

# Connections

Journal of the Quebec Family History Society

JFHS  
CA

## Roots

International Conference  
on Family History in Quebec

Presented by The Quebec Family  
History Society

Montreal, May 18th - 20th, 2018

All details in this issue

February 2018

Volume 40 Issue 2





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# Connections

February Issue 2018

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# QFHS News

**ROOTS 2018 International Conference on Family History is coming!** Find all the details in Your QFHS in this issue.



We are sad to report the death of **Patrick Campbell**, a longtime volunteer librarian at the Heritage Centre. Patrick passed away on November 9th, 2017, at the age of 94. He had many friends at QFHS.

We wish to extend our thanks to the following for their recent kind donations to the Quebec Family History Society:

The estate of **Peter McLoughlin**

The estate of **Sheila Hennessy-Brandl**

**Ann Marie Rogers**

**Lorraine Showers**

**The Charette-Charest Family Association**

Have the never-ending **road repairs on Cartier Avenue** kept you away from us? Good news - it's all finished! The parking regulations around the Heritage Centre remain the same.

## **Quebec Family History Society**

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# *A Regettable Event at the Tanneries Railway Junction, July 13th, 1878*

by Edward O'Shaughnessy



Occasionally family research will turn up a story that shocks our 21st Century sensibilities, and when that happens the researcher's challenge is to understand the historical context.

Such was my task with the discovery of an ancestor present at an alarming event that took place at the Tanneries railway junction, St. Henri, Montreal. The ancestor was Jeremiah O'Shaughnessy, a 44-year old Irish immigrant, employed as a foreman by the Grand Trunk Railway, and the date was July 13, 1878.

What I discovered is more than a family story, it is the story of the Green-Orange tensions that existed in Montreal in the late 1870s. The "Fenian Scares" of 1867 and 1870 were then recent memories, and annual celebrations by the Catholic and by the Protestant populations of the city were often the occasion of sectarian conflict. These tensions have receded into background today, but they were once a serious threat to civic comity.

The 12th of July 1878 was described as a "long looked for and much dreaded day". It was the anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne and the victory of William of Orange's Protestant forces over James' I Catholic forces in Ireland in 1690. Montreal had a sizeable population of Anglo-Protestants and of Irish Catholics, and the public celebrating of this battle laid bare sectarian fault lines. On this day the previous year a young man named Thomas Hackett was murdered during a Green-Orange melee near Victoria Square. A Protestant, his death became a rallying point for the Orangemen of Montreal, and still was a year



later. As rumors circulated that gangs of thuggish characters were arriving in the city in the days leading to July 12, 1878, trouble was expected.

Keenly aware of the potential for mayhem, and not wishing to relive the experiences of the prior year, Mayor Jean Louis Beaudry decided to act pre-emptively and decisively. On July 6 he issued a proclamation that was clear in its intent. It began thusly: "Whereas there is strong reason to apprehend that serious trouble, riot and bloodshed may occur on the approaching 12th of July, the undersigned mayor of Montreal, hereby gives notice to all whom it may concern that stringent measures will be taken preserve the peace and to arrest and bring to justice all evil-disposed persons who may in any way act illegally or attempt to disturb the peace on that occasion."

The proclamation continued with a paragraph defining illegal acts and attempts to disturb the peace. "Whereas experience

has shown the danger of allowing crowds of people to assemble in the streets or public thoroughfares of the city in a time of excitement, further notice is given that on the 12th of July no assemblage or gathering of people shall be allowed in the streets or elsewhere in the city."

Unsurprisingly, not all the citizens agreed with the Mayor's proclamation, to include the ten city Magistrates and the leadership of the Young Britons of the Orange Lodge. The Magistrates thought the unilateral decision by the Mayor was jurisdictional overreach and the Young Britons thought their annual parade to be a very legal assemblage on the streets of Montreal. They announced their intent to carry on. In times of excitement, controversial actions often produce overheated counteractions.

To enforce his proclamation, the Mayor called for an augmentation of the city police with 500 "special" constables, reporting to him. Critics stated that those replying to his call were Catholic, drawn from the Irish and French population. As soon as the special constables were sworn in they were put to work. A contingent was placed in front of the Orange Lodge. When the Orange leaders persisted with actions to carry on with their parade the Mayor had them arrested.

Exceedingly cross with the Mayor's preliminary actions, the Magistrates had petitioned the Adjutant General's office in Ottawa for military units to be sent to Montreal. The petition was granted, and 2,500-3,000 regular and militia troops were mobilized and converged on the city. Major General Sir Selby Smyth was placed in overall command, reporting to the Magistrates.

By 9 AM on the 12th one observer noted that the city had the appearance of "an armed camp". Battalions were formed and ready on the Place d'Armes, Victoria

**PROCLAMATION !**

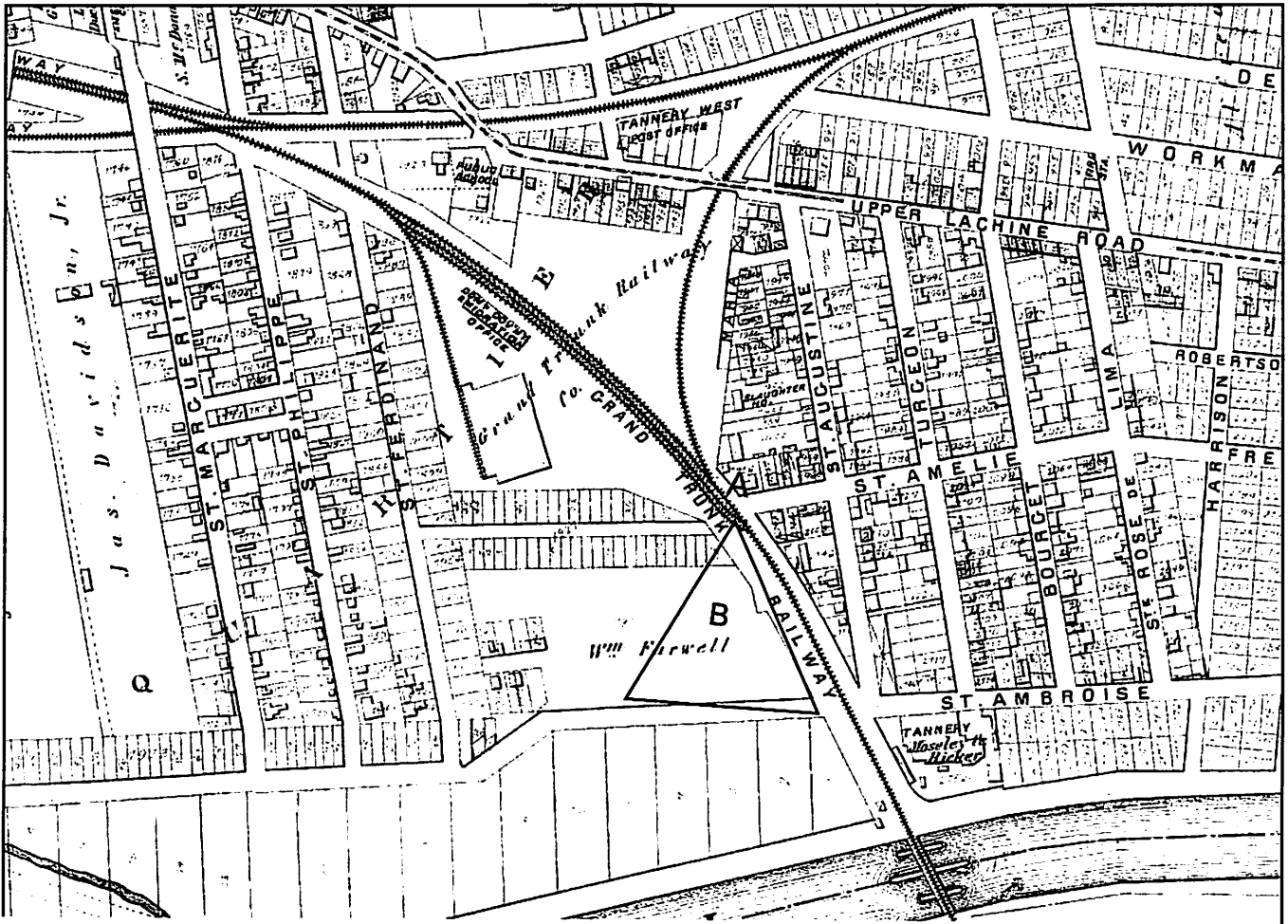
*"The Mayor of Montreal having issued a proclamation to the effect that NO ASSEMBLAGE OR GATHERING in the streets or ELSEWHERE in the City of Montreal, on the 12th day of July instant, the Orangemen of Montreal and elsewhere are hereby (instructed) to meet THAT DAY in the Orange Hall, 81 St. James street; and public notice is hereby given, that the Orangemen will test, in a constitutional manner, the autocratic assumption of the Chief Magistrate."*

**GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.**

**DAVID GRANT,**  
157 2 County Master.

July 6th, 1878.





Square, Beaver Hall Hill, Dominion Square, the city lacrosse fields, and on Grand Trunk property at Point St. Charles. A quick response team of cavalry and artillery was held in reserve. Of the forces mobilized and sent to Montreal, the one that would interact with ancestor Jeremiah O'Shaughnessy was the 53rd (Sherbrooke) battalion. This was a militia battalion, consisting of volunteers.

As intended, the effect of the Mayor's proclamation, backed by formidable force, kept the lid on the pot that day. There was no parade. Large crowds gathered at various points in the city, hurled insults at each other, got rowdy, and some fights broke out. But the special constables responded quickly and effectively. The military units

stood at the ready, but were not called into action. The newspapers reported that the day ended, surprisingly, with no bloodshed. Though legal authorities opined that the Mayor had exceeded his authority, and the English language newspapers complained that the cancellation of the Orange Day parade was a civil rights infringement, the citizenry were relieved to sleep soundly that night.

On the 13th of July, a Saturday, the threat considered over, the troops were returning to their garrison cities and demob centers. The 53rd (Sherbrooke) battalion left the city in rail cars about 3:45 PM amid much cheering. But when they arrived at the Tanneries railway junction, St Henri, some 15 minutes



later, their progress home was stopped, and the cars in which they rode were backed onto a siding to allow for priority traffic to pass.

What ensued next is taken from contemporary newspaper accounts, so allowances must be made accordingly. The most detailed accounts are found in two French language newspapers, *la Minerve* and *Le Courrier du Canada*. The Canadian English language newspapers, and many in the US, also carried versions of the incident. Partisan bias is plain to see today, but while accounts differed in details a core story is uniformly told. What we know is that a militia battalion en route home was stopped. The reporting indicates that the troops remained close to, or in, their cars while waiting to move on again. We may imagine that boredom, frustration with the delay, and other factors, which the official investigation likely uncovered, competed with the need for martial discipline. Sadly, discipline gave way to other pressures.

Not far from the idled rail cars containing the militia was a field where a lacrosse match was underway. A crowd estimated to be more than a hundred people, men, women and children, had gathered to watch. The militia could see the game in progress, and those gathered for the game could see the militia. At this point the reported accounts differ, and they differ along sectarian lines.

A French language account stated that one of the lacrosse teams wore green scarves as a uniform item to identify their team, and this was the initiating offense. In that telling, the green scarves “had the same effect as a piece of red cloth on a turkey-cock”, to which some of the militia responded by waving orange bandanas on the end of bayonets, yelling insults and taunts, and “acting like drunk people”. An

English language account had it that the soldiers were idly standing by in their rail cars and that the mere appearance of their red uniform coats aroused the ire of the lacrosse crowd. A French language account had the militia insulting Catholics, the Pope, and yelling “Three cheers for the Young Britons of Montreal!” with a response of “Damned Orangemen” from the lacrosse spectators.

However it started, it quickly escalated. The English language papers initially claimed that a mob of civilians started throwing rocks at the militia, even firing at



Jeremiah O'Shaughnessy and his fiancé Ellen Carroll

the militia, and charging the train. This version had it that the militia feared for their lives, and sought to defend themselves. In one French language account a witness stated he saw no rocks being thrown. This account has a sergeant pulling out his pistol and ordering his men to ready their rifles,



and that a witness claimed he would recognize the sergeant again. Another account had it that an officer fired his pistol into the air.

No account makes mention of an order to fire, but all accounts state that the militia fired 40-60 rounds at the crowd of civilians. An English language paper stated that the militia was ordered to aim high and fire as a warning. But the facts were that three boys were hit in the body and two adults, both on duty GTR employees, sustained slight head wounds. A youth named Bollard took a bullet in the kidneys, a youth named Payette received a wound in his thigh/hip, and youth named Whelan was hit twice, a bullet grazed his abdomen and another struck his side. GTR employees Jeremiah O'Shaughnessy, at his station near the railway bridge received a grazing wound to his neck, and Jeremie Patenaude, on duty 600 feet from Jeremiah O'Shaughnessy, received a grazing wound to his scalp. As the civilians fled the area the officers gained control of their men, reloaded them onto the train, which soon departed.

The French language accounts provide names and actions taken. Jeremiah O'Shaughnessy reported the incident to M. Benoit, the St. Henry chief of police, who informed Lieutenant Colonel John Fletcher, the resident senior militia officer in Montreal, who sent word to Major General Sir Selby Smyth. It was reported that Smyth "was indignant at the shameful conduct of the volunteers" and ordered the arrest of those responsible. A formal investigation was

initiated, led by the esteemed Judge Charles Joseph Coursol, a former mayor of Montreal. Jeremiah O'Shaughnessy, and several others mentioned in newspaper reporting, provided statements for the investigation. Sadly, it was reported that two of the boys died from the wounds they received that day. Thus ends the newspaper accounts.

Multiple requests to obtain copies of the investigation have gone unanswered, so I am left with open questions. What were the conclusions of the investigation? Were passions so tense that mere symbols of the contrasting communities, green scarves, red uniform coats and orange bandanas, were enough to unleash the Furies of sectarian strife? It would seem so.



*Ed O'Shaughnessy began to research his ancestors soon after retirement, uncovering stories that might interest audiences beyond immediate family. His O'Shaughnessy ancestors emigrated from County Clare, ca. 1847, to Montreal, where they lived for 100 years. Ed has published vignettes for historical society journals in Ireland, Canada and the US*

# *B&B Owners Honour Family Connection*

By Jane Edwards



In 2015, I took a cruise from Quebec City to Boston. Since we had a day at leisure to look around Quebec before sailing, I decided to visit some of the homes my relatives had lived in there. I wanted to photograph them to include in a family history I was writing. My first stop was 15 Sainte Genevieve Ave. which is now called Chateau Fleur de Lys. It is up the road from the Chateau Frontenac. I walked in the front door to have a look and one of the owners greeted me. I mentioned that two of my great- aunts grew up in the house. The owner told me he was from France and had recently acquired it. He was very interested in the history of the home and had already done some research himself noting that there had been fifteen owners since it was built. Could I send him any information I had....I found his request unusual but refreshing. This was the first email I sent:

"Bonjour Olivier,

I have attached two photos – the first taken in front of the White home at 15 Genevieve in 1899. People in the photo are: Dorothy White (a daughter of the owner), my grandmother, Florence Blanchet, and Naomi Wilson. The photo was taken by another White daughter, Eileen, my great-

aunt.

The second is of the White's mother, Florence Adelaide White (nee Allan) (1857-1942). She was one of thirteen children of Scottish born shipping magnate, financier and capitalist Sir Hugh Allan. By the time of his death, the Allan Shipping Line had become the largest privately owned shipping empire in the world."

Florence grew up in Montreal in the family home, Ravenscraig, on the slopes of Mount Royal. She married businessman Alfred Henry White (1847-1890) of Quebec in 1875. In the





1880s, Alfred White partnered with Richard LeSueur at Alfred H. White & Co., merchants, on St. Peter Street. Following his death, she married Major General James Frederick Wilson (1852-1911) in 1892.

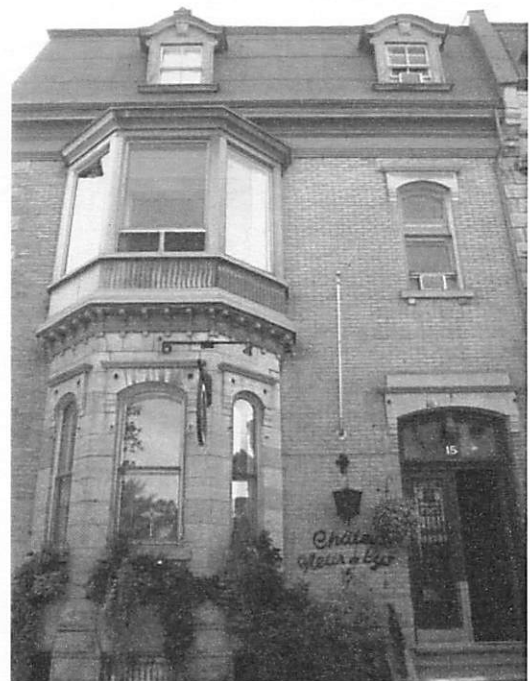
You will see in the Dictionary of Architects that Harry Staveley, who designed 15 Genevieve for the 19 year old Mrs. White in 1876, also designed a number of other residences and industrial buildings in Quebec.

I received a reply thanking me. "This is an incredible gift for us and, honestly, it is intensely moving to see Mrs. White and her daughters." Being recent arrivals from France, they had possibly never heard of Sir Hugh but soon photos of Ravenscraig and the Allan Line ships started appearing on their Facebook page. They requested my permission to use the photos I sent on their website and Facebook page. They decided to name one of the suites after Florence White and to thank me, they asked if I would

be its "godmother". I was invited to spend two nights as their guest. They planned to do a painting from the picture I had sent of Florence to hang in the room.

They made extensive renovations to the rooms over the winter and spring giving each a theme, so it was June 2016 before I spent two nights in the luxurious Florence White suite. The paint was hardly dry on the walls when I arrived. Through the bay window, one can see the Chateau and the St. Lawrence River. At breakfast, I met an American couple who had stayed there on their honeymoon in the 1960's and were returning fifty years later to enjoy the B&B in its latest incarnation.

Florence White Wilson owned 15 Ste Genevieve until her second husband died in 1911, even though she was living at Petawawa prior to his retirement in 1907, and then in Montreal from 1908-1911. She lived in Montreal and Quebec City until her death in 1942. She is buried with Major



General Wilson in Mount Hermon Cemetary in Sillery. In terms of the three girls who grew up in the house: oldest daughter, Gladys, married Captain (later Brig. Gen.) Alexander Thomas Ogilvie, RCA, of the Montreal flour milling family in 1899. She died in 1911 of the flu. Second daughter, Eileen, married Charles St. Lawrence Mackintosh also in 1899 – they divorced in 1905. Her second marriage in 1906 was to Alexander's brother, Montreal businessman Douglas Watson Ogilvie. The youngest, Dorothy, married Montreal lawyer John

Wilson Cook in 1906.

The owners were extremely enthused and grateful for any information I sent them and their generosity floored me – I was thrilled they named a suite after Florence Allan who had the beautiful home built. Since the new owners have taken over, the Chateau Fleur de Lys has been named one of the 25 best small hotels in Canada in 2017 by TripAdvisor.



*Jane Edwards is a former reference librarian with the federal government in Ottawa and prospect researcher with the Advancement Office, Concordia University. Since retirement, she has been researching her American, Scottish and French Canadian ancestors; all of whom arrived in North America between 200-350 years ago*





## ***Help make history come alive!***

**The Château Ramezay Historic Site and Museum of Montreal** (280 Notre-Dame East, Old Montreal - across from City Hall) is now recruiting volunteer history guides.

Find out more about participating in living history programs for children, weekend guiding and/or group tours for students and tourists. A training program is provided

**For more information:**

Website: <http://www.chateauramezay.qc.ca/en/>

Contact: Louise Brazeau, Education and Promotion Coordinator, Chateau Ramezay (514) 861-3708 Ext. 229  
[rh@chateauramezay.qc.ca](mailto:rh@chateauramezay.qc.ca)

or

Joan Barrett, Museum Volunteer, [joan.barrett@mcgill.ca](mailto:joan.barrett@mcgill.ca)

# LOVELL'S MONTREAL DIRECTORIES

## Some Research Tips

By Mark Gallop



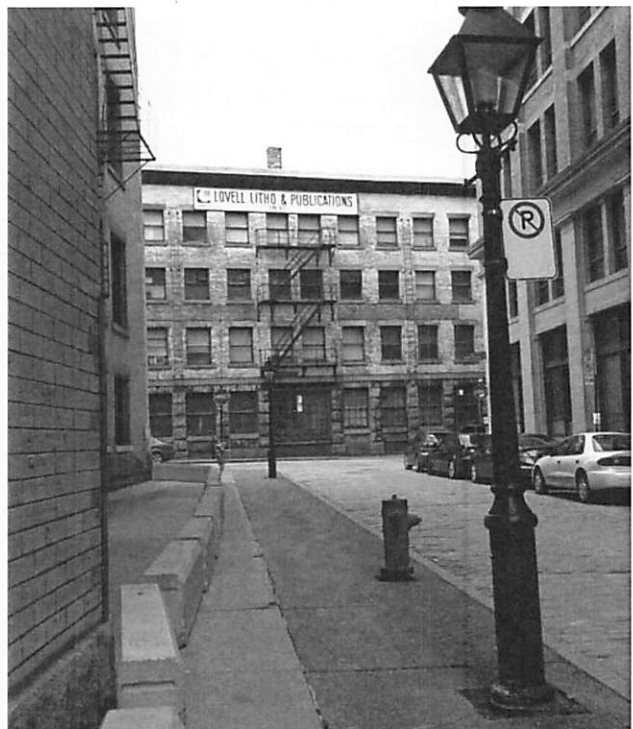
Those of us with family roots in Montreal are fortunate to have the Lovell's city directories as a research tool. Most Canadian cities have historical directories, but none match Lovell's for its uninterrupted publication (175 years and counting), and our ease of access. The complete series is available in digital form on the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec website. (<http://bibnum2.banq.qc.ca/bna/lovell/>)

As a historical researcher and genealogist I find myself consulting this resource almost daily. I use it most frequently as a volunteer with the Automated Genealogy census project, while proofreading transcriptions for Montreal sub-districts in the 1901 and 1911 censuses.

I have also dug deeper into the directories for an expanded comprehension of family movements and circumstances. For example, I recently turned to Lovell's to better understand a great-grandfather, Lorne C. Herdman. I have family stories of him as a man of dreams and ambition who moved from rural South West Ontario to Montreal in his early twenties. He first appears in the 1910 directory as a clerk living on Esplanade Ave. just north of St. Viateur St. I

tracked him through every directory, cross-checking each alphabetic listing with his entry in the street directory, until his departure for Toronto in the mid-1930s. At the height of his success, from 1918 to 1925, I also recorded the listings for his own stock brokerage company, Herdman & Co., in the Dominion Express Building on St. James St. But the dreams and ambition sometimes came crashing down. The family stories also include ones of debt collectors and bailiffs. The entries give clues to this as well with frequent moves, or no listing at all in some years. Over his quarter-century residency in Montreal, Lovell's records eight different apartments, bracketing an extended rental of an elegant house on Dorchester Boulevard in Westmount during the prosperous years.

The earliest surviving Canadian directory dates from 1790. The "Directory for the City and Suburbs of Quebec" was compiled by Hugh MacKay; commissioned by the





Legislative Council as part of a census project. Government sponsorship was not typical of directory publication however. Most were published commercially as a sales tool and advertising medium.

The earliest Montreal directories included on the BAnQ site were compiled and published by Robert W.S. Mackay starting in 1842, and printed by Lovell. The preface to the 1854 edition alludes to the illness that

**MONTREAL DIRECTORY**

**FOR 1842-3.**

CONTAINING AN

ALPHABETICAL DIRECTORY OF THE CITIZENS GENERALLY,

A CLASSIFIED BUSINESS DIRECTORY,

AND

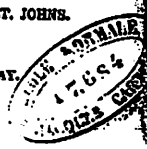
A SUPPLEMENTARY DIRECTORY OF PROFESSIONAL AND  
BUSINESS MEN OF

CHAMBLY, LAPRAIRIE AND ST. JOHNS.

BY ROBERT W. S. MACKAY.

**Montreal:**

PUBLISHED BY LOVELL & GIBSON, ST. NICOLAS STREET,  
AND BY ROBERT W. S. MACKAY, 111, NOTRE DAME STREET.  
1842.



resulted in his death in October of that year. Responsibility for the publication fell to his widow, Christina, who continued in that role until 1863 when it was assumed by John Lovell. What was initially called "The Montreal Directory" became "Mackay's Montreal Directory" in 1856 and "Lovell's Montreal Directory" in 1874.

John Lovell was born in Ireland in 1810 but came to Canada with his family as a child. He apprenticed with a Montreal printer in 1823 and established his own printing firm by 1835, initially working in partnership with others. His firm continues to this day under the name of Lovell Litho & Publications Inc.,

and occupied the same premises on St. Nicolas St. in Old Montreal until 2017. Management and ownership remains with the family.

Information collection was always a challenge. Names were generally obtained by door-to-door canvassers. This was not always straight-forward however with suspicions that names might be used for military recruitment or taxation. Robert Mackay complained about the challenge in his first preface and it was a common theme in the prefaces of later editions: "In collecting the matter for the Directory, much difficulty was encountered in procuring the names of a large class of the population. A great many altogether refused to give information, and where the names of such persons were obtained from others, more intelligent than themselves, it was in many instances without being able to arrive at the Christian name." In the 1852 edition he notes, "to secure the naming of the French names with greater accuracy than heretofore, two active and intelligent French Canadian gentleman were employed, who doubtlessly performed their part of the work ably and faithfully."

The Alphabetical Directory is the core of any city directory. Its use is fairly self-evident, at least for those of us who grew up using telephone books, but several points are worth noting.

Keeping in mind the commercial objectives of these directories, householders working in a trade are most likely to be listed. Women are usually only listed if they were heads of their household. Adult sons and long-term boarders are occasionally included.

Some of the most interesting information comes from the provided occupations which can sometimes go into surprising detail, especially for paying advertisers or notable citizens. For example, the first name in the





city finally redressed this problem with a renumbering of its streets between 1924 and 1931.

In cases where a street can't be found amongst the listings, an excellent tool, starting with the 1860 edition, is a "Guide to the Streets of the City", later called the "Index to Streets, Lanes, Avenues, Terraces, &c." With just a few pages to review, it is easier to find the anomalous listings. From the 1901 edition, for example, Jeanne-Mance St. can be found in the 'M's and Place St. Henri in the 'P's rather than with the many saints.

Researchers tracing addresses in old directories will quickly note that the names of many streets have changed over the years, or disappeared entirely. The go-to resource on this subject is "Les Rues de Montréal, Répertoire historique" published by éditions Méridiens in 1995. Some of the information in this book can be found in the Répertoire historique des toponymes montréalais search function on the City of Montreal's website. Both resources are available in French only.

While not as complete as the listings for the core of the city, the Places in the Neighbourhood of Montreal section should not be ignored. These are generally the villages that urbanisation gradually brought into what is now Greater Montreal, such as Longue Pointe, Tannery West (which became St. Henri in 1875 and absorbed into

the City of Montreal in 1905), Lachine, and Cote St. Antoine (which became Westmount in 1895). While offering alphabetic listings with occupations only, the lists are sometimes extensive.

Finally the Miscellaneous Directory is mostly a listing of office holders. This starts with public officials but then continues (especially in directories before 1920) with an impressive array of corporations, patriotic societies, religious organisations and sporting clubs.

#### Sources:

The on-line *Dictionary of Canadian Biography* includes entries for both Robert W.S. Mackay and John Lovell.

Library and Archives Canada's on-line Canadian Directories Collection includes an informative history of directory publishing.

Archives Montréal's website has a French-only page with information and methods for re researching the history of the city's streets, including a link to the City of Montreal's search function.



**Mark W. Gallop UE, FRCGS - After three decades in the investment and financial services sector, Mark Gallop now devotes his time to historical research and writing. He is a Trustee of the Mount Royal Cemetery and a past President of the Atwater Library. Mark has been a Q.F.H.S. member since 1991.**

# D'ARCY McGEE AND THE 'DARK MEN'

By Frank MacKey

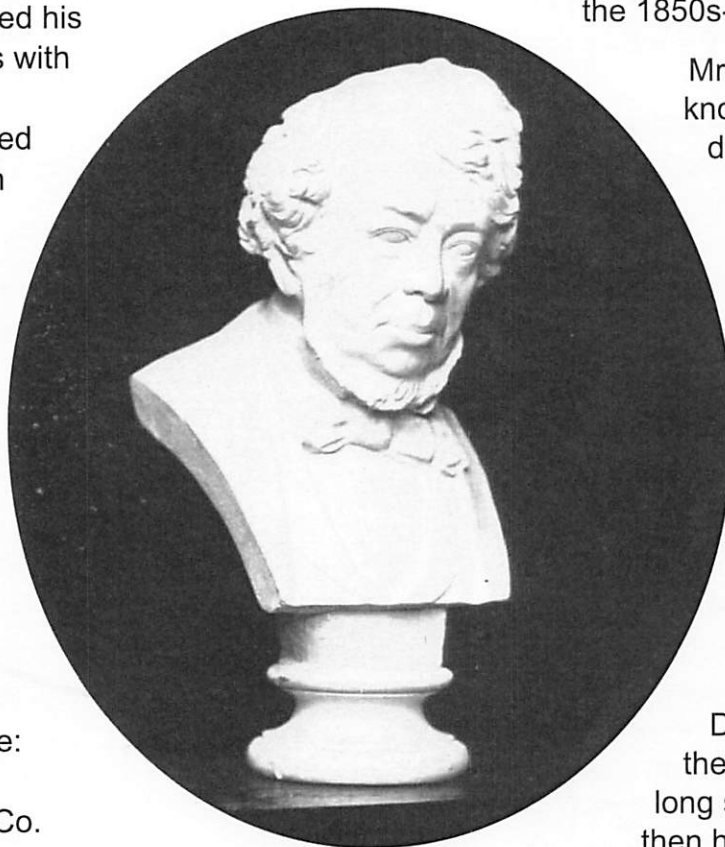
**T**homas D'Arcy McGee, the Brit-bashing Irish firebrand-turned-Father of Confederation and upholder of imperialism, felled by an assassin's bullet in Ottawa in 1868, amused his friends and associates with stories like this one:

"Mr. McGee informed us that one day, when on a railway train at a station, a little boy with a telegram for him ran through the car, shouting 'Is Darkey McGee here?' Mr. McGee said he beseechingly called out, 'Soften the C, my boy.'"

The joke turned not only on his name but on his appearance: Born as Irish as they come in Carlingford, Co. Louth, on 13 May 1825, McGee had an African air about him. In his native Ireland, this "unaccountable Negro cast of features was a constant source of jesting allusions, and induced his enemies, of whom he came to have a plentiful supply, to distort his name from Darcy McGee into Darky McGee," wrote Charles Gavan Duffy, a leader of the Young Ireland party who recruited McGee to write for the party paper, *The Nation*, in the 1840s.

In Canada, McGee's "black" looks

sometimes worked in his favour, as in this account of a contest in Montreal between him and Antoine-Aimé Dorion, leader of Quebec's Rouge (reform) party in the 1850s-1860s:



Mr. McGee, as we all know, was of a very dark, rich complexion.

He ... assured us that in an election contest between Mr. Dorion and himself, they together visited a negro settlement near Montreal, the votes of which were an important quota in the election. He, McGee, said he manoeuvred and got Dorion to first address them, which he did in a long stirring appeal, and then he (McGee) arose, and opening his mouth from ear to ear, and glowering at the negro audience, shouted: "We are a down-trodden race," and then resumed his seat. "And," said Mr. McGee, "they voted for me to a man."

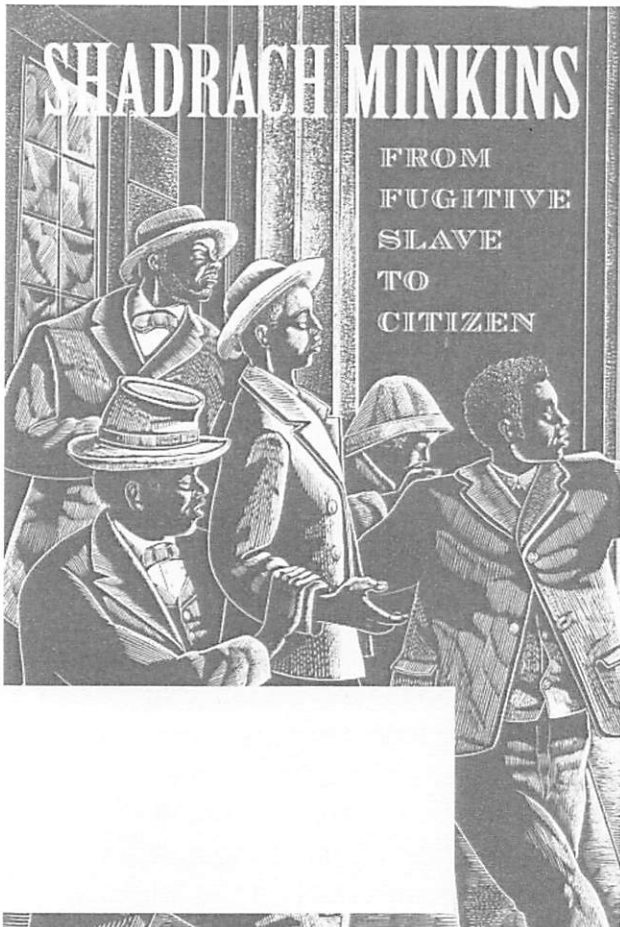
## Uncle Tom's Cabin

Odd to find McGee, who spent only the last 11 of his 43 years in Canada, playing up to Blacks here. Previously, as a newspaper



publisher and editor in the U.S., he had shown no sympathy for them. As historian David A. Wilson observed in his fascinating biography of this shooting star (Thomas D'Arcy McGee, 2 vols., McGill-Queen's, 2008 and 2011), McGee ranted against Abolitionists, considered Uncle Tom's Cabin, Harriet Beecher Stowe's anti-slavery blockbuster, a "libel on her country," and judged resistance to the infamous U.S. Fugitive Slave Law of 1850 to be treasonous.

He was outraged when, in a famous case in February 1851, black Bostonians "rescued" Shadrach Minkins (the name was spelt many different ways), a runaway arrested under the Fugitive Slave Law, who was about to be shipped back to slavery in Virginia. Minkins' rescuers rushed the courtroom where he was being held and whisked him off to Montreal, where he would live out his life – and, ironically, marry an Irishwoman, as later would his son, Jacob.



"Six years after condemning Minkins's rescue, McGee himself moved to Montreal," Wilson notes. "It is not known whether the two men ever encountered each other on the city's streets."

Well, they did meet, to judge by another of McGee's stories. It was in December 1857 when McGee, only six months in Canada, was elected in Montreal as an independent MP, along with Rouge leader Dorion and government candidate John Rose. As his English friend Edward William Watkin, whose career included stints as a British MP and president of the Grand Trunk Railway, later wrote, McGee liked to tell of an election meeting at a restaurant called, of all things, Uncle Tom's Cabin!

Here he was addressing an audience containing a considerable number of dark men. Mr. [Luther] Holton, his colleague, had orated about differential duties, very dry and Yankee-like, as usual. McGee followed in one of his arousing speeches. When he sat down, the respected negro landlord of 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' got up to move a vote of confidence. And, according to McGee's story, said:

"Bredren, we all on us heah came to dis land on a venter. Mr. McGee he came heah on a venter. Dis child know nothing bout dem disgreable duties. All we wants, bredren, is to pick out de best man. How is we to do dat? Bredren, best way is to follow de hair. Mr. McGee has hair like good nigger. Bredren, let us follow our hair."

The result was McGee was adopted unanimously.

Watkin gave no date for this meeting, but it has to have been in the campaign of December 1857 (nominations 14 Dec., voting 21-22 Dec.) because Uncle Tom's Cabin, at 15 St-Alexis St., opened in spring 1857 and lasted no more than a year. Its "respected negro landlord" was Minkins, the man McGee would have thrown to the



wolves back in Boston in 1851.

In Canada, McGehee changed his tune on slavery, perhaps because of such facts of political life as his having to chase black votes, and the case of fugitive Missouri slave John Anderson, who came embarrassingly close to being extradited to the U.S. on the eve of the U.S. civil war. In a lecture before the St. Patrick's Literary

Association of Montreal in December 1860, McGehee urged Irish Americans to stop thinking that, by stifling opposition to slavery, they could appease the South, keep it from seceding and help save the American union. In Anderson's case, "no means ought to be left untried to save us from the disgrace and guilt of delivering a fellow creature into hopeless bondage," he said.

### Where are they now?

McGee lies in the family vault (K 00021) in Catholic Notre-Dame-des-Neiges Cemetery in Montreal, the name "McGee" carved into the lintel, a plaque on the door identifying him as "the most eloquent voice of The Fathers of Confederation." His wife, Mary Theresa Caffrey, who died on 18 January 1871, is also believed to be buried there. They had five children; only two were still living when they moved to Canada. Daughter Mary Euphrasia, born in Boston the year Minkins left that place in a hurry, married Montreal lawyer Francis Alphonse Quinn and had 13 children. The family moved to California in the 1890s. Mary Euphrasia died in Oakland in 1925 and is buried there. Her sister Agnes Clara, born in Brooklyn, N.Y., in 1857, never married. She died in Montreal in 1941 and was buried in the family vault.

Minkins lies in adjacent Mount Royal Cemetery, Montreal's main Protestant

burying ground. For all his notoriety, no portrait of him has been found, and an American preacher who looked him up in the early 1850s was surprised to find that he had never sought to cash in on his name:

[O]ne day, being in Montreal, he started to find Shadrach, 'of glorious memory,' and after going through several narrow streets, and examining all the signs, but finding no 'Shadrach,' he finally went into a small shop





over which was a little sign with 'S. Makins, Victualler,' &c., upon it and asked a man he saw there if he knew where Shadrach, who once lived in Boston, could be found. 'I am Shadrach,' replied the man. The man had a fortune in his name and did not know it – else he would surely have signed himself 'Shadrach.'

The elements have contributed to erase his memory here. The small stone on his grave (Plot B562-C) is so weather-worn that its inscription is indecipherable. When it was still legible, it gave no indication that he was buried there. It read: "Sacred to the memories of William, Died 11 Oct 1857, aged 2 years, Also Eda, Died 7 April 1858, aged 4 years – The beloved Children of Shadrack & Mary Minking." A Bible verse (Job, 1:21) followed: "The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord."

Uncle Tom's Cabin was the last of his

several restaurant ventures. He afterwards worked as a barber, until his death on 13 December 1875. No record has been found of his wedding, but around 1853, he married an Irish immigrant variously identified as Mary or Mary Ann Hallen or Harlin. She lived until the dawn of the 20th century.

Their son Jacob, born on 4 March 1860, married Irish-born Annie Byrne on 24 May 1887. He worked alternately as a hotel waiter, porter and doorman. Around the time of the First World War, they moved to Greenfield Park. He died there on 4 September 1935, she on the 29 December following. They had no children of their own, but they had adopted their nephew, Samuel John Bates, born in 1891, the son of Annie's sister Mary. He was a witness at their funerals. Jacob and Annie Minkins are both buried in Lakeview Cemetery in Pointe-Claire, in an unmarked grave (Section F, Row H, Space 6).



*A native Quebecer, Frank MacKey retired in 2008 after nearly 40 years of newspapering. He joined QFHS in the summer of 2015. He is the author of Steamboat Connections: Montreal to Upper Canada, 1816-1843 (2000); Black Then, Blacks and Montreal 1780s to 1880s (2004); Done with Slavery: The Black Fact in Montreal, 1760- 1840 (2010). All titles were published by McGill-Queen's University Press. A French translation of the last book, entitled L'esclave et les noirs à Montréal, 1760- 1840, was published by Hurtubise in 2013.*

# Your QFHS

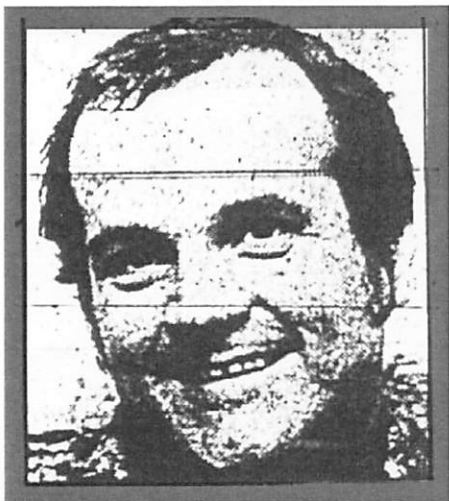
## Upcoming Speakers

**Date: Saturday, March 10th, 2018**

Time: 10:30 a.m. at Briarwood Presbyterian Church Hall, 70 Beaconsfield Blvd., Beaconsfield

**Speaker: Victor Boyle**, President, Ancient Order of Hibernians

Topic: Victor will discuss the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the activities they undertake in support of the Irish community such as the "Walk to the Stone" in Montreal which will next be on May 27, 2018.



**Date: Saturday, April 14th, 2018**

Time: 10:30 a.m. at Briarwood Presbyterian Church Hall, 70 Beaconsfield Blvd., Beaconsfield

**Speaker: Kristian Gravenor**, author and journalist

Topic: Kristian will discuss his recently published book, "Montreal: 375 Tales of Eating, Drinking, Living and Loving". The main focus of his talk will be on organized crime in the 1970's with the Mafia, West End Gang and Dubois family.

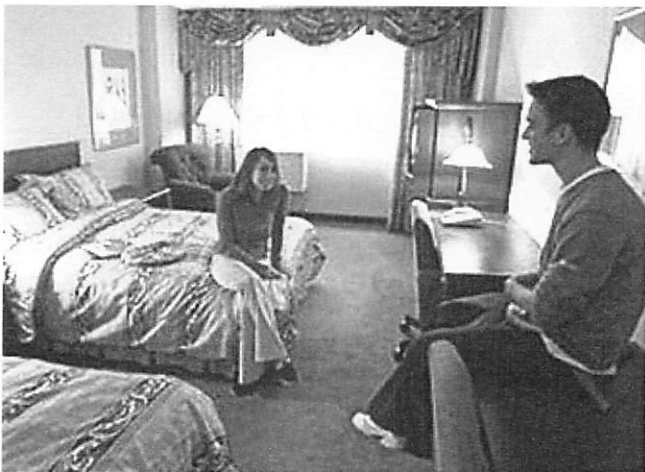
**Your QFHS**

The Quebec Family History Society  
is proud to present  
**Roots 2018**

An International Conference on  
Family History in Quebec  
May 18, 19 & 20, 2018

McGill University, Montreal

***Details for the schedule, timetable and registration  
are on the next few pages***



The McGill New Residence Hall





## Roots 2018: Schedule

Friday, May 18, 2018

### ANCESTRY FRIDAY

WITH LESLEY ANDERSON,  
CANADIAN SPOKESPERSON FOR [ancestry.ca](http://ancestry.ca)

- 12:00-13:30 **Getting the Most from Ancestry**
- 13:30-15:00 **Ancestry Online Trees**
- 15:00-15:15 **Break**
- 15:15-17:00 **Ancestry DNA: Everything you Need to Know, Case Studies and Questions**
- 19:00 **Opening Ceremonies**

- The gala banquet will be held at the Hotel Omni Mont-Royal with a gourmet meal and entertainment
- Lectures and a Genealogical Resources Fair will be held at McGill University New Residence Hall

### Saturday, May 19, 201

- Session 1A: Gary Schroder, QFHS President: **How to use the Drouin Institute Website**
- Session 1B: Gloria Tubman, Genealogist: **Using Canadian Censuses**
- Session 1C: Deborah Waddell Robertson: **Notarial Records in Quebec**
- Session 2A: Tom Quinlan: Keeper, N.A.I. **What's New at the National Archives of Ireland**
- Session 2B: Kelley O'Rourke, Genealogist: **Protestant Genealogical Records in Quebec**
- Session 2C: Steven Cameron, Historian: **Murders in 19<sup>th</sup> Century Quebec Rural Communities**

- Session 3A: Laurie Pratt, Genetic Genealogist: **DNA Testing: an Overview**
- Session 3B: Kelley O'Rourke, Genealogist: **Catholic Genealogical Records in Quebec**
- Session 3C: Gloria Tubman, Genealogist: **British Home Children**
- Session 4A: Gary Schroder, QFHS President: **How to use the website of the Archives Nationales du Québec**
- Session 4B: Christopher Lyons, Librarian and Archivist: **Genealogical Resources at McGill University**
- Session 4C: Steven Cameron, Historian: **Pre-Famine Irish in Rural Quebec**

### Banquet: Hotel Omni Mont-Royal

- 18:00 **Meet & Mix & Cash Bar**
- 19:00 **Dinner & Entertainment**

### Sunday, May 20, 2018

- Session 5A: Tom Quinlan: Keeper, N.A.I. **Researching Convict Ancestors in the National Archives of Ireland**
- Session 5B: Luc Lepine, Author and Historian: **Who were "Les Filles du Roi"?**
- Session 5C: Deborah Waddell Robertson, QFHS Vice President: **Using Quebec Directories**
- Session 6A: Laurie Pratt, Genetic Genealogist: **How to Use DNA and Family Trees to Break Down your Brick Walls**
- Session 6B: Luc Lepine, Author and Historian: **The Origin of "Dif"-Names in Quebec: What are they?**
- Session 6C: Mario Robert, Archivist: **Genealogical Resources at the City of Montreal Archives**
- Session 7A: **Meet the Experts Panel: The Speakers will be there to answer your Genealogical Questions**

## Program Timetable

### Friday May 18

McGill New Residence Hall

- 10:00      **Registration**
- 12:00-17:00      **Ancestry Friday**
- 19:00      **Opening Ceremonies**

### Saturday, May 19

- 08:30      **Registration**
- 09:30      **Sessions**      1A    1B    1C
- 10:30      **Break & Browse**
- 11:00      **Sessions**      2A    2B    2C
- 12:00      **Lunch & Browse**
- 14:00      **Sessions**      3A    3B    3C
- 15:00      **Break & Browse**
- 15:30      **Sessions**      4A    4B    4C

### Banquet: Hotel Omni Mont-Royal

- 18:00      **Meet & Mix & Cash Bar**
- 19:00      **Dinner & Entertainment**

### Sunday May 20

- 09:30      **Sessions**      5A    5B    5C
- 10:30      **Break & Browse**
- 11:00      **Sessions**      6A    6B    6C
- 12:00      **Lunch & Browse**
- 13:30      **Session**      7A **Meet the Experts**
- 15:30      **End of Conference**

**Note 1:** Registration includes entry to Ancestry Friday and the Opening Ceremonies.

**Note 2:** If you are staying at McGill University New Residence Hall full breakfasts are included.

### The Genealogical Resources Fair

will take place

- Saturday      9:00 – 16:30  
Sunday        9:00 – 15:30

### Roots 2018 Registration

Register online with PayPal at: [www.qfhs.ca](http://www.qfhs.ca)

Or: Complete the registration form and fee calculator. Detach and mail with full payment by cheque or money order made out to:

Quebec Family History Society

Send to:

Quebec Family History Society  
PO Box 715  
15 Donegani Avenue  
Pointe-Claire, QC  
Canada, H9R 4S8

### Accommodations:

McGill University New Residence provides Hotel-style accommodations. It is the site of all lectures and the Genealogical Resources Fair.

Room prices begin at only \$124.00 plus tax, single or double occupancy including a full breakfast. A great bargain for downtown Montreal.

Underground parking is available for an additional fee.

To reserve a room, please contact the McGill University New Residence Hall directly and indicate that you are attending Roots 2018 Folio # 1067752.

Phone: 514-398-5200 Fax: 514-398-4521

Email: [reserve.residences@mcgill.ca](mailto:reserve.residences@mcgill.ca)

To ensure a room onsite, please reserve by March 15, 2018

McGill University  
New Residence Hall  
3625 Avenue du Parc  
Montreal, QC, H2X 3P

**Roots 2018 Conference  
Mail in Registration Form**  
Please cut out form, complete and mail

**Session Preferences:**

**Ancestry Friday ( )**

- |        |        |        |
|--------|--------|--------|
| 1A ( ) | 1B ( ) | 1C ( ) |
| 2A ( ) | 2B ( ) | 2C ( ) |
| 3A ( ) | 3B ( ) | 3C ( ) |
| 4A ( ) | 4B ( ) | 4C ( ) |
| 5A ( ) | 5B ( ) | 5C ( ) |
| 6A ( ) | 6B ( ) | 6C ( ) |
| 7A ( ) |        |        |

All lectures and activities will be in English

**Roots 2018 Registration**  
Please Print

Surname \_\_\_\_\_ Given Name \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_ Given Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Province/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_ Postal or Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Fee Calculator**

<b>Registration:</b>			
If postmarked before April 1, 2018			
\$150	x		\$
If postmarked after April 1, 2018			
\$170	x		\$

**Saturday, May 19**

**Gala Banquet:**  
**Hotel Omni Mont-Royal**

\$75.00	x		\$
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<b>Lunches:</b>			
Saturday	\$25.00	x	\$
Sunday	\$25.00	x	\$

**Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Complete the registration form and fee calculator. Cut out form and mail with full payment by cheque or money order made out to:

**Quebec Family History Society**  
**PO Box 715**  
**15 Donegan Avenue**  
**Pointe-Claire, QC**  
**Canada, H9R 4S8**





The Omni Hotel



The Resources Fair

We will be entertained by the Bernadette Short School of Irish Dancing



The Omni Hotel Banquet Hall



# Book Review

Review by Lorraine Gosselin, UE

## The Family Tree Irish Genealogy Guide by Claire Santry

ISBN-13: 978-1440348808: Family Tree Books  
2017, 239 pages, illustrated

### A Masterclass in Irish Genealogy

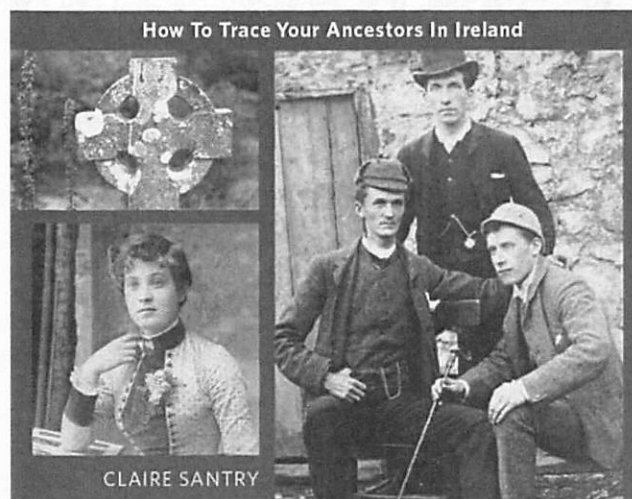
If you've dreamed of attending a class by a consummate expert in Irish history and genealogy to help you in your search for your Irish ancestors, this book is for you. Claire Santry's recent book matches in quality, clarity, and helpfulness her widely-consulted e-books and blog.

This is definitely not a compendium of all the best sites and all the types of document that exist for each Irish county – there are sources for this (and she points them out) rather it is a true course, with logic, precision and useful references at each step.

Santry leads you gradually through the intricacies of Irish history and geography, highlighting the aspects that will make the historical records more understandable. The first chapter is clearly addressed to American neophytes in Irish genealogy. Don't skip it even if you are an experienced family historian: there are tips and refresher reminders for everyone.

In Part 2, she covers Irish history and geography, Irish names and surnames, then goes on to the major types of records such as

## THE FAMILY TREE IRISH GENEALOGY GUIDE



civil registrations, church, census, and land and property records.

Part 3 illustrates strategies and techniques using these documents to put it all together.

As the book progresses, relevant illustrations and worksheets are integrated into the text. Even "best" Irish history books are introduced. (Note I bought two of them and they were both very informative and a pleasure to read).

She ends with various lists of associations, web sites, archives, and publications.

It is also highly readable and, in my opinion, very entertaining.

**About The Author: Claire Santry**  
A full-time freelance journalist for more than thirty years, Claire Santry has three specialities: Irish genealogy, architecture, and travel. She has written for many Irish, UK, and US newspapers and magazines. She is a Fellow of the Irish Genealogical Research Society and editor of its monthly magazine.

# HIDDEN TREASURES

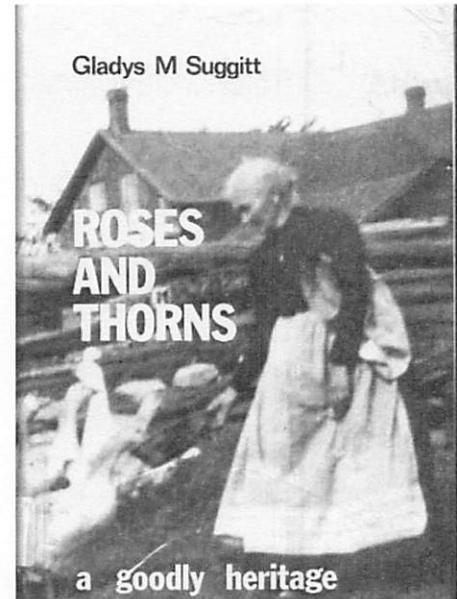
By Lorraine Showers

## Roses and Thorns: The Early Days of Baddow Area by Gladys M Suggitt

**M**s. Suggitt begins her narrative with a quote from Father Joseph Gravelle "...genealogy is really concerned with the Little People...who pioneered the land and settled the villages." If you are one of the lucky descendants from the "Little People" who lived in Baddow, near Somerville, Ontario, this book will totally astonish you. It contains many names of the settlers and their stories around the 1850s. This itself is not unusual; what is rare is the depth and the quality of the research that the author put into her project. Her historical reach into the lives and times of the early settlers is meticulous and fascinating.

Here are just three of the chapters on food and cooking: Saleratus and Suet, Puddings and Pies and Acetic Acid and Pickles. Everyday matters are detailed in Sewing and Dyeing, Nonsense and Recreation, Predatory Animals and Pot Hunting, and, Tallow and Oil. The settlers self-reliance on family and community is highlighted in several chapters - Doctoring, Farm Stock and Implements and A Little Leaven.

Consider this passage from *The Hand that Rocked the Cradle*: "One favourite pacifier for babies after six months of age was a thick fried pork rind. A string was fastened from the rind to the baby's big toe, as a guard against choking. When the rind would slip too far down the child's throat, a good vigorous kick, which the child would automatically make, was sure to remedy the difficulty." Self-reliance started early in those days!



Pulling peas, Arthur Fielder and son James.



A pioneer chicken coop. Mother hen has flown the coop assisted by Ray Butler.



Erecting a bent of J B White's barn  
— Courtesy Ed. White

Roses and Thorns. A Goodly Heritage. The Early Days of Baddow and Area by Gladys M Suggitt.  
John Dryell and Co., 1972. [out of print]  
QFHS Library: HG 160.01 S83

*Lorraine's interest in genealogy started in the mid 1960's when a cousin started doing research on the Showers family and showed her a list of names going back to Michael Showers, an Empire Loyalist, and then back further to William of Orange. Lorraine has been a member of QFHS for many years.*



# Preserving Your Archives By Kyla Ubbink

## # Housing Photographs



There are two options when it comes to storing your family photographs: albums or boxes. So long as the storage container is acid-free and meets the standards of the 'Photo Activity Test' (PAT test) it will provide protection from light and dust. Albums provide additional protection during handling and use, but boxes filter out more pollutants reducing chemical deterioration. There are several issues to be considered when choosing which method is best for your artifacts; including how and when the photographs are being used, shelf space, and whether digital copies exist.

Albums allow for easy access, and are best for photographs that are being viewed or referenced frequently. If you are taking photographs to a family event, on a research holiday, or to a gathering, an album allows you to organize them, provides protection during handling, and you can make notes on inserted pages or directly on the plastic sleeves. Plastic sleeves for the photographs can be obtained to hold a variety of sizes of paper-based photographs, as well as slides, film and tin types. The best type of plastic for the sleeves to be made from is polyester. Sleeves made from polypropylene, polyethylene, and polyester will all be marketed as being archivally safe and acid-free; however, as they deteriorate and breakdown these products release pollutants that damage the photographs causing staining and fading. Polyester has the longest potential life span before breaking down. If you see your plastic sleeves turning yellow, immediately discard them and replace them with new sleeves.

Albums take up a large amount of shelving space, the sleeves pose a future threat, and

they do not provide the same level of protection as an enclosure or box which will filter out pollutants, act as a buffer against climate changes, and protect against pests and mould. The best course of action to preserve your photographs is to digitize them and use the digital images for family events, research, sharing, and gatherings; keeping the original photographs in acid-free boxes. Since digital images have a limited life span and do not contain the contextual information of the original artifact, such as writing on the back or the type of emulsion and manufacturing materials, it is imperative to preserve the original photograph.



Boxes are available in a variety of sizes specifically to hold photographs. Place photographs smaller than 10" x 8" vertically in

these boxes. Do not stack them horizontally as this will encourage them to stick together and makes it difficult to access them. Placing the photographs vertically, leaving a little extra space, allows one to peruse the images without removing each one. Index cards cut from acid-free paper can be inserted to help sort and organize the photographs within the boxes.

The only practical way to store photographs larger than 10" x 8" is to lay them flat in large, thin, acid-free boxes. Interleave the photographs with acid-free tissue paper and do not over pack the boxes. Always label the outside of the box with a list of what is within. Rolled panoramic photographs can be opened and flattened by a conservator; otherwise, store them rolled in larger, acid-free boxes. Wrap daguerreotype photographs and glass plate negatives with acid-free paper or Pacific Silver Cloth, labelled to indicate the subject matter of the photograph, and place them laying horizontally in acid-free boxes. Antique albums containing photographs will also be well served and protected by placement in an acid-free box.

When choosing how to store your family photographs consider their use and if they are available in digital format. Albums have the appeal of easy use and access; however, boxes provide better protection.



***Kyla Ubbink is a professional Book and Paper Conservator. You can contact her at: Ubbink Book & Paper Conservation, kyla@bookandpaperconseration.com 613-523-0569***



**UBBINK**  
BOOK & PAPER  
CONSERVATION

# Technology

By Lorraine Gosselin

## Computree

### DO YOU HAVE ANY IRISH METHODIST ANCESTORS?

The Methodist Historical Society of Ireland (MHSI) archives are based in Belfast. However, there were holdings elsewhere in Ireland, and those located in Dublin were moved to Belfast and are accessible on line at <http://methodisthistoryireland.org>. They also scoured many other sources to add to their databases, such as “churches, houses, bank vaults, garages, outhouses ....” (Thanks to the article that appeared in Irish Roots magazine, which explains in considerable detail).

### THE CHURCH OF IRELAND GAZETTE (ANGLICAN)

From Claire Santry's blog: “The Church of Ireland's repository, Representative Church Body Library, has announced that all 19th century editions of the Church of Ireland Gazette have been added to their online archive.” These are editions published between 1856 and 1923. See [https://e-search.informa.ie/Exe/ZyNET.exe?ZyAction=ZyActionr&Client=7094\\_RCB%20Library%20Archive&User=ANONYMOUS&Password=ANONYMOUS](https://e-search.informa.ie/Exe/ZyNET.exe?ZyAction=ZyActionr&Client=7094_RCB%20Library%20Archive&User=ANONYMOUS&Password=ANONYMOUS)

### NEW! BRITISH AND IRISH ROOTS COLLECTION AT FIND MY PAST

It brings together 98 million records that identify a British or Irish emigrant. <https://search.findmypast.com/search-world-Records/british-and-irish-roots-collection>

### THREE CANADIAN COLLECTIONS ADDED TO ANCESTRY

- Ontario, RomanCatholic Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials, 1760-1923
- Ontario, Toronto Trust Cemeteries, 1826-1989
- Canada, Census Mortality Schedule, 1871.

See Claire Santry's site for a detailed description

<http://www.irishgenealogynews.com/2017/11/ancestry-adds-three-canadian-collections.html>



### VICTIMS OF NATIONAL SOCIALISM (I.E. NAZIS)

The Many Roads site states that recent client work has resulted in the identification of Information Resources on the victims ... of Nazism, 1938-1943 ... over thirty sites are currently listed at [www.many-roads.com/2017/12/27/victims-of-national-socialism/](http://www.many-roads.com/2017/12/27/victims-of-national-socialism/)



## PLEASE HELP: THE LOYALISTS OF NOVA SCOTIA'S KING COUNTY

Two Nova Scotian historians are attempting to create a list of all the loyalist refugees who settled in what is now Nova Scotia's Kings County. The list will include:

- those who settled in Kings County after arriving at Annapolis Royal,
- those who initially settled in Kings County but moved elsewhere, and
- those who moved to Kings County after initially settling elsewhere.

If you know the name of a loyalist and (if married) his/her immediate family members who fit these parameters, please forward the information on to Stephen Davidson (loyalistsed@gmail.com) and Carol Harding (cmharding@bellaliant.net)

This list, when completed, will be shared with the United Empire Loyalist Association of Canada.



## NEW ENGLAND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OPENS ITS COURSES TO PUBLIC

Provided by NEHGS: its online courses are now accessible to all--not only to NEHGS members. This change allows the public to attend more classes from the comfort of home. To view a list of current online course

offerings, please visit their website. Members still receive a deep discount on recorded, packaged courses available at their online bookstore. Visit <https://www.americanancestors.org/education/online-classes>

## THE ANCESTOR HUNT – NEWSPAPER GUIDES

Thanks to a posting on our Facebook page, about an E-Book and two Quick Reference Guides “To Help You Become a Master Newspaper Researcher”.

<http://www.theancestorhunt.com/blog/e-book-and-quick-reference-guides-to-help-you-become-a-master-newspaper-researcher#.Wlff1zdG3IU>

## THE GENEALOGIST

If you haven't explored this for-fee site in search of your UK ancestors, there is a 14-day free exploration trial currently available. It bills itself as The Leading British Genealogy Research Website. They note their new releases for 2017 include The Lloyd George Domesday Survey, millions of Parish Records, Colour Tithe Maps, Military Records, the British in India collection, etc. They have added 12.7 million individuals to their databases. <https://www.thegenealogist.co.uk/>

## Dit NAMES (also known as)

There is a lot of discussion about French-Canadian dit names appearing on the Internet, including QFHS' Facebook page, some of the information is often incomplete or not quite correct, so I am republishing a link to an article written several years ago for the QFHS by historian Luc Lépine, explaining the military roots of the “dit” names. Click on “Military Roots of Dit Names” at <http://www.afgs-olb.org/jms/2004-2.pdf> (As an aside to non-French speakers, the “t” is silent in “Dit” ... pronounce it “dee”.)

## Genealogical Software



### HOW TO USE EVERNOTE TO ORGANIZE YOUR LIFE!

Many genealogists have converted to Evernote to organize their notes. There are several courses on how to use it, some of them quite detailed. This one has no relation to genealogy, but it is easy to visualize how it can be helpful to organize research, notes, courses and make your data easy to retrieve. The course is evidently written by a student, and is easy to follow - a useful feature is that the writer has opinions on what aspect of the various features he found most useful, and this should be helpful to a new user. See <https://www.theverge.com/2017/9/6/16215562/evernote-app-organize-how-to-use-maximum-productivity>

### THE BEST OF 2017: SOFTWARE PROGRAMS AS RATED BY USERS

This is a site where users go to rate genealogy programs they are using. There is a minimum number of reviews to be entered for a program to qualify for consideration and ratings. See [www.gensoftreviews.com/awards.php](http://www.gensoftreviews.com/awards.php). Before choosing one, note that some of them are no longer supported, but you may still find useful information here.

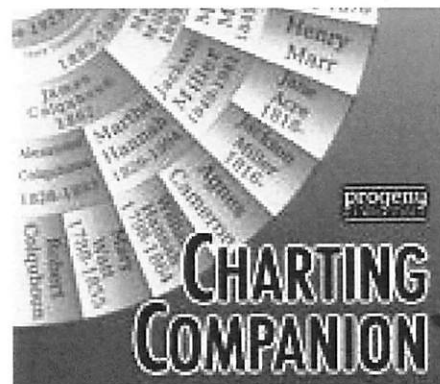
### THE BEST GENEALOGY PROGRAMS AS RATED BY A PRODUCT RATING SITE

Here are the best with an evaluation of key features: [www.toptenreviews.com/software/home/best-genealogy-software/](http://www.toptenreviews.com/software/home/best-genealogy-software/)  
This year again, Legacy Family Tree comes out on top; but since these are all strong programs, be sure to check out which features are really important to you before

you decide to change.

### CHARTING COMPANION – NEW FEATURE

Those who want more choices for charting are probably using Progeny Software's Charting Companion as it works with most genealogical programs and usually can be purchased directly from your genealogical program's Web site. There is a new feature that has been announced "Pruning" that permits you to choose individuals and emphasize their common lineage without removing them permanently from your data. See the User Guide (a free download) and click on Charts and Reports, it appears near the end. As an aside, I have always had very quick and excellent responses on the few times I had to contact them. <https://progeny-genealogy.com/Products/Family-Tree-Charts>



### THE GENETIC GENEALOGIST

This is a very-well regarded site for those of us interested in exploring genetic genealogy. See how to get more in depth knowledge with your DNA results at: <https://thegeneticgenealogist.com/>

# Research Tips

By Lorraine Gosselin



*The BANQ page provides tips to navigate your way on the [BANQ.qc.ca](http://www.banq.qc.ca) website (the Library and National Archives of Quebec) and its millions of documents.*

## EXPLORE THE CHANGES

Documents digitized by BANQ and purchased from other companies continue to be added to their Numérique site. In addition to genealogical data, there are a great number of seemingly unrelated documents, including many subscriptions to newspaper, magazine and book services in English. These include various dictionaries, reference works, and collections. Navigation instructions are mostly in French, but the description of documents matches the language of the contents.

Their new catalogue is a beta version, which of course means it is under development, so it may change, there may be strange things happening, you are invited to comment ... nevertheless, it is worth exploring for its immense scope. The difficulties are acknowledged by the popup screen offering a telephone number to call or a form to fill to get help.

There is too much to give more than a summary here, but at the bottom of one of the initial screens are several choices – choose “documents patrimoniaux” for anything to do with genealogy or family history.

## INSURANCE MAPS

These are lists of fire-insurance plans by Charles Goad and the Underwriters' Survey for the island of Montreal. Not all are digitized. An index map is available by clicking the box at the left of the list. (NOTE for all researches on BANQ: always check the lists on the left to help you select the appropriate data.)

[http://www.banq.qc.ca/collections/cartes\\_plans/resources\\_BANQ/doc\\_cartographiques/doc\\_assurance/](http://www.banq.qc.ca/collections/cartes_plans/resources_BANQ/doc_cartographiques/doc_assurance/)

## UPDATE ON SEARCHABLE NEWSPAPERS

A recent issue of *Connections* had shown how to search for a name or place in historical Quebec newspapers. There is now good news and bad news related to this: the good news is the transfer of more and more information to the Numérique site (see above). But unfortunately, there also seems to be some holes in the performance: I have not been able to check out one of the best newspapers in the Eastern Townships for events that provide family history information *Le Canada français*. The problem will be pursued and an update provided in the next issue.

## UPDATES TO CIVIL REGISTERS

The civil registers – births, marriages, and deaths - are now updated to 1915 and now contain over a million and a half records.

<http://bibnum2.banq.qc.ca/bna/ecivil>



# Lexicon

## **SURPRISE GIFT FOR THE READERS OF THIS COLUMN AND ITS AUTHOR!**

As you may have noticed, Johanne Gervais is a frequent contributor to this column and has urged me in the past to compile them all for publication on the QFHS website. I hadn't had time to do this, but Johanne went ahead with the compilation, and gave it to our webmaster for posting to our site. By the time you read this, QFHS members should be able to access this compendium in the "members only" section of our web site.

## **MORE ON SPELLING OF FAMILY NAMES**

Frequently seen on many sites, including our own Facebook page, complaints that people can't find their ancestors with their "real" names, but only some similar spellings. This is an unfortunate conclusion, because standardized spelling of family names is relatively recent.

A sophisticated search engine such as Google will offer multiple alternate spellings, but rarely will ones used by genealogical societies. This is an excellent reason to try these alternate spellings, and even more important, not to reject them as "not my family" without further consideration.

## **MORE ON "DITS NAMES"**

If you looked up where they come from and what they mean (see Computree in this issue), how do you search for them? If you

search using the Drouin collection (online and at the QFHS library) the system will automatically provide the missing first or second family half of the name. On other sites, you are left on your own to search both names: sometime in the 19th century, they fell out of use by choice and by request, so some members of the same family chose the original name and others, the "dit name".

## **DEATH NOTICES/OBITS**

Much as in English, there are several terms that are used both to announce a specific death or to identify a collection of death notices/obits/obituaries:

Décès, Avis de décès, Nécrologie are the ones you will likely see on databases and in newspapers.

Mort /morte and décédé/décédée (these set of terms can appear as verbs or adjectives) are more specific and used in sentences such as (il est mort le) he died on the...or la morte était âgée de (the dead [woman] was xx years old.

## **MORE OLD FRENCH TERMS AND OCCUPATIONS**

Arrière-fief: part of a Seigneurie

Terrien : landowner

Travaillant : day laborer

Maître armurier: master armorer / gunsmith

Arquebusier: [h]arquebusier (soldier)

Maître tonnelier: master cooper.



*After a career in systems technology, Lorraine earned a BA Honours at Concordia University with Majors in English and Creative Writing and a Minor in Quebec History. She has been interested in genealogy since she was a teenager when her father inherited the Gosselin family tree. A QFHS member since 1990, she has given numerous seminars for the Society to genealogical and historical societies across Quebec.*

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Religion \_\_\_\_\_

Circa date of death \_\_\_\_\_ Place of death \_\_\_\_\_

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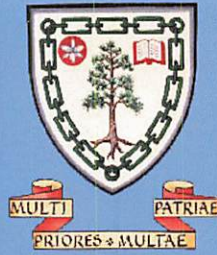
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# Connections

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June 2018 Vol. 40 No. 3



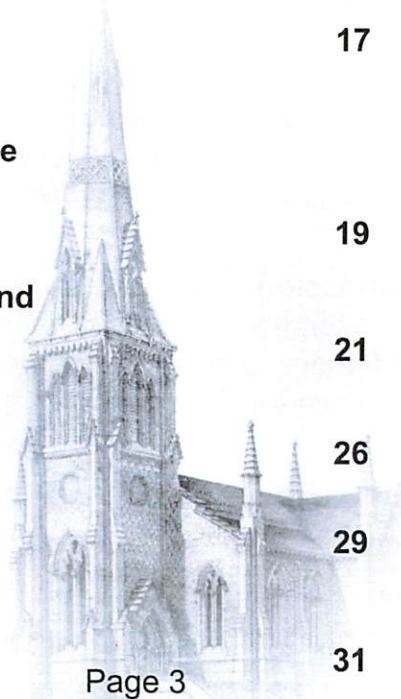


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# QFHS News

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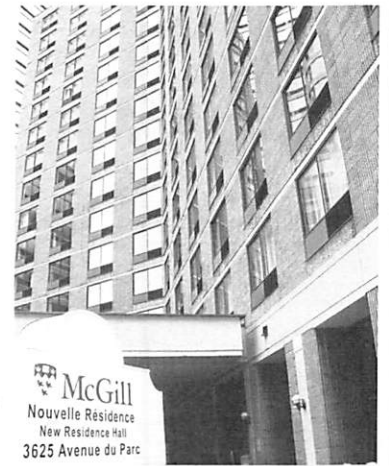
**Our International conference** at McGill last month was a resounding success, and the McGill New Residence proved once again to be a near-perfect venue. In this issue, you will find some photos as well as a report on the presenters and their topics.

**Three longtime friends and members of QFHS** passed away recently; Dr. John Little, David McCall and Cary Stead. Mr. Stead was the Society's legal representative for many years, and was the spouse of Margaret Stead, a former President of QFHS.

**This issue presents a new (quasi) regular column:** the QFHS Magazine Shelf - a look at just a few of the many periodicals and journals that arrive at the Heritage Library each month. These magazines are available to be loaned out to members.

**We are also asking for submissions for a new series making its debut, The DNA Dossiers.** This series will concentrate on family history connections that have been discovered through the now famous "spit and send" methodology. We also invite articles on DNA testing and genealogy in general - the theory, the practice, the pros and cons and latest developments.

*Cover: The McGill University medical faculty in 1882 in a composite photo by William Notman. William Wright (article on page 7) is seated, second from left. (McGill University Archives).*



## Quebec Family History Society

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Saturday Closed

## Connections

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# The Chisholm Bell

By Dr. J. S. S. Armour

**One of the fond memories of childhood** is the sound of bells - a memory particularly true of Montreal, a city of churches. The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul on Sherbrooke Street has such a bell – 147 years old, but strangely silent for 75 of those years. It was a gift to the congregation in memory of The Reverend Alexander Mathieson, the long-serving minister of St. Andrew's Church of Scotland, rebuilt in 1871 on Beaver Hall Hill. It was said to weigh 2100 pounds, worth \$1,000 and cast by the Whitechapel firm of Mears & Stainbank – famous for London's Big Ben and Philadelphia's Liberty Bell (the latter not its best advertisement). After some searching, the newspapers discovered that the donor was a Scot - John Sutherland Chisholm, known as The Chisholm. And thereby hangs not only a bell - but a tale.

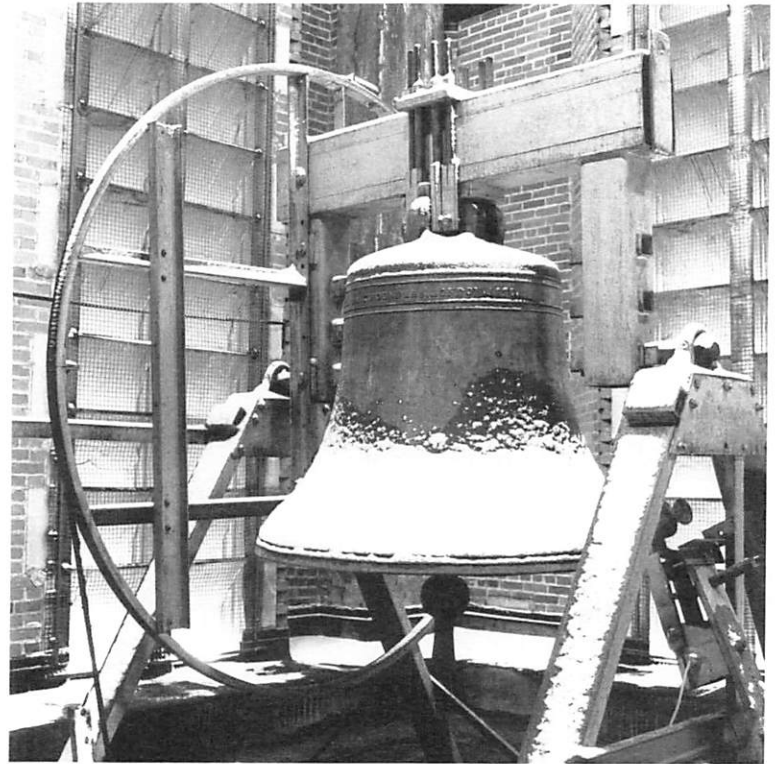
Scottish folk will know that there are only three people on earth entitled to be called 'The' – The Pope, The King and The Chisholm. The Chisholm is the hereditary chief of that ancient clan, and in 1857 an heir to the title and

valuable estates at Strathglass (including a castle) was lacking.

The following year, a Duncan Chisholm of Antigonish, Nova

Scotia, having studied the blood lines of his clan, sailed for Scotland to claim the title at the court of the Lord Lyon in Edinburgh.

Scottish folk will know that there are only three people on earth entitled to be called 'The' – The Pope, The King and The Chisholm.



*The Chisholm Bell, St Andrew and St. Paul, Montreal  
photo courtesy Brian Merrett, Montreal*

However, the Lord Lyon convinced Duncan that his father's older brother Alexander took preference. Alexander was dead but his son Roderick Chisholm had emigrated to Canada years ago to serve as a factor with the Hudson's Bay-Company. Alas, Roderick had

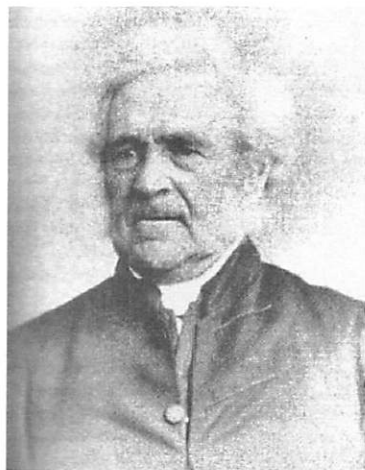
died of cholera in Montreal in 1832, leaving a wife, Isabella Sutherland and one son, James Sutherland Chisholm. If James was still living, he would

inherit the Chisholm title and estates.

In the finest tradition of a highlander, before returning to Antigonish, Duncan



journeyed to Montreal to seek his clan's true heir. His enquiries led him to Dr. Mathieson of St. Andrew's Church, a highlander himself and thus conversant with the importance of clans and chieftains. A resident of Canada for the past 30 years, Mathieson was, most importantly, chaplain of the many-tentacled St. Andrew's Society of Montreal. Though himself a Catholic, Duncan sought out Alexander Mathieson and explained the reason for his visit. It turned out that the reverend doctor had buried Roderick (June 22, 1832) during the great cholera epidemic and had been helpful to the family, perhaps securing James Sutherland a position as a book-keeper in Canada West.



*Dr. Mathieson, chaplain  
image courtesy of Bruce  
Bolton*

spelling in the marriage register) who was 26 years his junior – perhaps a better 'catch' now he was The Chisholm with a rumoured income of £10,000 a year. The MacDonnells of Glengarry may well have considered themselves a cut above the Chisholms, Annie's grandfather being a distinguished and loyal British officer of the American Revolutionary War. Transportation to and from Scotland was possibly arranged through Dr.

Mathieson's parishioner and

friend, Sir Hugh Allan of the Allan Shipping Line. One other service provided by Dr. Mathieson was on October 18, 1862, when Roderick Donald Mathieson Chisholm, heir to the Chisholm fortunes, was baptized by the St. Andrew's minister, not in Montreal, but at Erchless Castle, Inverness-shire. Yet another reason for The Chisholm to be grateful to Dr. Mathieson, whose death he mourned eight years later, commemorating his passing by the gift of a bell.

We have since learned, courtesy of the Hudson's Bay Company Archives, that Roderick Chisholm, like so many highlanders, emigrated to Glengarry County. He was hired by the North West Company, and served (1818-1821) as a clerk at Fort Pic on Lake Superior. His wife and son resided in Montreal. In 1823, now in the service of the Hudson's Bay Company, he relocated to their post on the Lake of Two Mountains, where he served two years. This cannot have been all that easy as the take-over of the North West Company by the Hudson Bay Company was far from popular in Montreal. Roderick was possibly quite pleased to retire to the city and rejoin his family.

James Sutherland Chisholm was eventually found in a place called Vienna, Canada West, to which he returned some years later to acquire a bride, Annie Cecilia McDonell (the

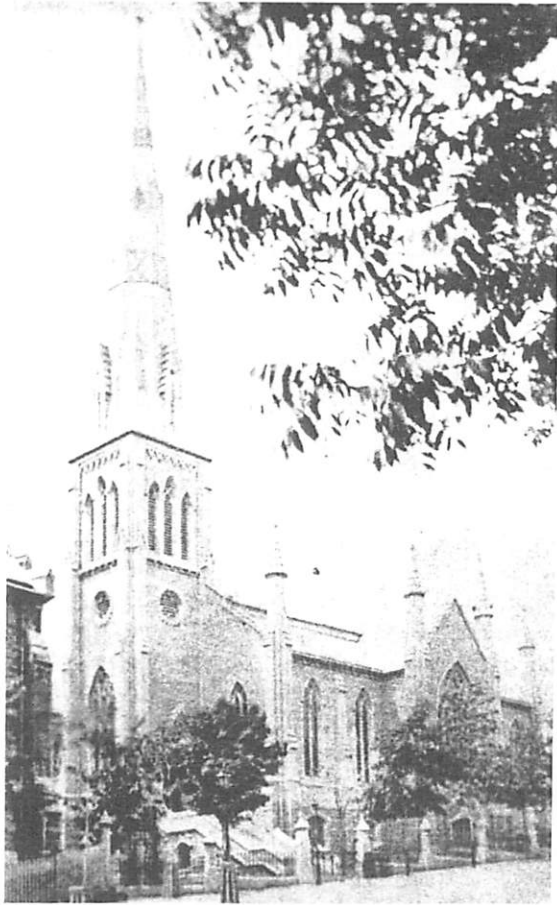
Our Chisholm, who lived to be nearly 80, is remembered in a History of the Clan published in 1891, as living:

*A quiet and retired life, during the whole of his rule in Strathglass... a good hearted Highlander, and, as things were understood in his day, a kindly and generous landlord...*



*The Chisholm family crest  
image source: wikipedia.org*

However, on another count, James Sutherland Chisholm is regarded with little



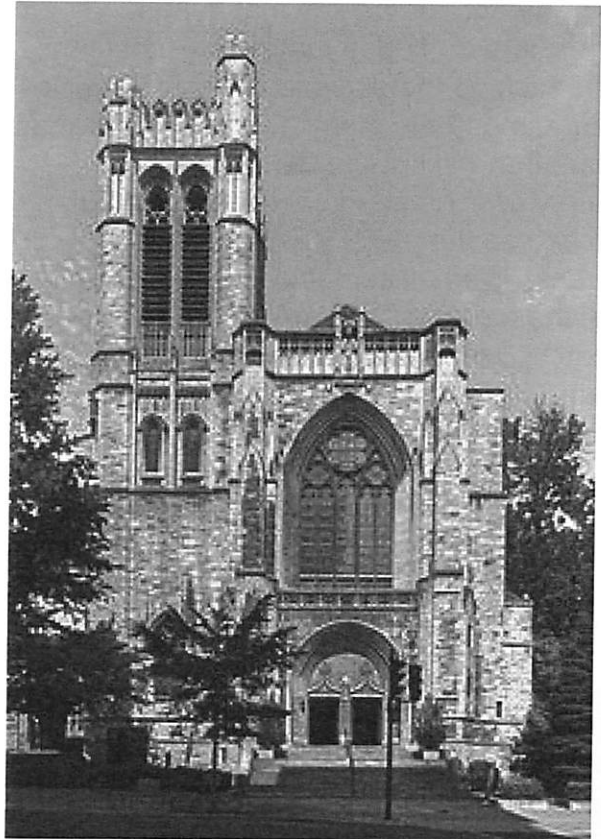
*St Andrews Church, Montreal  
image courtesy of Bruce Bolton*

favour. Roderick, the heir Dr. Mathieson baptized, died young, leaving only unmarried sisters. Having himself benefited from the entail, John Sutherland broke it in order to benefit his own family, thus impoverishing future Chisholm chieftains, who no longer inhabit Erchless Castle. Followers of Downton Abbey will know how important entails are to aristocratic families.

The Chisholm bell called centreville Presbyterians to worship for the next 46 years, when lightning struck the steeple of St. Andrew's Church and it was deemed unsafe to ring it. St. Paul's Presbyterian Church was nearby. Built on Dorchester Street in 1867, its tower was added some years later but boasted no bell. Both churches however had the same hours of

worship. Since the Chisholm bell could be heard for some blocks, it was considered wasteful by the thrifty Scots to install two. After all, the architect of St. Paul's had been involved in the building of the Houses of Parliament in London which housed Big Ben, so what could be more appropriate.

When the new Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul was opened in 1932, there was, it is believed, hope of a carillon (then the rage). But the Depression doomed such an expense and a wealthy donor such as The Chisholm could not be found. Meantime, the Chisholm bell remained silent and forgotten, until 1992, when in memory of a much-loved parishioner, the Cottingham family brought it to life once more, allowing the bell to ring, thanks to modern science, by remote control. Since that day, at precisely 10:45 on a Sunday morning, the bell of St. Andrew and St. Paul calls the congregation (and



*Church of St Andrew and St. Paul, Montreal  
image source: wikipedia.org*

sleepyheads on Redpath Street) to worship. It also tolls in sorrow at every funeral and peals in joy at every wedding. It is hard to think of the church without its bell.

One summer night, as the minister and his wife lay in bed reading, there came the sound of a church bell

ringing, yet it was nearly midnight! Could it be our bell? Why does it not stop? The minister realized that the church officer and his family, who lived in the building, were away.

Scrambling into a coat and shoes, he fled out into the night, clutching the church keys, before the neighbours called the police.

Racing along Sherbrooke Street, all he could hear was the bell getting louder and louder. Into the sanctuary he went... Find the lights! Search for the key that hangs somewhere and open the gallery gates! Then, race up the stairs to the control desk, where, among the many switches, there must be one that will silence the bell!

Every switch and every combination of switches on the panel was tried with no success. The bell continued to ring. By this time, the minister's daughter had been dispatched from the manse to assist her father. The sight of her father, in pyjamas, his hair standing on end like some crazed Quasimodo in the gallery of a half-darkened church, pushing and pulling switches, left her helpless with laughter. So much so that she could hardly answer the young policeman who was pounding on the church door,

wondering about the lights and the bell which had been ringing so insistently for so long.

At last, by some miracle, the right switch was pulled and there was silence... but not for long. The bell began to toll! More pushing and pulling of switches and at last, laus deo,

the bell stopped!

The policeman was thanked; the church returned to darkness; and the dazed minister led home to the manse by his

The Senator did not look at the minister as he passed him but, without missing a step, said very softly:

"Ding, dong, merrily on high!"

daughter.

Clearly, someone in the neighbourhood had opened a garage door or turned on a bathroom light by remote control, inadvertently activating the bell. Electricians were summoned and the wiring changed. Henceforth the bell was to be controlled by an old-fashioned switch. The neighbours were very understanding and no complaint was lodged against the church.

The next morning as the minister walked to church, he met Senator Alan MacNaughton, who lived not far from The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul and was a good friend to the church. The former Speaker of the House of Commons was noted for his wit.

The Senator did not look at the minister as he passed him but, without missing a step, said very softly:

"Ding, dong, merrily on high!"



*Dr. Armour was our Minister from 1983-1998, and named minister emeritus in 1999. Dr. Armour is the honorary chaplain of The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada and honorary life chaplain of the Royal Montreal Curling Club. He also serves on the board of the Mount Royal Cemetery. He is married to Margaret and they have four grown children and five grandchildren.*

# 1848, 1861, 1926 - WHICH CAME FIRST?<sup>1</sup>

By Frank Mackey

**They say Anderson Ruffin Abbott** (1837-1913) of Toronto, son of African-American parents, was the first Canadian-born black MD. “Abbott became the first Canadian-born black doctor in 1861...” says the Dictionary of Canadian Biography (DCB). The title of a 1998 book leaves no doubt: Anderson Ruffin Abbott: First Afro-Canadian Doctor. Neither does a historical plaque erected in his honour in Chatham by the Ontario Heritage Trust in 2008: “He received his medical licence in 1861, becoming the first Canadian-born doctor of African descent.” A McGill University blog echoed the claim in 2014: “How many of us were taught about Anderson Ruffin Abbott in our Canadian History classes? ... Who is Dr. Abbott? He was the first Canadian-born black doctor.”

According to the McGill medical faculty’s Med e-News of February 2016, the university did not welcome a black medical student until the 1920s. Jamaican-born Kenneth Melville (1902-1975), who graduated in 1926, “is remembered as the first black medical student at McGill University,” the newsletter said. In 1953, he became “the first (and only) black Chair of McGill’s Department of Pharmacology & Therapeutics.”

Where does that leave McGill’s own William Wright? Forgotten as the first black medical student at McGill, and 13 years ahead of Anderson Ruffin Abbott. The grandson of a black drummer in the British army, Wright graduated as a doctor of medicine and surgery on 5 May 1848 and later held the chair of materia medica and



*Young Dr. Wright, McGill professor of materia medica. This is a 1928 doctored copy of a picture taken by an unknown photographer around 1860. (McGill University Archives, PR008103)*

pharmacy (or pharmacology and therapeutics) for 30 years.

## **Body and soul doctor**

Born at Quebec on 2 July 1827, Wright moved to Montreal as a boy in 1839 and began the study of medicine in May 1843 as



a 15-year-old student-apprentice to Dr. James Crawford of McGill. Two months shy of 21 when he graduated, he sailed for Europe to pursue his studies. Returning to Montreal in 1849 as a licentiate of the Royal College of Surgeons in

Edinburgh and associate member of the Surgical Society of Ireland, he opened his practice that October in the family home on Craig St. (St-Antoine) at St-Urbain. In 1850, he was founding secretary and an attending physician of the new Montreal Dispensary for the care of the poor, and began his long career at McGill.

He was first the demonstrator of anatomy, then in 1852 was named professor of medical jurisprudence, and from 1854 to 1883, he was professor of materia medica. With Dr. Duncan McCallum, he launched the Medical Chronicle or Montreal Monthly Journal of Medicine & Surgery in 1853, serving as co-editor through its nearly six years of publication. He also served as attending physician at the Montreal General Hospital.

Busy as he was, he embarked on a second career. He was ordained a deacon of the Anglican Church on 22 May 1864 and a priest on 28 May 1871. After stints as the first curate at St. James the Apostle on Ste-Catherine St., Montreal (1864-70), and rector of St. Stephen's, Lachine (1871-72), he assisted at the downtown Montreal Church of

**DR. WRIGHT,**  
*Licentiate of the Royal College of Surgeons,*  
*Edinburgh, Ec.,*  
**No. 63, CRAIG STREET,**  
*CORNER OF ST. URBAIN STREET.*  
**October 2.** **66-6m**

*Just back from Europe, Dr. Wright opened his office in his parents' home in early October 1849. (The Pilot, Montreal, 2 October 1849, p 3, col 5)*

St. John the Evangelist for some 30 years.

Rev. Prof. Wright, MD, juggled his two careers until the spring of 1883, when he was forced out of McGill after students threatened to "slope" (boycott) his lectures. A colleague

later explained: "In later years, having retired from practice and entered the Church of England as a clergyman, he failed to keep up with the times, and his lectures, though good of their kind, were not up-to-date, and caused trouble with the students who had to be examined on them. This led to his retirement

from the college in 1883, and to his being placed on the list of Emeritus Professors." He may have lost his medical grip, but the same colleague noted that he had been among those few who, "between 1850 and 1875, did so much to bring up the standard of the Medical Faculty of the University by their teaching in the college and their excellent clinical work in the hospital."

On the outbreak of the Boer War (1899-1902), Wright, at 72, denounced it from the pulpit. "He chose the morning service of 11 February [1900] to publish his views. It was the Sunday the Church of England in Canada had

designated as a day of solemn services to support the war. During the course of his sermon Wright told his congregation that he considered the war 'inconsistent with the profession of Christianity'."

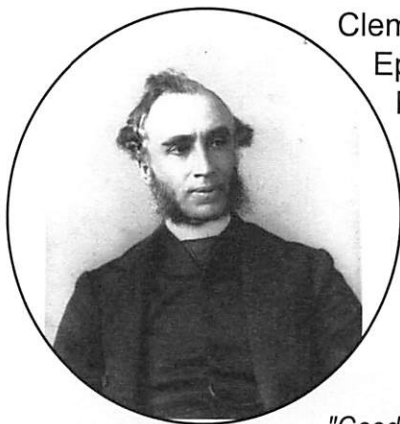


*Archdeacon Robert W.E. Wright (centre), son of Rev. Dr. Wright, with members of St George's Boys' Choir in Lennoxville, winter 1923-24. (Lennoxville-Ascot Historical & Museum Society,*

## Memorials are few

Wright's wife, Margaret Mason Harbeson, like him a native of Quebec but of Irish origin, died two months after his anti-war protest. He died on 15 April 1908.

There are few memorials to him, and none hints at his black roots. His surviving children, Robert, rector of St George's Church in Lennoxville, and Clement, chaplain to the Episcopal bishop of Milwaukee, Wis., donated 3,000 of his divinity books to Bishop's



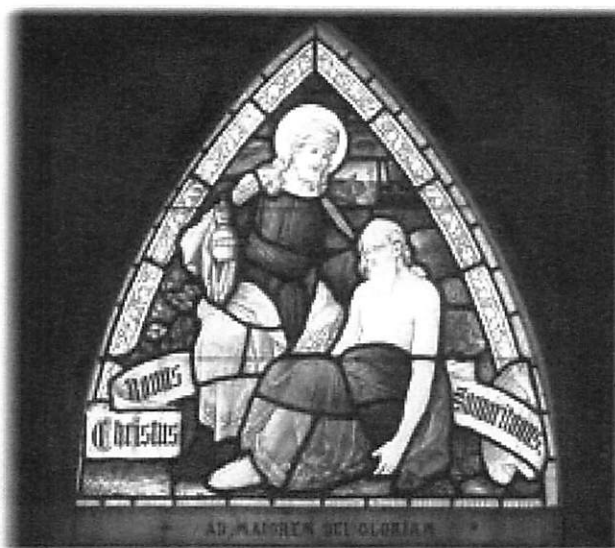
"Good Samaritan" window honouring Dr. William Wright at the Church of St John the Evangelist in downtown Montreal. (Photo by Janet Best)

Above: Dr. William Wright in 1882, photographed by William Notman. (McCord Museum, Notman Archives,

University in Lennoxville, their alma mater, in 1908. A plaque recorded the gift. A century later, the university still had the plaque, but no idea who the Wrights were, and the books were gone. A stained-glass window honouring him, with accompanying brass plaque, was installed in 1910 at St John the Evangelist, commissioned by two associates – the church's founder Rev. Edmund Wood and Sir William Osler, "the father of modern medicine," once a student, later a colleague, of Wright's at McGill. And there is his gravestone, a tall pink granite Celtic cross, in Mount Royal Cemetery.

How many of us were ever told about Dr. Wright or, for that matter, about his brother Henry Blake, another professional of African descent, who practised as a notary from 1861 until his death in 1903? Were the Wrights so pale as to pass for white? Perhaps, yet in the 1861 census, when his parents and siblings all lived in his house at Craig and Saint-Dominique streets, Wright declared his family – all except his mother – to be "Colored." In 1901, the census-taker who called at 84 Sainte-Famille, the 14-room house he shared with his sister Henrietta, noted that they were black. Had no one noticed?

Regardless of physical appearance, there is no denying the Wrights' "African descent." On 3 August 1788, their grandfather, Joseph Wright, had joined the famed corps of black drummers of the 29th (Worcestershire) Regiment of Foot. At his marriage to Elizabeth Blake, a white woman, at Bideford, Devon, on 29 May 1797,



he was said to be a resident of the parish of "St Mary le bonne [St Marylebone] in the city of London." In the years of war with France from 1793 to 1815, the 29th served in England, the West Indies, continental Europe and Ireland before sailing for Nova Scotia on 24 June 1802, where Joseph Wright's children – Mary, William and Joseph – were born respectively in 1802, 1804 and 1807. On the regiment's being ordered back to England in 1807, he chose to stay behind, transferring to the Royal Newfoundland Regiment of Fencible Infantry. That September, the Newfoundland Fencibles

were posted to Quebec. In 1812, after soldiering through 25 years of near-constant war, he was removed from active service and transferred to the 10th Royal Veteran Battalion, which did garrison duty. He died between 1813 and 1817 at an unknown location.

### Left two sons

While his marriage produced other children, only his Nova Scotia-born sons William and Joseph survived to adulthood. William was 13 when he went to work as a clerk in the Deputy Adjutant General's Department of the British army at Quebec in 1817. He made chief clerk in 1832 and held the position for 33 years. He joined the Masons at Quebec in 1836 and was later a prominent member of St George's Lodge No. 643, English Registry, in Montreal. He and his wife, English-born Mary Blake had 11 children, among them Dr. William and Henry, the notary.

Clerk William's brother Joseph, a shoemaker, plied his trade in Ontario, New York state and, in the early 1860s, Montreal. In July 1860, he was enumerated in Rochester, N.Y., the U.S. census form identifying all four members of his family as mulattoes. By January 1861 the family, now numbering five, had moved to Montreal, where Joseph identified them all as "Colored" in the census of Canada East (Quebec). He may have moved to England in the late 1860s: The 1871 English census found his

wife, Rebecca Ann Miller (1835-1881), and their two surviving children, Joseph Blake (1853-1935) and Rebecca Ann (1855-1883), in London, but there was no sign of him.

The Wrights were a remarkable family, whose origins have too long been fudged. In tracing the black presence in Canada, this case ought to serve as a caution against tossing off superlatives – the first/last, most/least, best/worst, etc. – before we have even tried comparatives. We might be burying what we are trying to bring to light.



*Wright family plot F 208, Mount Royal Cemetery, Montreal. The four stones in the foreground mark the graves of family members. The Celtic cross marks that of Dr. Wright and his wife, Margaret Mason Harbeson (1830-1900). The column on the right marks the grave of his parents. (Author's photo)*

1. *My thanks to Toronto genealogist and research librarian Guylaine Pétrin for help in researching the Wright family*



*Frank Mackey - A native Quebecer, Frank Mackey retired in 2008 after nearly 40 years of newspapering. He joined the society in the summer of 2015. He is the author of Steamboat Connections: Montreal to Upper Canada, 1816–1845 (2000), Black Then: Blacks and Montreal 1780s–1880s (2004), and Done with Slavery: The Black Fact in Montreal, 1760–1840 (2010), all published by McGill-Queen's University Press. A French translation of the latter, titled L'esclavage et les Noirs à Montréal, 1760–1840, was published by Hurtubise in 2013.*

# The DNA Dossiers

## # The Secret Lives of Richard and Eleanor

by Nicholas Barker

email transcription #1

*Hi Nicholas. Just got my DNA results and you came up as a cousin. It would be nice to see which side of the family we are related. My father's family were Cornish farmers, surname **Eggins**. My mother's side is a bit more of a mystery, her surname was **Beverley** and her mother came from Lancaster.*

*Rebecca*

email transcription #2

*Hi Nick. My mother's parents were not married, her mother lived near Bognor Regis and her father lived and worked in London. His name was **Boardman**. He will be my grandfather.*

*Rebecca*

email transcription #3

*Hi Rebecca*

*I have a whole gang of **Boardmans**.....do you have a first name for him? What was your grandmother's name? If the DNA does not lie, there may well be a connection....*

*Nick*

email transcription #4

*Hi Nick, this is getting interesting. His name was Richard **Boardman** - there are lots of rumours about him - he had a wife in London, but supported my grandmother, Eleanor **Beverley**. She had two children by him, Richard, as well as Jean, my mother.*

*Rebecca*

email transcription #5

*Rebecca, I have a Richard **Boardman**, born and lived in London at about the right time. Let's try and get some approx. dates and go from there...*

*Nick*

And so began the research into the lives of Richard and Eleanor.

Richard Arnold **Boardman**, my great grand uncle, came from a Non-conformist family of merchant drapers. His father, Clement, owned a large store in Stratford, then in Essex, and now subsumed into Greater London. Clement was the archetypical "pillar of the community"; deeply involved in church and civics, donating money, building halls and a Justice of the Peace. He was also a front-line activist in the effort to halt the socialist tendencies that were gaining traction in the working class East End of London in the late 19th Century.

His son Richard probably raised eyebrows by marrying Freida **Bardenhagen** in Boston, U.S.A., but the 1911 census tells us the couple were back in East London, and he became part of the thriving **BOARDMAN & SONS** business. There were no children recorded from this union.

At the age of 99, Richard died after a "long and peaceful life" according to a notation in the family bible.

Peaceful maybe, but now we know there was an aspect to his life that his strict Congregationalist father would not approved of.

First, we had to find some record of Rebecca's mother, Jean **Beverley**. The Civil Registration Birth Index records a Jean



Eleanor **Boardman**, born in Norwich in Q1 of 1928. But the mother's name is **Beighton**.

The same Index records the birth of a Richard **Boardman**, in Q1 1932. Again, mother's surname is **Beighton**.

But.....

The 1939 Register records an Eleanor **Beverley** and her son, Richard **Beverley** born January, 1932. They are living in a boarding house in Bognor Regis.

Things finally start falling into place: Richard had been leading a double life and Eleanor went for the triple - the names **Beighton**, **Beverley** and **Boardman** all weaving their way into the fabric of her life.

email transcription #6

*We don't have a birth certificate for my mother Jean or my grandmother, Eleanor. So my mother's surname was **Boardman**, not **Beverley**, and my grandmother's was **Beighton**? I'm beginning to take everything my mother said with a pinch of salt....*

*Rebecca*

How did she get away with this? Consider these two death records for the same woman in 1956:

According to England & Wales Death Index, 1837- 2007, Eleanor **Beighton** died in Q4, 1956, aged 59, recorded at Chichester.

According to the *probatesearch.service.gov.uk*, Eleanor **Beverley** of Aldwick (Bognor Regis) died in October 1956 at West Sussex Hospital, Chichester. Probate to Richard **Beverley** and Jean Eleanor **Eggins**.

So, after sorting through all the confusion, we finally have glimpse into the secret lives of Richard and Eleanor:

Eleanor **Beighton** was born in 1896 in Wakefield, Yorkshire. This also was a Non-Conformist family. She was the youngest of six children and her father worked in a brick

factory.

When she was fourteen, she was living with her sister in Norwich, Norfolk. We can assume the sister's husband had moved there to work.

The wealthy **Boardman** family was based in Norwich, and sometime between 1911 and 1928, Richard and Eleanor met and initiated a covert relationship. She was 16 years younger than him.

Their first-born, Jean, arrived in 1928 and registered in Norwich with the **Boardman** surname.

Richard followed in 1932, registered in Pancras, London, also named **Boardman**.



*Undated photo of Jean Eleanor Eggins, nee Boardman. (public tree, ancestry. uk)*

In 1939, at the start of WWII, Eleanor and son Richard are living in a boardinghouse in the genteel Sussex seaside town of Bognor Regis, under the name of **Beverley**. Jean was probably there as well, but the details of

this third person are still locked. Eleanor is registered as Married and her Occupation as "unpaid domestic duties". This was the '39 Register code for wife or housewife.

At some point the little family moved into the exclusive Aldwick Bay Estate in the Bognor area because Rebecca recalls....

email transcription #8  
 ....I remember my grandpa Dick arriving in his chauffeur-driven car when he came to visit my grandmother.  
 Rebecca

Eleanor died in 1956. She left her children £20,746 5s 10d, plus, of course, the house in Bognor. Richard obviously kept her in comfort.

Richard's wife, Frieda, died in 1960 and Richard marries Dorah **Leboard** in 1961.

Richard died in 1981 and Doris is named the major beneficiary in his will. There is no mention of the **Boardman** children (or grandchildren).

Before the coming of DNA analysis, Rebecca and I would never have known the other existed. This tool has added a whole

new dimension to family history research.

My thanks to Rebecca Pick for permission to publish this story. Some changes have been made to the email transcriptions for the sake of clarity.

Do you have a family research story that could only have come about through a DNA connection? Do you have concerns or comments about DNA matching in general? Contribute to The DNA Dossiers! Contact qfhseditor@gmail.com for details.

**Birth Note.**

The Monthly Meeting of Penkford No. 10  
 hereby informed that on the 2 day of the Eleventh  
 month, One Thousand Eight Hundred and twenty-six, was  
 born at Penkford in the Parish of Castledford  
 the County of York unto George Beighton  
 of Castledford  
 the County of York  
Brick maker and Louisa  
 Wife a daughter who was named Eleanor  
 and whose birth was duly registered at  
 Public Registry-Office for the district of Castledford  
 the Eight day of the Twelfth Month, 1896.  
 (Signed) George Beighton

Read and entered at Penkford  
 Meeting of the Society of Friends, held the 14 day of Jan

5	Cramse	Maud A	F	14 June '80	W	Unpaid Domestic Duties
1	Orizman	Mary	F	19 Jan '84	S	Boarding Housekeeper
2	Beverley	Eleanor	F	2 Nov '98	M	Unpaid Domestic Duties
<b>This record is officially closed.</b>						
4	Beverley	Richard	M	29 Jan 32	S	At School

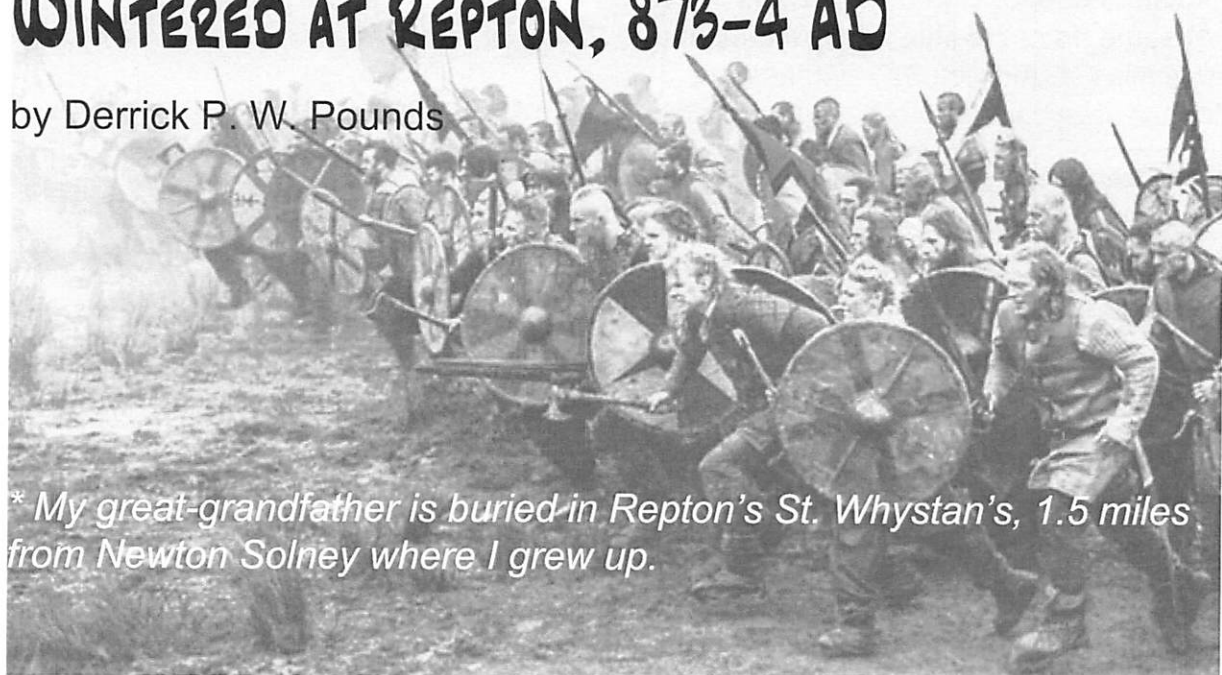
Eleanor's two official surnames: Beighton at birth, (Non-Conformist record) and Beverley as a "wife." (1939 Register).



After a career in Education, Nick Barker began to work seriously on the family history research project started by his father in England. At that time it was a folder of letters, scraps of memoirs and a few official documents. Nick came to Canada in the early 1970s, and has called Montreal home since then.

# NEW EVIDENCE PROVES THAT VIKING ARMIES WINTERED AT REPTON, 873-4 AD

by Derrick P. W. Pounds



*\* My great-grandfather is buried in Repton's St. Whystan's, 1.5 miles from Newton Solney where I grew up.*

**The last two paragraphs of my June 2017** article in QFHS Connections "Tracking the Drift from Surname POUND of My Ancestors to POUNDS" referred to the evidence of four Viking armies being in Repton, Derbyshire, England in 873 AD.

In 2018, carbon dating by the University of Bristol proves the remains are from the time in the 9th century when the Viking Great Army wintered in Repton.

Repton was a significant royal and ecclesiastical centre in the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Mercia. It was the location of a double monastery for men and women and ruled by an abbess, founded following the arrival of Christianity in Mercia around 653 AD. St. Wystans Parish Church, which dates from 750 AD, has a 212 feet (65 m) high spire, and its crypt contains the remains of two Kings of Mercia who died in 757 AD and 839 AD.

Historical records state the Viking Great Army wintered in Repton in 873 AD and drove the Mercian king Burghred into exile to

Paris. The Viking Great Army, also known as the "Great Heathen" army, was a coalition of Norse warriors originating from Denmark, Norway and Sweden. Thousands of them arrived in East Anglia in 865 AD and quickly overran Northumbrian forces. The invading force then spread across the country, wreaking havoc as they went during the 14 yearlong rampage through Anglo-Saxon England. It was finally halted in 878 AD by King Alfred the Great (849AD-899AD).

In 1982 an archaeological dig carried out in the vicarage garden just west of St. Wystan's Parish Church, Repton revealed under a shallow mound 200 Viking warriors buried there in 873 AD, together with the bones of 49 women of Anglo-Saxon build. The excavation found this mass of human bones, some showing signs of violent injury, stacked against the stone walls desecrating a Christian underground stone burial chamber. This is thought to have been built as a mausoleum for Mercian Monarch Merewahl who died in 757 AD.



One room was packed with bones, mostly of men aged 18 to 45, and there was evidence that this site, first discovered around 1686 by labourer Thomas Walker while looking for stone, had been tampered with including

Harold EATON killed in action in France or Belgium in 1917 or 1918, and WW2 RAF personnel, some of whom learnt to fly at nearby Burnaston Airfield. My great grandfather William Pound (1847-1927) is



*Aerial view of the grounds of St Whystan's, Repton. The arrow indicates the excavation site in the vicarage garden.*

pilfering part of the stone walls of the burial chamber. Archaeologist Professor Martin Biddle's 1980's investigation also revealed a Viking iron axe, a sword blade, two large seaxes (curved one edge sword), a chisel and five silver pennies minted between 872-4 AD. Further analysis indicates an outstanding warrior 'IVAR', who died during the Viking armies winter camp at Repton in 873 AD, was buried with pagan rites along with fellow-warriors. Some of their larger bones may have been exhumed to be buried with their leader.

In the churchyard, in a corner next to the vicarage garden, near where the Viking warriors were buried in the ninth century, there is a section containing war graves of Commonwealth service personnel. These include four brothers George, John, Albert, &

buried nearby with his second wife Ellen at location E111. The ashes of athlete and author Charles Burgess FRY (1872-1956), are buried near the St. Wystans church wall. He was one of the greatest cricketers of all times scoring 30,886 runs at an average of 50.22. He also played full back for England at soccer and was a world class rugby player.

In 1946, at age 11, I was confirmed at Repton's St. Wystans by the Anglican Bishop of Derby,

Alfred Rawlinson. In the 1950's I used to pass Repton's St. Wystans church twice a day on my bicycle while going to and from work at Rolls-Royce Derby, where I served an engineering apprenticeship between 1951-7 in their aero engine manufacturing, development and testing facilities. This involved attending night school classes 2 or 3 nights each week at Derby Technical College and then cycling the 10 miles home past Repton's St. Wystans church to Newton Solney located 1½ miles from Repton.

I grew up as a country boy living in an era just before, during and after the Second World War in a gamekeeper's cottage, located in the valley below Bladon Castle near Newton Solney, Derbyshire, England. My father, Walter Pounds M.M (1895-1991), a WW1 & 2 veteran, was Head Gamekeeper

and



*Part of the mass grave, which was originally thought to hold human remains from several centuries. Recent carbon testing now reveals they all date from the 9th C. – the remains of Viking warriors. Source: Ancient-Origins.net*

Woodsman on the Ratcliff estate at Newton Solney. On the estate is Bladon Castle, used during WW2 to house POW's and troops from the US. They were billeted in the castle grounds in Nissan huts. The Ratcliff estate, on which wild game for hunting was abundant, covered many square miles. It included woodlands, many acres of arable and grazing land, and land around the Rivers Dove and Trent on which we had two 12' long x 4' wide punts, painted battleship grey and fitted with long oars, for crossing each

river.

The Rivers Dove and Trent meet at the tiny village of Newton Solney located about 3 miles downstream from Burton-on-Trent, where I attended grammar school 1946-51. The River Trent is joined, south of Derby, by the River Derwent before flowing into the Humber, south of York, from where the Viking shallow-drafted boats could have navigated the River Trent up to Repton in 873 AD.



*Derrick P. W. Pounds, Eng., is a retired mechanical engineer who grew up on the Ratcliff Estate in Newton Solney, Derbyshire, England. He emigrated to Canada in 1957 working for Rolls Royce as their technical rep during the overhaul of aircraft engines. In 1965 he joined the pulp and paper industry, spending 25 years as project manager, manager and director of several projects before working for 5 years with Environment Canada, during the implementation of effluent regulations at Canadian pulp and paper mills.*

# Your QFHS



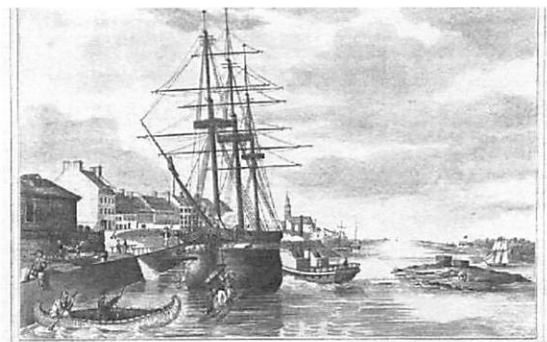
## Find us on Facebook

By Jackie Billingham  
QFHS Facebook page  
administrator

**Do you use Facebook to keep in touch with your grandchildren, children, nieces, nephews, aunts and uncles?** Have you ever thought to use it to discover more about your grandparents, great-grandparents, great uncles, great aunts, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> cousins? Did you know that the Quebec Family History Society has an extremely active Facebook Page? With over 2000 members with various degrees of expertise, our very own Facebook page is an exceptional genealogical tool to assist you in discovering more of your elusive ancestors.

To become a member of the QFHS page you must be a member of Facebook. These easy steps will guide you.

- 1) If you are not a member already, sign up for a Facebook account. A younger family member could most likely help you with this!
- 2) In the search box type Quebec Family History Society.
- 3) For the protection of our members, the QFHS Facebook Page is a closed group. You will be asked to reply to 2 simple questions that are used to screen applicants.
- 4) Your membership will be approved within 24 hours.
- 5) Once approved you are welcome to create posts. Please note that all new posts will be screened before they appear on the QFHS Facebook Page.
- 6) Comments on existing posts do not require approval but should be relevant to the existing post.
- 7) Patience and politeness are of utmost importance. Some of our valued members are very new to genealogy. Remember to thank helpful members.
- 8) It's a good idea to read through some of the existing posts, before creating your own.



*View of the Harbour  
MONTREAL.*  
QFHS Facebook cover image



## The QFHS Magazine Rack

A browse through the genealogical journals and publications that have recently arrived at the QFHS Heritage Centre



✦ **Ottawa Genealogist** Vol. 50, No.4 *The Alice Horror*

"A shocking and scandalous tale of insanity, mass murder and multiple filicides." This family history account from Alice Township is meticulously written, and accompanied by sources and footnotes.

✦ **Relatively Speaking** Vol. 45, No. 1 *Retlaw and Bark G. Wong's Razor*

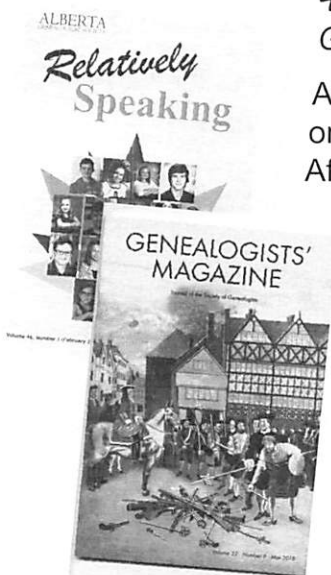
The author chronicles the life of his Chinese immigrant father in Alberta. He includes many images of early English-Chinese phrase books, hand-written bilingual menus as well as the aforementioned razor: It is a Gillette Tech Ball End Safety Razor.

✦ **Genealogists' Magazine** Vol. 32, No. 9 *The Jacobite Rebellion of 1715 and Its Aftermath*

This event is not to be confused with Bonnie Prince Charlie's famous foray into England in 1745. The 1715 incursion was much more devastating for the local population and featured the Battle of Preston "...arguably the last battle fought on English soil."

✦ **Queensland Family Historian** Vol 39, No.1 *The Guinea*

A short history of this famous coin, including the origin of the name (the gold came from Guinea, West Africa) and its introduction in 1663 (the first machine milled coin). The Queensland Family History Society is known as, of course, QFHS.



✦ **The Septs** Vol. 38, No.4 *Approaches for Writing Family History*

This is the journal for the Irish Genealogical Society International Inc. The article is a clear and concise primer for anyone thinking about writing up their research. It has three parts: Why We Should Write, Why We Don't Write and Four Simple Writing Steps.

## Upcoming Seminars

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**Date: Wednesday, September 26th, 2018**

Time: 7:00 p.m. at the Pointe Claire Public Library, a joint event.

**Speaker: Chief Warrant Officer Doug Fitz-Gerald, Pointe Claire resident and QFHS member.**

**Topic: War and Peace: My Family's Service To Canada.** Doug has kept the peace in Egypt and Bosnia in addition to a tour fighting the insurgency in Afghanistan. Come and explore his battlefield in Afghanistan and those of his ancestors at Vimy (WWI), Ortona (WWII) and Fredericton (1800's)

**Date: Saturday, October 13th, 2018**

Time: 10:30 a.m. at Briarwood Presbyterian Church Hall, 70 Beaconsfield Blvd., Beaconsfield.

**Speaker: Deborah Waddell, QFHS member and genealogical researcher.**

**Topic: Notarial Records in Quebec.** In the province of Quebec, notaries are public officers who formulate a range of legal documents relating to a variety of events common to most families. These documents are starting to become more easily accessible to family historians.

**Date: Saturday, November 10th, 2018**

Time: 10:30 a.m. at Briarwood Presbyterian Church Hall, 70 Beaconsfield Blvd., Beaconsfield

**Speaker: to be announced**

**Date: Saturday, December 8th, 2018**

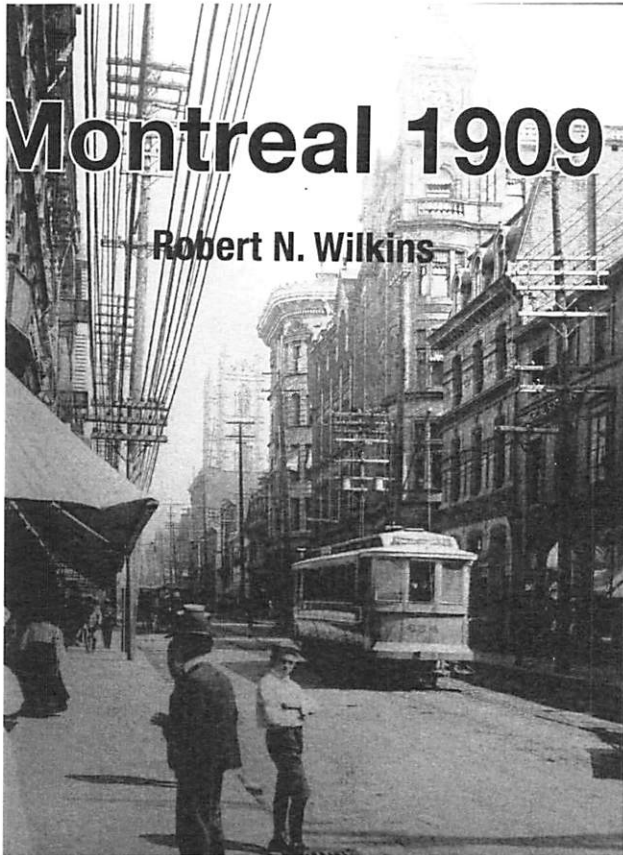
Time: 10:30 a.m. at Briarwood Presbyterian Church Hall, 70 Beaconsfield Blvd., Beaconsfield.

**Speaker: Kelley O'Rourke, QFHS member and genealogical researcher**

**Topic: Protestant Genealogical Records in Quebec.** Protestant church records in Quebec begin in the 1760's and come forward to quite recent times.

# Book Review

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*Montreal 1909 delves deeply.....into the minutiae of daily life. Here we have an intimate portrait of a city....close enough to our own days to seem familiar, yet far enough away to verge on the exotic.*  
--John Kalbfleisch, Montreal Gazette

**Robert Wilkins, a retired Montreal history teacher**, spent two decades wandering through the microfilm copies of the defunct *Montreal Star*. Choosing 1909 as a representative year for the Edwardian period, Mr. Wilkins takes us through the year as seen through the prism of the leading English daily of the time. At least one entry for each day is quoted and commented on.

Thus, we learn that the Saturday, January 2nd, 1909, issue (*The Star* did not publish on Sundays) featured annual statistics from the

seven departments of the City administration – police, fire, roads, hygiene and statistics, finances, water and lighting.

On July 19th, the paper picked up its campaign against the "automobile terror." It suggested that a "rapid motorist can be brought to a halt by means of a rope stretching across the road."

Another topic, then as now, was a concern to Montrealers. A letter to the Editor printed on October 14th, complained about "...a bad hole....a menace to horses and all kinds of vehicular traffic....Where is the Road Inspector?"

"Puny Children by the Dozen Work in Factories" headlined *The Star* the next day. "If some of the children are fourteen years old as they pretend to be, instead of nine or ten, as they look, it only illustrates what a puny community is growing up."

In November, a Board of Morality was finally formed and charged with a long list of duties, including: "To scrutinize moving pictures....for evil effects upon the morals of people...", conduct raids on disorderly houses and stamp out illegal liquor selling. Inspector O'Keefe claimed that with "four good men" to work under him, sweeping reforms could be made.

Mr. Wilkins fills this absorbing book with such stories and comments. Because the book is structured around months and days, it can be read for hours or in five-minute sittings.

Montreal 1909

Robert N. Wilkins

Published by Shoreline, 615 pages.

Catalogue call number: HG 151.99 W5  
2016



# ROOTS 2018 Genealogical Conference May 18 - 20, McGill New Residence, Montreal

## The Speakers



From left to right:

Steven Cameron

Laurie Pratt

Mario Robert

Gloria Tubman

Tom Quinlan

Deborah Waddell

Christopher Lyons

Leslie Anderson

Luc Lépine

Gary Schroder

(inset) Kelley O'Rourke

These smiling faces reflect the mood of this three-day conference: it was a warm, relaxed, interesting and informative affair. All the speakers were experienced researchers and genealogists - and some came from far afield to present at ROOTS 2018.

Laurie Pratt is a California-based genealogist,

Tom Quinlan travelled from Dublin, Ireland,

Steven Cameron lives in Saint Sylvestre, a small town in the Bose,

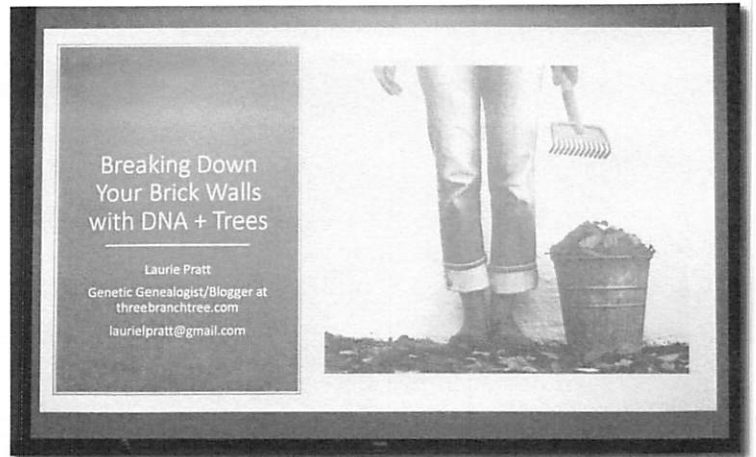
Leslie Anderson and Gloria Tubman are based in the Ottawa area,

presenters from Montreal were Luc Lépine, Chris Lyons and Mario Robert,

and representing the QFHS - Gary Schroder, Kelley O'Rourke and Deborah Waddell.

# ROOTS 2018: The Presentations

DNA testing was, of course, a major topic of discussion. Friday afternoon was devoted to the role of *ancestry.com* in this fast-moving and impactful field. Laurie Pratt also addressed the topic in two presentations that were filled with case studies of family make up and break up as a result of DNA testing.



Criminality and family history was explored by Tom Quinlan and Steven Cameron, while Gloria Tubman addressed the latest research on British Home Children.

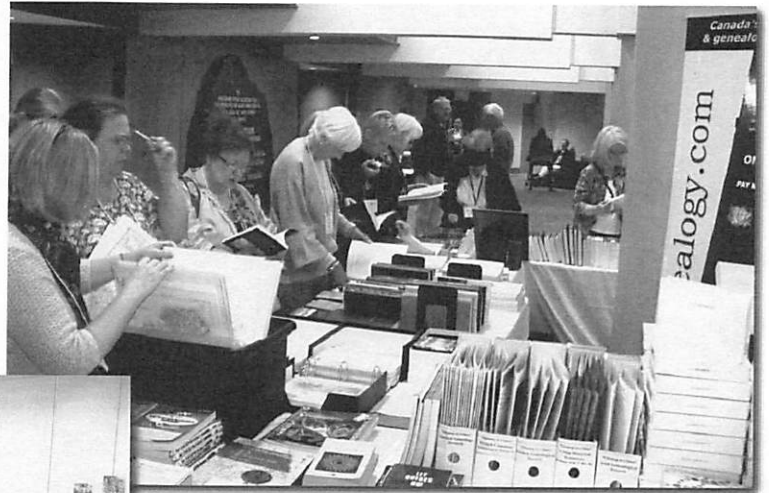
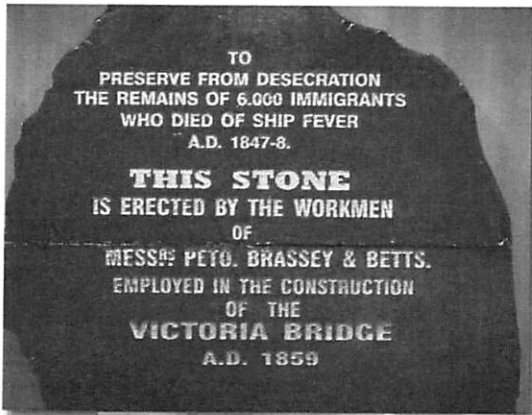
Many of the participants were from the U.S.A and Ontario,

looking for pointers and guidance researching their Quebec ancestors. This was duly delivered by the Montreal-based presenters who spoke to a wide range of resources: censuses, notarial records, relevant websites, directories and little-known city and university archives.

Luc Lépine took his audience on a journey into the early history of Quebec, talking about Les Filles du Roi and the origin of "Dit" names.



# ROOTS 2018: The Exhibition Hall





# ROOTS 2018: The Banquet



# ROOTS 2018: Special Guests



**Our Keynote Speaker was Geoffrey Kelley**, MNA for Jacques-Cartier and Minister Responsible for Native Affairs. Geoff had agreed in advance to have his genealogy charted and presented to him at the podium. However, he first spoke eloquently about his family history going back several generations. He is a skilled orator and his talk introduced us to several of his more colourful ancestors.

**Leslie Anderson** teaches genetic genealogy, speaks at seminars and conferences while consulting and doing research for others. She is the Canadian spokesperson for Ancestry.ca and also volunteers at the Ottawa Stake LDS Family History Center. Her all-day seminar offered valuable information on how the mammoth ancestry.com site can be navigated and utilised without being overwhelming.



# Technology

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## Computree

By Lorraine Gosselin

NOTE to readers: With the approval of our Editor, I have decided to merge all my columns back into Computree, which will increase to three pages. The reasons – there is now rarely enough new material to justify a separate page for Software and for Lexicon, while BANQ (the Quebec Archives) has improved its service: they are now providing a telephone number to call for help and new beta software for their numérique site that even has an English version. On the other hand, I find considerable new general research material. I hope you will find this change useful.

### HELP FOR FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH FROM UK ARCHIVES

A page of links to helpful guides for your family research: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/?research-category=family-history> “Learn how to find and use military records, wills, the census and a wide range of other records to trace your ancestors.”

### LEXICON

Le 15 courant: the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the current month (from a death notice)  
Grand Voyer: the closest modern expression would be Road Superintendent – responsible for road planning, building and maintenance. (in my Loyalist ancestor Christian Wehr’s responsibilities/occupations)

Fille (fils) d’un premier lit : daughter (or son) of a first marriage. Note the child then is the step-daughter – belle-fille (or son – beau-fils) of the new spouse. Note also that in French, these last terms are also used for daughter-in-law and son-in-law. (Thanks to Mark Gallop)

### BANQ.QC.CA – DIRECT ACCESS TO THE DIGITAL COLLECTION

If you wish to go directly to this site, notice the new “numérique” flag at the right side of the home screen.

To switch to English explanations, see the small symbol at the upper right on some pages.



This is in Beta mode (i.e. test) as this is written, so there might be a few glitches.

### POST-CONFEDERATION LAND PATENTS ISSUED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

Library and Archives Canada explain what Land Patents are and how to find them at <https://thediscoverblog.com/2018/05/03/post-confederation-land-patents-issued-by-the-registrar-general/>

“The Crown issues Land Patents to grant or confirm title to a portion of land. They represent the first title to land, and serve as proof that the land no longer belongs to the Crown.” Detailed instructions are included. You will also find references to Crown land patents: Indian land sales and Pre-



Confederation Land Patents issued by the Registrar General at this same address.

### **FIVE SOURCES TO FIND PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF YOUR ANCESTORS**

You may have photos but there may be aspects black and white photos don't tell the whole story.

If you are curious about what your ancestors looked like, here is a list from Legacy's web site: [news.legacyfamilytree.com/legacy\\_news/2018/05/5-sources-to-find-physical-characteristics-of-your-ancestor.html](http://news.legacyfamilytree.com/legacy_news/2018/05/5-sources-to-find-physical-characteristics-of-your-ancestor.html) Some examples are military records, passport applications, and yearbooks.

### **VIRTUAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

"The Virtual Genealogical Society is a global organization serving family history



Virtual Genealogical Society  
Virtual Genealogical Society

enthusiasts of all levels, geared towards those whose circumstances make it difficult to attend local genealogical society meetings and/or who prefer online presentations, special interest groups (SIGs), conferences, etc ..." It is a new organization founded in April 2018. <https://virtualgensoc.com>

### **SEARCHING THE 1921 CANADIAN CENSUS DATABASE**

Issues about this census and this database have recently been updated. Special tips for searching this census data base can be found at <http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/census/1921/Pages/introduction.aspx#tab9>

### **ROYAL AIR FORCE COMBAT REPORTS 1939-1945**

How to search them, what information they contain, what they look like and more all at: [http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/raf-combat-reports-1939-1945/)

[your-research/research-guides/raf-combat-reports-1939-1945/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/raf-combat-reports-1939-1945/)

[utm\\_campaign=651198\\_April%202018%20newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=The%20National%20Archives](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/raf-combat-reports-1939-1945/?utm_campaign=651198_April%202018%20newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_source=The%20National%20Archives) (or <https://tinyurl.com/y7lb8gaa> ) "These records are Royal Air Force combat reports written during the Second World War. They are the official reports which pilots or air gunners filed after they had encountered enemy aircraft on operational flights. The reports cover action seen by the squadrons, wings and groups serving with Fighter Command, Bomber Command, Coastal Command and the Fleet Air Arm. Now held at The National Archives in series AIR 50, they include Commonwealth, United States Army Air Force and Allied units based in the United Kingdom during the Second World War."

### **DNA BASICS**

Most of us have seen the additional information and perspective when merging DNA knowledge with genealogical family trees. If you're just starting, this blog might be just what you need.

<https://blog.myheritage.com/2017/11/new-blog-series-dna-basics-begins-today>

### **MASSACHUSETTS RC ARCHDIOCESE OF BOSTON RECORDS 1789-1900**

Better known as the New England Genealogical Society, it has been scanning and publishing online the Massachusetts: Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston Records, 1789-1900 collection. While they are fully accessible only to members, they have a guest facility through which you can check a long list of their databases accessible to the public .... It's a free subscription but there are

of course limitations on usage: <https://www.americanancestors.org/membership/guest-users>

### LEXICON ONLINE COMPENDIUM

The Lexicon definitions I have written for Connections were compiled into an online directory for our members. I should have mentioned that it was a joint effort by Robert Poole and Johanne Gervais.

### FORCES WAR RECORDS

This is a for-fee site but you may find information not available from other sources. <https://www.forces-war-records.co.uk>

### EASTERN TOWNSHIPS – MISSISQUOI BAY

The book “Missisquoi Bay (Philipsburg, Que.) / by George H. Montgomery” is available on line at BANQ – either read it online or download to your tablet or PC. There is no expiry date. <http://numerique.banq.qc.ca/patrimoine/details/52327/2636119>

Anyone who has researched Loyalist roots will recognize some passages, but there is more detail here and a much livelier text ... As an example, for my ancestor, Christian Wehr, I have seen remarks that it was evident that some petitions had been written by him but signed by others. Here it says it mentions his “flamboyant style”.

### IRISH BURIAL GROUNDS

Noted Irish researcher Clare Santry posted



*After a career in systems information technology, Lorraine earned a BA Honours at Concordia University with Majors in English and Creative Writing, and a Minor in Quebec History. She has been interested in genealogy since she was a teenager when her father inherited the Gosselin family tree prepared by lawyer Joseph Drouin. A Q.F.H.S. member since 1990, she has given numerous seminars for the Quebec Family History Society on a wide variety of topics as well as given lectures in French and in English to genealogical and historical societies across Quebec.*

the notice that records of two burial grounds in south Dublin were now available online, however, as this turns out to be a site with many Irish graveyards, I am posting the overall site address: <https://discovereverafter.com/graveyards>

### SOFTWARE: USE CLOUDCONVERT TO CONVERT A FILE FROM ONE FORMAT TO ANOTHER

Here is another tool from guru Dick Eastman – convert nearly any file type to nearly any other file type. See his explanations at <https://blog.eogn.com/2018/06/08/use-cloudconvert-to-convert-a-file-from-one-format-to-another/>

### FREE ONLINE WEBINARS WITH A CANADIAN TWIST

They are given by Kathryn Lake Hogan. I haven't tried them yet, but her credentials are excellent. <https://www.looking4ancestors.com/2018/06/genealogy-with-canadian-twist-weekly.html>



### SOFTWARE: POLAR PHOTO EDITOR

Photoshop may be the best, but may also be more than we want to spend if only occasion use will be made of it. Dick Eastman not only writes about this one but also gives advantages and disadvantages of several other free editors.

<https://blog.eogn.com/2018/06/18/polarr-photo-editor-is-available-free-and-optionally-requires-no-installation-in-your-computer>

# PRESERVING YOUR ARCHIVES

by Kyla Ubbink

## # Dealing With Mold

A frequently asked preservation question is: Can I freeze archival materials that have gone mouldy? The quick answer is yes; however, there is a “but”. Freezing is not a final solution. First one wants to ensure that they are really looking at mould, take the appropriate health precautions, then isolate the problem so that it doesn’t spread to the rest of your collections, and finally have the mould remediated.

Mould is in the fungus family, related to mushrooms and reindeer moss. Think of mould like a tiny tree. It sends roots into the substrate, this being your paper documents, photographs or book bindings, where it dissolves the materials drawing out nutrients. It sends the nutrients up a ‘stem’ and produces a spore on the surface. The spores release, landing on the substrate in a new spot, incubate and grow, spreading the mould throughout the substrate and any materials nearby. The original mould and the newly incubated mould continue to propagate more mould and to literally ‘eat’ the archival material.

Dirt is often mistaken for mould, and mould mistaken for dirt. When in doubt consider it mould until you can consult with an expert. Without the use of a microscope, mould is usually identified by it’s distinct odour, growth patterns, and feel. Mould produces a pungent odour, generally associated with dampness.



It is not the same odour as the typical ‘old book’ smell resultant from years of dust accumulation. Mould grows in circular patterns and extends through more than just one page of paper. If the suspected mould is found in relatively the same location on many adjacent pages it is likely mould and not just dirt.

Active mould is also soft and smears easily when touched. It comes in many colours from white, brown and black, to fluorescent pink, green and blue. Also, if the materials have been exposed to flooding or high humidity you are likely looking at mould.

If you suspect mould, isolate the affected materials and any materials in close proximity. This would include all materials sharing the same box or file cabinet with the mouldy item. Wrap the affected materials,

or box of materials, with 6mil thick polyethylene and tape it shut. Using a dehumidifier, lower the humidity in the area where they were being stored to below 60% Relative Humidity. Next, clean the area where the material was being stored with soapy water or a weak bleach solution. Isolation combined with cleaning and lowering the humidity will stop the spread of the mould growth in the rest of your collection.

The next step is to place the mouldy materials in a freezer. Freezing halts the mould growth and expands the water within its root bursting the cells effectively killing the active mould. However, the mould spores are not annihilated by freezing, they simply go dormant and lie in wait for the appropriate

conditions of over 60% relative humidity and darkness to incubate and flourish again. The spores must be removed by a professional conservator to ensure that the mould problem does not reoccur or cause health issue for those handling, storing and using the materials.

To avoid health related complications caused by inhaling mould spores during isolation of the materials do not disturb the mould and refrain from touching your eyes or face. Wash your hands and arms thoroughly after the materials have been isolated and wash your clothing. When facing a large mould problem consult with a professional and wear a N100 dust mask if working in the area.



*Kyla Ubbink is a professional Book and Paper Conservator. You can contact her at: Ubbink Book & Paper Conservation, [kyla@bookandpaperconservation.com](mailto:kyla@bookandpaperconservation.com) or at 613-523-0569.*



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# QFHS Library

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## New Acquisitions

*The Nova Scotia Eatons (1760-1975)*

Charles Ernest Eaton

FH-120.9-E3-1979

*Marshall Pioneers and their Descendants across Canada and the United States*

Joan (Curtis) Jowsey

FH-010.9-J6-1983

*Collections of the Nova Scotia Historical Society Vol XIV*

James S. MacDonald

AD-120.6-McD6-1910

*Flames Across the Border 1813-1814*

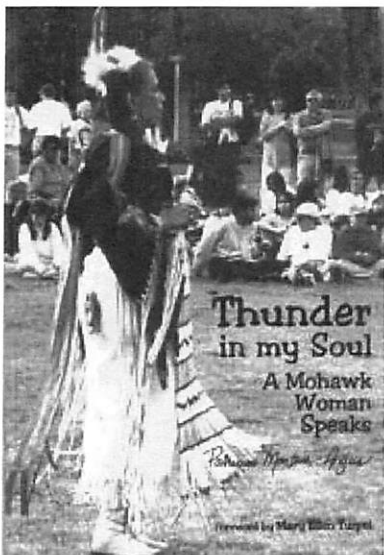
Pierre Berton

HG-100.99-B4-1981

*From Heather to Hill: The Jack O'the Hill Stewarts to 1990*

Margaret (Stewart) Bennet-Alder

FH-161.9-B4-1990



*Les noms de famille en France*

Marie-Odile Mergnac

GS-300.1-M4-2000

*Thunder in My Soul: A Mohawk Woman Speaks*

Patricia Monture-Angus

HG-152.9-M6-1995

*Damn' Rebel Bitches: The Women of the '45*

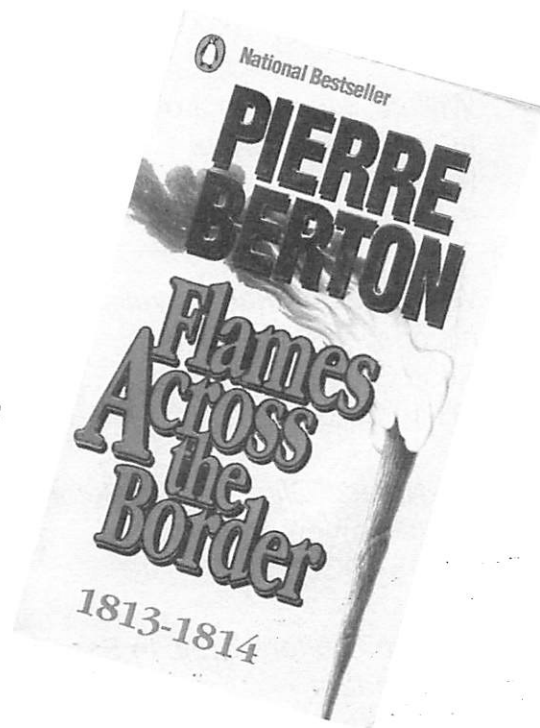
Maggie Craig

HG-450.9-C7-1997

*A Genealogists' Guide to Researching British Home Children*

Gloria Tubman

GN-100.1-T8-2017



*Saint John: Two Hundred Years Proud*

George W Schuyer  
HG-135.88-S4-1984

*William Schurman, Loyalist of Bedeque, P.E.I. and his descendants Vol 1*

Ross Graves  
FH-141.9-G7-1973            1767-1983

*William Schurman, Loyalist of Bedeque, P.E.I. and his descendants Vol II*

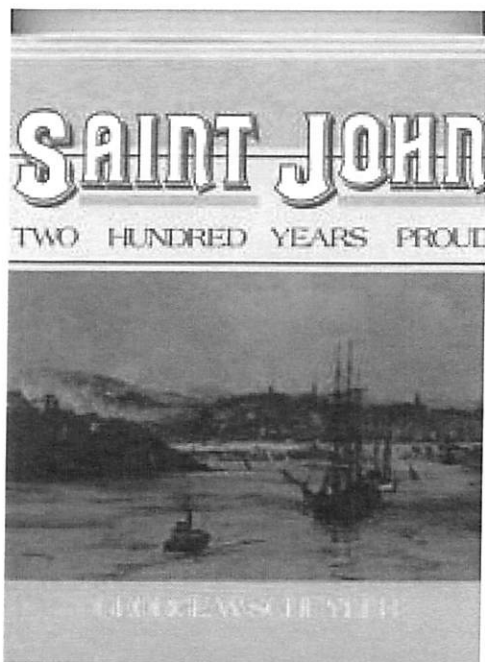
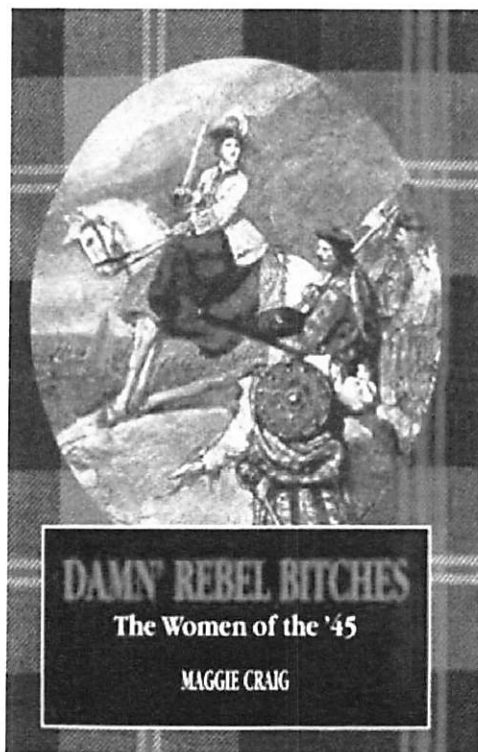
Ross Graves  
FH-141.9-G7-1973

*Hill Notes: "Glimpses" of Before*

Steve Cameron  
HG-154.9C35-2017

*On The Crofters' Trail: In Search of the Clearance Highlanders*

David Craig  
HG-450.99-C7-1990



*Montreal 1909*

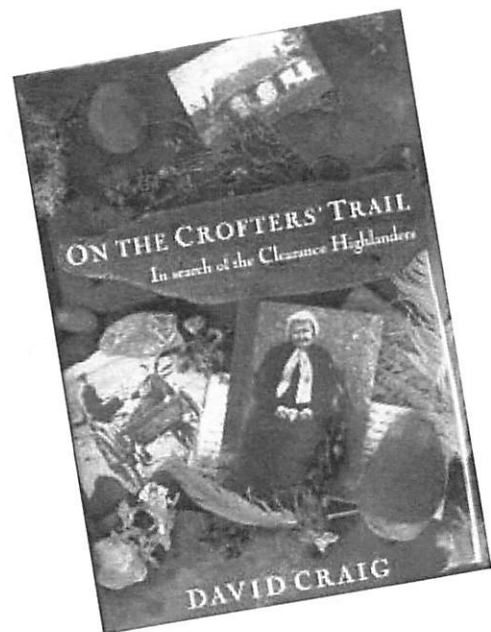
Robert N. Wilkins  
HG 151.99 W5 2016

*A Sweet Family History*

Joan (Curtis) Jowsey  
FH-121.99-J6-1987

*Curtis of Colchester*

Joan (Curtis) Jowsey  
FH-121.99-J6-1980



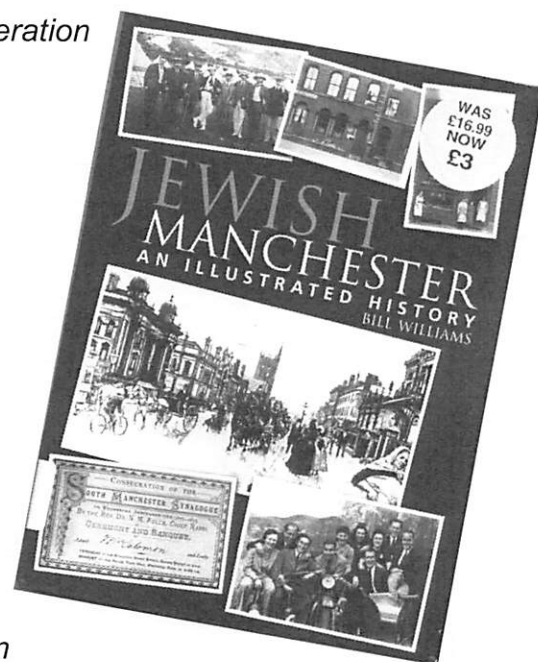
*A Dictionary of Scottish Emigrants to Canada before Confederation*  
Donalt Whyte  
GS-100.5-W59-1986

*The Royal Canadian Armoured Corps*  
John Marteinson  
MH-100.88-M3-2000

*Cornwall and its People*  
Rita Tregellas Pope  
HG-431.88-P6-1982

*Scottish Clan and Family Encyclopedia*  
George Way of Pleam  
GS-450.6-W3-1994

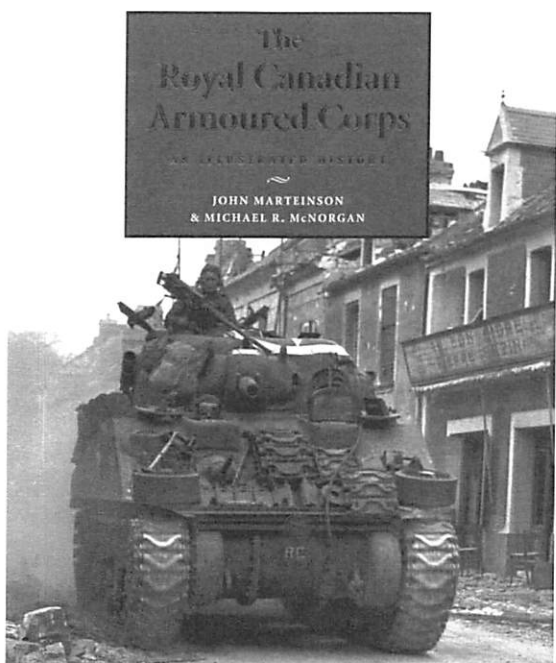
*James Fitzjames: The Mystery Man of the Franklin Expedition*  
D. William Battersby  
MH-430.33-B3-2010



*Jewish Manchester: an illustrated history*  
Bill Williams  
HG-437.99-W72-2008

*Montreal 1909*  
Robert N. Wilkins  
HG-151.99-W5-2016

*Villages pittoresques du Québec:  
guides de charmes et d'attraits*  
Yves Laframboise  
AD-150.01-L169-2004





## **Help make history come alive!**

The Château Ramezay Historic Site and Museum of Montreal (280 Notre-Dame East, Old Montreal - across from City Hall) is now recruiting volunteer history guides.

Find out more about participating in living history programs for children, weekend guiding and/or group tours for students and tourists. A training program is provided.

For more information:

Website: <http://www.chateauramezay.qc.ca/en/>

Contact: Louise Brazeau, Education and Promotion Coordinator, Chateau Ramezay (514) 861-3708 Ext. 229  
[rh@chateauramezay.qc.ca](mailto:rh@chateauramezay.qc.ca)

or

Joan Barrett, Museum Volunteer, [joan.barrett@mcgill.ca](mailto:joan.barrett@mcgill.ca)



# Membership Renewal

Membership can be renewed via the QFHS website,  
qfhs@ca, or by mailing in the form below

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(CITY) (PROVINCE / STATE) \_\_\_\_\_

(POSTAL CODE) \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL

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P.O. BOX 715 15 DONEGANI AVENUE POINTE-CLAIRE, QC, H9R 4S8 CANADA

# QFHS Research Request Form

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PLEASE PRINT IN CAPITAL LETTERS TO AVOID CONFUSION.

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State the maximum number of hours you wish to pay for \_\_\_\_\_

NAME(S) TO BE RESEARCHED \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE COMPLETE AS MUCH OF THE FOLLOWING AS POSSIBLE:

Circa date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Place of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Religion \_\_\_\_\_

Circa date of marriage \_\_\_\_\_ Place of marriage \_\_\_\_\_

Religion \_\_\_\_\_

Circa date of death \_\_\_\_\_ Place of death \_\_\_\_\_

Place or region of Quebec where person/family lived \_\_\_\_\_

What specific or general information are you seeking?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

## PAYMENT

Visa # or MC # \_\_\_\_\_

Cheque # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Money Order \_\_\_\_\_

Send completed form and payment to:

P.O. box 715, 15 Donegani Ave., Pointe-Claire, Quebec, H9R 4S8

# Helping You to Complete the Picture

## *Missing family members or missing heirs?*

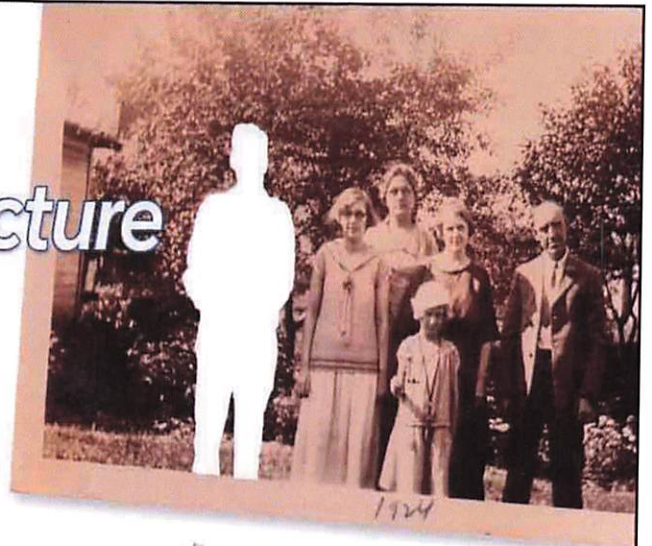
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