE AUGUST 1ST, 2010

TO:

THE QUEBEC FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY P.O. BOX 1026, POINTE CLAIRE, QUEBEC CANADA H9S 4H9

#### **TO ALL MEMBERS**

PLEASE TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO FILL OUT THIS QUESTIONNAIRE AND RETURN IT WITH YOUR 2010 ~ 2011 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL.

THE QUEBEC FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY IS ALWAYS TRYING TO INITIATE WAYS AND MEANS OF MAKING RESEARCH EASIER FOR ALL MEMBERS - YOUR INPUT HELPS US TO HELP YOU.

RE YOU INTEREST	TED IN BEING LISTED ON TH	E QFHS E-MAIL FILE:
-MAIL ADDRESS:		
RE YOU INTEREST	TED IN VOLUNTEERING YOU	R TIME AND EXPERTISE TO THE QFHS:
COMPUTER ENTRY REFRESHMENTS [ M MAILING OF CONNECT TRAVELLING ROAD S	NE DAY PER MONTH, FULL TRAINII  TYPING OF DATA FOR NUMEROU  ONTHLY LECTURE SERIES ] ~ TO  CTIONS ~ LABELLING AND BOXING  SHOW ~ REPRESENTING THE QF  RCHERS ~ LIBRARY RESEARCH F	US QFHS PROJECTS  DOVERSEE THE REFRESHMENT TABLE  GONNECTIONS FOR MAILING  HS AT VARIOUS EVENTS
ALSO WE A	ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR ALOGICAL INTEREST TO ME	ARTICLES, FILLERS OR ANYTHING OF MBERS TO USE IN CONNECTIONS
ARE YOU I		CONNECTIONS ELECTRONICALLY?
	☐ YES	□NO
OMMENTS		
CIVILLIA 12		



Ref No	Title	Price	P/S/H	Total	
C4146	Stanbridge TWP Cemeteries (Book 2) Missisquol County, Quebec (Birch)	\$24.00	\$3.00	\$27.00	
C4146CD	Stanbridge TWP Cemeteries (Book 2) CD Version Missisquoi County, Quebec (Birch)	\$25.00	\$3.00	\$28.00	
C4150	Sutton Area Cemeteries, Brome County (Simmons)	\$36.00	\$8.00	\$44.00	
E. Church Re	egisters or indexes				
E6010	Christ Church Montreal (Anglican) Marriage Index 1766 - 1899 (Dunn)	\$29.00	\$7.00	\$36.00	
E6020	Christ Church Sorel (Anglican) 1766 - 1899, Births, Marriages, Burials (Simmons)	\$32.00	\$7.00	\$39.00	
E6030	Cote St Charles, Hudson (Wesleyan Methodist) 1855 - 1874 B.M.D. (Lancaster)	\$20.00	\$4.00	\$24.00	
E6040	Coteau du Lac Christ Church (Anglican) 1829 - 1857 B.M.D. (Lancaster)	\$20.00	\$4.00	\$24.00	
E6045	Shefford County Protestant Marriages 1880-1899 (Brock)	\$40.00	\$7.00	\$47.00	
E6046	Shefford County Protestant Births/Baptisms 1880-1899 (Brock)	\$35.00	\$5.00	\$40.00	
E6047	Shefford County Protestant Deaths/Burials 1880-1899 (Brock)	\$40.00	\$7.00	\$47.00	
E6050	Sutton Township (Protestant Churches) BMD 1850 - 1899 (Simmons)	\$40.00	\$8.00	\$48.00	
E6055	St Ann, Montreal (1873-1899) Baptisms and Marriages (Hennessy & Dunn)	\$60.00	\$7.00	\$67.00	
E6060	Ste Catherine de la Jacques Cartier, Portneuf County (1832 - 1901) (Garneau)	\$30.00	\$6.00	\$36.00	
EANG001M	Marriage Index Ascension Anglican Montreal (Outremont)1898-1925	\$8.00	\$3.00	\$11.00	
EANG003M	Marriage Index Garrison Anglican Montreal 1790-1880	\$8.00	\$3.00	\$11.00	
EANG005M	Marriage Index Grace Anglican Montreal (Pointe St Charles)1868-1925	\$15.00	\$4.00	\$19.00	
EANG007M	Marriage Index Saint George Anglican Montreal 1817-1925	\$25.00	\$5.00	\$30.00	
EANG018M	Marriage Index All Saints Anglican Montreal 1890-1925	\$8.00	\$3.00	\$11.00	
EANG040M	Marriage Index Christian Advent Anglican Montreal 1894-1925	\$8.00	\$3.00	\$11.00	
ECON002M	Marriage Index Calvary Congregational Church Montreal 1834-1920	\$8.00	\$3.00	\$11.00	
EMET013M	Marriage Index Saint James Methodist Church Montreal 1818-1925	\$20.00	\$4.00	\$24.00	
EPRE003M	Marriage Index American Presbyterian Church Montreal 1832-1925	\$15.00	\$4.00	\$19.00	
EPRE007M	Marriage Index Erskine Presbyterian Church Montreal 1833-1925	\$20.00	\$4.00	\$24.00	
EPRE012M	Marriage Index Saint Andrew's Presbyterian Church Montreal 1815-1925	\$20.00	\$4.00	\$24.00	
EPRE013M	Marriage Index Saint Gabriel's Presbyterian Church and First Church Montreal 1778-1925	\$25.00	\$5.00	\$30.00	
	Marriage Index Saint Andrew's Presbyterian Church Lachine				

Ref No	Title	Price	P/S/H	Total
F: Land Gran	nts			
F7001	Surname Index: Full Set A to Z (3-Ring binder)	\$125.00	\$35.00	\$160.00
F7001CD	Surname Index: Full Set A to Z (CD)	\$49.00	\$4.00	\$53.00
F7010	Surname Index A	\$5.00	\$3.00	\$8.00
F7011	Surname Index B	\$15.00	\$4.00	\$19.00
F7012	Surname Index C	\$12.00	\$4.00	\$16.00
F7013	Surname Index D	\$10.00	\$4.00	\$14.00
F7014	Surname Index E	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$6.00
F7015	Surname Index F	\$8.00	\$3.00	\$11.00
F7016	Surname Index G	\$12.00	\$4.00	\$16.00
F7017	Surname Index H	\$7.00	\$3.00	\$10.00
F7018	Surname Index I/J	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$6.00
F7019	Surname Index K	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$6.00
F7020	Surname Index L	\$10.00	\$4.00	\$14.00
F7021	Surname Index M	\$12.00	\$4.00	\$16.00
F7022	Surname Index N	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$6.00
F7023	Surname Index O	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$6.00
F7024	Surname Index P	\$8.00	\$4.00	\$12.00
F7025	Surname Index Q	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$6.00
F7026	Surname Index R	\$7.00	\$3.00	\$10.00
F7027	Surname Index S	\$8.00	\$3.00	\$11.00
F7028	Surname Index T	\$4.00	\$3.00	\$7.00
F7029	Surname Index U/V	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$6.00
F7030	Surname Index W	\$4.00	\$3.00	\$7.00
F7031	Surname Index Y/Z	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$6.00
G: Connecti	ions Back Issues			
G8001	Cost per Individual Issue (1978-2005)	\$3.00		\$6.00
G8002	Cost per year (4 issues)	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$11.00
G8003	Back Issues (2006 - 2009) Price per Issue	\$6.00	\$3.00	\$9.00
G8004	Price per year (4 issues)	\$20.00	\$5.00	\$25.00
G8005	Complete set on CD Vol 1 through 28 (112 issues)	\$39.00	\$3.00	\$42.00

# GOLF . . . . and THE SUNDAY WALKING STICK

by Dawn Miller Quellette

With all the recent hype in the news these days about golf pro, Tiger Woods I thought this would be a good time to write a brief history of the game and tell the little known story of how one of the golf clubs acquired its unusual name. As I mentioned in my editorial of the Spring / Summer 2009 issue of *Connections*, my son, Gilles is the Canadian distributor of handmade hickory shafted golf clubs for the St Andrew's Golf Company of Scotland. The history of one of these golf clubs is extremely interesting and a credit to the cleverness and inventive ingenuity of our Victorian ancestors. And, always makes a great conversation piece at Gilles' house. It is call the Sunday stick.

Games similar to golf, played by hitting a small ball with a stick, have been recorded throughout history. But, the game as we know it today originated in Scotland - the exact date is unknown. Histories of golf state that in an Act of Parliament, dated 6 March 1457, James II of Scotland banned the games of "gouf" and football as he feared an invasion from England and these sports interfered with archery practice. This law was upheld by both James III and James IV. With the signing of a peace treaty between England and Scotland and the marriage of James IV to Henry VIII's daughter, Margaret in 1502 the ban was lifted. James IV purchased golf clubs and balls from a bowmaker in Perth, Scotland that same year and a golf match is recorded between James IV and the Earl of Bothwell in 1504. Mary Queen of Scots is also well-known for enjoying the game. So we know that golf was already a popular pastime in the 15th and 16th centuries, although a law passed in 1592 prohibited playing it on Sundays.

The popularity of the game quickly spread. In 1603 William Mayne, a bowmaker, was appointed as 'clubmaker' to the court of James I of England [ James VI of Scotland ]. In Canada The Royal Montreal Club was founded in 1873, The Quebec Golf Club in 1875, in Toronto in 1876. And in the US the first three hole golf course was built in Yonkers, NY in 1888 by Scotsman, John Reid. By the Victorian Era there were a number of golf courses in the UK and avid golfers spent much of their free time playing the sport . . . except on Sundays. That is, until some clever individuals came up with an ingenious idea, which was soon copied by many others - the Sunday walking stick. As it was in voque at that time for men to carried a walking stick wherever they went it was not uncommon to see them out for a Sunday stroll, or even in church carrying a stylish stick with a club-like polished wooden handle. Inevitability their leisurely stroll would take them past the village green or an open field, where they would pause, probably glance around while quietly taking a small ball from their pocket and dropping it on the ground. They would then turn their walking stick around and miraculously it would become a golf club. Thus, our Victorian ancestors could get in a few practice shots, with no one the wiser. When they finished they would retrieve the golf ball, put it back in their pocket and casually continue on their way, tipping their hat to passers-by and jauntily swinging their Sunday walking stick.

Author's Note:

For more on the history of golf in Canada see

The Legend of William Doleman on page 12 of the Spring / Summer 2009 issue of Connections.

# QUERIES . . .

#### Compiled by Diane Wilson

#### CAN YOU HELP?

#### **ABRAHAM**

Searching for Laura *ABRAHAM* born in or around Buckingham, Quebec on April 23, 1888. Laura disappeared c1917/1918, and was never heard from again. Anyone having information can contact me through the QFHS email:

admin@gfhs.ca - member #3756

#### DANIEL

Francis John *DANIEL* died on the voyage from Bonne Esperance to Quebec on September 3, 1880. Any information concerning the voyage or circumstances of the death would be appreciated. Richard T. Daniel rotade@btinternet.com

#### **KERSHAW**

As many Irish immigrated from Larne to Quebec c1836, I am seeking suggestions on how to determine if the following family was in Quebec from 1836 to 1842.

KERSHAW, William and Catherine and sons, William and Thomas.

The family were Catholic and located in upper New York in 1842.

Daughter Catherine was born 'at sea' and son Samuel was born June 25. 1840.

Any help would be appreciated.

Len Rav

LRFAMILYCO@COMCAST.NET

Queries with e-mail addresses may be viewed on the QFHS webpage home addresses appearing in *Connections* have been deleted visit the QFHS website at: www.qfhs.ca

And click on "Queries"

The QFHS also offers genealogical research services conducted for a fee
For further information visit the QFHS webpage at: www.qfhs.ca
and click on "Research Help"

#### The Importance of Reading Newspapers

Quebec Mercury - January 7, 1826 Voume XXII

At Burlington, New Jersey on the 17 ultimore (difficult to decipher) Frederick Louden, aged 95, the oldest inhabitant of that village. He fought with Wolfe at the seige of Quebec in 1759, but at the beginning of the Revolution was too old to be draughted as a militia man being about 45; he however, served faithfully as a volunteer. He has left a large family of children, the oldest of whom is above 60, the youngest 17. For many years he was a worthy and active citizen and has died at this advanced age with the character of a honet man and a good Christian

## THE STRATHCONA MEMORIAL IN DOMINION SQUARE

by Robert N. Wilkins

Although many Montrealers pass it virtually every day, very few know anything of the century-old Strathcona and South African Memorial ( its full name ) in Dominion Square. Set precisely in the centre of the celebrated downtown park ( now under extensive renovation ), the unique monument was unveiled at exactly eleven, the morning of May 24, 1907 - Empire Day, as it was known then. The ceremony, both civil and military in nature, was indeed impressive.

Several military bands provided the requisite musical context for the historic event. The troops, once massed on the grounds, gave the general salute to the airs of "God Save the King" while a firing party of sixty shot three volleys in honour of the occasion. The first was to the initial eight bars of "The Dead March in Saul" while an additional eight were performed during the second salvo. The very familiar "Last Post" and "Lights Out" accompanied the final barrage.

The monument is to commemorate the sacrifice made by the approximately 8300 Canadians who served in the 1899-1902 conflict in South Africa - infantry, mounted troops, and artillery. Of these, 135 never returned to Canada, either being killed in action or dying of disease in that far off land. The memorial was designed by George W. Hill, a well-known sculptor from the Eastern Townships. For his work, Hill created a dashing military figure replete with the typical uniform worn by the men who fought at the time of the Boer War. The warrior is further portrayed tempering a bucking cavalry charger, not a mean feat given the reputation of the horses for their bellicose nature. The pedestal itself is made of granite while the statue was forged of bronze in Paris.

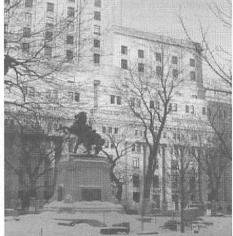
Letters to the editor from the period reflect some concerns, particularly about the positioning of the monument in the square and the absence from the memorial of the names of those Canadians who made the supreme sacrifice. Generally speaking, however, most Montrealers were pleased with its presence in the heart of the city.

Of the three contingents which left this country to participate in the war, perhaps the most famous was Strathcona Horse consisting of three squadrons of 597 men of all ranks. It was essentially a private regiment, the expenses for which were raised by one man - Lord Strathcona, who had succeeded Sir Charles Tupper as Canada's High Commissioner to London. Strathcona had a reputation for generosity in Montreal, what with the Royal Victoria College on Sherbrooke Street

and the Royal Victoria Hospital being just two among many gifts given by him to the city. He also served as President of the Bank of Montreal and had been one of the major contributors to the financing of Canadian Pacific Railway.

With regard to his regiment, and reflecting the instructions of Strathcona himself, the men selected to serve were to be from Western Canada, unmarried, and expert horsemen, "half-way between cavalrymen and cowboys". They were frequently referred to as Strathcona's 'Rough Riders' and were the last to sail for South Africa, leaving Halifax on March 1, 1900 under the command of one Colonel Steele.

Of the memorial itself, a former Quebec Deputy Minister of Education wrote in 1945: "G. W. Hill designed an outstanding figure in bronze of a member of the famous Strathcona Horse in the distinctive uniform worn during



the South African war holding in check a prancing charger. It commemorates the heroic devotion of those who fell in that war and the valour of the Strathcona Horse, five hundred strong, that was raised during the Boer War for service in South Africa by Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, fur trader, member of parliament, railway genius of Montreal and philanthropist.

The monument renders grateful tribute to all who participated and records the names of Kimberley, Paardeberg, Johannesburg, Pretoria, Mafeking and other places rendered famous by British arms during the war. The base of the monument bears bas reliefs of the battles of Paardeberg, Konati River and Belfast". In all, the statue is 3.6 metres high while the dimensions of the memorial itself are 10 metres in height (including the sculpture) by 6.5 metres in width.

The Boer War ended in 1902 when a peace treaty was signed at Vereeniging on May 31 of that year.

Robert N. Wilkins is a retired Montreal-area high school teacher. He is currently indexing death announcements that appeared in the now defunct *Montreal Star*. This data base, at present, covers the period January 1900 - August 1909 and contains over 108,000 obituaries and death announcements.

Further information can be obtained by telephoning 514-524-5247

or by writing to montreal 1900@hotmail.com

Mr. Wilkins' BLOG is found at www.forgoodmeasure.tk

#### **NOTARY DATABASE:**

As researchers into our roots, we delight in the moments when we catch a glimpse of the way our ancestors lived. In Quebec the notary documents contain a wealth of information. Each branch of the Archives Nationales du Quebec (ANQ) houses the records for their region - up to about 1899. The notary was an important person, handling various contracts of the day, including wills, marriage contracts, indentures / apprenticeships, land transactions....including rental fees, estate inventories, and protests to name a few. On a smaller scale we also will find renunciations of estates, contracts by people for specific work, rentals of everything imaginable - from homes to horses. Information in court records often contain more family information than even a will. I have been building a d/base index of notary and tutorship documents for a number of years now. The majority cover the notaries who practiced around the Richelieu River through to Montreal. It costs nothing to ask if I have anything for a specific name. but I charge a small fee of \$15 per document [ includes up to 10 pages ] to obtain and mail a photocopy of the actual document.

Pennie Redmile ...... can be reached at: predmile@total.net

# **DEADLINES FOR UPCOMING ISSUES OF "CONNECTIONS" ARE:**

AUTUMN Issue July 15<sup>th</sup>
WINTER Issue October 15<sup>th</sup>
SPRING / SUMMER Issue February 15<sup>th</sup>

Anyone wishing announcements to appear in a specific issue please submit the material before the deadline date

# HISTORICAL OVERVIEW OF THE ATWATER LIBRARY

http://montrealhistory.org

Montrealhistory.org is the address of a new blog that gives information about early members of The Mechanics Institute of Montreal, founded 1828. Developed by Susan McGuire, QFHS member and volunteer historian at The Atwater Library and Computer Centre, MontrealHistory.org collects writings, photos, and information about the history of Montreal, Quebec and Canada, focused around the Montreal Mechanics Institute [ now known as the Atwater Library and Computer Centre ]. it gives information about what some early members contributed to the Institute and to the wider Montreal community of the time.

Susan McGuire

The Atwater Library and Computer Centre traces its origins back to 1828, when the first mechanics' institute established in continental British North America was formed in Montreal. Today, with its official name being the "Atwater Library of the Mechanics' Institute of Montreal," it is the sole survivor of the many mechanics' institutes established in Canada in the mid-19th century. The rest were either closed or merged into public library systems. The Atwater Library and Computer Centre carries on proudly, aware of its traditions, but focused on the future.

In 1828, some prominent Montreal citizens organized the Montreal Mechanics' Institution because they saw a need to educate young workers for the emerging industries of the growing city-and to keep the young men out of the pubs. Patron of the new organization was Sir James Kempt, governor of Lower Canada. First president was Louis Gugy, sheriff of Montreal. Vice-presidents were industrialist John Molson; merchant Horatio Gates; Louis-Joseph Papineau. speaker of the Assembly of Lower Canada, and the Assembly's representative from the west end of the city; and Rev Henry Esson, educator and Church of Scotland minister at the St. Gabriel Street Church. Weekly meetings of the new organization were attended mainly by employers of craftsmen. artisans, and shopkeepers, but also by ambitious young men eager to increase their knowledge and expertise.

Patterned after mechanics institutions that had already sprung up in Scotland and England, the aim of the new Montreal Institution was, according to its guiding light, the Rev. Esson, "to see to the instruction of its members in the arts and in various branches of science and useful knowledge" In its early days, the institution ran a lecture program, organized weekly "conversations" on a wide variety of subjects, and had a library and a reading room.

It was a time when the building trades were expanding rapidly, highlighted by the construction of Notre Dame Church and the Lachine Canal. The population of Montreal was about 23,000, and the principal commercial and social centre of the city was St. Paul Street. Educational institutions were being developed, including privately-run elementary and secondary schools; McGill University began fledgling classes in medicine in 1829.

By 1834, two cholera epidemics, pre-Rebellion political unrest in Montreal, and rivalries based on religion and educational objectives, led to a suspension of activities of the Mechanics Institution its last meeting was held March 24 1835.

#### Second Institute Formed: A New Era

In 1840, with the Rebellions of 1837-38 passed and Montreal returning to a semblance of political stability, the Mechanics' Institute of Montreal was formed and amalgamated with the previous Mechanics' Institution. The constitution of the two groups was essentially the same, equipment was obtained from the earlier group, the proposed courses of study were similar, and eighty members of the first group were eligible for free membership for a year (twenty-four joined). John Redpath, a Scottish-trained stonemason who had already achieved considerable success in Montreal as a builder and contractor, and who had been an officer of the Mechanics' Institution in 1833, became president and guiding force of the new Mechanics' Institute.

A public lecture program was established as "the best means of awakening in the public a desire for knowledge" (Annual Report 1841). Night classes were created at various times for apprentices and workmen—concentrating on reading, writing, arithmetic, French, and architectural, mechanical and ornamental drawing. Elementary school courses were offered, but the main focus was on secondary studies. This represented the first

organized effort in Canada to establish adult education programs, and it continued virtually uninterrupted for nearly thirty years, when the courses were taken over by the government.

Beginning in 1843 and continuing for some years, small industrial exhibitions were held annually by the Mechanics' Institute to present to the public the scientific advances being made by various industries active in the city. Held in Bonsecours Hall, they were called Mechanics' Festival and were popular social events in Montreal. The festivals included vocal and instrumental music and a dance.

In 1845, during the presidency of architect John Ostell, the Mechanics' Institute of Montreal was incorporated by an Act of the Parliament of the Province of Canada. (In 1840, under the Act of Union, the Province of Canada had been created from the colonies of Upper and Lower Canada.) By 1855, the Mechanics' Institute had built and opened its own building, at the corner of Great St. James and St. Peter streets (now St. Jacques and St. Pierre, in Old Montreal). For the opening ceremonies, the building was decorated with banners such as "To Make a Man a Better Mechanic and the Mechanic a Better Man." With a large lecture hall, it became one of the main cultural centres of the city, and remained so for nearly half a century until the residential population began to shift north and west.

#### **Books the defining feature**

By 1859, the library of the Institute had become one of its most important features. The annual report notes: "The library and reading room form the chief attractions of the Institute, and the manner in which these departments are supplied and managed will always have great influence on the membership list."

For several years beginning in the late 1850s, Alexander Cowper Hutchison taught architectural drawing at the Institute. The son of William Hutchson, a Scottish-born stonemason, A.C. Hutchison had himself apprenticed as a mason with his father, had taken mechanical drawing at the Institute, and went on to become one of Montreal's leading architects. He was involved in the design and construction of major buildings in Montreal, including the Redpath Museum, Erskine and American United Church, the old La Presse

building and Montreal's City Hall. His firm, Hutchison, Wood and Miller, would later design the current Atwater Library building.

In November 1868, a mechanical drawing class with twenty-four students having a syllabus of practical geometry, details of engines, and other machinery and solid geometry, became the last class sponsored by the Mechanics' Institute. The government-sponsored Board of Arts and Manufacturers took over running of the classes, which were offered free to members of the Institute and as a result attracted more pupils. The library and the lectures series became the main focus of the Mechanics' Institute.

## **Moving West**

By 1910, support was growing for selling the St. James Street building and relocating the Institute closer to residential areas. The value of the land had increased vastly during the previous fifty years and it was now in the centre of what had become the city's financial and banking district. The building was sold, and the new site at the corner of Atwater and Tupper streets was chosen. Budget for building and equipping the new building was \$120,000. Sufficient proceeds of the sale were invested to provide income to cover projected maintenance and operating costs of \$12,000 a year. President during this transition period 1913-1920 was William Rutherford.

Construction of the building was begun in 1918 and completed in 1920. Design was by the architectural firm of Hutchison, Wood and Miller, and by that time A. C. Hutchison was retired and the drawings were prepared by his grandson. His brother, builder J. Henry Hutchison, a long-time member who served on the Mechanics' Institute board of management, headed the building committee.

In 1920, with great ceremony, and with Masonic traditions observed, the new building was opened. In January 1995, seventy-five years later, Montreal architect Susan Bronson spoke at a special evening commemorating the building opening. During her talk, she described the exterior of the building as follows:

"[The building has] a solid sense of architectural integrity resulting from its simple and clear composition, selective and consistent detailing, and high-quality construction. [It] is clad in buff brick with certain features—cornice, frames around the

upper floor windows, medallion reliefs, panels below the windows, band moulding that signifies the ground level-highlighted in Indiana limestone. The ground floor, the level of which is signified on the exterior by a continuous stone moulding, is raised to allow maximum light to enter the lower level. Large arched windows on three sides provide the building with the prestige of a Renaissance palazzo; yet its detailing is simple and dignified, almost modern... The Atwater Avenue facade. facing the public square across the way, is perfectly symmetrical. Its composition is dominated by a central doorway that fits snugly into the centre arched opening. On Tupper Street, also a major facade, the composition is similar....The west facade has a series of long narrow windows that are proportioned according to the spacing of the two storeys of stacks inside....Nine medallions on the north, east and south facades illustrate aspects of art, science and industry."

# **History Current Building**

By 1940, the library boasted one of the finest technical reference libraries in Canada, and had a total of approximately 45,000 volumes. At the time, encouragement of non-fiction reading was a library policy, conforming to the needs of its reading public and the educational objectives of the library.

#### **Changing Focus**

In 1962, the library changed its name to the Atwater Library of the Mechanics' Institute of Montreal to reflect its interest in serving a wider public. The focus of its book collection was changing to fiction, biography and travel, with the technical portion of the collection having become more of historical and research interest.

In 1977 and 1978 efforts were made to make the library work better for its constituency at a time of declining revenues and dramatic political change in Quebec. The large-print book collection was expanded. Books-by-mail, a project of president Thomas Anglin, began operations. It was widely successful, reaching a peak in 1983 when 4,697 books were distributed to members across Canada, especially in the relatively isolated North Shore of the St. Lawrence River. An Atwater Library children's division was initiated, catering to three to twelve-year-olds.

In the 1978 annual report, Tom Anglin reported that financial assets were being depleted to meet

operating expenses. He spoke of the possibility of selling the building to the adjoining Reddy Memorial Hospital, but he indicated that the Reddy had offered to pay only the value of the land. Dr. Norman Eade, then a member of the board, noted that "at the time, among the moves contemplated was to reestablish the library in the Mile End district of Montreal, a multi-cultural area where there was no library. Subsequently, the City of Montreal established a library there in a former Anglican church, so that proposal was abandoned."

In his 1980 president's annual report, Dr. Eade said that the decision had been made to revitalize the library in its current Atwater Avenue location and "leave intact a legacy that had been entrusted to our care." This involved a move into the computer era. According to Dr. Eade, "offering computer courses and providing computer support outside of the university context seemed an apppropriate avenue in keeping with the traditions of the library." In 1981, the Montreal Children's Library moved its head office and main branch into the lower level of the Atwater Library building. This was made possible by a grant in memory of Judith Ewen Reford. When the move took place, the Atwater Library children's division was closed.

In 1984, the remarkably far-seeing Dr. Ted Connolly (president 1982 and 1983, and in 1984 vice-president and chairman of the board's computer committee) introduced the beginnings of the present-day computer centre within one of the main floor reading rooms, and a short time later a computer course classroom was established on the second floor. A grant from the federal Ministry of Communications had enabled the project to go forward. It was the first computer establishment in Montreal open to the public.

1990 was a year of financial crisis for the library as a result of a major decline in municipal government grants combined with increasing operating costs. Financial assets were depleted. Rather than close the facility, the membership decided to reduce paid staff to three, increase the responsibilities and number of volunteers, and seek new methods of financing. Over the next couple of years, charitable foundations were approached for help, led by library president Ralph Leavitt, and the response enabled the library to continue operations. New directions were examined over the next couple of

years, with the help of Board members Anne Pasold and Philip Chartrand, Westmount mayor Peter Trent, and others.

By 1994, under the leadership of Anne Pasold (president in 1992, 1994 and 1995), one of the reading rooms was re-equipped and refurbished to house an enlarged computer centre. Architect and board member Susan Bronson ensured that the reading room was restored in a manner faithful to its architectural beginnings. A few years later, Susan Bronson led the major fundraising effort to replace the roof of the building.

In 1996, pentium computers were purchased for the computer classroom, with funding from a charitable foundation. The same year, as a result of budget constraints, the books-by-mail project that had been so successful in the 1980s was regretfully cancelled.

In 1996, Andrea Rutherford Burgess became president of the Atwater Library, continuing a family tradition. Three of Mrs. Burgess' relatives, great-uncle Henry Bulmer (1851); great-grandfather William Rutherford (1889); and grandfather William Rutherford (1913-1920) were all presidents of the Mechanics' Institute. Upon her untimely death in 1998, the reading room was named the Rutherford-Burgess Reading Room. The family tradition has continued, with Mary Leslie-Aitken joining the Board in 1998 and serving as president from 2003 to 2005. Lynn Rutherford Burgess joined the Board in 2008.

In 2001, under the aegis of Board members Susan McGuire and Dr. Naomi Holobow, efforts began to have the Federal Government declare the Atwater Library building a National Historic Site. The

lengthy process was successfully completed in 2005, and the official ceremony was held in November 2009.

In 2003 with the generous help of several charitable foundations, the automated library catalogue system went on stream, a project that had been started by Andrea Burgess several years previously.

Beginning in 2005, the Board of Directors undertook an examination and subsequent updating of the organizational functions. The position of Library Director was changed to Executive Director. Emphasis was placed on ALCC becoming more involved in the surrounding community, and new or expanded partnerships were developed with community groups, particularly with those leasing space within the building: the Montreal Children's Library, Quebec Association of Writers' Federation, English-Language Publishers of Quebec, Peter McGill Community Council, and Fondation Aubin. In 2007, a project to introduce advanced computer capabilities to underprivileged youth in the immediate area of the library was initiated, under the direction of Board member Hugh McGuire. In 2008, a popular lunchtime program with

in 2008, a popular functime program with speakers and performers, running from September to May, was introduced by Executive Director Lynn Verge. Fundraising procedures and activities were enhanced. Computer courses were diversified to reflect changing needs in the community.

In late 2009, the Federal government announced a matching grant of \$425,000 to upgrade the 90-year old Atwater Library building.

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The Computer Page is researched and edited from your queries and suggestions by QFHS member Lorraine Gosselin (E-mail computree@yahoo.com)

2010, THE YEAR OF THE BRITISH HOME CHILD - PROCLAIMED BY THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT The Canadian archives have gathered many sources of information, including a data base in the process of creation by the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa, which should be of help to anyone researching home children. www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/genealogy/022-908.009-e.html.

#### **50,000 GENEALOGY LINKS**

This site is a compilation of genealogy links, grouped by region and country. For example if Ireland is of interest, in addition to all-Ireland lists for marriages, passenger lists, censuses, cemeteries, there are also listings for individual counties. You may find something new at www.genealogylinks.net/index.html.

#### **FREE ON-LINE BOOKS**

Most of you are aware that many books that are out of copyright can be downloaded without charge and read on your computer. With the advent of e-readers and smart phones, these can also be downloaded to portable devices to carry with you and read in greater comfort. Many are of interest to genealogists and family historians; for example, from the Gutenberg project (www.gutenberg.org) you could download An Illustrated History of Ireland from AD 400 to 1800 by Mary Frances Cusack. It is available in several electronic formats. The U.S. Library of Congress is also digitizing brittle books and nearly 60,000 are currently available on line at www.archive.org/iathreads/post-view.php?id=283352. A quick search has uncovered militia rolls, several books on Loyalists, a multi-volume history of Albany, NY. Books can be read online, or downloaded in several formats, including EPUB (the format for portable readers).

#### **MÉTIS GENEALOGY**

Library and Archives Canada created a page of sources for Métis research, such as land claims and material at other institutions; it directs researchers to both online and manuscript sources at www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/genealogy/022-905.004-e.html.

#### ONLINE COURSE: ARCHIVAL RESEARCH BASICS WITH THE US NATIONAL ARCHIVES

The US National Archives and Records Administration Pacific Alaska Region is offering online lessons on Archival Research Basics. The course consists of ten online lessons and is designed for anyone "wishing to do primary source research in archives or libraries." The online material is available at anuah.pbworks.com/Archival+Research+Basics+-+Online+Lessons. You don't have to pay the usual fee of \$90 if you're willing to give up the educational credit and one day hands-on experience in person at the National Archives in Anchorage or Seattle! Go directly to the course anuah.pbworks.com/NARA-Online-Course.

#### ONLINE FILM VIEWING FROM THE NATIONAL FILM BOARD OF CANADA

The NFB has released many of its films to be viewed online at **www.nfb.ca** and many of them are of historical interest, such as documentaries about John Cabot, Wolfe and Montcalm, tales of The Voyageurs, and many others. You can also subscribe to their newsletter, which will keep you advised of any new releases. Of course, there are many films that have nothing to do with history that are up to the high standards of the NFB.

#### SUBSCRIBE TO LOYALIST TRAILS

If you have Loyalist ancestors, consider subscribing to their weekly newsletter, it's free, even if you're not a member. Subscribe and also glance through past issues on their Web site at www.uelac.org/Loyalist-Trails/Loyalist-Trails-index-2010.php.

#### THE OTTAWA CITIZEN ARCHIVES ARE NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

Google has digitized and made available online most of the archives of the Ottawa Citizen newspaper, putting about 2.5 million articles at your fingertips, the earliest from 1890. There are some gaps and a few problems, but ease and speed are said to be great. I found more selected information was obtained by adding the newspaper's name and the word obituary in addition to the family name I was searching. Google plans to digitize all major CanWest dailies this year.

news.google.ca/archivesearch/advanced search.

#### US STATE CENSUS RECORDS AVAILABLE ONLINE

The following article is a compilation of US State census records that are available online and from what source: ancestories1.blogspot.com/2009/12/state-census-records-online.html.

#### WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

The Web site for this NBC program can be found at **www.nbc.com/who-do-you-think-you-are**; you can see clips of the TV program, biographies of the celebrities, and research tips.

The CBC's CANADIAN VERSION has a Web site at www.cbc.ca/whodoyouthinkyouare.

And of course, the BBC, who started it all: www.bbc.co.uk/familyhistory.

#### TECH TIPS - Disposable E-mail addresses

Yahoo lets you create up to 500 'disposable' addresses, so if you start getting too much spam on one of them, you can cancel it without losing any mail: the E-mail is always directed towards the same base address. This should prove very handy for posting genealogical information on the Web or joining various mailing lists: tinyurl.com/58oh2z

#### Readability

Readability is a simple tool that makes reading on the Web more enjoyable by removing the clutter around what you're reading. You can select several styles, including newspaper and novel, change the size of the font, and change the margin width. Follow the steps at *lab.arc90.com/experiments/readability* to install Readability in your Web browser.

Reminder: if there is no 'www' shown for a site, it isn't required, so please don't add one.

#### PLEASE NOTE:

For your convenience, so you will not have to type sometimes long addresses, a list of the links in *COMPUTREE* and *GENEALOGICAL SOFTWARE*, with their names, is prepared and sent to our Webmaster for posting on the QFHS Web site at **www.qfhs.ca** – just follow the links from Research Help to *Computree*.

#### SUGGESTIONS AND REQUESTS

Please continue to send in any suggestions for subjects or sites. If there is a specific subject for which you cannot find a site, another member could probably help you, so send in requests for this as well. If you use regular mail or drop a note in my mailbox at the QFHS library, please include your name and a telephone number or e-mail address. Note also that not all material can be used, and that we reserve the right to edit submissions. Please accept my apologies if I forget to give credit to a contributor: in the three-month period between issues, it is easy to forget the source of the contribution.

Note that mention of a product or a web site on the Computer Page does not imply endorsement by the Society

Send your genealogical computer questions/ tips/ reviews/ etc. to Lorraine Gosselin c/o CONNECTIONS P.O. Box 1026, Pointe Claire, QC, H9S 4H9
OR E-mail to computree@yahoo.com

#### **GENEALOGICAL SOFTWARE**

by Lorraine Gosselin
write to computree@yahoo.com
if you want to submit questions or suggestions

This is a column grouping information about various genealogical software programs. It includes news, Web addresses, questions received via E-mail, and questions not answered at courses or answered at one session but not asked nor answered at another.

#### **FAMILY TREE MAKER**

Another update of FTM 2009 is available; a list of "resolved issues" is available at www.familytreemaker.com/About/ImprovementDetails.aspx.

FTM 2010 was released in 2009; if you wish to see the features in this version, go to www.familytreemaker.com/About/ImprovementDetails.aspx. (My very personal opinion: only upgrade when the changes bring you something you really need or want; otherwise, skip a version or two, and save your money!)

#### **LEGACY FAMILY TREE**

Version 7.4 can be downloaded at www.legacyfamilytree.com. This is a free update to version 7.0.

Visit www.legacyfamilytree.com/LegacyLists.asp for mailing lists, including a user group mailing list where users can "share ideas and help each other."

Several other genealogy programs have been updated in early 2010, to correct errors, add new features, or make them compatible with Windows 7. Among them are the following:

#### **BROTHER'S KEEPER - NEW VERSION**

See bkwin.org. This is a Windows program, including Windows 7. 6.3.39 has been released.

#### PERSONAL ANCESTRY WRITER II VERSION 91 RELEASED

Personal Ancestry Writer II is a free genealogy program for Macintosh computers. The program has a new update: Version 91 was released in late January. Free download available at

www.lanopalera.net/Genealogy/AboutPAWriter.html. There is a forum and a mailing list to join if you want to be advised of any changes.

#### **POCKET GENEALOGIST 3.41A05**

This program is for PDAs and Handhelds. Support has been added for upcoming Legacy 7.4 release. See *northernhillssoftware.com*.

#### THE COMPLETE GENEALOGY REPORTER

This is a shareware program for Windows. It uses GEDCOM input to create various reports. www.tcgr.bufton.org.

If you are using other software, it might be a good idea to check on its Website for any updates.

#### FOR THOSE WHO HAVE OLD TAPES OF FAMILY INTERVIEWS

If you wondered how to preserve these, the best may be to convert them to CDs. How? There are several programs that will do this, including this free one *audacity.sourceforge.net*. Many tutorials are available for converting cassette tapes to mp3's., as you will see by going to

www.youtube.com/results?search\_query=convert+cassette+tapes+to+mp3&search\_type=&aq= 2&oq=convert+cassette.

#### FREE PHOTO SOFTWARE

Photoscape is a shareware program ??? that has several feature of interest to genealogists, such as picking parts of a photo or grouping several photos. Think of taking one of those old wedding photos and extracting a picture of each of the guests for your genealogical program.

www.photoscape.org/ps/main/index.php.

# A SINCERE THANK YOU FROM THE QFHS

I would like to extend a sincere *THANK YOU* to all the *Duty Librarian Volunteers* - without these faithful volunteers the QFHS Library could not be open six days and one evening a week ten months of the years and three days a week during the summer months. *Thank you.* 



A special *THANK YOU to RUTH ROBINSON* who has retired as a Duty Librarian after many years of service. We would also like to extend an appreciative *THANK YOU to PETER McLOUGHLIN* who also served as a Duty Librarian. Fortunately, Peter is still a contributor of interesting articles to *Connections*.

Joan Benoit, QFHS Secretary

#### FREE SEARCHES for QFHS MEMBERS

Send your request by e-mail to: admin@qfhs.ca

or by mail to: QFHS Library Office, P O Box 1026, Pointe Claire, Quebec H9S 4H9 Please remember to include your name and QFHS membership number in all correspondence

## SEARCHES at QUEBEC NATIONAL ARCHIVES and MONTREAL'S CENTRAL LIBRARY

QFHS member, Jacques Gagne conducts FREE searches for QFHS members at the Archives nationales du Québec / Quebec National Archives, on Viger Avenue in Old Montreal. These include all types of searches, mostly births and marriages of Protestants and Catholics, both English and French languages families. Also at La Grande Bibliothèque de Montréal / Montreal's Central Library. This is where the newspaper microfilms are kept - 80% of the Free Searches already conducted deal with Anglo Protestant "obits", 20% of these "obits" have been between Irish-Scottish-British Catholics and French Canadian families. Jacques' Free Searches for QFHS members have also included searches in France. In these cases the ancestors came to New France or Acadia between 1605 to about 1720 and Jacques can usually find one or two generations of their families in France prior to emigration. For families who emigrated to Quebec after the 1720's, it is more difficult. In order to access available Data Bases in France for this latter group, one must be a member of one of the leading French Genealogy Search Web Engine.

Jacques may be reached by e-mail to the QFHS at: admin@gfhs.ca

Or by mail to the QFHS Library Office, P.O. box 1026, Pointe Claire, Quebec, H9S 4H9 Please title your e-mail or on the envelope: Attention Jacques Gagne - Free Search

And, remember to include your name and QFHS membership number in all correspondence.

#### FREE SEARCH - PROVINCE of QUEBEC NEWSPAPERS "OBITUARIES"

FREE Searches of Obituaries published in Province of Quebec Newspapers.

Details will be sent to you by e-mail.

Please state: name of person; date of death; city or town

Send your requests by e-mail to the QFHS at: admin@qfhs.ca

or by mail to the QFHS Library Office

Please title your e-mail or on the envelope: Free Search - Newspaper Obituaries

And, remember to include your name and QFHS membership number in all correspondence

# QFHS on FACEBOOK:

The QFHS Facebook page is now up and running - Thanks to Jackie Billingham and Susan Gingras-Calcagni. If you are a member of Facebook - registration is free - the name to look for is: **Quebec Family History Society Facebook Page**. We welcome imput from all members.

# THE NATIONAL BURIAL INDEX of ENGLAND and WALES

The Third Edition of the *National Burial Index of England and Wales* is now available for viewing at the QFHS Library. This edition contains over 18 million burial records, 16<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> centuries.

# QUEBEC FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY ON-LINE DATABASES

# **Available for QFHS Members**

This is a work in progress and we are continually adding data

#### To gain access:

You must be a paid up member - with an email and mailing address registered with QFHS

#### Here's how to do it:

Go to the QFHS webpage at: www.qfhs.ca

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★ For your User ID & Password

Contact the QFHS Help Desk at: helpdesk@gfhs.ca

With a successful login you will be taken to the *Members Menu*. Click on Surname/ Forename Details" to enter the system

Having Trouble??? Contact the QFHS Help Desk at: helpdesk@qfhs.ca

#### TO BECOME A QFHS MEMBER:

To become a member of the Quebec Family History Society, or to renew your QFHS Membership just complete the Membership Form found in the Spring / Summer issue of Connections and mail it to, or drop it off at the QFHS Library with your cheque or money order - address is on the inside front cover of Connections. You may also pay by Visa using QFHS partnership with PAYPAL - visit the QFHS website at: www.qfhs.ca and click on Membership.

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Use of all QFHS Library facilities - books, microfilm, microfiche, CD collections, and computer databases - including ancestry.ca, within the library. You may also borrow books and journals. You can request microfilms and books through Inter-Library Loan from other sources such as the National Archives of Canada, or the American Genealogical Lending Library. (these Requests must be viewed in the QFHS library). You will receive three copies of the QFHS journal, Connections per year and reduced rates on all seminars and workshops. You will also meet other family historians and have an opportunity to discuss any genealogical problems you may have.

#### **QFHS ON-LINE LIBRARY CATALOGUE**

You can now search the QFHS Library catalogue on-line - just click on "databases", then "search catalogue". Members may borrow three books and / or five periodicals.

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whether or not there is an entry found for the desired Surname/s is to be <u>paid in advance</u>. Each variant Surname spelling is considered a separate request. All data recorded will be included in our reply to your request.

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Our Volunteer Researchers are prepared to assist you in your family history research — using the resources of the Quebec Family History Society Library, Archives Nationale du Quebec and the Quebec Provincial Library

This form can be photocopied from Connections
OR completed on-screen from the QFHS website at: www.qfhs.ca
and printed on your printer. You may also print it and then fill it out.
Please print clearly and use CAPITAL letters.

RESEARCH FEE = \$20.00 AN HOUR. State the number of research hours

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# OUEBEC FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

www.qfhs.ca

The Quebec Family History Society Library and Heritage Centre, located at 173 Cartier Avenue, Pointe Claire, Quebec, has an extensive collection of genealogical and historical information consisting of: computer databases, microfilms, microfiche, CDs, rare books, private papers, family histories, cemetery inscriptions and indexes, maps, and books and genealogical journals from around the world, with digital imaging equipment to make excellent copies of anything you find. This information pertains, not only to Quebec, but to other provinces, the United States, England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, France and many other countries, QFHS Members can also borrow additional research material from other sources such as the National Archives or other libraries through the QFHS Inter-Library Loan system. Our own journal. Connections, contains a wealth of information as well as interesting and informative articles. Workshops and seminars are given throughout the year on how to use these resources, and others - including the internet - to trace your ancestry. The QFHS Library is open six days a week and Wednesday evenings - except during July and August when Summer hours of three days a week are in effect. Duty librarians volunteer their time and expertise to help you in your quest. And, there are always fellow QFHS members willing to share their knowledge, give advice or lend a helping hand. The QFHS Free Public Lecture Series is held the second Saturday of each month September to December and March to May in Lachine where speakers discuss a variety of topics of interest to family historians. There is always a question and answer period after each presentation and a chance to meet and mingle over coffee, juice and cookies afterwards. The QFHS also has an on-line book store which carries books on Genealogy, Quebec Census Transcriptions, Church Register Transcriptions, Crown Land Grants of Quebec, Monument Inscriptions, back issues of Connections, and a number of QFHS publications and QFHS promotional items. Orders to this store can be made on-line from the QFHS website or by mail.

Located off Autoroute 20 on Cartier Avenue [ exit 49 ] - between St Jean and St Charles Free two hour parking on the street - Free all-day parking lot off Salisbury Road behind the Library Bus stops 211 and 201 approximately 100 feet north of the Library, in front of the CLSC 211 bus from Lionel Groulx or Ste Anne de Bellevue - 201 from Fairview Shopping Centre

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