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Connections

Journal of the Quebec Family History Society



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February 2019 Vol. 41 No. 2

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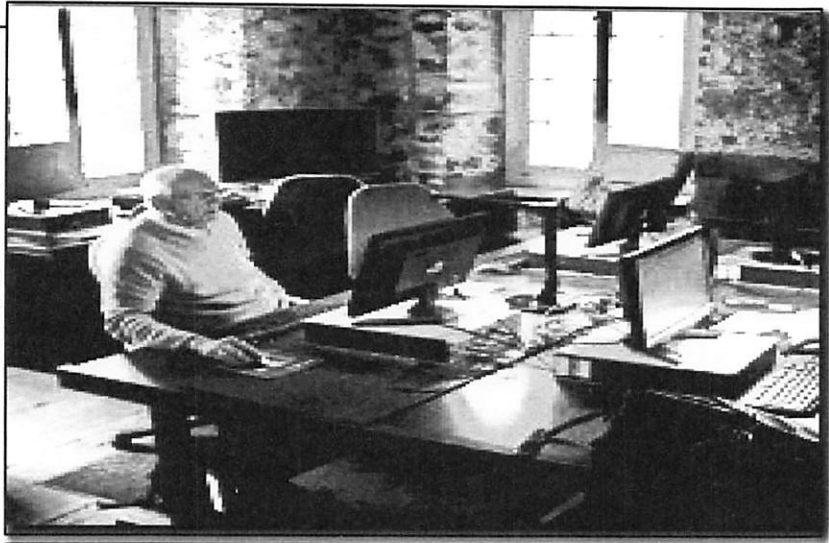
QFHS News

The cover image depicts a rather unkept but dignified monument. It marks the final resting place of Simon Fraser, the builder of the new home of the Quebec Family History Society. Members of your Executive, who will remain anonymous, risked possible arrest and serious injury to verify the monument inscription.

Watch your email inbox for the coming details of our official

opening event. It will be in the late spring when the building and garden will be looking their best.

In this issue, the Ottawa-based genealogist, Gloria Tubman, begins a regular column of thoughts and experiences from her many years of family history sleuthing.



The computer section of our new facilities

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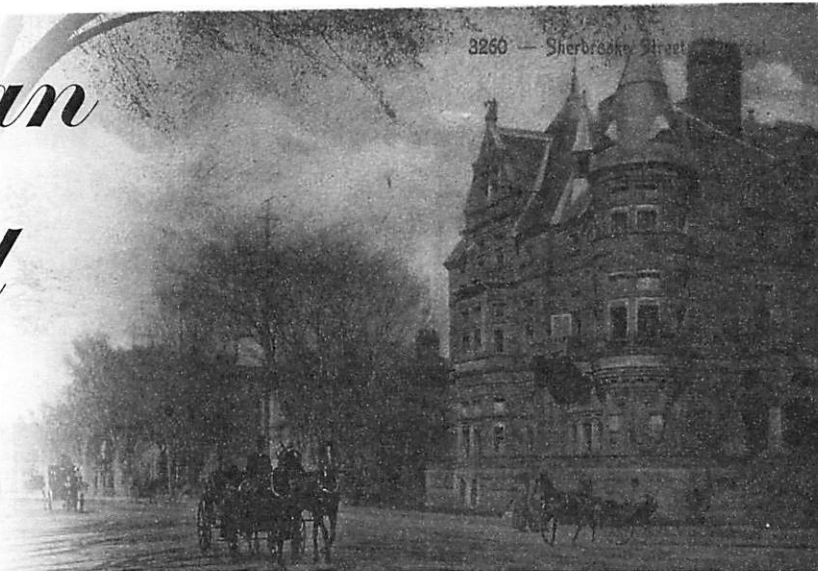
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Edwardian Montreal

by
Richard Wilkins



Postcard of Sherbrooke Street, Montreal. Source: R. Wilkins

Just as today, Montreal summers often appeared fleeting during the Edwardian Period. City

residents, long tired of seemingly never-ending unkind winters, were anxious to take advantage of the milder weather, and the freedom that that warmth so frequently presented.

By and large, those who resided within the fabled Golden Square Mile profited the most from what was referred to at the time as “the heated term.” Large residences, in and around Sherbrooke Street, on grand, tree-shaded estates were recurrently the location of opulent and lively Edwardian garden parties. Moreover, many of these wealthy and influential citizens also owned property in the Laurentians or Eastern Townships, or otherwise in nearby country villages such as St. Lambert, Dorval and Pointe Claire, to which they could escape during acutely harsh July and August days. In these bucolic aestival settings, colourful regattas were often held to mark the blissful time of year.

However, a little over a century ago, summer, as winter, could pose its own distinct hardships for those who were not so well off. Unlike today, periods of extreme heat

couldn't be truly alleviated in any significant way. Air conditioning did not exist, and personal swimming pools were unheard of as well. Even the simple electric fan was just beginning to make an appearance, more often than not in many of Montreal's stifling work venues.

The neighbourhoods nestled near, or along, the Lachine Canal were particularly vulnerable to the oppressive weather conditions. Griffintown, Pointe St. Charles, and St. Henri were customarily neglected, if not totally ignored, by the cash-strapped municipality insofar as the regular watering of the dusty and dirty roads was concerned. Garbage, which was supposed to be removed twice a week, was left defiling the streets and lanes with its foul odour and ugly presence for weeks on end. The unrelenting summer sun only exasperated the problem, scorching everyone and everything found under its rays.

For the children of these disadvantaged districts, the sweltering circumstances occasioned them to look about for some form

of momentary relief from summer's intermittent cruelty. This pursuit often led them into danger.

At the time, very few children of the poor knew how to swim, but that did not inhibit many of them from venturing to the ragged shoreline of the St. Lawrence River or, worse still, to the edge of the Lachine Canal, where the water was murky and its depth quite difficult to assess. Needless to say, during the Edwardian Period, hundreds of children (mostly young boys) drowned in one of these two bodies of water.

On a lighter note — and perhaps of ironic interest to Montrealers today — on a rainy day in July of 1907, a three-year-old lad was actually found bathing, naked, in a particularly large Montreal pothole at the corner of Bleury and De la Gauchetière Street. The *Montreal Star* reported the revealing story, and included a small sketch of the tiny rascal in question.



Standard PLAYING "LONDON BRIDGE" ON FLETCHER'S FIELD. 13-7-12

Source: *Montreal Standard* July 13, 1912

Most city dwellers chose not to swim in potholes, however, but so sweltering the town's tenements could prove to be that many individuals in the more impoverished districts elected to sleep on their verandas or rooftops at night. In fact, during an

exceptionally severe heat wave in July of 1905, the same newspaper described how numerous people "in the poorer sections of the city have been sleeping on the pavements."

In order to spare their little ones from the most difficult days of the summer months, numerous inner city residents sent their offspring to pass the period with family members in the countryside. If truth be told, my late aunt, who lived the first twenty years of her life in a cold-water flat near the now demolished Grand Trunk Railway Station on Windsor Street (today, Peel), was regularly dispatched from Montreal to spend the season with relatives in the Eastern Townships, near Sherbrooke. Fond memories, she so often said.

Yet another alternative open to heat-oppressed leaseholders of the city was a day trip to breezy St. Helen's Island. Always a popular diversion, this pastoral setting provided visitors with a brief opportunity to recover from the frenetic pace of the muggy town. Bathing and picnicking were the principal activities of those who embarked on the somewhat intricate journey to the island.

In essence, as the first bridge link to the site came about just in 1930, this charming isle could only be accessed during the Edwardian Period by a somewhat unreliable ferry service. The cost each way was five cents (\$1.10 in today's currency), an amount sufficient enough to discourage many of those who lived in poverty from undertaking the outing.

In order to avoid any expense, numerous Montrealers chose instead to venture to verdant Mount Royal Park, and its adjacent Fletcher's Field, to escape the town's sporadic wretched sultriness. In this regard, in a July 1905 article, *The Montreal Star*

referred to the mountain as a “life-saver” and “the Mecca of the great mass of city dwellers who cannot take advantage of the breezes of the country.”

Their commentary went on to describe how on Fletcher’s Field “each evening baseball and cricket, and even lacrosse and football are played, despite the heat.” Indeed, if it were not for the gentle winds of Mount Royal, attested physicians at the time, the always-staggering child mortality rate for the city, would have been even higher.

As luck would have it, personal acts of kindness were not uncommon when the summer weather conditions were known to be intensely dispiriting for so many. For instance, in July of 1908, the Joseph household – at the time, one of the most influential Jewish families in the Province of Quebec – threw open the gates of its leafy estate on Dorchester Street to those underprivileged who were in search of a little reprieve from the sizzling sun. The Joseph’s charming residence, dating from 1859 and known as ‘Dorchester House,’ was situated where today is found the now-refurbished Queen Elizabeth Hotel.

As well, each Edwardian summer, The Montreal Star coordinated a self-styled ‘Fresh Air Fund’ to which dedicated readers were invited to contribute. The moneys raised were utilized to take selected, penniless women and their children to the country for a week or two of sojourning in a refreshing and healthy atmosphere.

Nevertheless, despite all the efforts made to circumvent the perils of extreme summer heat, many could not escape it. Its nefarious

effects were often shocking. “Eighty of Montreal’s Children Succumb to Heat in One Week,” captioned The Star on July 6, 1908. The luckless toddlers in question were all under the age of five.

A year later, in August of 1909, the same newspaper recounted how during a particularly awful period of crushing heat some 125 children under the age of five perished due, in part, to the punishing weather.

Not all was doom and gloom in the early twentieth century, however. If Edwardians



Source: Montreal Standard July 13, 1912

understood anything, they knew how to have a good time.

As such, many city businesses organized summer picnics for their hard-working employees. For instance, the Au Bon Marché store advertised in The Star in 1910 that their business (then located on St. Catherine Street East, near Amherst) would be closed on June 23 in order that their staff members participate in the annual summer gathering.

A popular destination for such events was often Dominion Park, Montreal’s ‘Coney Island’ as The Star referred to it in May of



Knowlton - Lake Brome summer regatta in 1908.

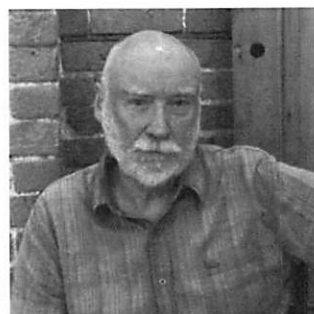
1906. Officially opened in the spring of that same year, the amusement ground was located along the shore of the St. Lawrence River at Longue Pointe in the city's East End. The embankment was skirted by a broad promenade from which there was a beautiful vista of the mountains on the South Shore. The locality covered 15 acres in all, and was the precursor to later recreational areas such as Belmont Park and La Ronde. Dominion Park was a favourite summer-time getaway of Montrealers at the beginning of the 1900's.

Sohmer Park was also a fashionable spot in the city around that same time. These beautiful grounds were located at the foot of Panet Street, overlooking the St. Lawrence River. The park was officially opened on June 1, 1889, and was so successful that a pavilion was constructed in 1893 that could accommodate 7,000 people. It was in this spectator area that a much-appreciated tournament of boxing and wrestling was staged the evening of March 12, 1909.

With its beautiful panorama, however, Sohmer Park, was more often than not used as an almost magical, sheltered venue for diverse musical presentations and assorted

summer tombolas to which Edwardian Montrealers were invariably attracted.

As the days and weeks passed, city dwellers soon found themselves biding their time as the season slowly came to an end. With the arrival of the Labour Day Weekend, many of the more affluent headed to the Brome Agricultural Fair in the Eastern Townships for one last summer outing. Others, who stayed in the town over that long weekend, began the countdown for the imminent arrival of autumn, and the return of their children to school.



Robert N. Wilkins is author of 'Montreal 1909.' (Shoreline Press)

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Written records soon disappear. In less than 300 years there are scant, if any, written records which prove the existence of early Shetland ancestors. The blood of Vikings, and perhaps Picts, coursed through the veins of these early island settlers. They were born, married, had children, and died, virtually unknown. They fished, farmed crofts and became master mariners of the surrounding seas. Their lives followed a natural rhythm that had existed for millennia.

The population of the Shetland Islands peaked in the 1860's. Population expansion meant diminished opportunities for young people which led to the scattering of Shetlanders to the far-flung corners of the world. They emigrated to Australia and New Zealand; to Canada and the United States; to mainland Scotland and England—wherever they sensed that life might be better.

Many of my Shetland ancestors came from Gunnista on the island of Bressay. Place names in Shetland reflected Norse domination of the islands from the 9th to the 15th centuries. Beosetter, Heogan, Kirkabister, Tingwall, Uphouse and Voehead were some of the other places where my

ancestors lived. On an island with an area of 11 square miles and a population between three and four hundred people, daily lives within the community were intertwined. Ceilidhs helped to pass the long winter evenings. Gathering in a croft house by a peat fire, men would mend nets while women knit, where storytelling and fiddle music provided an evening's entertainment. Social life was rich and abundant in an otherwise subsistence existence.

Shetlanders were not as isolated as one might think. Herring fleets, trading ships and mariners returning from long sea voyages would have kept the islanders abreast of events happening in the wider world. Whalers and merchant marines sailed the vast oceans. Islanders, renowned for their navigational skills, had been impressed into the navy during the Napoleonic Wars. Nowhere in Shetland was the sea more than three miles away. The ocean waters that provided also took away: perilous sea voyages brought many tragedies to Shetland families. Nature's awesome force was something they had learned to live with.

It was here in Gunnista that Peter Linklater was born on October 29, 1811, the son of

George Linklater and Elizabeth Tulloch. On September 3, 1840, he married Jean Gifford from the nearby community of Noss Sound. In his early married life, he was a sailor and was away from home for the 1841 and 1851 census. In 1851, Jean was living on a three-acre croft with four children; Joseph, Ogilvy, Peter and Jane. By 1861 Peter had changed his occupation to stone quarrier. In 1871 and 1881, he was listed as a crofter. Between 1851 and 1864, six more children were born. Laurence Ogilvy, Mary, Robert, Christina, Ursula and Barbara completed the family of twelve. By 1891, Peter had retired. He died in Gunnista on June 28, 1894, at the age of 82, from debility of old age.

Now written records provide a snapshot of an ancestor's life. Church records, census records and government civil registration, which began in 1855 in Scotland, give us an insight into how Peter Linklater lived. We have church records to document his vital statistics, census to tell us where he lived, his occupation and the number of children living at home. Scotland's detailed death registration gives us the cause of death so we know that Peter's demise was from old age. We can finally piece together an ancestor's life story.

Peter's speech might have been interspersed with Norse words as the language persisted in Shetland into the nineteenth century.



Inside a croft house. Source: Shetlandhistory.com

His croft house would have been built of stone as almost no trees grew in Shetland; the thatched roof tied down with heavy stones to prevent damage from strong winds. Working in the nearby stone quarry would have perfected his skills as a mason. He tended a few animals on his small croft and fished in the nearby seas. What records are unable to tell us are his personality and character. We can only imagine the kind of person Peter might have been.

The next generation of Peter and Jean's family followed the pattern so familiar to others. Joseph, Jane and Laurence remained in Shetland. Two sons died of a fever two

months apart in 1866, Peter at 18 and Robert at 9. Little Mary died in September 1858 at the age of four. Without antibiotics to control fevers, ordinary diseases often proved fatal. Ogilvy and his sisters Christina, Ursula and Barbara all moved to Edinburgh. Both Christina



A traditional croft house. Source: shetland heritage association.com

and Ursula died at a young age. Barbara lived to be 70. Only Laurence and Ogilvy surpassed their parent's longevity; Laurence dying at 85 and Ogilvy at 83.

My great-grandmother, Barbara Linklater, left Shetland at age 16. In 1881, she was living at 28 Jamaica Street in Edinburgh with her sister Christina and brother-in-law John, working as a dairy maid. She married Archibald Gibb on the third of September 1885 and lived at No. 47 Brunswick Street, her occupation listed as domestic servant. The rest of her life's story will be that as a

wife and mother of a family of ten.

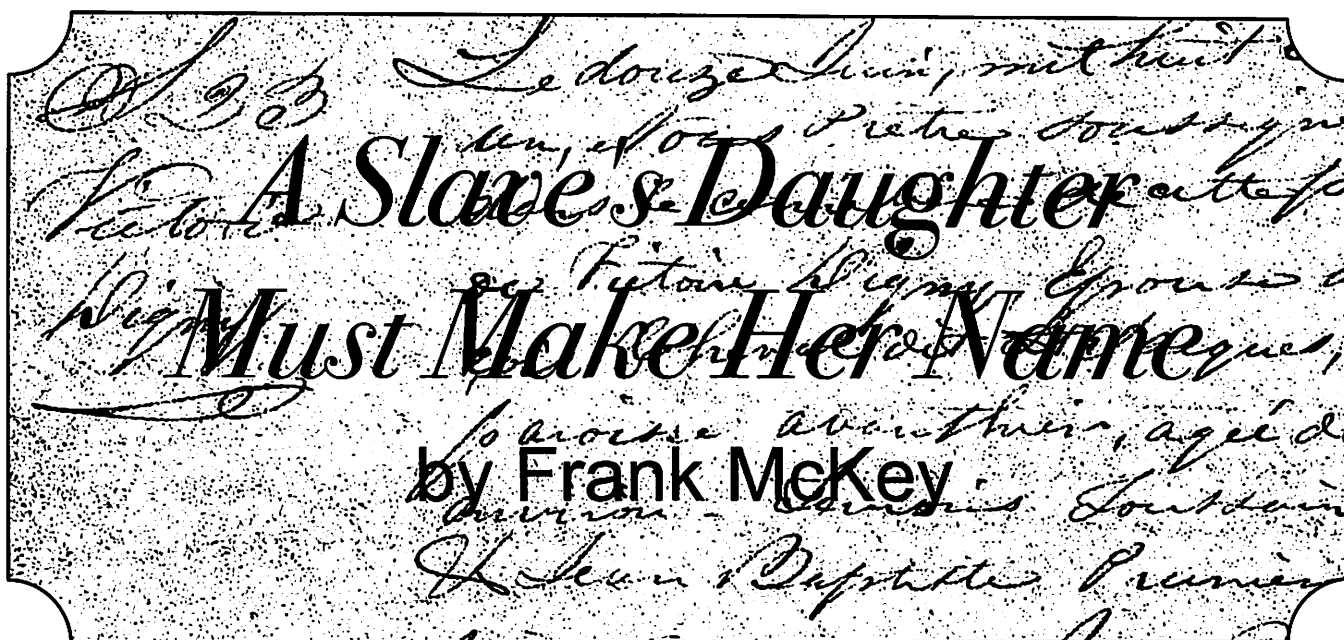
It is doubtful that Barbara ever returned to Shetland. She lived a very settled life in Edinburgh, until the tragedies of WW 1 struck the family. Her son Archibald died of tuberculosis in Edinburgh Castle, age 29, leaving behind a wife and two young girls, and Willie died on the battlefields of France at the Battle of Loos, age 20.

My grandfather, John Linklater Gibb, emigrated to Canada in 1913, the only member of his family to leave Scotland. And so another chapter of family history begins.



Archibald Gibb and Barbara Linklater with eight of their children. Sitting in: Barbara Douglas

Barbara is a retired librarian and teacher with a BA Honours from Concordia, Dip. Library Studies and Dip. in Teaching. She has been a member and volunteer with the Q.F.H.S. since 1984. She combines genealogy and travelling with visits to Scotland, Ireland, England, France and New England.



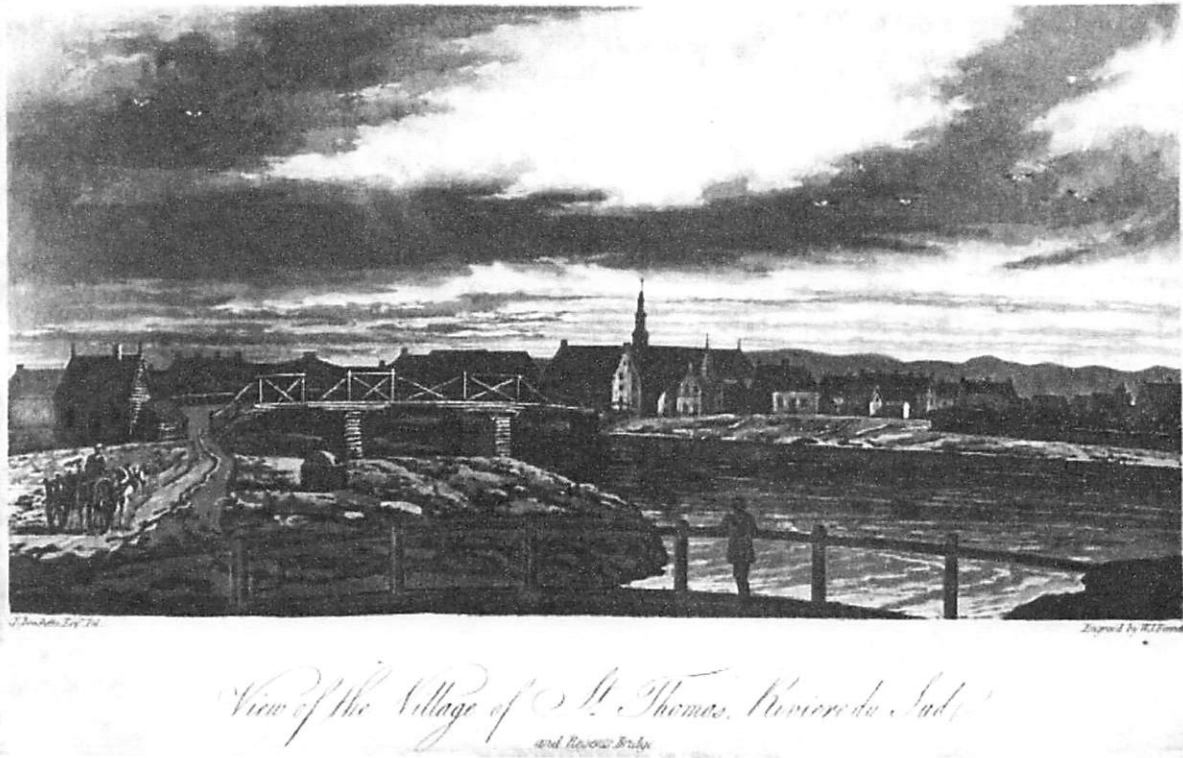
Marie Madeleine Victoire de Guinée-Cheval St-Jacques – you hear that handle and you think, with a name that nameful, she must have been some upper-crust lady with bird’s nest hair, satin slippers, flouncy gowns and a carriage to ferry her everywhere. But really, there was none of that and she was anything but carriage-trade – a muck-to-your-eyeballs Canadian girl from Montmagny below Quebec, the second of three daughters of ex-slave Louis and his white wife Marie Marguerite Marois.

Their first child, Marie Marguerite, born in 1768, was called Marguerite Lepage, daughter of “Louis Lepage, negre,” when she died at age 8. Victoire, their second, born on 29 April 1771, was christened Marie Madeleine Victoire Le negre (unaccented). The third, Marie Dorothee, born in 1776, was also named Le negre (accented).

No-Name Family

In fact, they had no name, this family. When Louis was baptized at Quebec in 1733, he was plain Louis – “Louis negre de nation age d’environ Douze ans appartenant aud’. Louis Lepage” (Louis of the negro nation about twelve years old belonging to the said Louis Lepage). When he died at Montmagny in 1777, he was buried under the name loüis le neigre (one dieresis, no capitals).

He was generally called Louis le Nègre, with or without accents or capital letters, because they had to call him something and he was black. If he’d had freckles and they’d spoken English, they might have called him Louis Freckles. If he’d been Bob and liked pad thai, they might have called him Bob Likes Thai Food. If he’d been into rap and movies, they might have called him Soon 2 B. A. Major MP. If



Horse and Buggy, c,1900 (commons.wikipedia.org)

he'd talked it over with his wife, she might have said, "Take my name, why don't you?" but what manful man of the XVIII century would have stooped to doing that? His name might as well have been mud, or Nemo (Nobody, in Latin), but "Louis le Nègre" stuck.

He was sometimes called Louis de Guiné(e). Maybe that was where he came from, the Gulf of Guinea in Africa. At other times, because he had been a slave of Louis Lepage and his wife, he was called Louis Lepage. And because, after Lepage's death, the widow Lepage married Jean-Baptiste Vallée, he was occasionally called Louis Vallée or, worse, "Louis Nègre à Vallée," Vallée's Negro, never a proper name. Besides, "Nègre à Vallée" sounds like "Nègre avalé" – "swallowed Negro," as

the man-eaters had got to him. Vallée died, the cannibals receded, and when Louis, a free man, married on 19 January 1767, the church register identified him as "Louis Le negre appartenant Cy devant a madame Vallée" – Louis the negro formerly belonging to Mrs. Vallée.

A Rare Prenup

Marie Madeleine Victoire inherited her dad's namelessness. Where she could have used a surname, there was a gaping hole. Nature hates those hungry voids and fills them fast, so she was given three forenames at birth. Three first names went some way to filling her need for namefulness, as did the family name "de Guiné" that she went by at her wedding to white labourer François-Xavier Cheval St-

Jacques at Beloeil on 10 June 1799.

She made history then. The day before her wedding she entered into a notarized marriage contract, becoming only the second black person in Quebec – and the first black woman – known to have been party to a prenup (the first was ex-slave Jean-Baptiste Quéry at Sorel in 1772). There was nothing unusual about the terms of this agreement – neither spouse would be responsible for debts incurred by the other before the marriage, they would jointly own property they acquired during their married life, etc. But as both were illiterate, neither signed the deed, not even with an X. Their witnesses did.

They had nearly 50 years together – no children, just the two of them – and a farm on the Rang Sainte-Rose at La Présentation, near Saint-Hyacinthe, east of Montreal. If she'd had money to burn and wanted to put on airs, she could have had calling cards printed styling herself Mme Marie Madeleine Victoire de Guinée-Cheval St-Jacques Du Rang Sainte-Rose De La Présentation, or something like that. But

she didn't.

At her husband's death in 1846, the church kept it simple and referred to her as Victoire Guinée. Fair enough. But when she died on 10 June 1851, they buried her under the name Victoire Digny. Digny!? A decent name, maybe, but meaningless – and never hers. The church register made her out to be 113. Some years ago a genealogist took that record as gospel. In a compilation of the names and ages of La Présentation residents who, from the founding of the parish in 1806 up to 1950, had lived 90 years or more, he listed Victoire Digny as the one who had lived the longest (Courrier de Saint-Hyacinthe, 7 March 1952, p 16). Now, her name we may never get straight, but her age, we know, was nowhere near 113, not even 90. Marie Madeleine Victoire de Guinée Cheval St-Jacques was 80 years and 6 weeks old, and that was old enough.

The moral of her story might be: Never judge persons by their names, however grand those names may sound, and never treat sources as the gospel truth, even if they are official records from a church.

Title image: At Marie Madeleine Victoire's death, the church register gave her a false name and the wrong age. The entry reads (translation): "On June 12, 1851, we the undersigned priest buried in the parish cemetery the remains of Victoire Digny, who died here two days ago, aged about 113 years, wife of the late François Cheval dit St Jacques."



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, 1816–1843 (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.



Stained glass window as displayed at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. From the museum's descriptive panel: Castle & Son, Montreal, 1881-1920, Evangeline and Gabriel, about 1889, Leaded glass and wood, Gift of Ruth and David Khassam, inv.

THOMAS AND ELLEN CASTLE:

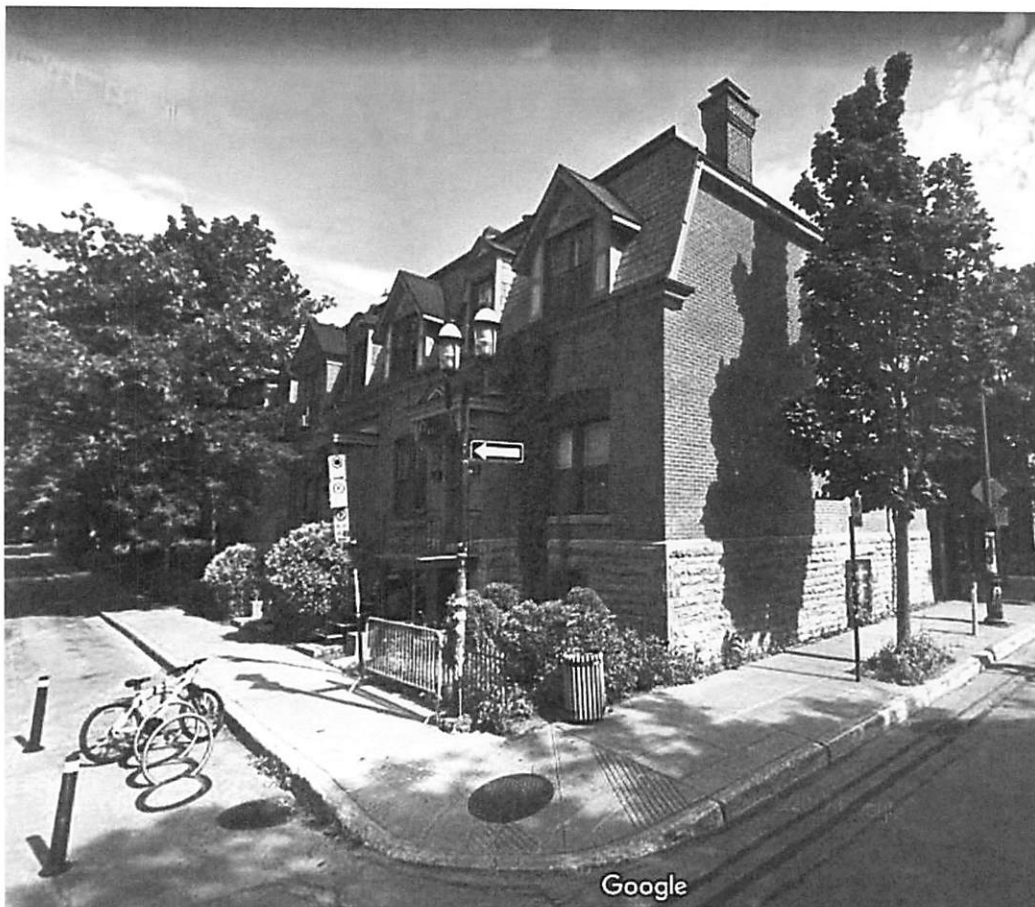
*Bringing Ancestors
out of the Shadows,
with Four Plot
Twists Along the
Way*

Part 1

By Mark W. Gallup

“THE LATE MR. CASTLE - *The friends of Mr. Thos. Castle of the firm Castle & Son, painters, Bleury Street, will regret to hear of his death which occurred suddenly yesterday morning at his residence, Lorne Avenue. The cause of death, which took place just before breakfast, is supposed to have been heart disease, to which the deceased gentleman was subject.”*
The Gazette, December 20, 1884

I found this notice in a library several decades ago scrolling through microfilmed 19th century Montreal newspapers, and I remember the impact it had upon me. This ancestor was known to me as the founder of Castle & Son, a prestigious firm of Montreal cabinet makers and decorators in its day. But while the business was an important part of my family lore, reading the announcement of his death made me realise how little I knew about Thomas Castle, the man. He and his wife were to remain shadowy figures for me until recently,



1 and 3 Lorne Avenue (original numbering system) residences of Thomas and Ellen Castle and of their son, William T. Castle. From Google Streetview.

when a distant cousin discovered an unexpected marriage record. Details from this gave me clues to unlock stories of Thomas and Ellen that brought them out of the shadows and into the light. And although the uncovered stories were all illuminating, they included four quite unexpected turns. I learned much more about the family firm before I developed any sense of its founder. I grew up surrounded by fine furniture said to be designed and manufactured by Castle & Son. The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts displays stained glass windows by them. The National Gallery of Canada gave Castle & Son decorative furnishings prominence in the 2013 exhibition, "Artists, Architects &

Artisans: Canadian Art 1890-1918". Association with the architect Maxwell brothers introduced the company to the highest levels of Montreal society, providing decor for their Square Mile homes, their country houses, and for the original Ritz Carleton Hotel in Montreal.

However I eventually realised from Thomas's date of death that the firm's prominence at its height was more to the credit of William T. Castle, the 'son' in the Castle & Son name. The father and son partnership first appeared in print in the Lovell's Montreal Directory for 1881-82, just a few years before Thomas's 1884 death.

After discovering the newspaper notice,

the Lovell's directories were an obvious next step in my quest to learn more about this enigmatic ancestor. He first appeared in the 1866-67 edition as a house and sign painter in partnership with Andrew Grant, another painter. Between then and the 1881 appearance of the Castle & Son marque, we see listings for two more partnerships with other painters as well as several years where he worked independently. Lovell's also records him living at six residential addresses in the two decades between his arrival in the

at 1 Lorne Avenue for over a quarter century.

I next consulted the Canadian census returns. I found the Castle family in Montreal in 1871 the old-fashioned way, doggedly scrolling through microfilmed pages in the pre-internet age. Thomas's household included Ellen and six children, aged 1 to 15. The parents were listed as born in England, which was not a surprise as many decades ago a great-uncle had told me that the Castles came from Grantham in Lincolnshire. I was more surprised to see the four older

CASTLE & SON,	
DECORATORS,	GLASS STAINERS,
HOUSE AND FRESCO PAINTERS,	ECCLESIASTICAL
ARTISTIC SIGN WRITERS,	—and—
Importers of HIGH-CLASS WALL HANGINGS, — and — CEILING DECORATIONS.	DOMESTIC GLASS,
LINCRUSTA WALTON, Latest Designs,	MEMORIAL WINDOWS,
JAPANESE LEATHER PAPERS, In High and Low Relief, From Yokohama, Japan	MOSAIC LEADED GLASS,
BIRGE VELOUR, A New Wall Hanging Beautiful in Design and Coloring.	HALL WINDOWS,
	TRANSOM LIGHTS,
	HALL LANTERNS,
	FIRE SCREENS,
	NEW DESIGNS,
	EMBOSSSED, CUT
	and SAND BLAST GLASS.
INSPECTION OF DESIGNS AND SAMPLES REQUESTED, Works and Show Room—40 BLEURY STREET.	

Advertisement in the Lovell's Montreal Directory for 1885-86

city and his death. Moves were frequent in the early Montreal years perhaps indicating some financial instability. The family relocated for a final time in the year before his demise to the newly built residence on Lorne Avenue mentioned in the death notice, just to the east of the McGill University campus. At about the same time their son William moved to 3 Lorne Avenue, the house next door. Thomas's widow, Ellen, remained

children listed as Ontario-born. The 1881 census contradicted this however, listing all children as born in Quebec. Further research was required. Later census and other records for these four older children provided other references to Ontario, or more specifically to Toronto births. The Toronto Public Library's website offers digitized versions of Toronto city directories. I found several listings for "Thomas Castle, Painter" in the 1862 to 1865

period, although the children's birth years would indicate that the family lived in Ontario for at least a decade, from about 1855 to 1865, before moving to Montreal.

This, along with the brief inscription on his handsome memorial at Mount Royal Cemetery, was the sum of what I knew about this great-great-grandfather. This changed on a cold January day in 2015 when I opened an email from a cousin. An advantage of master

Thomas and Ellen, with declared ages of 52 and 44, were married in Boston, Massachusetts in March 1881 before a Justice of the Peace. (Plot Twist # 1!) This was a quarter century after the birth of their eldest child and five years after the birth of their youngest.

What would prompt a couple to marry later in life in a city with no connection to the family? We can only speculate. At this point I didn't know whether they first met in Toronto or emigrated together from England, but as a young couple in the New World it must have been easier to pass as married. Perhaps they had every intention of formalizing their union but an early pregnancy overtook those plans. Later in life as they moved from itinerancy to prosperity maybe they felt the need to quietly put to right their secret omission. Boston may have been chosen precisely for the anonymity offered by a larger city with no family associations, and with a direct rail link to Montreal.

While the time and place of this marriage was the biggest surprise in my archival voyage of discovery,

search websites such as FamilySearch or Ancestry that compile millions of records from many sources is that if search parameters are broadly set, a relevant record can sometimes appear from an unexpected place or time. What my cousin found was that

there were other twists to be found, thanks to vital clues in the marriage record. The story of Thomas and Ellen's roots and stories from both sides of the Atlantic will continue in the next edition of Connections, with three more plot twists!



Wardrobe and Bed by Castle & Son, as displayed in the 2013 exhibit, "Artists, Architects & Artisans: Canadian Art"



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.

The QFHS Magazine Rack

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



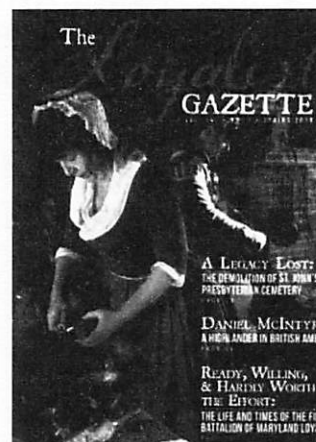
L'Ancêtre Vol. 45 No. 324 Dieppe: l'enfer des Canadiens by Josée Tétrault

An in-depth look at the famous landing of Canadian troops, through the eyes of a French-Canadian volunteer.



Quebec Heritage Vol.12 No. 4 Pointe St-Charles by various authors

All you needed to know about the history of this storied Montreal neighbourhood.



The Loyalist Gazette Vol.56 No. 1 Ready, Willing and Hardly Worth the Effort by Robert A. Liftig

The life and times of the 1st Battalion of Maryland Loyalists.

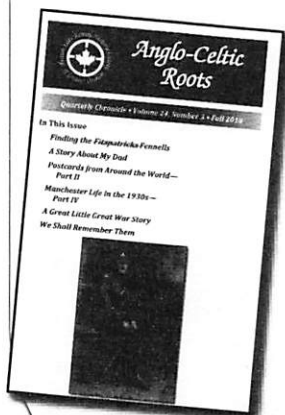


Anglo-Celtic Roots Vol.24 No. 3 A Great Little Great War Story by John D. Reid

The family connections of the first Canadian casualty of WW1.

The Manchester Genealogist Vol.54 No.3 How AncestryDNA Found My GG Grandfather by Sharon Bunter

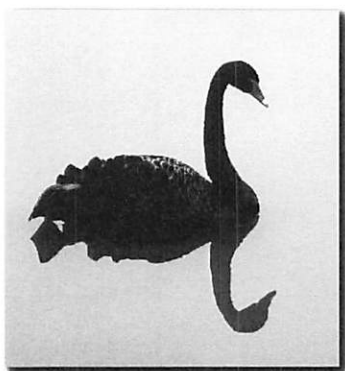
A family "black sheep, don't talk about him", is tracked down.



Your QFHS

Upcoming Seminars and Lectures

**The Black Swan: How to use
Family Search, Ancestry, and Find
My Past to Find Your Ancestors**



with Gary Schroder and Jackie Billingham.
Saturday March 30, 2019.

**The Maple Leaf and the Fleur De
Lys: Research Techniques for
Finding Your Ancestors in Quebec**
with Gary Schroder and Jackie Billingham.
Saturday April 27, 2019.

**Both seminars are on Saturdays 1:00
P.M. to 4:00 P.M.
Q.F.H.S. Library 153 Sainte Anne Street
(Simon Fraser House)
Sainte Anne de Bellevue**

Cost: \$20.00 for members \$25.00 for
non-members.
Space is limited so reservations are
necessary.
514-695-1502 or qfhs@bellnet.ca

**Sir William Osler
(1849-1919)**



**Canadian-born medical
doctor who is considered by
many to be the father of
modern medicine. He started
his teaching career at McGill
University, ended it at
Oxford University, England
and mid-career was one of
the founders of Johns
Hopkins in Baltimore, USA.**

with Sari Kelen, a descendant of Sir
William Osler

Saturday, March 9th, 2019, 10:30
a.m. at Briarwood Presbyterian
Church Hall, 70 Beaconsfield Blvd.,
Beaconsfield

Date: Saturday, April 13th, 2019

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

Speaker: To be determined.

Book Review

by Nicholas Barker

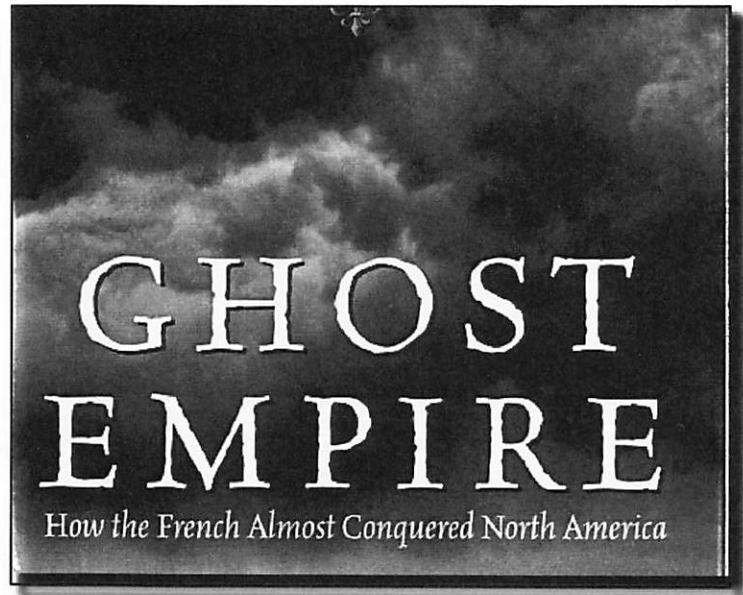
*History, Travelogue and
Memoir Combine in this
Illuminating Journey in the
Footsteps of the Great
Explorer La Salle*

The exploits of René-Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle are well documented, but maybe not so well understood when considering the historical, cultural and geographical context of the time.

Philip Marchand, an American of French-Canadian ancestry, has managed to combine his own views and cultural background as well as those of La Salle and of the explorer's past and present researchers. This makes for a somewhat jerky narrative, but Marchand is a terrific writer and I was soon drawn into the different threads by his use of gentle humour and his insistence that we understand (as much as possible) the intentions and character of the people he describes.

The central theme of this book can be summed up in one sentence: the last opportunity for the French to control the American continent was lost because La Salle's last expedition in 1686 missed its target, the Mississippi Delta, by 3°. This is a tiny error considering the navigational tools at hand.

Marchand then builds his supporting thesis for this declaration. He follows the



routes of all of La Salle's expeditions, and intertwines the journey with background material from British and French Canada, America and France.

To further complicate things, this book is also a modern-day travelogue. Marchand plays the tourist as he follows La Salle's progress. His commentary is amusing and informative and he often cleverly and controversially links the two universes; the 21st and 17th centuries.

The author does not shy away from his own real and imagined connections to this saga: a refreshing aspect of this rather convoluted but immensely enjoyable read.

Ghost Empire: How the French Almost Conquered North America

Philip Marchand

*This book was not catalogued at the time of writing.
Please ask at the desk if you wish to borrow it.*



by Kyla Ubbink

Cleaning Paper, Books and Photographs

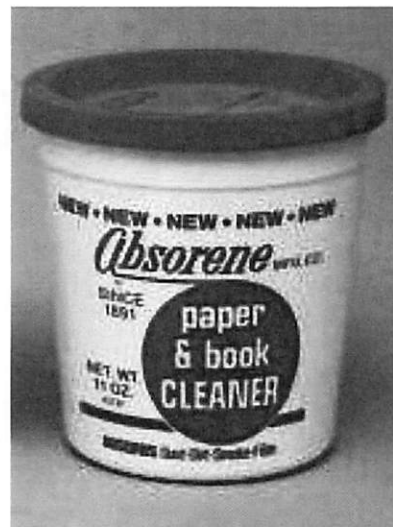
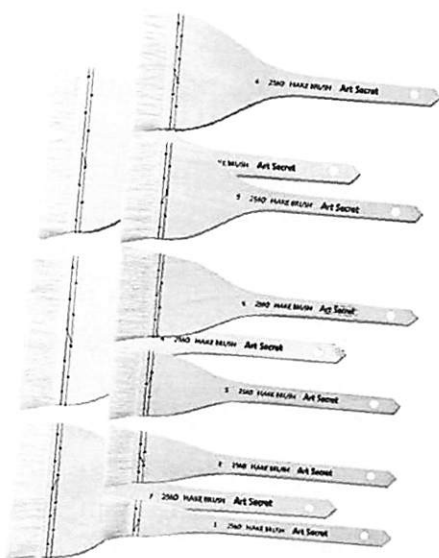
Once a document, map, book, manuscript or photograph has transitioned from a working object into “archival retirement”, it requires continual care and maintenance. Although conservation treatments must be left to professionals, there is an array of simple cleaning techniques that you can employ to increase the longevity of these primary resources and family artifacts.

Dirt and dust cause chemical deterioration to occur in any organic materials. It is highly beneficial to remove such products with non-aqueous methods, even if the results are not readily visible to the naked eye. Special sponge-like erasers,

called ‘chemical sponges’ or by the name brand “Absorene”, are highly effective at sucking dirt out of paper documents and cloth book coverings. Wearing Nitrile gloves, use your non-dominant hand to support the item by placing it on the document with your fingers closed and your thumb extended at a ninety-degree angle; then gently pass a section of the eraser over the surface of the paper which lies between you thumb and forefinger. Move your hands along the paper until the entire document has been cleaned. Be careful at the edges to only move the eraser in one direction heading from the center of the paper to the edge and not backwards along that path. Tears can be

gently cleaned in the same manner passing the eraser along the direction of the tear. Use a soft brush to remove any eraser bits; avoid blowing air from your lips and accidentally spreading spittle over the artifact. The cloth coverings of books and soiled pages can be cleaned in the same manner as a document. Also passing the sponge eraser over the top edge of the book removes the accumulated dust. It is recommended to cut the sponge eraser into sections for easy use, and as the eraser becomes blackened with dirt, cut away the soiled areas.

Soft brushes are very useful for removing dirt from the surface of photographs and for eliminating musty odour in books. The best type to use with photographs is a large blush brush that does not lose hairs, or a 'Hake' found at art stores. To get rid of that musty 'old book' odour a soft, new paint brush from a hardware store is perfect. This smell is



caused by an accumulation of dirt, food debris, insect leavings, and dust; all of which are also causing deterioration to the paper. Passing a wide paint brush over every page of the book will serve to remove the odour causing culprits, aerate the pages, and mitigate degradation of the paper. It is best to support the book on a soft pillow, work outside, brush away from yourself, and to wear a dust mask. Avoid using compressed air to remove dust and dirt as it will cause scratches and embed dirt into cracks and crevasses.

Employing these few simple techniques goes a long way towards extending the life span of paper-based materials. Removing dirt and debris not only mitigates deterioration, it improves esthetics, renders better quality digital copies, and increases the function and enjoyment of family memorabilia.



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



This past fall I spent about 12 hours searching through the Valuation Rolls for the Township of Bristol held at the Pontiac Archives. Still in use today, valuation rolls are the record of the properties within a township as to owner, occupier, range, lot, size, assessed value, and taxes to be paid. I started the search with two goals: to find the Black family homestead and to follow the changes to a specific property Range 6 NE/2 or Rear/2 Lot2.

The available rolls covered the period between 1851 and 1884. The early rolls show the assessed value as the British pound and pence system. By 1871 the revised roll indicates the assessed value and the annual value or taxes in the present dollar system. If one only looked at the rolls prior to and including 1860, the researcher would assume that the name listed beside the property was the owner. Starting in 1863 rolls there was a separate column for owner and for occupier. In numerous instances, the name listed in the previous rolls now

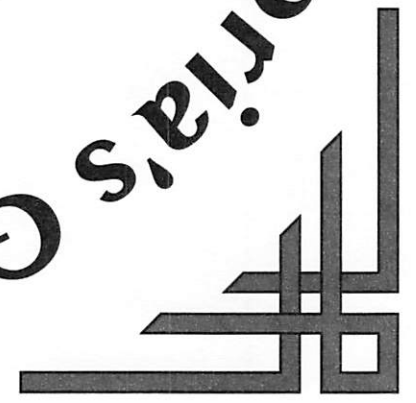
shows only in the occupier column. The 1884 roll does not give the assessed value for individual lots when an owner has multiple properties. The information in each roll is not complete. I was left guessing when a column for any property was left blank. Did this mean the entry should be the same as the one directly above or the information was not available.

Thomas Black Sr. owned the property listed as Range3, SE/2Lot1 during the period. In 1871 this 100 acres had an assessed value of \$405 with the annual value \$24. His sons occupied land adjoining to this property for some time. The property of Range 6 NE/2 or Rear/2 Lot2 in 1851 was listed under James Lathem with 6 acres cleared and 94 acres uncleared having a value of \$42. By 1860, Thomas Tubman, my great grandfather, had cleared 40 acres. The 1863 roll shows Thomas Tubman as the occupier; the owner is blank but the property was most likely part of the John Egan Estate. Thomas Tubman owned

Gloria's Cleanings

Valuation Rolls: A Useful Tool

A regular column of tips and thoughts from Gloria Tubman



this property by 1866. The assessed value of this 100 acres in 1872 was \$265 with an annual value of \$15.90. From the 1881 roll, I discovered that this property supported 10 people, 2 horses, 30 sheep, 10 pigs, and 9 cows.

By 1884, Thomas Tubman had acquired 450 acres: R6, NE/2L2, R6 W/4L3, R8 NE/2L4, and R8 L5 with a combined assessed value of \$574 and the annual value or tax of \$34. These lands supported 9 people, 2 horses, 12 sheep, 4 pigs, and 5 cattle. The taxes paid by my great grandfather on all properties does not cover the levy for

garbage assessed to any of the above occupied properties today. The property R8 NE/2L4 is still owned by the Tubman family.

I accomplished my research goals in looking through these rolls. At the onset, I had no expectation to discover what a property was able to support. At the same time, I followed the settlement of the Township of Bristol as each subsequent roll listed more properties were occupied. These rolls also offered insight as to when individual families moved to Bristol.



Gloria has been conducting genealogy research for 30 years. She is the author of A Genealogists' Guide to Researching BRITISH HOME CHILDREN published by Global Genealogy. She has conducted research for the TLC program Who Do You Think You Are. You can contact Gloria at pontiacresearch@hotmail.ca

Valuation Rolls in Scotland.....

Valuation Rolls are one of the most frequently-used records in the National Records of Scotland (NRS), because they contain detailed records of properties and people, updated on an annual basis from 1855 onwards. Recent valuations rolls are frequently used to establish proof of ownership, tenancy or use of buildings for legal and administrative reasons. If you are interested in the history of your house, you can use the rolls to see who lived in your property and who owned it. You can also use valuation rolls to research the history of buildings such as shops and businesses, churches, lighthouses, schools, hospitals and railway stations. Family historians use valuation rolls to trace ancestors who cannot be found in census returns or to provide a lead to tenancy records (for example to give the owner of a landed estate, which might lead to estate papers, or the owner of a row of colliers houses, which might lead to Coal Company records).

<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/guides/valuation-rolls>

Technology

Computree

By Lorraine Gosselin

Ancestry Ethnicity Definitions

Ancestry has updated its ethnicity definitions. It isn't done automatically for existing customers but you can update yours by clicking on "Discover Your DNA Story" box and you can do this as often as you wish. Thanks to my cousin Ed Martin, who is much more knowledgeable about searching DNA matches than I am! Where we used to see Western Europe, this is now much more specific; my new test came in France 53%, Ireland and Scotland 47%. Ireland was further broken down to Connacht (Connaught), a province in Western Ireland, and yet further to Galway which I knew about, but this helped get in touch with a rather close cousin.

Ancestry explains they use two methods to identify ethnicity:

"Your DNA Story includes regions based

on two different scientific processes: the AncestryDNA reference panel and Genetic Communities™. The AncestryDNA reference panel is made up of people whose family have long-standing, documented roots in a specific area. We compare your DNA to this reference panel to determine your possible ancestry from hundreds up to a thousand years ago. Regions with a solid circle icon are based on the reference panel.

Genetic Communities are groups of AncestryDNA members who are most likely connected because they share fairly recent ancestors who came from the same region or culture. These groups

Ethnicity Estimate

- France
- Ireland and Scotland
 - Connacht, Ireland
 - Galway

identify areas where your ancestors may have lived more recently. Regions with a dotted circle are based on Genetic Communities." I've posted my own as an example. The results compare to my family tree, except for the absence of my Palatine German ancestry.

LEXICON

This lists French, Latin, and even some English words you may encounter on the website of Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec at www.banq.qc.ca or in BMD documents, census records, or legal documents. The focus is mainly on those terms that have no obvious similarity to English words, or those that are now rare or have a different use today.

Meunier = Miller

Frère de lait = Foster Brother (found by Mark Gallop in the 1901 census). Literally, milk brother (or soeur/sister) comes from an old tradition in noble or rich families to place children with wet-nurses, who were usually mothers themselves. The milk brother or sister was the one feeding from the other breast of the wet-nurse.

Locution nominale = Noun phrase

Main morte (literally - dead hand) there are several meanings for this expression, but since it was found in a land grant (thanks to Johanne Gervais) the most likely meaning is the seigneur's rights to property despite succession rights. If seen in an expression such as "il n'y va pas de main morte", then it means "He doesn't pull his punches."

Path master = local supervisor responsible for the construction and repairs of road; 18th and 19th Century Canadian and American documents.

(Thanks to *American Ancestors*, the magazine of the New England Historical Genealogical Society).

Haplo group (note: I've decided this entry does not have to be devoted to French, Latin, and Old English ... DNA terminology might be useful when discussing with our relatives and friends who are more deeply involved in DNA terminology.

Haplogroup = a genetic population group of people who share a common ancestor on the patriline or the matriline. **Haplogroups** are assigned letters of the alphabet, and refinements consist of additional number and letter combinations.

Free Canada Birth, Marriage & Death Indexes



From Kenneth R Marks on the QFHS Facebook Page. Nicely divided by Province.

www.theancestorhunt.com/blog/235-birth-marriage-and-death-record-collection-links-from-canada#.XCk6Ec17nIU

Irish Historic Towns Atlas Online

Thanks to Claire Santry's blog for this site. The site explains the major advantages of the online version: "Traditionally Irish Historic Towns Atlases (IHTA) have been available in printed format only, with CD-ROMs included from no. 19 (Dublin, part II, 1610 to 1756). Digital editions of selected atlases are now available to explore online, free of charge. ... The digital editions include the full text (essay, topographical information, bibliography, appendices, notes) for each town or city, as well as select maps. The three key or core maps are included with their associated legend sheet:

- Map 1 (nineteenth-century Ordnance Survey, 1:50,000)
- Map 2 (IHTA reconstruction based on town plan c. 1840, 1:2500)

- Map 3 (modern Ordnance Survey, 1:5000)

<https://www.ria.ie/irish-historic-towns-atlas-online>.

2018 Spanish Flu Epidemic

If you have relatives that died in the Spanish flu epidemic of 1918, this Library and Archives Canada blog provides interesting aspects in pictures and text at:

<https://the-discoverblog.com/2018/11/29/1918-spanish-flu-epidemic>.

In my family, there was an RAF Cadet (there was no RCAF at the time), Roderick Wehr, as well as his sister who died of the Spanish flu... I've always wondered, knowing the family legend that he had died of the flu, why his death certificate said the cause was pneumonia. This blog answers this question and many others.

Call Microsoft Now! Don't Disconnect!!

If you see a similar message sprawled across your screen, paired with screaming sirens and voices yelling "security breach" don't panic ... just disconnect and close your computer... if it's still there when you reconnect, sometimes you have to do this twice, said an expert from Bell Canada ... she said nothing actually happens, unless you call the number listed on your screen. It is well-designed to cause a panic!

Protect yourself from Tech Support Scam

Although this is not genealogy, genealogists spend a lot of time online so this advice from Microsoft is well-worth reading and following ... scammers are getting more sophisticated.

<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/4013405/windows-protect-from-tech-support-scams>

Searching McGill Year Books

The last time I wanted to find my great uncles' names in the McGill year books, it was only possible by "turning" the virtual pages, but when I tried this month, entering a name actually created a search through all of them at one time. <http://yearbooks.mcgill.ca/>

Eastern Townships Maps - Browsing Online

This is actually the famous Belden atlas. Maps, Directories, History, and Illustrations can all be searched by these categories. An invaluable aide to anyone interested in the Eastern Townships, without access to the original Atlas. Copies can also be purchased either as fine art prints, suitable for framing, or as Research prints (watermarked and folded). [http://](http://www.historicmapworks.com/Atlas/CA/33/Eastern+Townships+and+South+Western+Quebec+1881/)

www.historicmapworks.com/Atlas/CA/33/Eastern+Townships+and+South+Western+Quebec+1881/.

BAnQ.CA - QUEBEC REGIONAL NEWSPAPERS

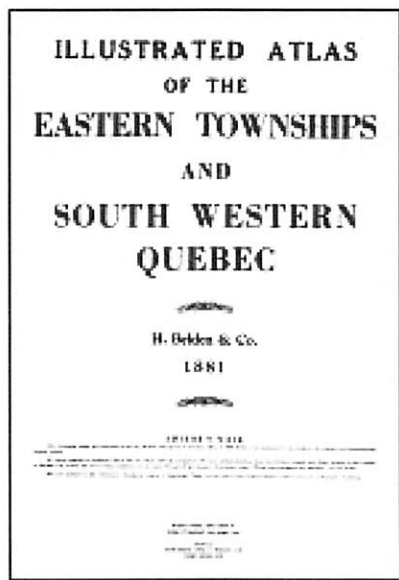
The newspapers' Web sites and the Quebec Archives copy appear in this list, grouped by district and town.

http://www.banq.qc.ca/collections/revues_journaux/liste_journaux_reg_qc/index.html?language_id=3.

More Irish Records Added to....



Fermanagh, Donegal & Leitrim records join Find My Past (from Clare Santry's blog). Click on



<https://www.irishgenealogynews.com/2018/12/fermanagh-donegal-leitrim-records-join.html> for details.

FindMyPast has added five new collections from counties Fermanagh, Donegal and Leitrim. Together they hold a mix of about 45,000 transcriptions of parish registers and headstones, and photos of the latter.

Drouin Genealogical institute Announces "Massive" Update has taken place in 2018

Late December and the Drouin Institute announced that a massive update had occurred on the PRDH source data base during 2018. A reminder, the Drouin data base is available at the QFHS Library and is also available for a personal subscription. The PRDH can also be subscribed to from your home computer. The additions nearly doubled the information that was available with over a million new records.

How Far can You Trace Your Ancestors in Quebec?

For answer to this, consult Institut Drouin's blog, available in English, at:

<https://www.genealogiequebec.com/blog/en/2018/06/21/how-far-back-can-you-research-your-ancestry-in-quebec/>



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.

10 Free Canadian Genealogy Websites



Genealogy is all about names, events and dates, and Canadian genealogy is no different. All the websites listed below are free, and they cover a wide variety of genealogical subjects in Canada.

1. TONI

The free database of the Ontario Genealogical Society, called The Ontario Name Index (TONI), contains more than 3 million names and is always growing.

All you need to place in the search box is the first name and surname, and where those you are searching for were from.

Most of the records provided are taken from gravestones and cemeteries, but there is a table which tells you where the record came from for ease of use.

2. Peel's Prairie Provinces

The prairie provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta of Canada are represented by 7,500 digitized books, over 66,000 newspaper issues (4.8 million articles), 16,000 postcards and 1,000 maps.

You can search all of these holdings if you have ancestors who emigrated out west. Many of the items date back to the earliest days of exploration in the region, and include a vast range of material dealing with every aspect of the settlement and development of the Canadian West.

3. <https://cdm22007.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p22007coll8/search>

Have you ever wondered where you could find books on the local history of Canada? This may just be the site you have been looking for, as it has dozens of digitized local history books.

4. OurOntario

If you want to research newspapers in Ontario, this is the spot for you. They are also expanding into the United States with webpages covering Illinois and Michigan right now, but they do have dreams about going global in the future.

Right now though, you can search newspapers from all over Ontario.

5. Automated Genealogy

This site has been around for a number of years, but it is still useful in searching

1851, 1901, and 1911 Canadian census, and the 1906 census, which covers the prairie provinces.

What I like about the site is that it has alternative ways of spelling of surnames that other sites do not have, and is particularly helpful when you can't find a name in the census.

6. Canadian Virtual War Memorial (CVWM)

This is a registry of the more than 118,000 Canadians and Newfoundlanders who have given their lives serving Canada or the United Kingdom. It was established to allow all Canadians the opportunity to honour and remember their sacrifices.

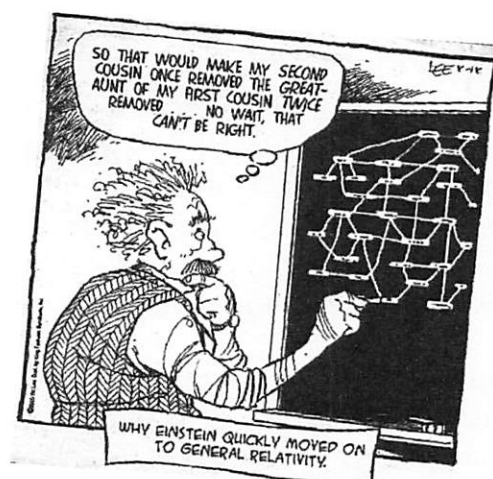
7. Home Children

This is a major immigrant group, especially to Ontario, because between 1869 to the early 1930s, 100,000 British, Scottish and Irish children came to Canada to work as farm labourers, or in the case of girls, as domestics, and they were called Home Children.

A special 'thank you' should go out to the British Isles Family History Society of Great Ottawa (BIFHSGO) who have indexed many of the children sponsored by various groups to Canada.

8. The Canadian County Atlas Digital Program

This project was started by McGill University in Montreal in 1998 and mainly covers Ontario. These are property owners who appeared on the township atlases.



9. Passenger List Indexing Project

This project was carried out by the Nanaimo Family History Society of British Columbia, and they have recorded 757, 749 passengers from 31 Jul 1903 to 13 Oct 1910 going to Montreal and Quebec City. Many people who eventually ended up in the United States came from the old country on these ships. A website which is well worth research for those hard to find ancestors.

10. Library and Archives Canada

The official archives of Canada includes a huge wealth of information and searchable databases — including marriage, census, land, and military records, directories, additional resources, guides and much more. Find the ancestor search here.

Elizabeth Lapoint runs the blog GenealogyCanada in which she posts genealogy, heritage, and history news daily. She also offers a research website at www.elrs.biz, which specializes in inter-border migration between the United States and Canada.

Source: <https://familyhistorydaily.com>

Technology

Over 60 Million Pages of Digitized Canadian Documentary Heritage Soon to be Available at no Charge

The Canadiana collections of archival material, government publications, periodicals, monographs, annuals, and newspapers will be free to access as of January 1, 2019.

The Canadiana collections are the largest online collections of early textual Canadiana in the world. The removal of the subscription paywall will allow unimpeded access to this unique historical content for researchers, students, faculty, and all users in Canada and around the world.

Making the Canadiana collections available at no cost to users is a result of the recent merger between Canadiana.org, a not-for-profit charity, and the Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN), a not-for-profit partnership of 75 Canadian universities, finalized in April 2018. "When our members outlined the vision and goals of a merged organization, ensuring the widespread access to the Canadiana collections was of vital importance," states Alan Shepard, Chair of the CRKN Board of Directors and President and Vice-Chancellor of Concordia University. "Expanding access to this content encourages the study of Canada, both within and outside of the country," continued Dr. Shepard. "We are proud to have followed through on our

commitment to the community in our first year of operations as a merged organization."

The Canadiana collections include three flagship collections: Early Canadiana Online, Héritage, and Canadiana Online. The Early Canadiana Online and Canadiana Online collections are comprised of Canadian monographs, periodicals, government publications, newspapers and annuals and amount to over 19 million pages. The Héritage collection, developed in partnership with Library and Archives Canada (LAC) and CRKN, includes 900 collections of 41 million pages of archival materials. The Héritage collection includes scans of microfilm taken from some of Library and Archives Canada's most sought-after archival collections. "LAC is proud to have partnered with CRKN to develop this fundamental collection for researchers, students, teachers, and all Canadians interested in their ancestry and shared history," states Dr. Guy Berthiaume, Librarian and Archivist of Canada. "We

CRKN  **RCDR**

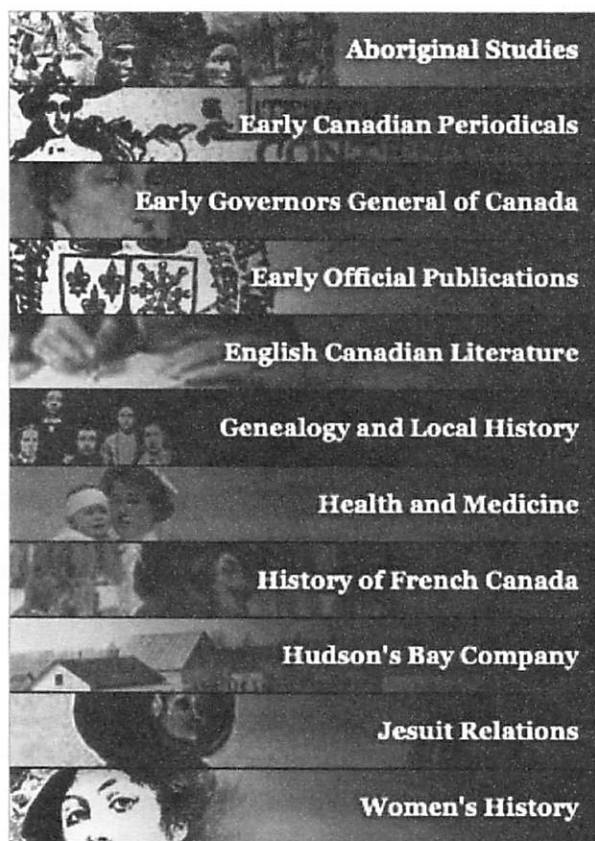
Canadian Research Knowledge Network
Réseau canadien de documentation pour la recherche

applaud CRKN's decision to increase access to our documentary heritage."

The removal of the subscription paywall and user fee does not mean that there are no longer costs associated with the continued maintenance and development of this content. CRKN and the archival community continue to add to the Canadiana Online and Héritage collections and CRKN is currently engaging with stakeholders to develop digitization priorities. In the coming year, CRKN is looking to make critical updates to its platform, increasing the ability to find and use Canadiana content. An assessment and review of the content is also required to decolonize descriptions, search terms, keywords, and other classifications to ensure that they are culturally sensitive. CRKN also plans to eventually make the Canadiana collections available as open access which would entail a review and implementation of user rights statements. These developments will once again increase ease of use and access to the collections, eventually making them more readily available in research settings and to the general public.

"Historians and digital humanists in Canada and abroad have been working with digitized documentary heritage to explore our history, culture, and identity. The content in the Canadiana collections has been used by researchers for decades. Removing the paywall and thereby increasing access to this essential corpus of Canadian heritage will allow researchers to use tools and technologies to do their work more efficiently and more collaboratively," says Ian Milligan, Associate Professor of History, University of Waterloo.

For more information, please contact:



*The Collections available at Early Canadiana Online
(eco.canadiana.ca)*

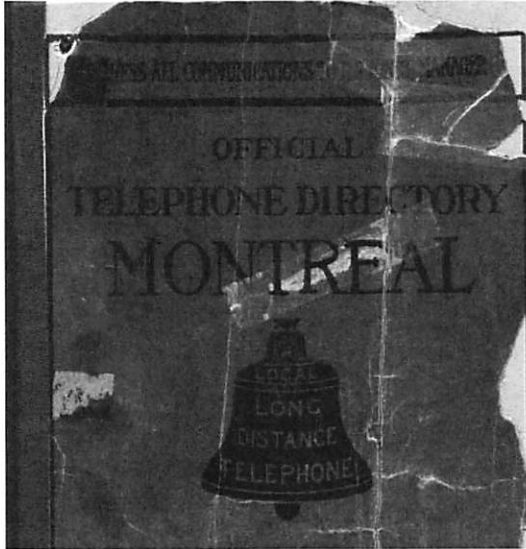
Rebecca Ross, Director of Marketing and Stakeholder Engagement, Canadian Research Knowledge Network.

rross@crkn.ca

613-791-8334

*The **Canadian Research Knowledge Network** is a partnership of Canadian universities, dedicated to expanding digital content for the academic research enterprise in Canada. Through the coordinated leadership of librarians, researchers, and administrators, CRKN undertakes large-scale content acquisition and licensing initiatives, currently amounting to almost \$125 million annually, in order to build knowledge infrastructure and research capacity in 75 of Canada's universities.*

QFHS Library



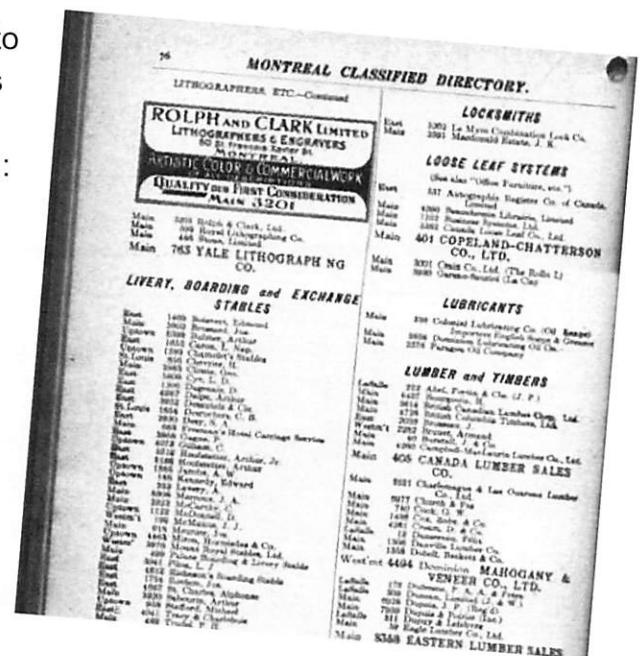
One of the treasures of the Q.F.H.S. Library is a rare copy of the Official Montreal Telephone Directory for 1912. With the invention of the telephone in 1876 by Alexander Graham Bell, the Age of the Telephone spread rapidly. In 1880 there were 546 Bell Telephone subscribers in Montreal. By 1891 this figure had increased to 5,689 for Montreal. In Ontario by 1914 there were over 235,000 subscribers to either Bell or independent telephone companies. In 1916 Montreal was connected to Vancouver for the first time.

Those of you over a certain age who lived in Montreal may remember that their number was preceded by a Hunter, Pontiac, University and other names. It was surprising to see that the November 1912 edition was nearly 750 pages. There were prefixes to the numbers like Main, East, West, Uptown, St.louis etc.

I found references to my Scarff relatives in Montreal:
 A.B. Scarff 399 Mackay Uptown 2970
 Chas. E. Druggist, Sherbrooke & Victoria ave.
 Westmount 30
 Chas E.Scarff 35 Arlington ave. residence
 Westmount 269
 Scarff's Pharmacy (C.E. & A.B.) 722 St.Catherine
 St.West Uptown 1117 & 5106.

After the listings for Montreal there are listings for the suburbs, Lachine, Pointe Claire, St. Anne de Bellevue etc. After the suburbs there is a Classified Business Directory in alphabetical order by occupation. Some of the companies have ads (see accompanying illustration).

The book is a fascinating glimpse into the Montreal of 1912.

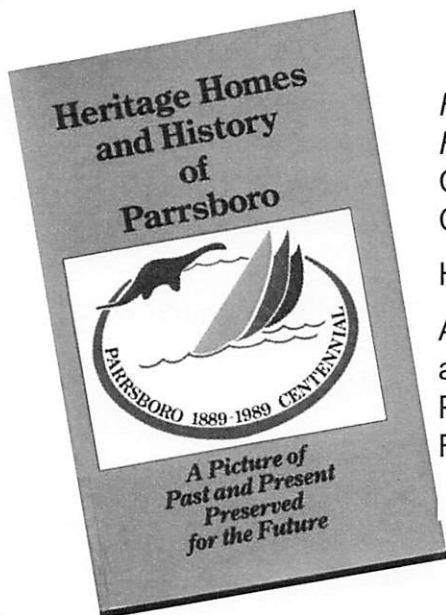


By Gary Schroder

QFHS Library

New Acquisitions

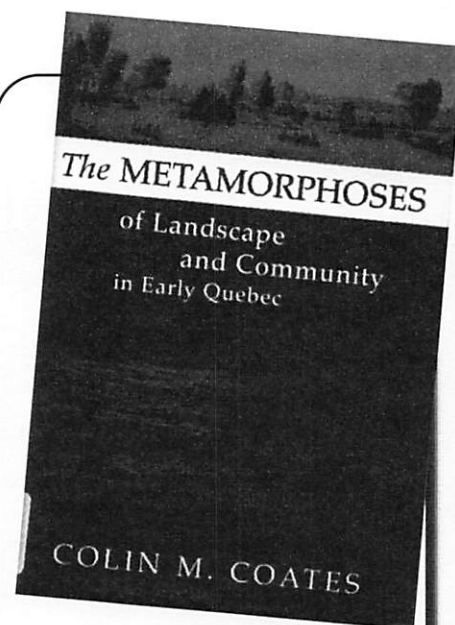
Moving a whole library is no small matter! Finally, the Heritage Library is up and running in our new premises. Our librarian, Roberta Roberts, is now working on the inevitable backlog that such a move entails. Here are some of the latest titles to be catalogued.



Heritage Homes and History of Parrsboro
Centennial Book Committee

HG 121.2 C3 1988

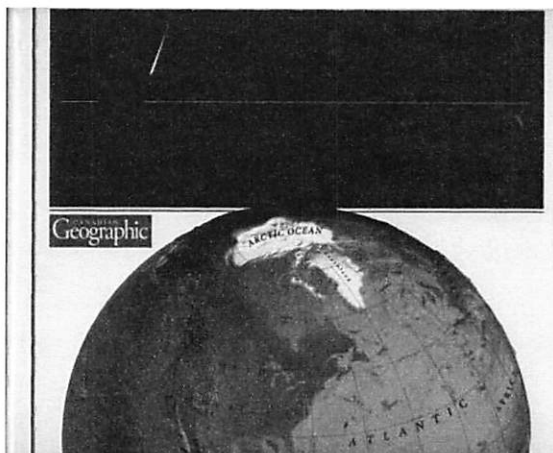
A Picture of the Past and Present
Preserved for the Future



The Metamorphoses of Landscape and Community in Early Quebec

Colin M. Coates

HG 154.01 C6 1999



Canadian Geographic World Atlas
Canadian Geographic

Reference only.

AD 000.8 C36 1998

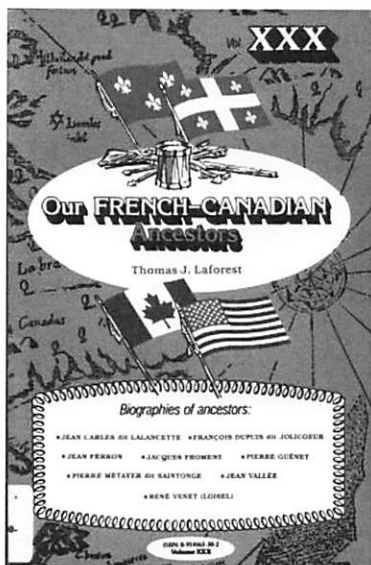
*Courtship, Love, and
Marriage in Nineteen-
Century English Canada*

Peter Ward

HG 100.01 W37 1990

••• Courtship,
Love, •••
and Marriage
in Nineteenth-
••••• Century
English •••••
••••• Canada

•• PETER WARD ••

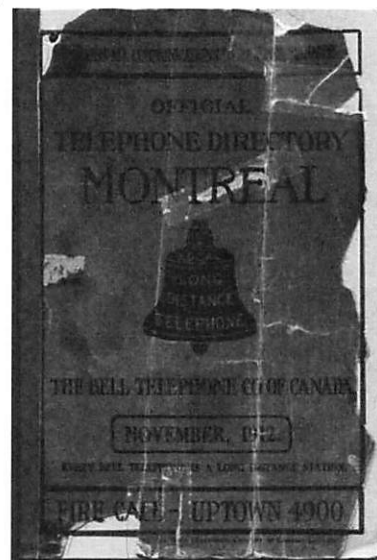


*Our French-Canadian
Ancestors, Volumes
23, 29 & 30*

Thomas J. Laforest

HG 150.3 L33 1996

Note: This whole
series is now nearer
at hand close to the
computers.



*Montreal Official
Telephone Directory 1912*

AD 151.4 M6 1912

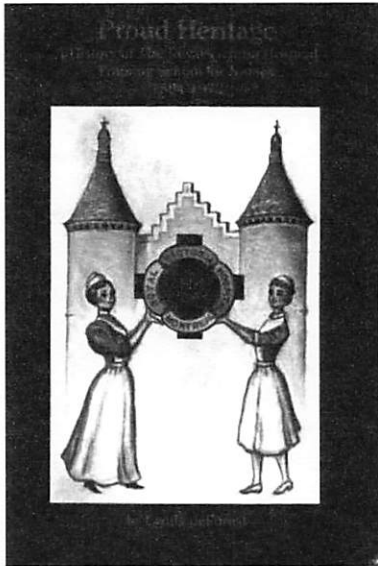
See a review of this
directory in this issue.

*Our Spirit Lives On: A
Celebration of Hudson
Yacht Club's First 100
years, 1909 - 2009*

Roderick Lorne Hodgson

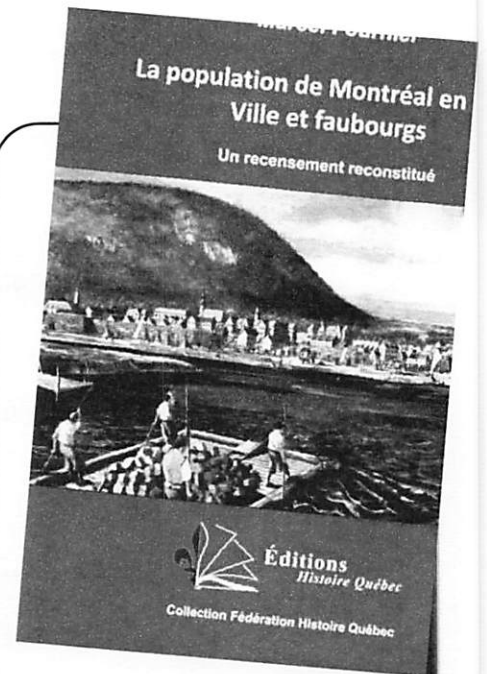
Hg 152.01 H6 2009





*Proud Heritage
A History of the Royal
Victoria Hospital Training
School for Nurses 1894 -
1972*

Lynda deForest
HG 151.33 D4 1994



*La population de Montréal
en Ville et faubourgs
Un recensement
reconstitué*

Marcel Fournier
Hg 151.01 Fr 2018

Through Solomon's Lane

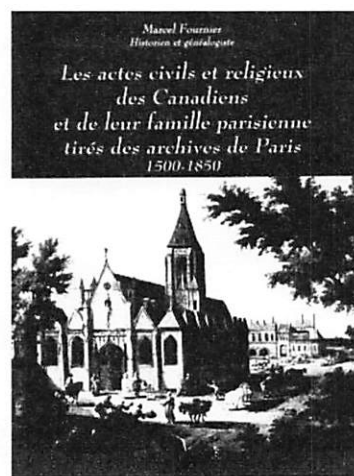
Boyd Warren Chubbs
HG 110.8 C4 1991

An unusual addition to our
library - a collection of
poems.



*Les actes civils et religieux
des Canadiens et de leur
famille parisienne tirés des
archives de Paris 1500 -
1850*

Marcel Fournier
GS 310.3 F6 2015





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

or

Joan Barrett, Museum Volunteer, joan.barrett@mcgill.ca

QFHS Research Request Form

Our volunteer researchers are prepared to assist you in your genealogical research - using the resources of the library.

PLEASE PRINT IN CAPITAL LETTERS TO AVOID CONFUSION.

RESEARCH FEES: \$25 per hour for members, \$40 per hour for non members
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 _____

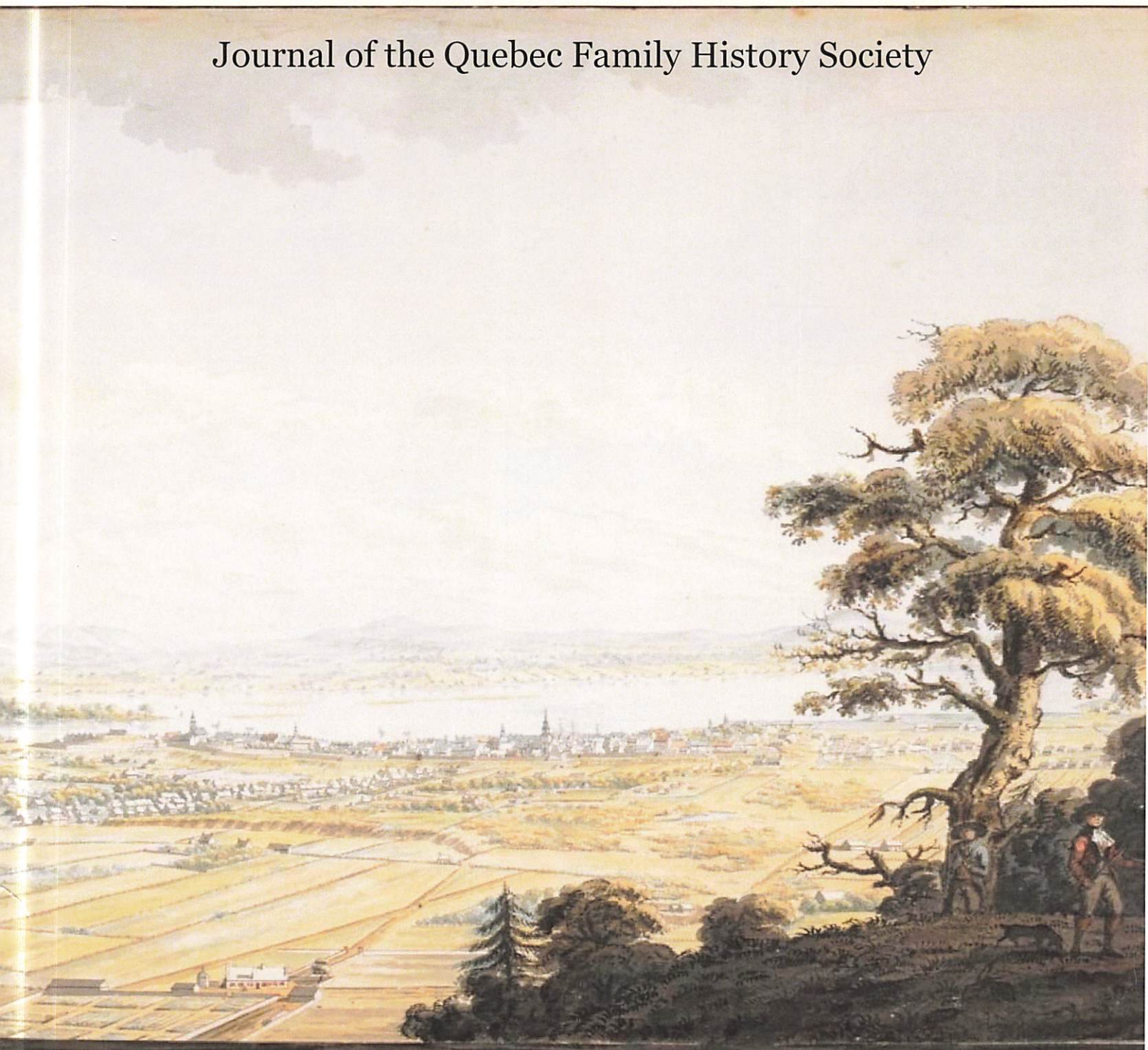
Send completed form and payment to:

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

Connections

JP
/4

Journal of the Quebec Family History Society



Taken in Oct 1714

CITY of MONTREAL in CANADA taken from the Top of the MOUNTAIN.

June 2019 Vol. 41 No. 3

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June Issue 2019

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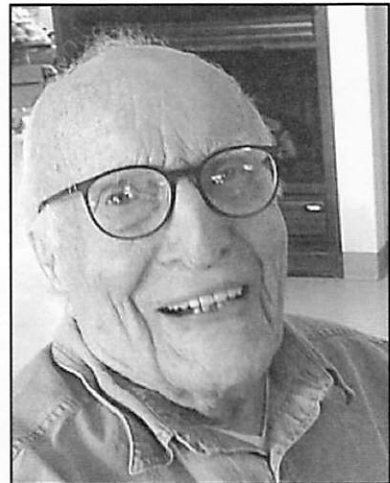
QFHS News

The Victorian Era is a major theme this issue — family history from rural Quebec, Nova Scotia, Montreal and England. See Jane Edwards' article for family history in the guise of elegantly written fiction.

The cover is a part of a painting by the renowned British Victorian draughtsman and painter, James Peachey. How accurate a portrait it is of Montreal in 1784 has been hard for the experts to verify. A copy of this painting hangs in the Simon Fraser House - kindly donated by Frank MacKey.

Are you interested in antique clocks? Come in and see the grandfather clock kindly donated to the Heritage Centre by Adrian Willison. It's a beauty!

The official opening of the Simon Fraser House as the home of QFHS Heritage Centre will happen sometime in the fall, 2020. We will keep you posted.



*Jim "Jake" Keatley Watson
February 26, 1921 - January 26,
2019.*

*Jim was a WW11 veteran and a
longtime member of QFHS.*

Quebec Family History Society

153 Ste. Anne Street, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue,
Quebec, Canada

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Website: www.qfhs.ca

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Wednesday evening 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Sunday 1:00 pm - 4 pm

Saturday Closed

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The Life and Times of Céphas Péron



by René Péron

Another chapter in the meticulously documented annals of the Péron family from Douglas Corners, Québec.

In June, 1876, Hypolite Péron felt that he was well enough established to buy the impressive stone house which was at the intersection of several roads, on a parcel of triangular land. This house is now known as the Maison Nathaniel Douglass. In 1902, it came into the hands of Céphas and Armand Péron, nephews of Hypolite. Finally, in July of 1908, Céphas paid off his brother and became the owner of this magnificent stone house and the farm adjoining it.

Upon acquiring the Douglass assets, Céphas became the main family link amidst his brothers who chose to live in the Coin Douglass. Of the latter, Octave and Lémuël remained bachelors and, although he married Dame Bernadette Larente, Théodore did not have any progeny. Another brother named Armand would periodically leave his wife and children in Montréal in order to join his brothers at the "Coin" where he had become the owner of a house and of the small farm attached to it.

It is important to note that even though his wife Alice Brouillette bore many children they had no male descendant



The house at Douglas Corners at the time of Céphas Péron. Source: author

perpetuating the Péron family name. Could it have been due to the fact that his sons were perhaps the only ones in this corner ("coin") to be of the Protestant faith and French speaking? Who knows?

Thus we see Cephas' oldest son Paul Oneil (1899-1978) distance himself from the family hearth to marry Irene Lord on 21 January, 1927. Irene was notable because of her emphasis on pronouncing her name with an English accent even though her antecedents were Laur or Lore; their son



*Today, Maison Nathaniel Douglass is tucked away next to a busy intersection at Coin Douglas, Napierville.
source: google maps*

remained a bachelor, very much attached to his parents and the farm until their death.

As to the girls, maybe similar cultural restraints may have been responsible for all six of them creating lives for themselves away from the Coin. As one casts a glance on this past history one is saddened to realize that a religion and/or a language could have caused such disaffection within the descendants of this family.

Personally we do not know if it was common practise with our ancestors to give nicknames to children. However we do remember a few for which Céphas' children were locally known; Alcide became "le Fanal" (the lantern), Lina "Gulu", Anna "la Béchard", Evelyn "la Bessonne" (the twin), Céphas Léonard "Menomme or Mon homme" (my man), Kathleen Hazel "Catherine". Even the mother, the wife, did not escape this mania as she was referred to as "la petite mère" (the little mother) in that she seemed to be frail, notwithstanding the fact

that she gave birth to ten children and raised nine. These nicknames were never given or used in a derogative manner but, in Céphas' case and that of his children, were sincere marks of affection.

Life in this household must have

been quite arduous at its beginning. Settling not only in a new house and its adjoining farm, but also finding the means of providing for a numerous growing family. Céphas undertook to set up a milk farm which became very profitable, a fact which allowed him to take good care of those who depended on him.

A few more or less unusual details still make us smile upon remembering certain aspects re the lifestyle of this family. Every spring they worked hard at the "sugar shack" and maple syrup was always to be found on the table at meal time, and that was in no small quantity as it was in a large milk pitcher. On some hot summer Sundays one could find the girls making ice cream, with real cream, manually, over a bed of ice borrowed from the icehouse. Come fall, those of the girls who might be home on some holiday or other would hold an apple stand at the side of the main road next to the house; and Alcide, at the same time of the year, was most proud to display his large watermelons which he had

grown on grass. And what should one think of the barnyard rooster brought up by Alcide, which had learned to "sing" on command, placed on the middle of the kitchen table. There is a souvenir precious to my very young children, when Léonard (Menomme), upon being questioned, would amuse them by stating that he was taking their picture whilst raising and lowering a cow's tail and "clicking" with his tongue.

Neither should one forget a traditional event in the life of a farm. Though a milk farm with all its demands in cultivating, intense routines, unusual time schedule, a sort of "fever" would affect the whole household; it was maple sugar time at the sugar shack which was quite rustic. A time when the farm chores were less intense and thus less demanding. The "disease" would then gain strength and the whole family,

father, mother, brothers, sisters, children, would share in the work load at the house and at the "shack". In a "good year" at least two men could be found "boiling" twenty-four hours a day; there was always one to stand watch if the other needed to rest on the pallet which was next to the "boiler", the evaporator. Such moments for resting were rare at times in that the old procedure for producing syrup necessitated the use of much wood in regulating a regular and steady fire.

The mainstay of this brief interval was always near Easter when the relatives

were invited to a "sugar party". What a treat awaited us, what a delicious and extraordinary flavour had that sap, or maple water, or the partly refined syrup called "réduit" (reduced syrup). How we feasted ourselves even more as we gathered around a big iron cauldron outside, suspended on a tripod of branches, in which Céphas was happy to boil some syrup

more intensely into taffy and then into sugar; as that was happening all those who so wished could "licher la palette" (lick the pallet or type of spatula dipped in the boiling thickening syrup). Towards the end of that process one rushed to cook some "beignes" ("doughnut", a kind of dumpling) in the thickening syrup. How delicious! And we the young ones, late in the afternoon, would take the route back to Montréal in Dad's old car which he would then baptize with the name "Greyhound" in that he would often have to stop on the way so that we could



The house at Douglas Corners at the time of Céphas Péron. Source: author

"go pee" as we had drunk so much sap and syrup.

And what can one say about the folk who animated life at the "Corners"?

Of the Douglasses not a trace, nothing communicated or recorded regarding their life style, their beliefs, their customs. Well may we ask ourselves if it was of their imaginings or fabrication the story that the house was at a certain time a relay station between Montréal and New York or the saying that there was a corpse buried in the cellar. Nevertheless we can ask ourselves what

we do know, that which we can recall can be summarized as follows. Those who remained at the "Coin" were somewhat introverted, at times taciturn, working the farm taking up time and energy. (a) Céphas would brighten up upon the visit of family and friends; loud of voice he was known for his "politicking".

Notwithstanding his religious convictions contrary to those of his numerous neighbours, he was very much respected; he had even taught a future mayor of the municipality, i.e. Roger Lamoureux as a child, to read and write whilst sitting on his knee and using the Bible as manual. (b) Théodore, very knowledgeable mechanically, having left his managerial position with Massey Harris in Montréal for unknown or perhaps concealed reasons returned to settle in the "corner" and had a forge there. He soon became known as a blacksmith, ironworker, farrier, a man of many talents; in manually sharpening a hand saw he had no equal; (c) Lémuël and Octave, the two other brothers, have not left any particular souvenirs. They no doubt participated in the farm work but have not left any particular traces.

Were one or more of them musicians? Such could well have been the case in that we know that at least two other of Joseph's descendants were or could have possibly been musicians. A son of Samuël, Silas, although a teacher was in love with the pipe organ and acted as volunteer organist in several French language Protestant churches

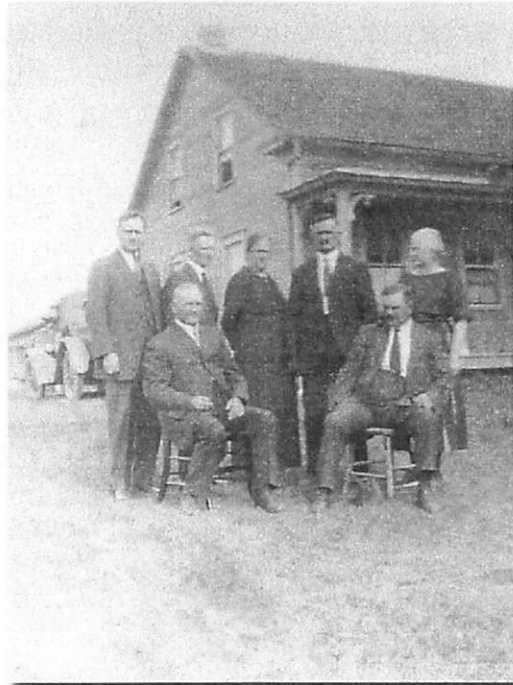
in Montréal and in the countryside, and that, for over 40 years. A young Armand, Céphas' brother could play the clarinet. And Ida, one of

Céphas' daughters, who died at 104 would still play the piano for the "old ones" when she was 100. And what about Théodore and Léonard, who could become fiddlers for square dances where Léonard would become the "caller". It is furthermore most pleasant to realize that some of Silas' great-grand-daughters have made a career in music circles. All of which leads one to believe that

the subject gene is and was quite prevalent with the Perrons/ Pérons.

As to imagination, that was never lacking and I shall only give one example: a young Armand was courting

Esther Perrier (1883-1968), she who was to become his wife, as she lived quite a distance away for those days, i.e. in Saint-Philippe; the most advantageous way for him to get there was on his bicycle via the train tracks which were nearby; by removing the tires from the wooden rims it was easy to roll on the steel rail. Willness, imagination, of these the Pérons were not lacking.



*Paul Péron's children
at farm house in
Douglas Corners
seated →
Paul Octave, Lémuël
brothers
Théodore, Armand
Weslma, Céphas, Mary
in front of old Péron
farmhouse
Douglas Corners*

Autograph Books

by Raye Fraser
and Ruth Symes



A Glimpse into the Life of a Young Victorian Ancestor

The selections in this article are from my grandmother's autograph book from 1882 when she was 17 years old. She was Jessie Ann McDonald and lived at McLellan's Brook, Pictou County, Nova Scotia.

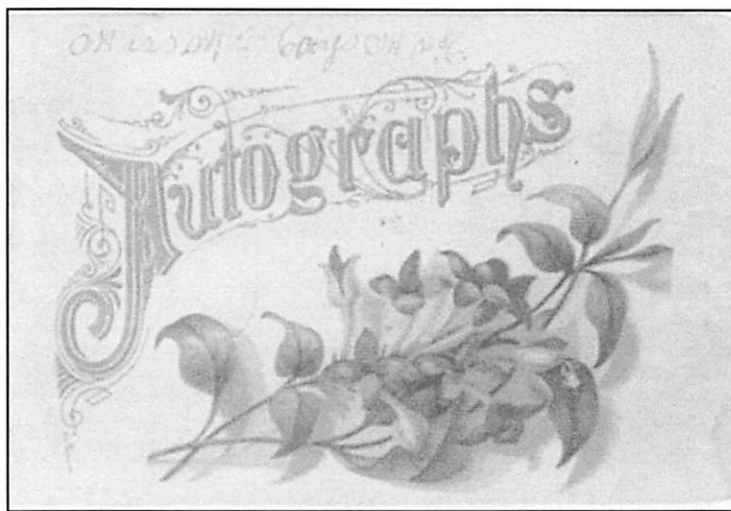
*Feb 21st 1882
I dip my pen into the ink
and grasp your album tight
But for my life I cannot think
Of one single word to write
Hector Fraser*

The earliest known autograph album was compiled in 1466 and proved to be the ancestor of millions upon millions of albums to come. By the mid-16th century it had become fashionable for students and members of the gentry to keep these albums. In the books of students, professors as well as fellow students made their contributions to the collector's pages, and some of the albums contain inscriptions by major figures and scholars of the day (they



are, in some instances, the only extant autographs of the great scholars of the age). Travelers also kept the albums and used them not merely to obtain mementos but to collect letters of introduction to present to future persons at upcoming destinations along their route. The practice of keeping these albums had become common throughout Europe by the 17th century. King Charles I of England maintained one which eventually became a prize possession of King George III.

In Victorian times, these leather-bound and pocket-sized accessories were the favourite possessions of young middle-class girls, but increasingly they were kept by young people of all classes. Such books can now delight family history researchers in that they are usually filled with the signatures (and other fascinating contributions) of the close and extended family and friends of the books' owners. Autograph books can also prove to be real treasure troves of extra information relating to the family (including photographs, and enclosures such as marriage notices and obituaries about those who have signed them).



always tell you something about the historical situations and social circles in which your ancestor lived and moved. There may be contributions from other members of a household or family, neighbours, school friends, work colleagues or military regiments.

*Fall from the mainyard to
the deck
Fall from a housetop & break
your neck
Fall from the clear blue heavens
above
but never, never fall in love
Friendly advice from
An experienced friend
Alexander McDonald*

*We live in deeds, not years, in thoughts,
not bread
In feelings, not in figures on a dial
Your old school friend
Helen M. McKay
Whitburn Sept 5th, 1882*

If you do come across an autograph book owned by an ancestor, it may help your family history research in a number of different ways:

1. The most obviously useful entries will be contributions made by family members that record a name, relationship, and the date and place where the entry was made.
2. The entries in autograph books nearly

3. Sometimes you will be able to cross-reference names in autograph books with other documentary sources.

4. The choice of verse or ditty may also tell you something about the relationship between the contributor and the owner of the book.

*Jesse
Beware of wolves in
Sheeps clothing
Robert O Fraser [future husband]*

Dear Jesse A

"May you evermore enjoy

The warm regards of one nice boy

A happy home, contented mind

and pleasures great of every kind"

Your cousin JB [Jesse Bell?]

5. If your ancestor collected famous signatures, his or her autograph book (or even individual pages of it) might be valuable. The professional business of collecting autographs is known as philography and the price an autograph can demand on the market depends upon:

- who signed
- exactly what they wrote
- whether the signature was in ink or pencil (ink signatures are more valuable)
- the overall condition of the autograph.

To Jesse

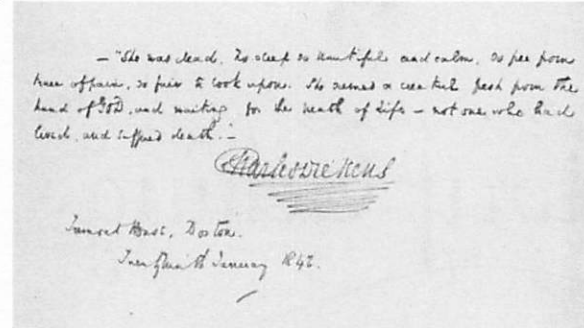
Cows love cabbage

Pigs love squash

I love you

I do by gosh

*McLellan Brook, your
loving Friend*



The most famous literary death scene of the Victorian Age: Charles Dickens' signed autograph quotation of the death of Little Nell, who became a cultural icon

"She was dead. No sleep so beautiful and calm, so free from trace of pain, so fair to look upon. She seemed a creature fresh from the hand of God, and waiting for the breath of life; not one who had lived and suffered death."

*Source: The RAAB Collection
raabcollection.com*



Family History and Story Telling

by
Jane Edwards



My mother told me that her mother used to spend mornings in bed writing, which sounded strange to me. Proof of this is a notebook of my grandmother's writings which has been in our family since her death in 1937. Not the usual routine in our household where there was a flurry of activity in the morning. But, of course, we did not have the services of the beloved Honorine Vaudreuil who had been employed by two generations of the family to keep house and make sure the children were "seen and not heard".

The author of these short stories and poems, Florence Blanchet, had a privileged childhood. She grew up within the stone walls of Old Quebec. Her mother, Jeanie Seymour, was the daughter of New York railway engineer and politician, Silas Seymour, who was posted to Quebec from 1870-1878 as Consulting and Acting Chief Engineer of the North Shore Railway. A teenage Jeanie accompanied her parents to the city.

During her stay in Quebec Jeanie met Jean



Florence Blanchet

Blanchet, a young lawyer and graduate of Laval University.

Jean and Jeanie married in 1878. After several years as a lawyer, Jean entered politics representing the county of Beauce, where he was born and grew up, in the National Assembly from 1881-1891, following which he was selected to serve as a Judge on the Court of Queen's Bench.

Born in 1883, Florence was the the second of three children and the only girl. She attended The Misses Henderson's School for Girls on Grande Allee where the curriculum included English, French, German, Latin, Math, Calisthenics and Class Singing. She was fond of writing, reading and dogs. Where did her interest in reading and writing come

from? Possibly from her father who had a library of over 700 books on a wide variety of topics – history, poetry, the law – and wrote frequently on legal cases. In 1904, she married Norman “Punch” Ogilvie of the Montreal flour milling family. She moved to Montreal and in 1912 they bought the old stone house on Lakeshore Road (now Stewart Avenue) in Pointe Claire where they were neighbours of Charles McLean who bought “The Knoll” (later to become Stewart Hall) the same year.

While I learned Florence’s story from my mother, some research was involved in finding out more about the Seymour family. She thought the Seymours spent their life in Stillwater, NY. After an unsuccessful visit to Stillwater and Balston Spa in 1986, it was suggested that we contact the Town Historian of Stillwater. She sent

me some preliminary information indicating the family had lived in the area but I had reached a brick wall. During a Christmas visit to Washington DC, I went to the Library of Congress to see if I could find more information about the family.

There was a book in the catalogue called “A History of the Seymour Family” by George

Dudley Seymour and Donald Lines Jacobus. The book, published in 1939, traced the family from Richard Seymour who came from England to Connecticut in 1638 or 1639 for

six generations and included my great-grandmother, Jeanie. So much for the blood, sweat and tears of genealogical research! Through the book, we discovered that the family had moved from Stillwater to Dunkirk, NY. I contacted a researcher from the Chautauqua County Genealogical Society and in 1996 travelled to Dunkirk to meet her – she showed us the school Silas had attended, homes he and his future wife had lived in, articles about the family from the local newspaper and the cemetery where various family members were buried. The book, “Men of Mark” (published 1871) which had been handed down through the generations included an extensive biography of Silas. Since he was known as a civil engineer and consultant and served two terms as State Engineer and Surveyor

General of New York, he was often covered in the newspapers of the day. Since the advent of the internet, it has been easier to find additional information about him.

Jean Blanchet was descended from one of Quebec’s oldest families. Pierre Blanchet arrived in Quebec from France in 1665. This linked him also to Louis Hebert, the “premier colon” for Marie Fournier, Pierre’s wife, was a great-grand-daughter of Louis. In 1910, Jean’s brother, Ludger, wrote “Genealogies of the Blanchet and Gosselin families”

for his children which traced their ancestors back to France. Jean’s biographical information was also available pre-internet in indexes to prominent Canadians.



Pups by Florence Blanchet

Who doesn't love a dog? Of course there are some people in the world – on them one must have pity – those who have never known the paw of sympathy, the bark of welcome and the absurd wagging of the tails are poor indeed.

Well do I remember at the tender age of five, being cuffed into silence as my elder brother, who smuggled a large black mongrel into the house and parking him in his bed, muddy feet and all, proceeded to empty the contents of the refrigerator into a large platter because he thought the dog looked hungry – fortunately it was a Saturday night when Mother and Father were out, but unfortunately the refrigerator contained the family Sunday dinner, but by the time our parents came back all traces of the fact had been removed and my brother was sound asleep, sharing his bed with his new found friend – who he had christened Nibbs. Nibbs reign was short, in spite of frantic efforts to keep him with us, but Father's weakness was his Sunday dinner – and Mother had no use for mongrels. My brother was determined to have a dog, so he made friends with a policeman, who bred pedigreed fox terriers and in due course, a lovely dog was brought home, and received the parental blessing. Our troubles had just begun. "Tartan" was his name, and Tartan he was – a demon after cats – first the house cat and then the neighbour's cats took the count, the house was inhabited by old maids who would not be comforted – so back Tartan was sent to the policeman.

My brother, nothing daunted, arrived one day with a large woolly mongrel, very cowed and timid, guaranteed not to molest cats but then next morning he had chewed the foot off an antique mahogany table – so – out he went and my brother then decided that a nice pair of white mice would be less trouble – just about this time, I was taken on a trip to the States, and my uncle with whom I was staying was a lover of collies and gave me a very fine puppy – I insisted on bringing him back to Canada so he was duly crated for shipment with a little tin cup tied on the crate and a notice to the express man "please give Yankee lots of water". On the trip home, my one thought was on "Yankee". He arrived before me and had made a great hit with the family for it was the first dog we had owned who was a gentleman. Every day he followed Father to his law office and slept near his desk. So wise and clever was he, that Father used to say, "That dog knows more about law than I do." I felt pleased that mine had been the first dog to remain a fixture but his attachment to Father rather irked me, so one day I had the offer of a bull terrier and got permission to bring him home. I called him "Mike". Mike and Yankee walked

around each other in circles, with growls, crescendo and diminuendo, but Yankee's tact and good manners overcame Mike's aggressiveness and soon the two were fast friends following Father every day into his office – Mike was a scrapper like all his kind, so Father took to carrying a heavy cane which came in handy to belabour right and left when a fight was on and though Mike usually started the row, he was never blamed for it

A great honour befell us, before long. Father became a Judge, and great was his majesty. The sack suit was in the discard, and the frock coat and topper reigned in its stead. Yankee fell right into line, and seemed to become more dignified than ever, taking the honour of his master's judgeship very sincerely, for as I have said, collies are gentlemen. Mike just had to be himself – he was a tough guy, though very lovable and gentle with us, but his love of fighting was a thorn in Father's flesh and it was a comical sight to see him trying to separate two of these fighting dogs. Trying also to uphold the dignity of the bench, but determined to see that Mike had fair play.

Then came dark days, for Father was very ill – dying – the dogs seemed to have lost all interest in the out doors – with ears down, and pathetic eyes, they hovered at the sick room door, making themselves a nuisance to the two trained nurses in charge, who did not understand dogs and shooed them away. I am quite sure father would have been happier to have them near him – but what can one do, in the face of authority?

On the fateful night Yankee gave two heart rending howls – then subsided into silence, acting like a lost soul. Mike on the contrary after it was all over, resumed his old ways, though now and again, one caught a queer look in his eye. Fights he had in plenty, and no one to look after his interests - he got badly chewed up at times because he would tackle anything, but always managed to get home. And so I grew up resenting the fact that both my dogs had left me flat and recognized my father's authority. By this time Boston Terriers had a great vogue and how I longed for one. About this time the war broke out and I went overseas with my husband heartbroken at leaving Yankee and Mike, but war was war.

Gold Digger by Florence Blanchet

*You want me for your Valentine
T'll cost you quite a lot of wine
A bank account, a limozine
For less than that, I can't be thine*

THOMAS AND ELLEN CASTLE:

*Bringing Ancestors
out of the Shadows,
with Four Plot
Twists Along the
Way*

Part 2

By Mark W. Gallop



In the previous edition of *Connections* I began the story of my archival voyage of discovery of Thomas and Ellen Castle, English immigrants who started a new life in Toronto in the 1850s and then moved to Montreal. Part 1 ended with the story of a surprise discovery of a late marriage in Boston, Massachusetts (Plot Twist #1!).

While the time and place of this marriage was the biggest surprise, there were other twists to be found, thanks to vital clues in the marriage record; their parents' given names. For Thomas, his parents' names (John and Martha) along with his English birth and approximate year (1826) quickly



Ellen (Hudson) Castle in 1909 holding a newly christened grandson. Source: the author.

led to a likely baptism at Grantham, Lincolnshire, the market town flagged for me when I was young as the home of the Castles. While I had to be careful not to immediately assume that I had the right 'Thomas Castle', I gradually found supporting records that showed him to be the youngest of John and Martha's seven children. For example, the 1841 census listed Martha as head of household with 14-year-old Thomas and two older sisters. In the census a decade later Thomas was lodging with a family in Howden, Yorkshire, north of

Grantham, with the telling occupation of painter and gilder.

While the lives of Thomas's parents and siblings had their own interesting quirks, more significant surprises were in store when I turned my attention to his eventual bride, Ellen Hudson, daughter of William and Ellen. Unlike Thomas, Ellen's birth or baptism was elusive. Try as I might, I could not match her to any record with those parental names. In her case, the eventual unearthing of her English roots came in a highly circuitous way.

The 1901 Canadian census index on the *automatedgenealogy.com* website allows researchers to tag records with their contact details. I had done so for the entry of my great-grandmother, Laura Castle, who was then unmarried and still living with her mother, Ellen, and a sister on Lorne Avenue. There was a fourth member of the household however; James T. Venables, listed as Ellen's nephew. The surname 'Venables' meant nothing to me nor to any of my genealogically-minded Castle cousins. With

further digging I found that he was also with Ellen in the 1891 census but listed as a lodger. I also found James in the Lovell's directories living with Ellen for most of the 1890s, initially listed as employed as a glass-stainer and later as "with Castle & Son".

More than a decade after I posted the researcher contact note, an email pinged into my in-box from a woman in Calgary who had seen it. She was a granddaughter of James Venables and had found items in her family papers relating to the Castles and Castle & Son, but had no idea how that surname connected to hers. Together we worked to piece together James's heritage.

James T. was the son of James Venables, a plumber, and his wife Jane Sutton. They had married at St. George's Anglican Church, Montreal the year before his 1873 birth. However family life took a dark turn two years later with the birth of a younger brother, William. According to Mount Royal Cemetery records, Jane died just a few days after giving birth. The cause of death was

listed as puerperal mania, disturbingly defined in Victorian medical texts as a form of insanity related to post-partum depression. Six months later the child also died and mother and son are buried together in an unmarked grave. William's middle name in the records stood out for me; Hudson.

As often happened with widowers with young children, the father remarried two years later, to Susan Clements, before dying himself in 1883 when the younger James was 10, which provided an explanation as to how he came to live with less immediate family.

With the clue of the Hudson



GRANTHAM MARKET PLACE, LINCOLNSHIRE.

Grantham Market Place 1836. Source: Wikipedia Commons https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grantham#/media/File:Grantham_Market_Place_with_Angel_and_Royal_Hotel,_Lincolnshire,_England_1836.jpg

middle name we pursued both the Venables and Sutton lines. Both parents were British born but a probable registration for Jane's birth was found in 1845, in Grantham, Lincolnshire, making her the more likely link to Thomas or Ellen. I then found Jane, aged 6, in the 1851 census in Grantham in the household of John Sutton, a 57-year-old labourer, with three older children, William, Thomas and Elizabeth Sutton. No relationships to the head of household are provided in this census, nor was a wife or mother present. Jane was not yet born in 1841 but I looked for the older members of the family in that census and found the missing link in our quest. John Sutton (in the 40-44 age bracket) was residing in Grantham along with Ellen Sutton (also 40-44) and three children with the surname Hudson; William and Thomas and an older sister, Ellen, aged 8. William and Thomas Hudson in 1841 matched William and Thomas Sutton in 1851 indicating a likely death of a father and remarriage of the mother.

How could this 8-year-old Ellen Hudson not be my great-great-grandmother? The Venables/Sutton connection led right to her. The location of Grantham fitted perfectly. But wait - the age was off by five years. Every North American record for Ellen Castle indicated an 1837 or 1838 birth, including her Boston marriage in 1881 (reporting her age as 44) and her tombstone ("Mother 1838-1916"). British civil registrations of births, marriages and deaths started on July 1, 1837. A search of these comprehensive records from that date through 1839 found no potential matches. I also found Ellen in the 1851 census living in Aldersgate, London

with Harriet Whitelock, an older married sister, and her family. Colsterworth, a village close to Grantham, is listed as the birthplace for both sisters and Ellen as 18, matching the approximate birth year of 1833 indicated by the 1841 census. I can find no record of a birth or baptism for Ellen in the 1838 range but the same parents did baptise an "Eliza" in January 1834 in Colsterworth. There is no further record of this Eliza. I suspect that this is Ellen's baptism. If I am correct, then every occurrence of Ellen in British records has her born in 1833 or early 1834. And upon crossing the Atlantic she consistently deducted five years from her age thereafter. (Plot Twist # 2!)

If I am correct, then every occurrence of Ellen in British records has her born in 1833 or early 1834. And upon crossing the Atlantic she consistently deducted five years from her age thereafter. (Plot Twist # 2!)

The lynchpin of the family was Ellen (Hudson) Castle's mother, also called Ellen, and a survey of her life is helpful in understanding the family dynamics.

Ellen Bell Wilcock (s), the daughter of Mathew and Mary Wilcock, was baptised in 1800, in Folkingham, Lincolnshire, due east of Grantham. At 29 she married William Hudson in North Witham, Lincolnshire, south of Grantham. They had four children between 1830 and 1838 in Colsterworth, the next village on the road to Grantham. William died at 36, just six weeks after the baptism of their youngest son, Thomas. Ellen remarried two years later in Grantham, to John Sutton. Ellen and John had two daughters, Elizabeth who died in her teens, and Jane who made her way to Montreal to marry James Venables and died there at 30. As noted earlier, Ellen was not with her family in the 1851 census. That is because she was 'in service' as a washerwoman in the

household of a Grantham seed merchant and grocer. By the 1881 census Ellen was living with her second son, Thomas Hudson, and his family in Nottingham, east of Grantham. Thomas's occupation as a "cabinet maker master employing 1 man and 3 boys", was of interest to me given the eventual focus of Castle & Son. Ellen died a decade later at the age of 91 in Sleaford, yet another Lincolnshire town not far from Grantham, just missing inclusion in the 1891 census. As for 1871, I found Ellen in a most unexpected place; under my nose. When I reviewed my notes for the Thomas and Ellen Castle 1871

had a least one daughter there at the time: Ellen Castle likely in Toronto. Jane Sutton (who would have been 16 in 1861) may well have accompanied her mother on her voyage to Canada.

My final surprise came with the discovery of a second notice of the death of Thomas Castle, this one in an English newspaper. It was unexpected because of a preconceived sense that I developed after learning of plot twist #1, the late Boston marriage. My theory was that the couple was able to live unmarried partly because they were an

ocean away from all of their family, with no one to point out the absence of the ceremony. Since then I had come to know this was far from the case, with Jane Sutton, Ellen's half-sister marrying in Montreal, and their mother residing with Thomas and Ellen in Montreal. But there also appears to have been on-going contact on the Castle side. (Plot Twist #4!) On January 31, 1885, *The Grantham Journal* published the news of the death of Thomas Castle "At Montreal, Canada, Dec. 19th, late of Grantham, and brother of the late Mr. Castle of Newark". I had found this older brother, John, who had married and established himself in Newark-on-Trent, Nottinghamshire, north-west of Grantham, as a "coach builder employing 13 men and 6 boys". The two brothers died an ocean apart but within weeks of each other.

GRANTHAM, SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 1885.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

MARRIAGES.

- NAYLOR-COX.**—At St. John's Church, Kenington, London, on January 29th (by the Rev. B. Thornton, D.D., vicar), Mr. George W. Naylor, of Grantham, to Mary Anne youngest daughter of Mr. John Cox, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge.
- CLARKE-DUNMORE.**—At the Parish Church, Melton Mowbray, on the 29th inst. (by the Rev. Dr. Colles, vicar), Arthur second son of Mr. Hy. Clarke, to Margaret Mary only daughter of Mr. R. Dunmore.

DEATHS.

- MILLICHP.**—At New Somerby, on the 28th inst. (after much suffering), Joseph Green Millichip, aged 46 years. Greatly respected by a large circle of friends.
- HANSON.**—At the residence of her son-in-law, St. Catherine's, Lincoln, on the 26th inst., Jane, relict of William Hanson, of Grantham, aged 83 years.
- CASTLE.**—At Montreal, Canada, Dec. 19th, Thomas Castle, late of Grantham, and brother of the late Mr. Castle, of Newark.
- WALKER.**—On the 25th inst., at Bottesford, Abigail relict of the late Benjamin Walker, surgeon, in her 85th year. Deeply lamented.
- OVERTON.**—Annie Eliza, the only beloved daughter of Henry and Sarah Overton, who departed this life 24th January, 1885, aged 30. Deeply lamented. Friends please accept this intimation.

Source: www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk

census entry in Montreal I found I had recorded someone I originally took to be a lodger; Ellen Sulton aged 71 and English-born. So this ancestor who appeared to have passed her life within a 25-mile radius of Grantham actually crossed the Atlantic at least twice while in her senior years. (Plot Twist # 3!) My inability to find her in England in the 1861 census leads me to think she might also have been in Canada then as she

When we have only skeletal information, our forebears' lives can seem conventional. But whether they are lords and ladies or craftsmen and washerwomen, deeper probing can unearth surprising twists in their life paths. I still hope to uncover more about Ellen, Thomas and their families, although I doubt I will ever know the true motivation for their wedding so late in life.

PRESERVING YOUR ARCHIVES

by Kyla Ubbink

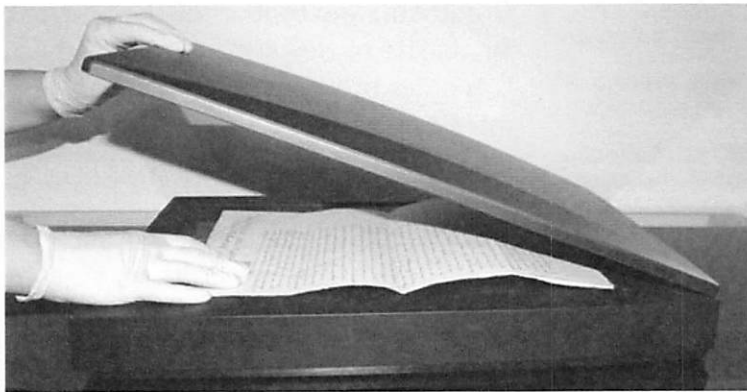


Digitization Part 1, Getting started with the basics

Genealogists are a tech-savvy group of researchers. Employing digitization techniques to share, use, manipulate and preserve their family photographs and documents is a familiar concept. It can be accomplished using various equipment and with a variety of methods; however, there are particular considerations and techniques that ensure the most effective and efficient use of resources.

Institutions will have a variety of scanners from roll scanners, to over-sized flat bed scanners, to conveyor belt systems, to digital cameras; their needs may be very different from yours. Before starting to research all of the available options, take stock of the kinds of materials to be digitized. Flat bed scanners can handle the majority of two-dimensional

artifacts, however, slides, negatives, books and over sized materials may require specialized adapters or even specific equipment.

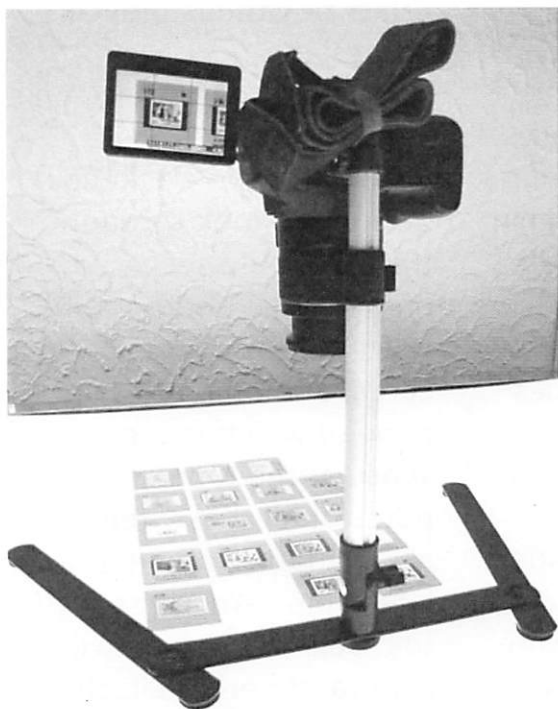


If documents, photographs, prints, certificates, and letters compose the majority of your collections, a flat bed scanner will suit your purposes. It is wise to invest in one that can handle larger materials, as many certificates and

photographs are bigger than a standard piece of paper. Many flat bed scanners can also handle slides and negatives. Ensure that the scanner can produce images up to 4800DPI and in 64bit colour. A high-speed scanner is highly recommended, as anyone who has delved into a digitization project will tell you, it is time consuming.

When creating digital copies, you want to acquire the best image the first time around. The light from the scanner is quite strong and repeated exposure will damage the archival

material. Clean the scanner bed frequently. Specialized cleaners are available, however, isopropyl alcohol and a lint-free cloth (Kim wipe, or microfiber cloth) works very well. Ensure all of the cleaner has evaporated from the scanner bed before placing the item on its surface. Using the scanner's software, set the options for obtaining the best quality image. Use a minimum setting of 1200DPI, 64 bit colour, and save the files as Tagged Image File Format (.tiff).



A TIFF will be too large to share via e-mail, but it is a lossless file format. One of the issues with JPEG (Joint Photographic Expert Group) file formats is that every time you open the file and save it, the information is compressed and some of it is lost. Create JPEGs from the TIFF copy for sharing purposes, or if you wish to edit the images, retaining the original TIFF as the master copy. Save the files to hard drives, and back up the information on additional external hard drives or a 'cloud' style mainframe such as Google drive, Microsoft one drive, Apple iCloud, or Dropbox.

Whether on hard drives or mainframes, digital files exist in metal, silicone, and plastic. All materials which deteriorate resulting in loss of information. Hard drives must be replaced every five years, transferring the data from your computer or external hard drive to a newly purchased

storage device. This is called 'refreshing' and is the recommended practice for preserving digital materials in museums and archives in order to prevent 'bit rot'.

Now that you have the basics, the next part will expand upon digitizing slides, negatives, books, and oversized items.

Gloria's Gleanings



Treasures Found in the Family Bible

Family bibles can be a great source of genealogy information, not restricted to the names and dates that were written in the section that usually divided the Old and New Testaments. Many families used their bibles

to store items for safe keeping. Children usually did not have access to the bibles and if the items were placed elsewhere they risked being inadvertently destroyed.

My aunt, Irene (Tubman) Hart had a large bible that sat on a table in her hall alcove. This Bible was about 8 inches wide by 10 inches long and 9 inches

in depth. The covers were a very hard pressed paper about 1/2 inch thick. As with books of the time, it was bound together with thread. The pages were printed single sided and appeared to be glued on the edges to appear

as any book we are used to, today. This bible contained many coloured prints of various biblical scenes. One Saturday afternoon in my late teens, while visiting for the weekend, I decided to look through this book. I discovered many items: photographs, postcards, memoriam cards, and obituaries – none of which made much sense at the time. I made notes of all these items to ask my father about at a later time. When I started to research the family of my grandmother Elizabeth (Moore) Tubman, these notes were useful.

My father Kenneth Tubman could tell me that this bible had belonged to his grandparents James and Susan (Queale) Moore. He supplied the background information



on some of the items. The memoriam card for Fanny Moore who died 2 November 1887 at 20 years of age was for his aunt, a sister of Elizabeth Moore.

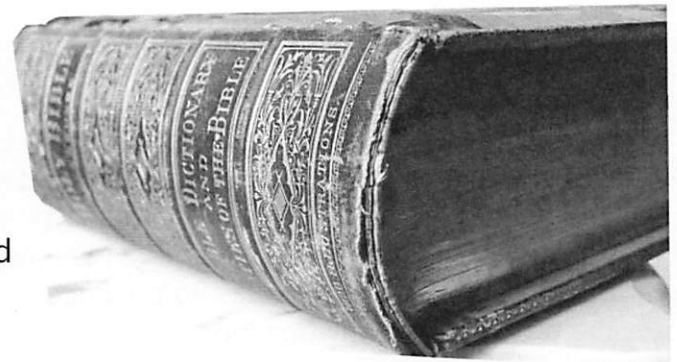
A memoriam card for "Jane Queale, Relict of the late Edward Brownlee at Shawville, midnight 7 December 1915. Funeral from late residence of decease to St. Paul's Church and Cemetery." Jane Queale Brownlee was a sister of Susan (Queale) Moore. She is the matriarch of the family that includes many Shawville residents: Chris Judd, Graeme Brownlee, Perley Belsher, Marion Musgrove and Judy Horner to name a few.

Another memoriam card was for "Mary Jane Queale, wife of Henry Wallace, died 17 June 1909 at 74 years, 3 months, 14 days, interred St. John's Moorhead." This is the great-grandmother of Jimmy Wallace of Shawville. My father was unsure of the exact connection to this Wallace family but he knew his mother considered them to be cousins.

One evening at my parents' kitchen table with my father and Aunt Irene discussing the Queale family, she wanted to know where I had gotten all the names and

dates for her mother's siblings and some of the other information I had on the extended family. I told her that the Moore Bible she owned had this information between its pages.

After my aunt's death, her family gave me the bible that belonged to our great-grandparents. For me, this bible contained a great deal more than the original published scriptures.



A Bible passed down in the same family since 1572 has been placed in the care of the Bible Society Australia. At a ceremony in St John's Cathedral, Brisbane, the present owner, Duncan Sanderson, handed an historic Bishops' Bible to Rev. Dr John Harris, who looks after the Bible Society's collection of rare Bibles.

When Catholic Queen Mary came to the throne in 1553, English Bibles were banned. Anyone who translated or printed the Bible in English was condemned to death. But when Mary died and Elizabeth I became Queen in 1558, the Bible could once more be freely published in English. This means the Sanderson Bible dates from about the time a family could first legally own such a Bible [in England].

Source: eternitynews.com.au

Computree

New DNA tools were announced by several companies over the past few months – here are a few with my comments on the results obtained so far. Note that not only are they pushing for more DNA testing by members and their families and friends, but also for the addition of genealogical family trees. This is understandable as many of the new tools require searches of both trees and DNA information. The problem at this time is that there are few trees that are public, the majority of the ones that do exist (like mine!) have only a few names, presumably the ones which interest the submitter.) But most show no trees. That is certainly what I see when looking over the trees submitted by my 8,000 or so “cousins”. So the plan could be effective, but it will need a massive submission of trees to work. So patience is the watchword in my opinion.

MY HERITAGE AND THE THEORY OF FAMILY RELATIVITY “A GAME-CHANGER”

My Heritage has announced several new tools especially at the beginning of 2019. The most intriguing is the theory of family relativity, which seeks to explain how to “make the most of your DNA Matches by incorporating genealogical information from all our collections of nearly 10 billion historical records and family tree profiles”. It says it uses trees submitted by members and historical records to find our roots.
<https://blog.myheritage.com/2019/02/introducing-the-theory-of-family-relativity-a-genealogy-game-changer/>

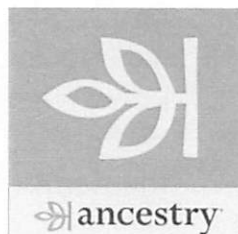
There is one – at least – caution to keep in

by Lorraine Gosselin



mind – usage of family trees might give you erroneous information if the trees are unproven and unresearched. I have seen it for one family member I tried, Wehr, and the tree creator could be reached but could not justify the information and already suspected it was wrong. But it’s certainly worth trying if you have little family information.

ANCESTRY



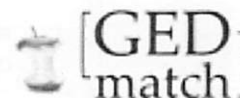
Ancestry has announced ThruLines but so far it seems to be a simpler version of MyHeritage (see above) i.e. a way to incite you to upload your genealogy tree so that there will be many trees

for their programmes to search. Here is a video where DNA guru Blaine Bettinger explains ThruLines and several other new Ancestry features :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y6FpqIQATms>

GEDMATCH TOOLS FOR GENEALOGY AND DNA RESEARCH

This free site has a list of original tools that seem to be growing and improving. If you have had DNA tests done by Ancestry, or any of several other vendors, I strongly urge you to download from your original vendor’s site and upload your DNA test files on Gedmatch. It is very easy to do and there



are instructions on the sites if you need them. And it's free! <https://genesis.gedmatch.com/login1.php>



WOULD YOU LIKE

TO KNOW THE WEATHER FOR CERTAIN IMPORTANT DATES IN YOUR GENEALOGY?

Historical Canadian climate data is now only a few clicks away. Concordia researchers created a new publicly available portal that retrieves weather information from as far back as 1840. <https://www.concordia.ca/news/stories/2019/01/07/historical-canadian-climate-data-is-now-only-a-few-clicks-away.html?c=/ginacody>

FREE GENEALOGY PROGRAMS

See Dick Eastman's list and evaluation at <https://blog.eogn.com/2019/01/17/free-genealogy-programs>

BAnQ.qc.ca – SEVERAL MAJOR UPDATES YEAR-END 2018

- **Quebec Notarial archives from the origins to 1937.** Repertoires and index of 1,528 notaries of which 761 include the texts of the acts. The acts are being gradually added for all Quebec regions.
- **Civil Registers** - Registres de l'état civil du Québec des origines à 1917. BAnQ is progressively adding Civil registers to its online database, Registres de l'état civil du Québec, for the period 1900 -1915 (births, marriages, and deaths). They are released to BAnQ after 100 years. <http://bibnum2.banq.qc.ca/bna/ecivil/>

SOURCES & STRATEGIES FOR DETERMINING AN IRISH PLACE OF ORIGIN

A 1999 article by Kyle J. Betit revised in 2019 by Rick Roberts <http://globalgenealogy.com/globalgazette/gazkb/gazkb41.htm>

MY HERITAGE – CHANGED UPLOAD POLICY

<https://blog.myheritage.com/?s=new+dna+upload+policy>

GENEALOGY TIPS, ARTICLES AND RESEARCH GUIDES

Joe Beine's site as featured on Legacy's web site, Jan 2019. This archive contains records for, among others, African American and Native Indian Genealogies.

<https://www.genealogybranches.com/>

WHY WAS THE INFORMATION REMOVED FROM ONLINE?

Dick Eastman updated his article on this subject, explaining why databases disappear from popular genealogy sites.



<https://blog.eogn.com/2019/02/04/why-was-the-information-removed-from-online-3/>

FAN CLUBS (FRIENDS, ASSOCIATES, AND NEIGHBOURS)

A Legacy expert explains how he uses Fan Clubs to find lost relatives – the method can probably be used with any genealogical programme.

https://news.legacyfamilytree.com/legacy_news/2019/02/tuesdays-tip-known-associates-intermediate.html

FINDING HIDDEN GENEALOGICAL CLUES
Mark Rabideau posted his updated version of his suggestions on QFHS' Facebook page. Are you stuck looking for genealogy clues? Do you need new ideas of where to hunt? This post may offer some help. <http://www.many-roads.com/2019/02/21/finding-hidden-genealogy-clues/>

1825 AND 1842 CANADIAN EARLY CENSUS RECORDS AVAILABLE ON ANCESTRY

"These newly added census records are the oldest Canadian censuses on Ancestry and reveal information about some of the earliest immigrants to Lower Canada (now known as Quebec). These include details about immigrants from England, Scotland and Ireland landing in cities like Montreal and Quebec City." Note that in the period before Confederation, 1867, Place of Birth could appear on census records either as LC (Lower Canada) or BC (Bas Canada) and not, as one data base wrote, British Columbia!

NEW YORK STATE CATHOLIC PAROCHIAL RECORDS

The Drouin Collection released over 11,000 pages of New York's Catholic Records. See their site under Miscellaneous Collections. Note that these can be accessed by QFHS members at our Library, or you can subscribe from home <https://www.genealogiequebec.com/en/>

HOW TO PRESERVE OLD FAMILY LETTERS

Guru Dick Eastman says we have a treasure in our hands if we are lucky enough to have old family letters (I will add old family

postcards as well, as that seems this was the way to communicate in our family at a certain period) See his comments at <https://blog.eogn.com/2019/03/14/how-to-preserve-old-family-letters>

310 FREE ONLINE HISTORICAL PHOTO ARCHIVES FROM CANADA

From Kenneth R. Marks on QFHS' Facebook page: he has recently updated this list for each Province and Territory, and plans to revise it again in a few months. See http://www.theancestorhunt.com/blog/310-free-online-historical-photo-archives-from-canada#.Xlv_vLh7nIU

LEXICON

Croque mort = undertaker.

Tonnolier = Cooper (from our Facebook page).

Hardes = rags (from a will) a disparaging remark (Thanks to Deborah Robertson.)

Perlasserie (in land transactions) = Ashery. An ashery is a factory that converts hardwood ashes into lye, potash, ... refines the substance into a pearly white material called pearl ash, pearl-ash.

Audit an = the said year i.e. the current year (birth, marriage, death records from 17th century France).

L'an que dessus = the year mentioned.

Les susdits jour et an = the day and year in question.

Enterre dans la crypte = buried in the crypt (under the church).



From Lisa Louise Cooke's
Genealogy Gems at
www.GenealogyGems.com

Recently Updated Collections at Ancestry.com

Obituaries and death indexes feature prominently in recently-updated collections at Ancestry.com. These collections take us around the world: from Australia to the U.S., Canada, England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales, then to Germany and The Netherlands.

Ancestry.com has updated 17 collections, several of which relate to obituaries and other death records. Many of these collections focus on recent deaths, which may not seem as valuable at first glance.

But many obituaries contain

generations, helping you link ancestors and descendants to each other in your family trees.

Furthermore, clues about a person's death can lead you to all kinds of additional records: civil or church death records, tombstone inscriptions, cemetery and funeral records, wills and probate records, and even memorials in church or civic publications. So this is one must-have record type for every possible person on your tree for the past 100 years, or even more!

All the following collections come from Ancestry.com, where you can go to Search > Catalog to find the individual collections named below. (Just enter the collection title in part or full.)

Australia and New Zealand, Obituary

genealogical clues back one or two or more

Index, 2004-2018, now has more than 377,000 records. This is a fairly recent collection, but we also reported last month on updates to a sister collection of Australian newspaper vital notices dating back to the 1830s.

UK and Ireland, Obituary Index, 2004-2018, now claims more than 1.6 million records of recent deaths. "The collection contains obituaries from hundreds of newspapers. We work with partners to scour the Internet regularly to find new obituaries and extract the facts into our database. Where available we include the original URL link to the source information."

An offsite collection that's indexed on Ancestry.com, **UK, Coal Mining Accidents and Deaths Index, 1878-1935**, now has nearly 103,000 records. According to the collection landing page, This data is



published by The Coal mining History Resource Centre. You can often find additional information by visiting the source website, including references, publication information, comments, historical context, and even images.

The **England and Wales, Death Index, 2007-2017** at Ancestry.com now has more than 1.2 million records. The collection description says, "This collection is a compiled index that covers approximately 55% of the total deaths that occurred in this time period. This index provides death details for people in England and Wales, specifically their name, gender, date of death, and residence place at death."

The **Scotland and Northern Ireland, Death Index, 1989-2017**, now includes over 525,000 records. It's a compiled index that covers approximately 45% of the total deaths that occurred in this time period. This index provides death details for people in Scotland and Northern Ireland, specifically their name, gender, date of birth or age at death, date of death, and residence place at time of death. However, they do not



Victorian miners in the Rhondda (S. Wales) used naked flames which caused explosions due to 'firedamp' (inflammable gases) Source: bbc.co.uk

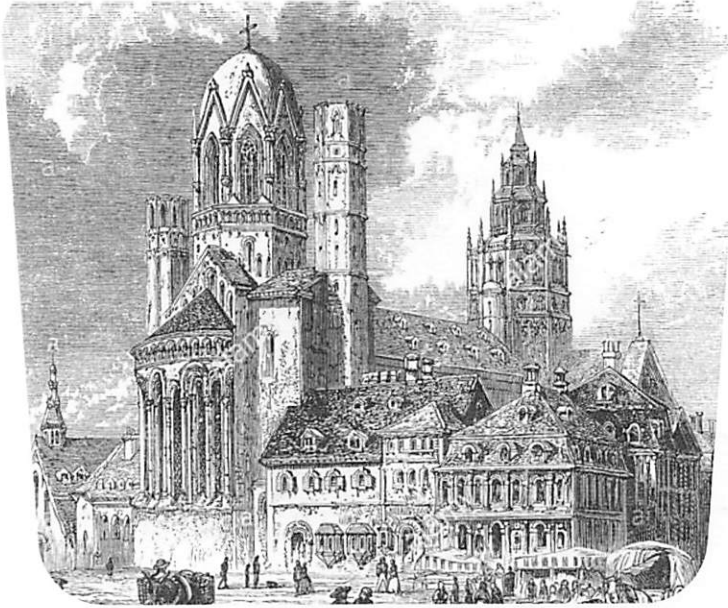
include the General Register Office (GRO) reference information. The index also contains a small number of records for people in Jersey and Isle of Man.

Ancestry's collection of **Quebec, Canada, Notarial Records, 1637-1935**, now tops 16.5 million records! According to the site, "Notarial records are private agreements (contracts), written by notaries, who are considered legal professionals. This collection consists of notarial records for Quebec from the years 1637 to 1935. Each notary set up practice and kept sets of records for documents they created."

Looking for Canadian obituaries? **The Canada,**

Obituary Collection, 1898-2018, now has more than 1.4 million entries. Its historical depth—more than 100 years—and its inclusion of recent deaths set it apart from some other obituary indexes reported here.

The collection **Mainz, Germany, Births, Marriages and Deaths, 1798-1875**, now has nearly 900,000 records. The site offers excellent background for this database. The current capital of the Rhine-Palatinate state in Germany, Mainz has a rich and storied history....Since the late 18th century, Mainz has been at times under French, Prussian, and German rule, and for a brief spell, it was a democratic free state.



St. Martin's Cathedral, Mainz, Germany, in the 19th Cen. 80% of the city was destroyed in WWII.

Initially, registrations of births, marriages, and deaths were kept by religious denominations, but with French occupation in the 1790s, a system of civil registration modeled on the French system was implemented in 1798. This collection includes civil registrations of births, marriages, and deaths beginning in 1798 and extending to 1875. In 1876, civil registration was implemented across unified Germany, and some of those records can be found in other Ancestry collections.

The Ancestry.com collection ***Netherlands, Newspaper Announcements Index,***

1795-1945, now has over 5 million records. This collection consists of an index to announcements and advertisements from various newspapers. Approximately forty percent of the records are death (Overlijden) announcements. Just under one-quarter of the records are birth (Geboorte) announcements, and nearly as many are miscellaneous (Diversen) announcements or advertisements. The remaining records consist of marriage (Huwelijk) announcements. Details vary depending on the event....Also included is the name of the archive where the original record can be found, as well as a link to the

record on the source website. In most cases, additional information about the original record will be available via that link. In some cases, images of the original records may be available via that link as well.

Two enormous collections of U.S. obituary and other death records have been updated at Ancestry.com. **“U.S., Cemetery and Funeral Home Collection, 1847-2018”**

has passed 9 million records. The site describes the collection as one harvested from cemetery and funeral home records all over the Internet (to which individual entries link, wherever possible). A related collection, **“U.S., Obituary Collection, 1930-2018,”** now has nearly 40 million records, and is also described as a compilation of records gleaned from many resources online.

Now topping 5 million records, the **“New York, Death Index, 1852-1956”** collection “consists of indices of deaths from the state of New York. Details vary, but may include the following information for the deceased: name, death date, death city, age at death, gender [and] certificate number.”

Technology



*by Lorine McGinnis
Schulze*



Passenger Lists to Canada Before 1865

There are no comprehensive lists of immigrants arriving in Canada prior to 1865. Until that year, shipping companies were not required by the government to keep their passenger manifests. There are individual projects and databases online that may be of help in your search.

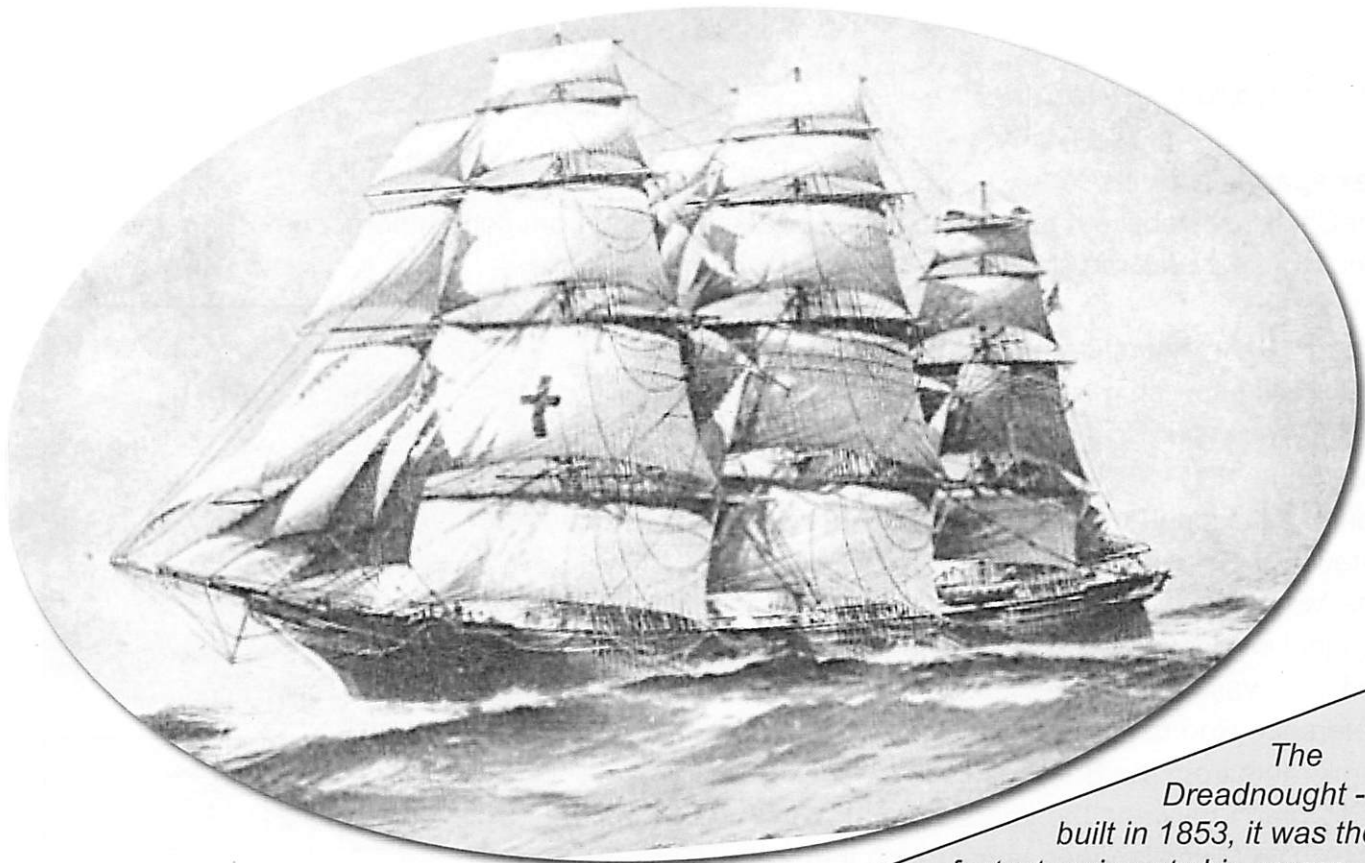
Shipping Company & Customs Agents Records

There are a few surviving passenger lists which were kept by shipping agents in the originating country.

- The Passenger Books of J & J Cooke, Shipping Agents gives sailings from Londonderry to Quebec and St. John New Brunswick from 1847 to 1871. These are online at <http://olivetreegenealogy.com/ships/jjcooke.shtml>
- St. Lawrence Steamboat Co. Passenger Records 1819-1836 at http://www.theshipslist.com/ships/passengerlists/1819_20index.shtml
- The Hawke Papers, letterbooks of Chief Emigrant Agent Anthony B. Hawke are also available at the Archives of Ontario. They cover the years 1831 to 1892. See the searchable database for years 1865 - 1883
- Names of Emigrants from the 1845-1847 Records of James Allison, Emigrant Agent at Montreal is online at [/ships/emigrants-montreal1845-1847a.htm](http://ships/emigrants-montreal1845-1847a.htm). This an index only but if you find a name of interest you can consult the published book.
- There is also the Return of Emigrants Landed at the Port of Kingston Ontario, Canada 1861-1882 which gives the final destination of the individuals, their date of arrival at Kingston and more. It is found at <http://olivetreegenealogy.com/ships/kingston1861oct-1862may.shtml>

Immigration Projects Online

- Petworth Immigrants 1832-1837 at <http://www.theshipslist.com/ships/passengerlistspetworth.shtml>
- Emigrants from England in New York City Almshouse 1818-1830 - 254 names of English immigrants to Canada & USA including the name of the ship they sailed on at <http://>



The Dreadnought - built in 1853, it was the fastest emigrant ship across the Atlantic. It was competing with steam powered ships, a race it was doomed to lose.

www.allenglishrecords.com/almshouse-a-f.shtml

•If you are looking for Irish ancestors, you may want to search the online database Irish Immigrants at

Grosse-Île at [http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/](http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/immigration/immigration-records/immigrants-grosse-ile-1832-1937/Pages/immigrants-grosse-ile.aspx)

[immigration/immigration-records/immigrants-grosse-ile-1832-1937/Pages/immigrants-grosse-ile.aspx](http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/immigration/immigration-records/immigrants-grosse-ile-1832-1937/Pages/immigrants-grosse-ile.aspx) This database has information on 33,026 immigrants whose names appear in surviving records of the Grosse-Île Quarantine Station between 1832 and 1937.

Search Engines

There are search engines to search multiple websites for ships going to Canada at http://olivetreenealogy.com/ships/search_shipscanada.shtml. They include most ship lists on the Internet going to Canada and the online InGeneas databases for immigration to Canada 1800s.

New Brunswick Arrivals

The Saint John Customs House Passenger Lists 1815, 1832, 1833-1834 & 1837-1838 are the only known surviving lists from this time period. Some can be found online at <http://www.theshipslist.com/ships/passengerlists/saintjohnindex.htm> Most of the Customs House records were lost in 1877 in the Great Fire of Saint John. Famine lists from 1845-1850 appear also to have been lost.

Mailing Lists

There is a mailing list called CAN-SHIPSLISTS-PRE1865-L for queries and discussion involving immigration to Canada before 1865. You can subscribe from this page <http://>

Newspaper Arrivals

TheShipsList website has Quebec ship arrivals extracted from contemporary newspapers. See <http://www.theshipslist.com/ships/Arrivals/index.shtml>

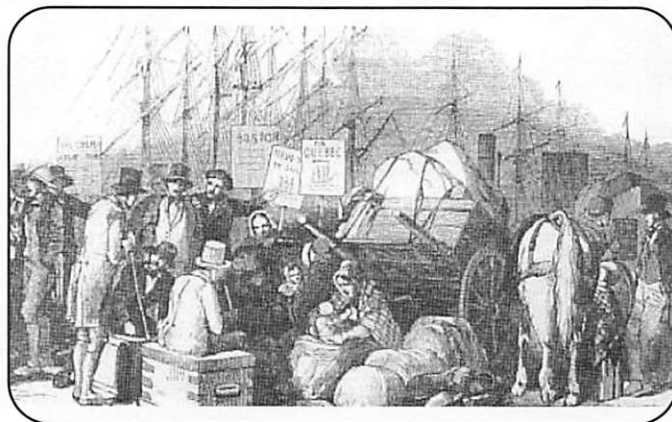
Library & Archives Canada Holdings

There are a few ship passenger lists pertaining to British-subsidized immigration schemes for the period 1817-1831 and these are available from the National Archives of Canada in Ottawa.

The Miscellaneous Immigration Index is a nominal card index to some of those records and it is available for consultation in the NAC Reference Room. It relates mostly to immigrants from the British Isles to Quebec and Ontario between the years 1801 and 1849. The Miscellaneous Immigration Index

has been put into a database, which you can consult on the InGeneas web site.

For immigrants from France, the NAC holds scattered records for the years 1732 and 1749 to 1760. Microfilm copies of these lists are available through ILL - ask your local library for help. You can also consult the NAC microfilm shelf-list for reel numbers.



Picture of immigrants on the Quay, Cork, Ireland, destined for Quebec.

Miscellaneous Websites with Immigration Information on Ships to Canada

- Immigrants to Canada <http://ist.uwaterloo.ca/~marj/genealogy/thevoyage.html>
- The Ships List <http://www.theshipslist.com/>
- Finding Ships Passenger Lists to Canada <http://shipslists-online.rootschat.net/canada/>
- Ships Passenger Lists to Canada 1400-1930 <http://olivetreegenealogy.com/ships/tocan1400-1800.shtml>
- Because ships passenger lists are so scattered, you should also consult ships passenger lists substitutes to try to find records of an ancestor's arrival. These substitutes include the following:
 - Census Records [Link to Ontario Census Records]
 - Tax Rolls
 - Newspaper Accounts - sometimes ship arrivals and/or passenger names were listed in local newspapers [Ontario Newspapers]
 - Land Records - most immigrants purchased land soon after arrival [Ontario Land Records Information |]
 - City & Farmer's Directories [Ontario Directories]

© Lorine McGinnis Schulze of <http://olivetreegenealogy.com/index.shtml>

Connections

Contributors

Lisa Louise Cooke

Lisa is CEO of Genealogy Gems, a genealogy education company featuring The Genealogy Gems Podcast, available at iTunes, and the Genealogy Gems app. Her books include Mobile Genealogy, The Genealogist's Google Toolbox Second Edition, How to Find Your Family History in Newspapers, and she has published 100+ videos at the Genealogy Gems YouTube Channel.

Jane Edwards

Jane 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 N. America between 200-350 years ago.

Mark Gallop

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.

Lorraine Gosselin

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.

René Péron

René is a Huguenot descendant, furthermore descendant of XIXth century French language Protestants, brought up and educated in both official languages, trained as a teacher, became a sales engineer of specialty products directed at architects and construction engineers. René has been a member of the Q.F.H.S. for 15 years.

Ruth Symes

"I have been a family historian for more than 40 years, and a professional historian for over 30, but as I read it, I was constantly encountering new ways of looking at my family history." Much of the text in Autograph Books comes from her blog: <http://searchmyancestry.blogspot.com>.

Lorine McGinnis Schulze

Lorine is from Ontario and has been involved in family research since her teens. She created Olive Tree Genealogy in 1995, which has research in several unusual areas, such as the Palatine, Metis and Mennonites.

Gloria Tubman

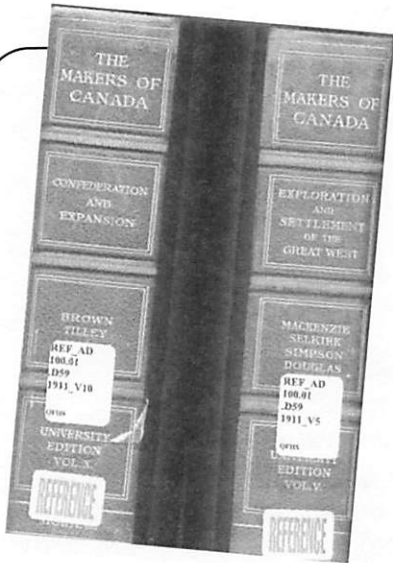
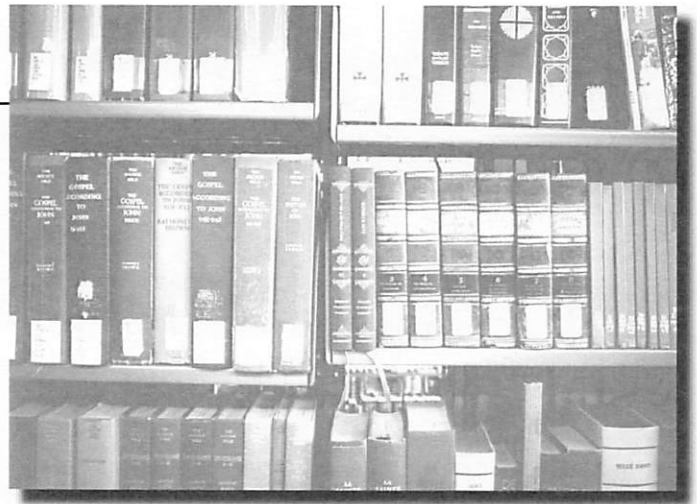
Gloria has been conducting genealogy research for 30 years. She is the author of A Genealogists' Guide to Researching BRITISH HOME CHILDREN published by Global Genealogy. She has conducted research for the TLC program Who Do You Think You Are. You can contact Gloria at pontiacresearch@hotmail.ca

Kyla Ubbink

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

QFHS Library

New Acquisitions

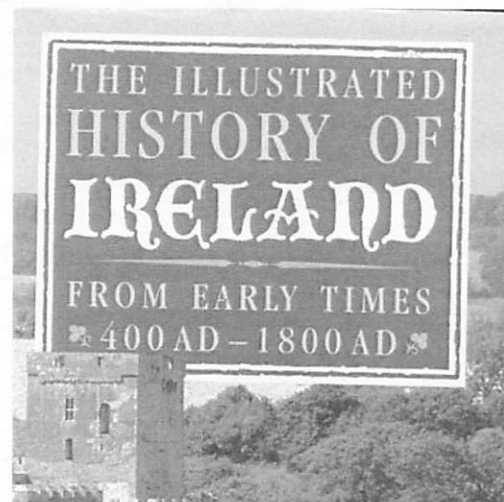


The Makers of Canada
11 Volumes
pub. 1911
REF AD 100.01 D59



Matapédia
raconte-nous, tell us

Jacqueline Beaulieu
et al
HG 155.99 B3 2003

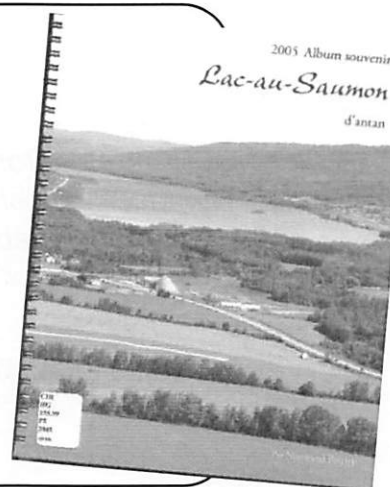


The Illustrated History of
Ireland
from Early Times 400 AD -
1800 AD

C. E. Cusack
Hg 460.01 C8 1987

Lac-au-Saumon d'antan
Album souvenir 2005

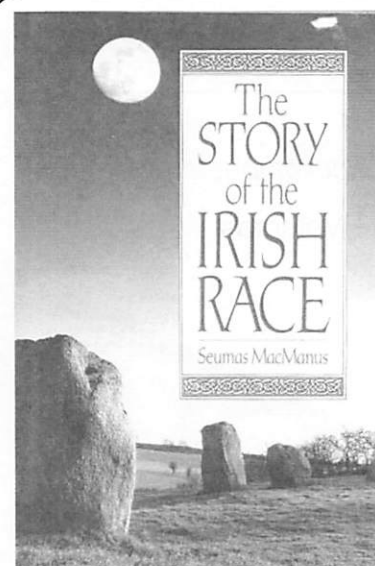
Normand Poirier
HG 155.99 P5 2005



Our French-Canadian
Ancestors, Volumes
23, 29 & 30

Thomas J. Laforest
HG 150.3 L33 1996

Note: This whole
series is now nearer
at hand close to the
computers.



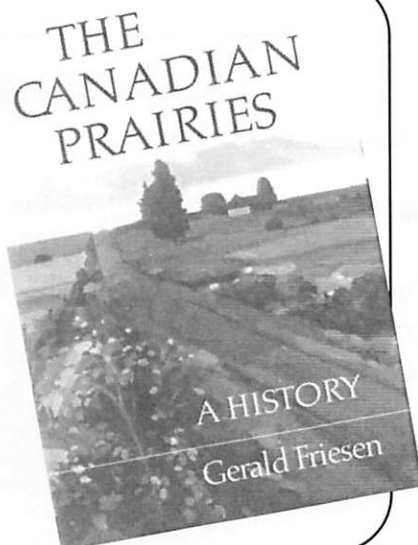
The Story of the Irish Race

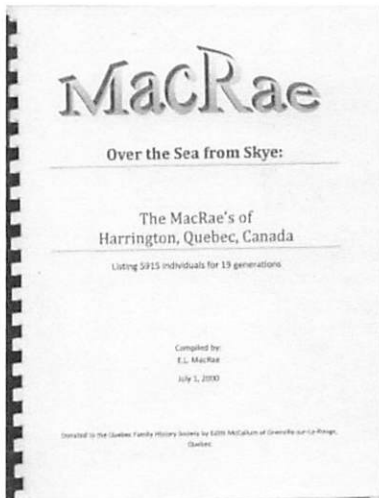
Seumas MacManus

HG 460.8 M3 1921

The Canadian Prairies: A
History

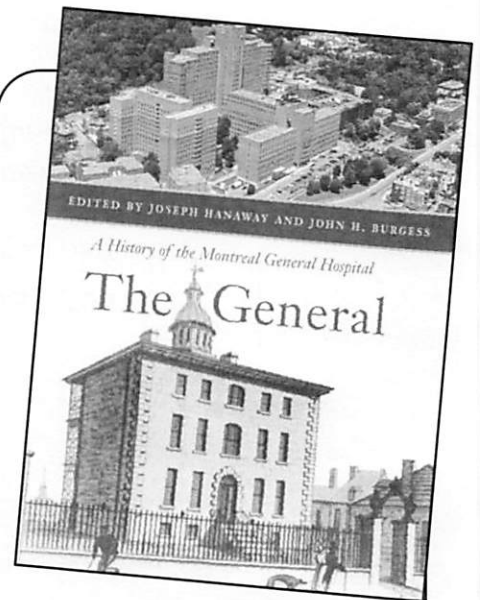
Gerald Friesen
HG 170.01 F7 1984





*MacRae
Over the Sea from Skye.
The MacRae's of
Harrington, Quebec*

E. L. MacRae
FH 157.3 M3 2000

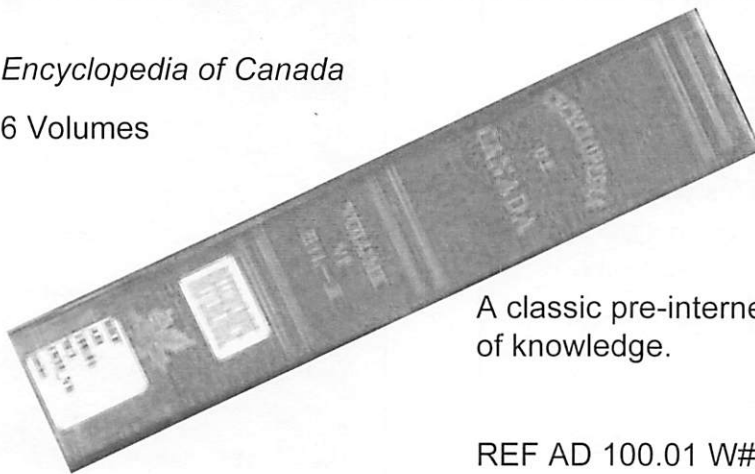


*The General: A history of
the Montreal General
Hospital*

Joseph Hanaway & John
H. Burgess

HF 151.01 H3 2016

Encyclopedia of Canada
6 Volumes



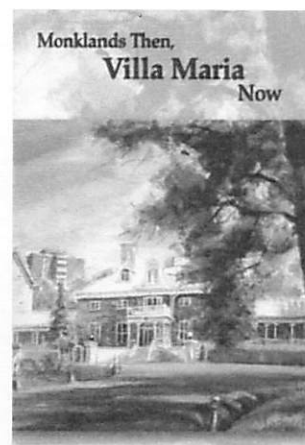
A classic pre-internet fount
of knowledge.

REF AD 100.01 W# 1935

*Monkland Then, Villa
Maria Now*
Helen Lanthier

The story of a convent
school that grew into a
modern, private High
School

HG 150.93 L26 2004



QFHS Research Request Form

Our volunteer researchers are prepared to assist you in your genealogical research - using the resources of the library.

PLEASE PRINT IN CAPITAL LETTERS TO AVOID CONFUSION.

RESEARCH FEES: \$25 per hour for members, \$40 per hour for non members
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 Postal Stn Pte-Claire-Dorval
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Pointe-Claire QC

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Year 2019 -2020

Membership can also be renewed via the QFHS website, qfhs@ca.

MEMBERSHIP NUMBER: _____ Type of Membership: (F) Family or Single (S) _____

NAME: (SURNAME) (GIVEN NAME)

ADDRESS: (STREET NO.) (STREET) (APT)

(CITY) (PROVINCE / STATE) _____

(POSTAL CODE) _____

TELEPHONE: () _____

E-MAIL: _____

NAME OF FAMILY MEMBER (if applicable) _____ (Surname) (Given Name)

[A family membership includes (2) people living at the same address]

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE

\$75.00 INDIVIDUAL or FAMILY MEMBERSHIP, \$40.00 INSTITUTION MEMBERSHIP

_____ FEE

_____ DONATION

_____ TOTAL

(GST and PST are not applicable)

PAYMENT BY VISA or MASTER CARD

CARD #: _____

EXPIRY DATE: _____

NAME: _____

CODE #: _____ (Numbers on back of card)

PAYMENT CAN ALSO BE MADE BY CHEQUE OR POSTAL ORDER

Mail this form (with a CHEQUE or MONEY ORDER if applicable) to:

P.O. Box 715 Postal Stn Pte-Claire-Dorval

15 Donegani Ave., Pointe-Claire QC H9R 4S8