

**Loyalists  
Hugh McCall and  
Aner Haviland McCall  
and their Descendants**



**Empire Hotel in Thamesville, Ontario**  
*Dr. Charles McCall at the desk in the lobby of the hotel.*

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## INTRODUCTION

Having researched the McCall and Haviland families for many years, I had acquired a lot of information and copies of many documents from the National Archives of Canada, Ontario Archives in Toronto, Libraries, Registry Offices, etc. I realized more recently that the Hugh McCall Branch that I am descended from was about to disappear, mainly due to the lack of sons in the recent generations. In 1978 William Yeager, Curator of the Eva Brook Donley Museum in Simcoe, Ontario wrote a book Sources in McCall Genealogy, which was published by the Norfolk Historical Society. It is an in depth research on Donald McCall U.E. and all his sons and daughters and their children - down to the third generation. For many years Mrs. Mary Middleton of South Orange, New Jersey, a McCall descendant, has researched the McCall family down to the present time and hopes to publish it. In 1980, I wrote a booklet Donald McCall, U.E., Military Service 1756-1763. This booklet is an in depth account of Donald McCall's Military Service as a private in the 1st Battalion, 42 Regiment of the Royal Scottish Highland Regiment (The Black Watch) and later with the 77th Montgomery Regiment during the Seven Years War against the French and the Indians, etc.

Because of these previous publications, I decided to write my family tree story about Donald's youngest son Hugh McCall who married Aner Haviland. Aner's father, Captain John Haviland was also a United Empire Loyalist. Recently there has been started a movement to record the story of John Haviland and his descendants. Because this has not been published, as yet, I have included in my story three chapters concerning the life of John Haviland and his descendants to the third generation. This is by no means intended to be a complete genealogy of the Haviland Family. If you are interested in learning more about Donald McCall, the Simcoe Museum has a copy of the Sources in McCall Genealogy and they also have them for sale. The booklet Donald McCall, U.E. Military Service 1756-1763 is also at the museum, as well as each Elgin County Library has a copy.

I should warn you not to worry about the different spellings of a name which occurs frequently. The early settlers were not fussy about how their name was spelled - a lot of them couldn't read or write.

In order to assist you while reading the story I have decided to insert at the back of the book, the Family Trees of the McCall and Haviland families. I have also listed to the third generation the following associated families - The Ketchum Family, The Thayer Family, The Parker Family and The Lethbridge Family.

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Historians, researchers and genealogists do not work alone, they need a lot of help. It seems to be the nature of this group of people to help each other. I know that I have received a great deal of assistance along the way and I am deeply grateful for that help. I have named these people in the list of genealogy sources and also during the telling of the story of my family.

Helen McCall Pincombe, U.E.

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## Chapter I

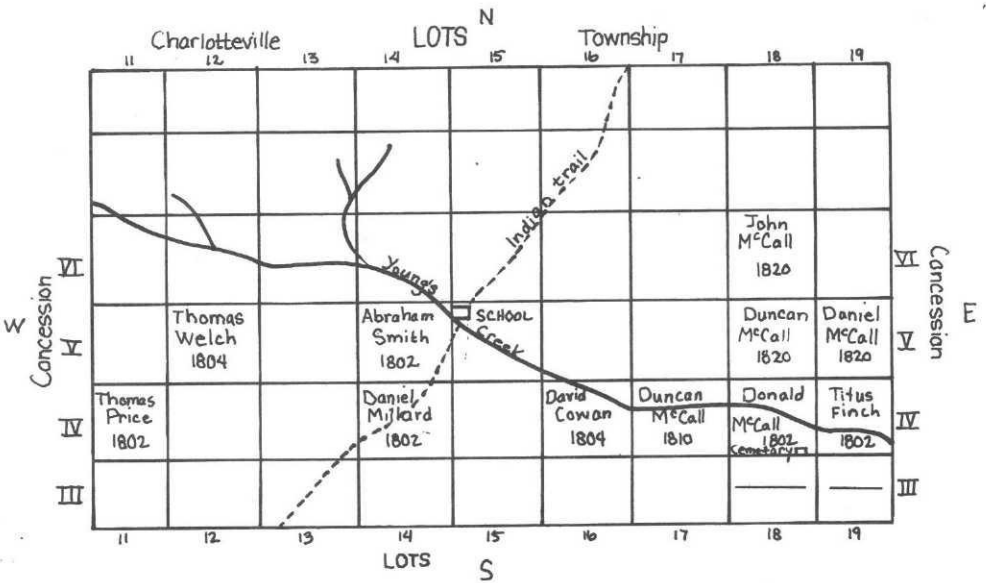
### HUGH'S GROWING-UP YEARS

Hugh Percival McCall was the youngest son and the youngest child of Donald McCall and Elsie Simpson McCall. He was probably named after Donald McCall's brother Hugh. He was born April 18, 1793 on a farm near Basking Ridge in Bernard Township, Somerset County, New Jersey, U.S.A. His four brothers and four sisters were all born there. Donald had settled on this farm about 1764 after his Military Service in the Seven Year War (1756-1763) with the Royal 42nd Regiment (Black Watch) and the 77th Montgomery Highlanders. A large stone slab on the grave of Hugh's older brother Daniel in the Pioneer McCall-Fairchild Cemetery near Vittoria in Norfolk County has the above place of birth inscribed on it in still very readable form, in spite of the fact it is over 100 years old. I doubt that Hugh would remember very much about that farm, the lovely rolling countryside or the town, because the whole family moved away from there when Hugh was about 3 or 4 years old. There are few records left of the McCall Family in New Jersey. During the Rebellion of 1777-1783, New Jersey was a main battleground. Buildings were blown up and set on fire and many documents were destroyed. Mrs. Mary Middleton, who is a descendant of Donald McCall, as we are, lives in New Jersey not far from the old farm. She has found records of Donald having paid taxes on his farm until the time of his moving to Canada. Also in the Presbyterian Church in Breckenridge there are records showing Donald had paid rent for a pew, until he took his demit before going to Canada. In the old churchyard, beside the church, is a child's grave. Mrs. Middleton took me to see it when I visited the area in September 1980. The engraving on the gravestone is still very legible, "In Memory of Margaret, dau. of Donel and E. McCall, died 27 Oct. 1785, in 7th year". She is the only member of the family who died in childhood and her stone is one of the few pieces of tangible evidence to show that the McCall Family lived in that area for 32 years.

We do not know what prompted the McCall Family to move from the New Jersey area to Canada. Perhaps they were just not too comfortable there after the Rebellion on account of their Loyalist sympathies. Also there were 5 sons, some adults and others growing up, who would be needing farms of their own. Perhaps they had even heard that Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe of Upper Canada was offering grants of land free to Loyalists. The three eldest sons

John, 31, Duncan, 28 and Daniel 24 years at the time they moved to Canada were named on the Front Piece of the original Plea for Land Grant on June 24, 1795. "Mr. Donald McCall and his three grown up Sons, John, Duncan and Daniel will receive Six Hundred Acres of land each when they can be located and whatever Settlers they bring will each receive Two Hundred acres upon their Recommendation."

The route the family took from New Jersey to the Long Point area on the north shore of Lake Erie in Ontario, we do not know. There were no roads, as we know them, going to the West. People travelled by rivers or Indian Trails through the woods and over mountains. Some travelled north into New York State and then West by the Mohawk River, then overland to the Niagara River. Another route was through Pennsylvania and the Susquahana River into New York State and to Niagara. We do know from the Land Grant that "Donald McCall, late of the Montgomery's Highlanders, his eldest son John and Captain Patrick Haggerty, late of the First Battalion of Skinner's Brigade" made the trek to Newark, (now Niagara-on-the-Lake) which was the capital of Upper Canada in 1795. Their request for "a tract of country" was dated 24th June 1795 and the approval of the Grant given on the 26th June, 1795. Then they went back to New Jersey to tell their families, friends and neighbours. The next year, 1796, a group came back to claim their land. E. A. Owen in his book Pioneer Sketches of Long Point Settlement p.195, tells the story of the McCall party landing at the mouth of Big Creek on the 5th day of June, 1796. The party was supposed to include, the McCalls, James Monroe, Robert Munroe, Robert Henderson, Noah Fairchild (who later married Elizabeth McCall, older sister of Hugh) and young Thomas Price. We have no proof of this story but we do know that these families, with the exception of Robert Munroe, did settle in the same area of Charlotteville Township at about the same time from the Land Books in the Norfolk Registry Office. Duncan was the only McCall son that was married and his wife Jemima Fairchild, sister of Noah, had her first child Daniel born on 26 July, 1796. He was the first white child born in Charlotteville Township. Later Jemima Fairchild McCall died on 3rd October, 1798 and was the first to be buried in what is now the McCall-Fairchild Cemetery on the original Donald McCall farm. It is my belief that John, Duncan and his wife Jemima, Daniel, Catherine McCall Munroe and husband James Munroe, the three eldest sons and the eldest daughter of Donald came together in 1796 to the Long Point area. There are two proofs of this fact. One is the old Charlotteville Militia Rolls, recently rediscovered in the Norfolk Historical papers and expertly deciphered by



Map of part of Charlotteville Township,  
Norfolk County in early 1900's

*F 145*

IN COUNCIL *19 February 1917*  
ADMINISTRATION OF *Lieut. Governor*

**G**RANTED to *Hugh McCall*  
of the Township of *Charlotteville* in the  
County of *Norfolk* in the  
*District of London* Province of *Ontario*

TWO HUNDRED Acres of Land as the *son of Donald McCall of the same place*

an U. E. Loyalist Privileged as *such* by  
the Inspector-General of Public Provincial Accounts.

*John Britton*  
*Comptroller*

To the Attorney-General

*HALF-FEE*  
Regulations,  
6th July, 1802.

*Grant*

Land Grant of 200 acres given to Hugh McCall as the son of a Loyalist  
Ontario Archives, Toronto

William Yeager, curator of the Eva Brook Donley Museum in Simcoe. What a wealth of information is found in these rolls! They tell us where each of the above sons and Noah Fairchild were born, where they came from to the area and when they arrived in Charlotteville. All those named arrived in 1796 and the McCall brothers came from New Jersey. James Munroe did not belong to the Militia. Also from the National Archives a plea for land lease from John, dated 30th Sept. 1811, states "That this Petitioner has resided in this province upwards of Sixteen years". I don't believe that Donald and Elsie and the younger children James 16, Elizabeth 13, Mary Ann 10 and Hugh 4, came until the next year in 1797. I base this theory on a plea for Land Grant by James Munro on behalf of his wife Catharine McCall because she is the daughter of a Loyalist. "The Petition of James Munro for his wife Catharine Daug.r of D. McCall.

That your Petitioner married the daughter of (Donul or Daniel) McCall and brought his family into this Province, and rec.d two hundred acres on the recommendation of his Father-in-law. (Dan'l or Don'l) McCall. That your Petitioner's Father served His Majesty faithfully last war, and is expected in this Province early this summer. Your Petitioner therefore prays your Honor would be pleased to allow him such addition for himself, as likewise such a grant for his wife the Daughter of a Loyalist . . . ." It was dated as Rec.d, 31st March, 1797.

If Donald came in 1797 and brought his wife Elsie and the four younger children, he would be 62 years of age and Elsie was 50 years. I wonder if Hugh McCall would remember anything of that long journey. Perhaps it had some influence on ~~the~~ turn his life took, many years later. If they came in the early summer of 1797 he would have been just over 4 years old - his birthday was on March 6th.

With the other brothers and sisters of Hugh having arrived the year before, to sort of pave the way, I imagine it didn't take them long to settle into a log cabin on Donald's land grant Lot #18 on the fourth concession of Charlotteville Township. The farm is very close to the town of Vittoria - just a little west and north of what later became the first administrative centre of the area. Young's Creek flows south right through the farm on its way to Lake Erie, a short distance away. As you cross the little bridge over Young's Creek going north to the farm, look up to the high banks above the creek to your left. This is the site of the McCall-Fairchild (Blueberry Hill) Cemetery where most of the first generation of McCall's in Ontario are buried.

For the first year after their arrival, Hugh and sister Mary Ann did not have any playmates close by in this wilderness of trees and streams. There were no roads but soon trails were cut through the woods and gradually more families arrived. The earliest trails of course, were the Indian Trails. There was an Indian Trail that went through the area from Brant's Ford on the Grand River going South to Turkey Point on Lake Erie. This Trail crossed over Young's Creek at Concession no. 5. It was at this junction that the first school was built. In Dr. Bannister's book Early Educational History of Norfolk County there is a map showing the location of the school, Indian Trails, Young's Creek and the farms of the early settlers. The list of pupils who attended that very early Pioneer school has been preserved. On it are the names of Mary and Hugh McCall, the Walsh brothers Francis L. and Aquila, all three of whom married into the McCall families later, and Ephriam C. Mitchell their first cousin. Hugh and Mary probably followed Young's Creek in going back and forth to school. The others mentioned above would come to school from the opposite direction. There were no less than three Smith families in the vicinity so the school had plenty of Smith children. The school was actually built on part of the land belonging to Abraham Smith. The first teacher was William Pitt Gilbert. He must have taught them at least the rudiments of learning as Hugh could sign his own name to documents and that is more than his father Donald and his wife Aner could manage to do. F. L. Walsh later became the Registrar of the County of Norfolk for over 70 years and his hand written documents are admired to this day by many persons. In 1808 when Hugh was about 14 years of age, his father Donald at age 73 made a will. The rough draft of this very early will was found in the Walsh papers. It shows that Donald was financially well to do for those times as he willed a great many pounds in money to each son as well as a lot of live stock. He mentions each son and all the daughters that were living at the time. He also names quite a few grandchildren who had been born by the year 1808. Part of this will states: "I give and bequeath unto my loving Wife Elce McCall, all and singular my Household Furniture . . . and I do also give and bequeath unto my Said loving Wife, one black Cow, one old Mare and one yearling Hore Colt, Sixteen sheep, and a Note of hand which I hold against Philip Force, whereon is due Sixty Dollars, which note is given for the purpose of defraying the expences of the Education of my Son Hugh McCall." It is a most detailed, lengthy and interesting will and well worth reading at the Museum in Simcoe. In the early school days the teacher's salary was often paid by the parents who gave a sum of money for each of their children attending the school. This was paid by the month

or the year and as well they took turns in giving board and room to the teacher. This could have been why Donald left the sum of money for Hugh's education. Mary Ann was 21 years old in that year so Hugh was the only one in the family still of school age. Donald lived another 11 years after he made this will. Circumstances changed drastically in that time and his last will was entirely different.

As Hugh grew up he became a very strong man. E. A. Owen on p.25 writes quite a story about Uncle Billy Smith and his prodigious strength. Some discount these stories but I will quote part of one of the stories. Joseph Kitchen had a tannery in the neighborhood and it was run by a large wheel. "Hugh McCall, John Bray, Solomon Sovereign and Joseph Kitchen all large, powerful men - were on a certain occasion testing their lifting powers on the big bark-wheel used by the latter in connection with his tannery . . . One or two of the contesting parties were just able to lift it clear of the crushing floor and while thus engaged "Uncle Billy" came upon the scene." Of course the end of the story tells how Uncle Billy wagered a bet he could lift it with all four on it - which he did. Owen tells another story of the large cranberry marsh on the farm of Andrew McLeish, which was West and a little North of the McCall home. "It is said on one occasion a party came . . . for cranberries among whom were Benjamin Fairchild, one of the Corlisses, and that Hugh McCall went to the Marsh with them and filled their sacks by scooping up the cranberries with a wooden shovel. The berries were put through a fanning mill, and when bagged up, the party went home with sixteen bushels." At the Eva Brook Donley Museum in Simcoe there is exhibited a hand carved wooden shovel as well as a wooden hay rake and many other farm implements from pioneer days. They are very heavy instruments and the pioneer men and women must have been strong, hardy people to be able to use these in a day's work. The early settlers were fortunate though to have such an abundance of food such as fish, deer, beavers, wild turkeys, game birds, wild berries, grapes and fruits of all kinds.

The 17th of October 1810, was a turning point in Hugh's growing-up years. His sister Mary Ann had asked him to be a witness at her marriage to Ephriam Cole Mitchell, her school chum. Mary Ann was 23 years old but Hugh was only 17 and he must have felt quite grown up on that day. The marriage took place in Charlotteville and they were married by Jacob Sovereign J. P. according to Norfolk Marriage Records. In the early days there were no qualified ministers except for a few circuit riders who might visit each year, so the Justice of the Peace performed the ceremony. After

Hugh's signature the other witnesses who signed the register were Francis Leigh Walsh, Isaac Grant and Noah Fairchild. F. L. Walsh, as you have read, was also a school mate as well as a cousin of E. C. Mitchell. Noah Fairchild had married Elizabeth McCall, an older sister of Mary Ann and Hugh. But Mary and Noah were closer than brothers-in-law usually are. Four years before Mary Ann's wedding day Elizabeth McCall Fairchild had died giving birth to twin girls. Elizabeth already had 4 other young children. Mary Ann at the age of 19 years went to the home of Noah Fairchild and for at least 2 years took care of the new twins, Mary and Elizabeth, and the other children. Eventually Noah Fairchild married again but he didn't forget the deed of kindness that Mary Ann had performed. Noah died on January 13, 1833 at 60 years of age and in his will, written on November 5, 1832 he named her. "Mary Mitchell, wife of Ephriam Mitchell, in consideration and remembrance of the great kindness and care which she did bestow upon my two daughters, Mary and Elizabeth, when they were left in a helpless state of infancy after the death of their mother, etc., etc."

While more settlers continued to come into Charlotteville Township, building homes, clearing the land, planting the crops and raising their livestock, it was still very much a wooded area. The forest in this area was a pleasing mixture of maples, chestnuts, oak and some pines. The woods abounded with animals among which were the wolves. To any farmer who had cattle, sheep or chickens, the wolf was a great nuisance. It was hard in these days to build a fence to keep wolves out and not too many farmers had yet built barns large enough to shelter all the livestock, which generally ranged the woods in search of food much of the year. Therefore it is interesting to see how a small group of men attempted to cope with this situation in the winter of 1811-1812 and also make a little money and enjoy some sport at the same time. In the Walsh papers was found a document which spells out the rules of the game. This beautifully written agreement was no doubt drawn up and penned by F. L. Walsh. He had just started the year before in 1810 to work in the Norfolk County Registry Office as assistant to his father Thomas Welch who was the County Registrar. The Simcoe Museum now has this paper framed and under glass as it is becoming quite fragile. It was written in August 1811 when Hugh would be over 18 years and Walsh was about 22 years.

"To encourage more effectually the destroying of Wolves, We the subscribers of Charlotteville have mutually concluded and by these Presents conclude and promise that

we will justly and truly pay unto each of us that shall hereafter destroy a Wolf within this Township of Charlotteville the sum opposite our respective names, when and as often as such one of us shall have destroyed such wolf, provided that things contained herein shall that be void after the first Monday in March, 1812. Witness our names and sums opposite the subscribed this 21st day of August, 1811."

| <u>NAMES</u> | SHILIGS | <u>NAMES</u>        | SHILIGS |
|--------------|---------|---------------------|---------|
| Thomas Welch | 2       | Francis Leigh Walsh | 1       |
| Hugh McCall  | 2       | Levis Church        | 1       |

This is the second time we have seen Hugh's signature, the first being on the marriage register. Later we shall see that F. L. Walsh called Hugh a good hunter - perhaps this experience in the winter of 1811-1812 was responsible for that opinion. We can only guess that maybe Walsh had to pay Hugh more shillings in bounty, than he got back.

## Chapter II

### HUGH'S SERVICE IN THE WAR YEARS

Now starts a period in the life of the settlers, of War and unsettled times. For three years 1812-1814 their lives were greatly disrupted. In some cases homes, barns, flour and grist mills were destroyed and livestock, home furnishings and farm implements were confiscated. The American General McArthur's raids in 1813 and 1814 seem to have been the most destructive. There were not very many men in the Settlement in 1812 but they had tried to prepare themselves for the defense of their land as far back as 1798, only three or four years after their arrival. The first Muster Roll of the Norfolk Militia lists 25 men. By June 4, 1799, the roll had grown to 43 men. From the Militia Muster Roll at the Simcoe Museum we learn that the Captain of the Company was Thomas Welch. The Company appeared at this time to have met twice a year for training and drill. Hugh, the Walsh brothers and E. C. Mitchell were too young in 1798 and 1799 to join the Militia but Hugh's older brothers belonged - John, James, and Daniel, as well as Noah Fairchild. A brief notation on the bottom of the June 4, 1799 roll states "Company to meet at Danell McCalls on Saturday 28th Septr. Met accordingly (signed) Robt. Henderson." One wonders if Donald, the old soldier of 64 years, reviewed the troops after that drill. No doubt this was an exciting day for young Hugh and the Walsh boys who probably watched and were intrigued by that training exercise which took place on the 28 Sept. on Hugh's father's farm! Perhaps this was the incentive which made these three join the forces and fight for their new Homeland, later during the war of 1812-14.

A lengthy account of Hugh's Service in the 1812-14 War was written after his death. A tribute to Hugh was written for the 10th of June, 1874, edition of the British Canadian, a Simcoe newspaper of that day. The writer was Francis L. Walsh, Hugh's school chum, relative by marriage, and long-time friend. He was one of the last of Hugh's acquaintances still living when Hugh McCall returned to Vittoria in his old age after a lengthy absence. Following is quoted, word for word, of the first part of this extraordinary Memoir.

"Mr. Editor: As a recent number of the British Canadian contains an obituary of the late Hugh P. McCall, the following

memoir of one who was formerly well known here, may be acceptable to some of the readers of that long established Journal.

The above mentioned deceased, commonly known as Hugh McCall, was the youngest son of Donald McCall, a United Empire Loyalist, who came to this Province and settled in this County about the year 1795. He had been in the army, having served in Fraser's Regiment (sic) now better known as the 71st, and seen much active service fighting against the French and Indians in the countries bordering on these great lakes and in other parts of America in the war called "The Old French War," which was waged before the American Revolution. The youngest son of that veteran viz, Hugh McCall, the subject of these remarks, was one of the most zealous defenders of this Province in the war with the United States in the years 1812, 1813, and 1814 - during part of that time he performed active service as a serjeant in the Flank Company, and when these were supplanted by the incorporated Militia, he volunteered into a Force raised by the late Col. Henry Bostwick called the Royal London Volunteers.

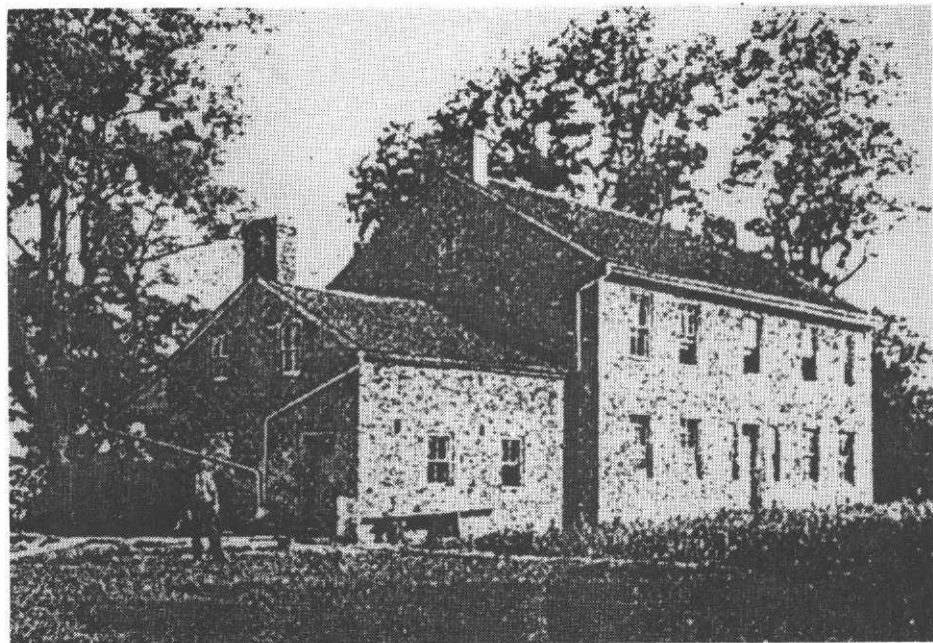
It was in the early part of the winter of 1813-14, that the enemy having advanced a division of their forces into Upper Canada, without serious opposition, had established themselves at the River Thames, near the site of the present Town of Chatham, intended as the vanguard of the Army of conquest which was held in readiness to advance the next spring. This movement of the enemy having so far succeeded, encouraged an effort to be made by their emissaries to establish a Post or station a few miles below Dover, now Port Dover. These caused much alarm to the inhabitants by their incursions at night to obtain provisions and plunder. In order to rid the country of this band, Col. Bostwick at the head of his volunteers, guided through the then thick forest by the late Capt. Samuel Ryerse came in rear of the position occupied by them as their headquarters, and sent an officer demanding their submission as prisoners - to this summons they refused to comply and sallying forth opened fire upon the volunteers, which was returned, with loss of life on both sides; when another division or company of the volunteers approaching and the enemy finding that they were outnumbered and in danger of being surrounded, the most of them who were not disabled retreated into the woods and escaped. Amongst the killed on that day was a volunteer named Chandler, who was much regretted. Since the death of Hugh McCall, Pinkney Mabee of Middleton and one other are the only Survivors of those who were under the command of Col. Bostwick in that encounter.

It was next determined that an Attack should be made upon the enemy at the Thames--accordingly about Fifty men came

forward for that service, and the command of them was given to the late Col. Henry Metcalfe of Bayham; then Captain Metcalfe, whose orders were to capture or disperse the enemy at that place. That an expedition consisting of a force so small should have been undertaken, might have appeared indiscreet, having to proceed by a most difficult route nearly one hundred miles, without supplies except what was carried by the men in their haversacks, or any support to fall back upon in the event of being overpowered, which might have appeared quite possible as the enemy was known to consist of Infantry and cavalry but nothing definite had been ascertained either as to their numbers or their defences, but that it should have been eminently successful and have resulted in the capture of the whole of the Infantry force, and the dispersion of the mounted force of the enemy at that place was more than could have been expected of them.

Captain Metcalfe set out with his command by the less frequent route, in order to take the enemy by surprise, marching through then unsettled parts of the county, along the borders of Lake Erie and crossing by night from the Rond Eau to the River Thames, where he arrived a short time before daylight of the fourth day. When he found that he was nearing the enemy, but without a sufficient guide to point out their position, he had advanced his force but a short distance, however, on the main road when he met a man who was trying to make his escape and give such information at Headquarters as should result in sending a force such as that there met with. This person knew the position of the enemy which he pointed out, then the gate at the front entrance was dashed open and the rush forward was so sudden and impetuous, that the affrighted sentinel without firing to give the alarm, consequently the enemy was first alerted by a volley of musketry through the doors and windows of the principle barracks was the first alerted by a volley of musketry through the doors and windows of the principle barracks was the first salutation given. Then to the summons Surrender, came the response, "We have surrendered." As soon as all the arms had been secured, a movement was made against the mounted force quartered on the other side of the river, but hearing the fate of the infantry these skedaddled, clearing out by a general stampede, and running the gauntlet in their flight, having to pass through the fire of a squad of Captain Metcalfe's men at them across the river. In this successful expedition two of Captain Metcalfe's command, Serjeant Hugh McCall and Sergeant-Major Peys, father of Mrs. Thomas Hart of Simcoe distinguished themselves as well for bravery in the assault upon the enemy.... Col. McQueen of Yarmouth is now the only survivor of that gallant band."

F. L. Walsh's story of Hugh McCall's army service



*Thomas McRae farm home at Chatham, Ont.  
Site of a Battle in 1813.*



*Bronze Plaque to honour the men who fought  
in the Skirmish at the McRae house.*

is an accurate account, partly because Walsh himself was in much of this same action. When he writes, "Pinkney Mabee of Middleton and one other are the only survivors of those who were...in that encounter." I believe that the "one other" was F. L. Walsh himself. Recently, through the efforts of past and present members of The Elgin Regiment, St. Thomas now has a Military Museum. George Thorman, a St. Thomas historian, is the Genealogist of the Museum and he has done a lot of research at the Dominion Archives in regard to Military Muster Rolls of the Norfolk Regiment and the Volunteer Militia of Norfolk for the period of the War of 1812-1814. Hugh's older brothers, Captain Daniel, Sgt. Duncan, Ensign James and sailor John, all played a part in that war. Hugh started as private but at the time of the McRae Farm battle the rolls show him as a Sergeant. In 1812 he served in Capt. Daniel McCall's Company from October 21-November 24, November 25-December 24, December 25-January 1 (83 days). In 1813 he served in Sgt. Duncan-McCall's Company from September 25-October 24, October 25-October 28 (34 days). Also in 1813 in Capt. Daniel McCall's Company he served from November 7-November 24 (18 days). A muster roll of the Detachment of the Volunteer Militia of the County of Norfolk on an expedition to the River Thames under command of Lieutenant Henry Medcalf from November 25 to December 24, 1813 both days exclusive shows Sgt. Hugh McCall was paid 2£ (pounds) for that 30 days service. The last muster roll shows that in 1814 Sgt. Hugh McCall served under Capt. Bostwick's special detachment from September 14-October 24 (41 days). The Commanding Officer for the Second Flank Company of the First Regiment of Norfolk, all through this war, was Lieut. Joseph Ryerson.

The Battle of the McRae farm on the Thames at what is now the River Road, Chatham has been thoroughly documented, although not all accounts agree on each single fact. Since this story is interesting, I will quote some parts of The Battle of McCrae's Farm, 15 December, 1814, by George Thorman. "Lieut. Henry Medcalf with about 16 men was sent from Port Dover to Rondeau to secure some cattle he had been told were there. When they arrived at Port Talbot they were joined by about 9 men. Upon reaching Rondeau they could find no cattle. But they learned from the settlers that a detachment of Americans were posted to McRae's farm on the Thames River. Medcalf decided to go to the Thames and surprise the Americans. On the way they were joined by 8 men from the Kent Militia. They scouted the building in darkness and found the house was lined with brick, so they posted men at each window as well as the door. On signal they all fired at the same time. The Americans dropped to the floor and only one was killed and three wounded. About 32 Canadians had taken 43 Americans captive and now the problem was how to take all those prisoners back to Dover."

From The Elgins by Captain L. Curchin and the late

Lieut. B. Sim of St. Thomas I quote "In December 1813 a foraging party under Lt. Henry Metcalf of the 2nd. Norfolks, assisted by elements of the Middlesex and Kent Regiments, succeeded in surrounding and capturing a large party of Americans at McCrae's in Chatham, through the ingenious strategem of imitating Indian war whoops and thereby frightening the enemy into submission." The Militia began the trek back to Dover with their prisoners by way of the Longwoods road. After hearing that Americans on horseback were in hot pursuit they decided to cross the Thames River and travel on the Talbot Road. Edward Ermatinger in his book The Life of Colonel Talbot tells the story of the battle on pages 52 and 53. He has the best concluding sentence of all the versions--"Colonel Talbot, as soon as he heard of this achievement, and that this gallant little body of militia were marching down a Company of American soldiers (prisoners), ordered up sleighs to convey the whole party to Long Point." This book was written in 1859 by a reputable St. Thomas citizen who was personally acquainted with Col. Talbot and "it is conceivable that Ermatinger received the latter part of this story from Col. Talbot himself. There we shall let the story rest, but I still like F. L. Walsh's detailed and plausible account of the action at Chatham.

There is one other Military action that Walsh does not mention. This took place at the very beginning of the War. According to E. A. Owen, Hugh and John, his oldest brother who owned a large boat, were involved with General Isaac Brock on his trip to Amherstburg and the taking of Detroit. John was a sailor for many years and perhaps even before he came to Long Point. In three different chapters in Owen's book there are stories about John and his boat from the time he arrived in the Settlement. We do know that John was a wanderer and didn't ever settle down. He was a belligerent and hot-tempered fellow who appeared in court in the early days quite frequently. He also owned or leased land in both Charlotteville and Walsingham Townships but never seemed to have occupied them for very long. On the first Muster Roll of the Norfolk Militia John's name is listed there - but opposite his name is the notation, "has left the County."

When the government at York heard the Americans had crossed the river from Detroit into Canada early in the summer of 1812 they sent Brock from Fort George, near Niagara-on-the-Lake, to stop them. He made his way down the north shore of Lake Erie toward the British Fort at Amherstburg. The story of how he stopped at Port Dover and Long Point area to recruit volunteers and obtain boats to transport his men is well documented. In the Defended Border on page 227 by Cruikshank, The Elgins page 2, The Talbot Papers by James Coyne (a letter from Colonel Talbot to General Brock) page 151 and page 152, as well as the Owen book and D. T. McCall's book. All these

authors pretty well agree on most details of the forces gathering, sailing down the lake and the capture of Detroit. They also agree about the fact that after the fleet of 12 boats filled with over 200 men left Dover, a storm came up and they took shelter for the night in the mouth of the Talbot Creek at Port Talbot, the home of Colonel Talbot. There is one intriguing coincidence which would seem to show that John's boat, with Hugh assisting him was in the flotilla. E. A. Owen's account on page 298 states--"During the War of 1812 General Brock called a meeting at the house of William Culver, near St. John's Church south of Simcoe, on his way up country. At that meeting it is said that 173 volunteered for Service--among whom were John and Hugh McCall and Titus Finch.... The boat that carried them up the lake was owned by John McCall and a cannon on board." In The Talbot Regime on page 53, Ermatinger quotes part of a letter of Att. General Macdonell, written at Port Talbot, 10 August, 1812, which mentions the incident of staying over at Port Talbot. Macdonell was General Brock's Aide-de-Camp at that time. "We left Dover on the 8th between 3 and 4 p.m. and got to this place about six this morning, when the wind blew so strong upon the shore that we found it would quite impracticable to weather the point about thirty miles ahead (Point Pelee) and between which and this place there is no possibility of landing. So we were forced to beach and haul our boats into a fine creek, where from present appearances it is probable they will remain... Peter Robinson, with his riflemen joined us about 12 o'clock today and our fleet now consists of 12 sail of all kinds, in one of which is a six pounder with ammunition." This is quite possibly John's boat as it seems there was only one boat so equipped. There are also two or three accounts of the large numbers of Americans taken prisoner at Detroit and the boats were used to transport the prisoners back to Fort George at the mouth of the Niagara River and Lake Ontario. Some prisoners were taken later by the St. Lawrence River to Montreal. Lastly, John McCall himself, in a Land Petition in the Dominion Archives states, "That on the breaking out of the late War with the United States of America, Petitioner as a volunteer, joined the late Major-General Brock--that he took his own boat and piloted the General from Long Point to Amherstburg--that he used his best exertions during the operations before Detroit, until the capture thereof when he returned home, first delivering in Cleveland on the American side of the Lake, his boat load of Prisoners as directed by the General...."

This experience on the boat at age 19 years and also to some extent, the War Years, may have been the fuse that started Hugh McCall on the path of his future life.

## Chapter III

### HUGH'S MARRIAGE AND FAMILY YEARS

While the war was being fought in 1812-14, the life of the settlers carried on as best they could with some periods of real difficulty. The War was not a continuous battle and the Flank Companies and Militia were given leave to go home after a battle or series of skirmishes to carry on their farm work of seeding in spring or harvesting in the fall. For instance, after the capture of Detroit General Brock sent the Volunteers home on a lengthy leave to attend to their mills, stores or farms. Hugh himself does not seem to have engaged in any action after his trip up the lake in his brother's boat to Amherstburg and Detroit and back home in August 1812, until the action at Port Dover and later at Chatham in the Fall and December of 1813. It would appear that this was the end of his service as there is no evidence to show that he took part in the action at Queenston Heights or Lundy's Lane. So this gave Hugh plenty of time to court and marry on the 19th of May, 1813 Aner Haviland. Aner lived near Waterford in the Township of Townsend not far to the north east of Charlotteville Township. She was the daughter of Captain John Haviland, U.E.L., and Sarah Haviland. Aner was 25 years old at the time and Hugh was only 20 years of age. We have no official or Register Record of their marriage, but we have the Haviland-McCall Bible which I believe was started by Aner herself. In it are a great many births, deaths and marriage dates for a large number of the McCall descendants. It shows once again how important it is to keep a record of the Family Vital Statistics. I would urge every family to start a book of records, if you don't have one already, and you will surely be thanked by many generations in the future. Hugh and Aner had five children, two of whom died young. The survivors were George born 24th March, 1814, Allen born 23rd June, 1818 and Sarah born 15th April 1820. Later in this booklet there will be a complete account of Aner Haviland McCall's life and the lives of her children. She was a hard working, courageous, pioneer Mother with a very interesting life story worthy of its own chapters.

We do not know where they lived immediately after their marriage. They were probably married in Townsend at or near the bride's home and may have lived there a short time. On the gravestones of their children George and Sarah in the Wintermute Cemetery near Union, Yarmouth Township, in Elgin County the record states that both were born in "Charlotteville, C.W. (Canada West)." So at the time of their birth dates in March 1814 and June 1818 Hugh and Aner

lived in Charlotteville and I'm sure that was a continuous residence between those two dates. At the Norfolk Registry Office in Simcoe the Land Book for Lot No. 18 in the 4th Concession of Charlotteville Township, which was the original Crown Grant given to Hugh's father Donald McCall shows that Donald had sold the farm to his son James McCall, about 17 March, 1808, a year after James' marriage to Nancy McQueen. Donald was 73 years old and probably wanted to retire or at least take life a little easier. Hugh would only be 15 years old at the time and not old enough to take over the running of a farm. The next notation in the Land Register tells us that on 2nd of January, 1815 James sold the farm to Hugh. From 1815 to 1820 Hugh and Aner lived on the home farm. The assessment rolls for Charlotteville Township also show James and Hugh to be living on this farm at the same times as above noted. There is other evidence that Hugh resided in Charlotteville at that time. In the "Minutes of the Quarter Sessions of the Peace for London District," at Vittoria, dated July 13th 1816 I found a mention of Hugh McCall and John Caldwell to receive £ 100 each. "Recognized for the appearance of Hugh McCall and John Caldwell to give evidence against Walter Moody and Solomon Woodford at the next General Assize in this District." I wonder what crime these two men committed! It must have been quite a serious affair to be paying that amount for witness fees. These Minutes also tell us that John Backhouse was Chairman of the Session and present were Wm. Hutchison and George C. Salmon - all old and familiar pioneer family names in the area. These Quarter Session Courts were held in Vittoria which at this time and until 1825 was the capital of the district.

In spite of the fact that Hugh had bought his father's farm in 1815 and lived there from 1815 until 1820, he petitioned for a Grant of Land on 3 December, 1815 at the age of 22 years. Of course this was the privilege and right of all sons and daughters of U. E. Loyalists. When a son became 21 years of age or when a daughter married, it was the time to petition for land for themselves. I'm sure that some of these petitioners sold their land afterwards to obtain money to build or buy a mill, store, tavern or boat, if they did not wish to be a farmer. As far as I know there was nothing illegal about this. Some of the original U.E.L.'s sold their farms and bought another in a different location. This Petition of Hugh's is in the Dominion Archives in Ottawa. Accompanying this Petition were four other sworn depositions. These were to certify that Hugh was indeed the son of a Loyalist, that he had never previously received a grant of land and that he was actually Hugh McCall, son of Donald McCall,

U.E. These documents are interesting pieces of past history carrying as they do, many signatures of people living at that time in the area. I have photocopies of these actual papers from the Archives Microfilms. These copies are also deposited in the McCall files in the Simcoe Museum. On the following pages are shown some of these papers or parts of them. We have no photographs of Hugh so it is a thrill to at least see the signature of your great, great grandfather, and also a great, great Uncle James, brother of Hugh.

You will note that although Hugh started this Petition proceeding for a Land Grant on 3rd December 1815, the date of Granting was not until 19th February, 1817 which shows that government red tape is not something new or modern.

### Petition

To his Excellency Francis Gore, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Upper Canada

In Council

The Petition of Hugh McCall of the Township of Charlotteville in the London District, Yeoman

Humbly Showeth

That your Petitioner is the son of Donald McCall of Charlotteville aforesaid in the London District a U. E. Loyalist. That he has attained the age of Twenty one years and upward and has never drawn any lands or received any order for Land, from the Crown.

Wherefore your Petitioner humbly prays your Excellency would please to take his case into consideration and grant him Two hundred acres of the waste land of the Crown.

And your Petitioner  
As in duty bound  
Will ever pray -

Charlotteville  
3rd December 1815

(signed) Hugh McCall

Following are some of the depositions:

District ) Personally appeared at a court of General Quarter  
of ) Sessions holden in the Township of Charlotteville  
London ) on the Thirteenth day of December in the fifty six  
year of His Majesty's reign (1815) this within  
named petitioner Hugh McCall who being duly sworn  
maketh oath that he is the person he describes  
himself to be, in the within petition, that he has

attained the age of Twenty one years and upwards and has never drawn any land or received any order for land from the Crown.

Sworn in open )  
Court this 13th ) (signed) Hugh McCall  
day of December )  
1815

J. Backhouse Chairman

Following this is an almost identical deposition on the same day signed by Hugh's brother James McCall testifying to the fact that "Hugh McCall, is the person he describes himself to be in the petition, etc., etc.".

There are two more depositions on this same microfilm and placed with the above. I do not know if they were presented at the same time as the Petition, which I doubt because of the dates on them. Perhaps they were drawn up for another purpose entirely. The first one was dated early in the year 1815 on the 15th of March. The second one is dated the year after the Petition, 6th September 1816. The latter was very short, being an oath of allegiance before, and signed by:

"J. Mitchell J.P.  
London Ds."

The first one is rather interesting and is shown here.

District ) We John Backhouse Chairman and Richard William  
of ) Dease, Clerk of the Peace  
London ) Certify that Hugh McCall personally appeared at  
the General Quarter Sessions of the peace this day, is re-  
cognized by the Magistrate to be the son of Donald McCall  
of Charlotteville who retained his loyalty during the late  
War, without suspicion of aiding or assisting the Enemy and  
that the said Hugh McCall did his duty in defense of the  
province during the late war. Dated in open Court, this  
Twelfth day of March in the Fifty sixth year of his Majesty's  
reign (1815).

J. Backhouse, Chairman  
R. William Dease,  
Clerk of the peace.

Here is proof once more of Donald McCall's loyalty during the American Revolution and also Hugh's Service during the 1812-1814 War.

On the front piece of the original Petition there

are a number of notations. Some could not be deciphered but the important parts are:

FRONT PIECE

Entered in Land Book J  
page 58  
64D

E 068 M11  
The Petition NO 64

of  
Hugh McCall  
for descendant U.E.  
Received from -  
McCall 22 Janny  
1817

J. Smale

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deferred to the Council by his  
Excellency 22nd January 1817

Reported to his  
Excellency in Council  
19 Feb. 1817 GRANTED  
W D P F 145

From the Provincial Archives in Toronto I received a Xerox copy of a printed form. This was in the Register of Fiats for Grants of land to Loyalists. The printed form was filled in with writing which states that "on Feb. 19, 1817 Hugh McCall of the Township of Charlotteville in the County of Norfolk in the District of London, yeoman, was Granted Two Hundred Acres of Land as the son of Donald McCall of the same place, an U. E. Loyalist Privileged as by the Inspector-General of Public Provincial Accounts.

John Beikie Conf<sup>n</sup> Clk."

The letter that accompanied this copy of the Fiat for Hugh from the Ontario Archives states that they have nothing like this for Donald but have one for James which was dated Feb. 20, 1806. That would be about a year and 6 months before James' marriage to Nancy McQueen and about 2 years before he had bought his father's farm. This ties

in with E. A. Owen's statement "James married Nancy McQueen, and after a short stay near Port Rowan, settled on the homestead near Vittoria."

In spite of all this documentation I have yet to find any real evidence of where this 200 acres was or if Hugh ever actually received any land grant. It doesn't appear that he ever received land in Charlotteville Township according to land registers. The only time his name is mentioned on the Assessment Rolls of Charlotteville Twp. is in 1815 at the time he had bought the homestead farm from his father. There he is assessed for 470 acres of which 130 acres was cleared land. E. A. Owen states on p. 99 "Mr. McCall (Hugh) was awarded a grant of land in the township of Sombra, but he could not tie himself down to the task of improving it." That area was part of Oxford County until 1841 then it was added to Brant County - but this did not become official until 1849 - all of which makes researching this very difficult especially when you have no lot number or concession named. In the collection of the N.H.S. at the Museum in Simcoe, there is an affidavit that might shed some light on this Land Grant question mark. It was written at York (Toronto) 15 Feb. 1825 by Frances L. Walsh who was at that time a member of Parliament and probably in York attending a Session.

"I certify that I was acquainted with the Petitioner Hugh McCall during the late war with the United States of America. That Subsequent to the said Hugh McCall having volunteered his Services in the Flank Company he procured a man by the name of Shaw as a substitute in his place. That the said Shaw remained in the Flank Company only for a short period, the span of 4 days, as appears by a (E - - - - -) from Daniel McCall, Esquire ( - - - - - ) of the time when he left the Flank Company and the said Hugh McCall again joined the said Company and was active therein during the time the Flank Companies continued.

That I have been informed by Daniel McCall Esqu. who commanded the said Company that (on) account of the said Hugh McCall having procured the said substitute, his claim for lands for his Services has not heretofore been allowed.  
York, Feb. 1825 (signed) Francis L. Walsh."

Did Hugh make a later plea for Grant of Land or does this refer to the first Plea which was in 1915? If it was concerning the 1915 plea for Grant of Land, then it would mean that 10 years later he hadn't received it. Another puzzling aspect of Hugh's attempts to acquire land is contained

in a letter that Hugh sent to Francis Walsh in January 26, 1827. Later we shall see this whole letter but here I shall just quote the closing sentence. "I will be glad of your assistance in helping me to get Lot No 15, 2nd. Concession of Townshend as my wife has got a large house on it and I have done considerable on it since I got home." This shows that Hugh was definitely trying, in 1827, to get land in Townsend Township. This could also be the grant of land that Walsh was trying to get for him in the 1825 affidavit quoted above. Upon researching the Land Registers in the Simcoe Registry Office I found that Lot #15 - 2nd Concession of Townshend Twp. was a Crown Grant to the Canada Company of 200 acres of land. It apparently lay dormant and was not used or occupied by the Canada Co. until their attorney negotiated the sale of the west half containing 100 acres to a William Birdsill in March 1830. This was registered on 3 July 1830. William Birdsill did not live on it as almost immediately he sold it to Hiram Fairchild. The east half being 100 acres also was sold on 3 July 1835, not registered until 31 Jan. 1837, by the Canada Co. Attorney to an Isaac Birdsill. This proves that neither Hugh nor Aner ever owned that land. Not even Francis L. Walsh could get it for them as it was already owned by the Canada Co. and it appears they weren't ready to sell it before 1830. As we shall see later both Hugh and Aner had left the area before 1830.

When we left Hugh and his family living on the homestead to talk about his Land Grant pleas, it seemed that Hugh had settled down to stay for awhile. His aging Father and Mother were still alive and no doubt still living on the farm, either in the house with Hugh's family or perhaps in a small home of their own. Hugh had bought the homestead farm from older brother James on 2 January 1815. A few months later Donald drew up a new will. It could be that at eighty years of age Donald was not in the best of health and his other will made eleven years before was very much out of date. This will was completely different. Having left his wife Elsie McCall all "my household furniture - - - - - . Two of my best cows, one Mare and all my sheep," he proceeds to name and leave to each of the following one dollar - sons John, Duncan, Daniel, James, Grandsons Robert Munro and Nathaniel Fairchild and loving daughter Mary Mitchell, Then at the end of the will "I give - - - - - unto my loving son Hugh McCall all the remainder of the stock that is not already bequeathed to my loving wife Elce McCall and also all my farming utensils and it is my desire that my son Hugh provide a good and comfortable living for my loving wife Elce McCall during her natural life - - - - - . And I do hereby nominate my said loving wife Elce McCall and my Said loving son Hugh McCall to be Executrix and Executor of this my last

Will - - - - - this sixteenth day of October in the year  
- - - - - one thousand eight hundred and fifteen - - - - - .

Donald his<sup>x</sup>mark McCall

Wit: Nathan B. Barnum, Oliver Mabee, Caleb Hagen"

Four years later on July 18, 1819 Donald McCall passed away at the age of 84 years after a very full and eventful life. The above Will was probated in the London District Surrogate Court Register and the following affidavit from his son Hugh McCall attesting to Donald McCall's death on the 18th of July, 1819. "The Petition of Hugh McCall of the township of Charlotteville in the County of Norfolk - - - - Respectfully Sheweth That Donald McCall the late Father of your petitioner departed this life on the eighteenth day of July now past, having made and executed a last will and testament, wherein your petitioner and Elce McCall widow of the deceased are appointed Executor and Executrix - - - - - .

Charlotteville 14 January, 1820 (signed) Hugh McCall"

The affidavit is very important because it is the only proof we have of the exact death date of Donald McCall. He no doubt was buried in the McCall-Fairchild Cemetery but at this early date the stone or marble grave stones were not available. The custom at this time was to put up a wooden cross with the name carved in it and perhaps the date of birth and death. But the wooden crosses did not stand up to our weather and eventually there was nothing to mark the grave site. At the present time there is a stone marker which was put there at a later date. Unfortunately the dates on it are not correct and Donald is designated as a Lieutenant. From the booklet that I published in 1980 on The Military Service of Donald McCall U.E. which is in the Simcoe Museum, you will find from the Muster Rolls that Donald was a private soldier throughout his military service. This is even more forcefully shown in the old parchment deed that we have in the family. It tells us that Donald and six other "Privates" were given 50 acres of land each in the Province of New York for their Military Service in the Seven Years War 1756-1763. From the Will we note that it was Donald's wish that Hugh stay on the farm and it was his expressed desire that Hugh "provide a good and comfortable living for my loving wife Elce McCall during her natural life". As we shall now see Hugh did not comply with either of these wishes.

After the conclusion of the War Hugh seems to have had a hard time to settle down or make up his mind what line of work to follow. It would seem according to E. A. Owen that Hugh could have gone back to the sea immediately after Donald's death - or perhaps before. Owen repeats the story handed down in the family regarding Hugh's sailing days much as he did about older brother John's exploits on the sea. On page 99 Owen states "He (Hugh) was possessed of a roaming disposition and was fond of adventure. Having a strong predilection for boating, he purchased a vessel of Cross and Fisher, and engaged in the shipping business, carrying surplus products from Long Point ports to Buffalo and other points, returning with merchandise and such supplies as were in demand in the settlement. Late in the season of 1819, he was caught in the ice off Port Rowan, while trying to make that port with a cargo of salt and other supplies. This caused a salt famine in the settlement and salt went up to two dollars a barrel." On the 9th of May, 1820, about a year after Donald McCall's death Hugh sold the homestead farm back to his brother James. We do not know why James sold the farm in the first place to Hugh but no doubt he was happy to get it back. It was a large farm of 600 acres with 130 acres cleared according to the Assessment Roll of Charlotteville Twp. for June 13, 1815. The 1808 Assessment Roll tells us James had to pay over \$200 in taxes and the 1810 Assessment Roll says that the owner had to spend 10 days of labour during the year. This latter assessment was probably spent on the township roads. James had six sons to help him at the time he bought back the farm. The eldest, Simpson, was 13 years old and the fourth son was named John Hugh after his two uncles. There is an interesting family story written by E. A. Owen on p. 124 of how productive this farm was - at least in growing wheat. Another advantage was its close proximity to the John Gustin mill, the first to be built in Charlotteville. "James McCall turned in wheat at the Gustin mill in the year 1810, and had it manufactured into flour. Two hundred barrels of this flour were shipped to Quebec where it sold for \$16 a barrel - - - - . This wheat averaged about forty bushels to the acre." It was most unfortunate that James died that same year at age 29 and for a number of years the estate affairs had to be administered until Simpson became of age and was able to assume the ownership of the farm. The James McCall Family descendants retained possession of the farm until January 1876. At present the farm is back in the hands of a McCall descendant, although much reduced in size over the years as Simpson sold off pieces of land of varying sizes to his brothers, sons and others.

After Hugh sold the farm back to James he carried

on his boating activities, although he didn't always have his own boat. We are quite certain that his wife went back to Townsend Township to live. This is where Aner's family still lived and a lot of her brothers and sisters also. Aner had petitioned and was granted by Order in Council on 18 July, 1816 a Grant of Land as a married daughter of Captain John Haviland a Loyalist. Here again we have never found where this land was, if she ever lived on it or even received it. D. T. McCall writes in his book that Hugh purchased a farm in Townsend. Here again the only proof we have of the period of 1820-1827 or 1828 of Hugh's life is from the letter that Hugh sent to Francis L. Walsh, M.P.P. at York, Upper Canada.

"Townsend, Jan. 26, 1827

Dear Sir:

I wrote you by J. Anderson, which I make no doubt received.

I still continue to enjoy good health and hope this may find you enjoying the same. I am at a loss for news, as I have not a single paper this winter.

I certainly must acknowledge your kindness to me in my absence as well as many before in respect to what you have and was to my family, a great assistance. But no knowing in the pass of time, it may be in my power to return the compliment which will never fail to be my hope.

I would be glad if you could make it in your way to call to see me.

I will be obliged to sail another season or two, for to make some money to pay for my lot of land, also to give me a start on the farm. If you can hear of any vacancy of a Master of a vessel mention my name, and you can mention that I had an experience of six or seven years, and with all safety. You may mention that I am sober and stody (steady) man, as I am determined to retain that character while I live. You by so doing will do me a great favor if you write direct to Millford.

I wrote to you from Buffalo, and expected to go to the southward or work near Buffalo for next summer, but to much talk of War, I would not stand (stay) as it was the whole talk.

It is my very earnest desire to have an interview

with you on your return, of the land company and etc. I will be glad of your assistance in helping me to get lot No. 15 2nd Concession of Townshend as my wife has got a large house on it and I have done considerable on it Since I got home.

I remain Dear Sir,

Yours

To Francis Walsh

Hugh McCall

So Hugh took to the sea for 6 or 7 years and his wife and family went to Townsend to live. One wonders what became of the Mother that Hugh was to care for and provide a comfortable living. E. A. Owen wrote in 1898 a whole chapter about Simpson McCall who was living at that time at age 90 years. He says "Simpson was in his thirteenth year when his father (James) died. At this early age the boy was called upon to exercise the mettle that was in him in assuming the cares and responsibilities of looking after things. There were six brothers and three sisters, all younger than himself, a widowed Mother and an aged grandmother to look after, besides the management of the farm, of course his uncles looked after things - - - - ." It is quite possible that Hugh's mother Elsie stayed in her home on the farm for a time anyways after the untimely death of her son James. At that time Elsie was 73 years old and could have been a great help to James' widow.

Reading between the lines of the letter above it seems as if Hugh's family was having a hard time and that Walsh had helped them out many times. You get the feeling also that Hugh was forever asking for help from Walsh and not really doing too much to help himself. It is just possible that in this period, part of his problem was a liking for the bottle. Note in his letter to Walsh "you may mention that I am sober and steady man, as I am determined to retain that character while I live." Also in Walsh's memorial he says "A few years after that war (1812-14) was ended from not having been successful in maritime pursuits on the lakes and other causes Hugh McCall left this country - - - - ." Certainly when this letter was written Hugh's wife was on a piece of land in Townsend and had built a house on it. It may be that Aner became desperate enough in trying to provide a home for herself and children, without much help from an absent husband, that she built a house on a lot of land before acquiring it. So called "squatters" were quite

common in the early days before all the land had been surveyed and layed out in proper lots for sale. In some cases "squatters rights" were recognized if the person had lived there for a lengthy period of time. Another sentence in this same letter which states "and expected to go to the southward" was quite prophetic.

## Chapter IV

### VAGABOND YEARS

Hugh McCall's vagabond life endured for over 40 years. It appears that he left his family, his mother and all his brothers and sisters from about the year 1827 or 1828 and never returned until about 1872. In Chapter II concerning Hugh's War Service I quoted the first part of a Memorial that F. L. Walsh had written for the newspaper after Hugh's death. Following is the latter part of that same Memorial.

"A few years after that war (1812-14) was ended, from not having been successful in maritime pursuits on the lakes and other causes, Hugh McCall left this country and being much of a sportsman, went southward along the then confines of Settlements - Rifle in hand - surpassing many of the renowned hunters of that time, by the numbers taken by his unerring aim on the famed hunting grounds of the West, until he finally reached Mexico. There he settled and was successful in gaining property for several years, when out of pure philanthropy, as they have since evinced, their affectionate neighbours persuaded the Mexicans that to be politically happy was to do as they had done - become independant. Acting upon this advice, a revolution took place. When the subject of these remarks as well from his Monarchical principles, early inculcated as from a sense of duty, in return for kind offices which had been extended to him by those in authority, he joined the forces in defense of Spanish supremacy. They were discomfitted and he with others taken, was forthwith pinioned down to be shot; but it so happened that one in authority amongst the insurgents was a Scotchman and he hearing or seeing the name McCall amongst those of the doomed prisoners, came to him and asked him if he came from Scotland, being answered that he was the son of a Scotsman, he calmly remarked, Perhaps it might be as well not to execute that man - his life was spared but not his property. He was hurried far into the interior of the country and retained a prisoner until Mexican independence had been gained, which if a blessing must have been one in disguise as their subsequent history has shown. - - - After being released from captivity Hugh McCall made his way to California where his efforts to settle himself comfortably promised for a time to be crowned with success, but his plans were again frustrated by the angel of evil omen which had ruined his prospects in Mexico - overshadowing regions West of the Rocky Mountains which caused the mania which seized the many thousands to flock to that country in the hope of getting gold. But this did not benefit the subject of these remarks, quite the contrary.

He continued however to plod on in California in very reduced circumstances from one year to another, until recently when, from bodily infirmity and age, he was induced to return to the country of his youth after an absence of forty four years."

We the descendants of Hugh owe so much to F. L. Walsh for his legible writing and his habit of keeping every document, manuscript and piece of paper that came into his hands. All the more so in this case because the newspapers of that particular period in 1874 have been lost. If we did not have this account of these 44 years of Hugh McCall's life by Walsh, a public school chum and close family friend, we would know precious little about his wanderings. Mrs. Mary Middleton of New Jersey has tried to do some research on this period but has never found any traces as yet. The difficulty is that so much of this account is vague about exact locations, and in those early times few records were kept or survive to this day. Hugh certainly had some tall tales to tell when he got back but apparently Walsh believed them or he wouldn't have put them down on paper. E. A. Owen says on page 99 "For a time he (Hugh) engaged in the fur traffic. Finally he went to California, and did not return until he had grown old." Owen wrote this some years after the Memorial had been published in the paper and that may have been its source but he also could have heard it from Simpson McCall. Much of the McCall family stories in the book are presumed to be information that Simpson McCall told to Owen. Simpson McCall was 21 years old when his Uncle Hugh left the country and he would be 65 years old when Hugh returned. Simpson McCall lived to be 92 years of age. It is possible that Hugh followed the great Ohio and Mississippi Rivers in his going southward to Mexico, hunting as he went and selling the hides to enable him to pay for food and shelter. These were the well known travel routes first used by the explorers and at this particular time in 1828 it was considered the Western Boundary. From a book entitled Mexico by Victor Alba in the St. Thomas Public Library I was able to get an idea of the history and political climate of Mexico at this period of 1828-1848 which is about the years that Hugh would be spending there. Mexico in 1821 controlled a very large area of what is now the United States as well as what we now call Mexico. The Spaniards had explored and claimed in the name of the King of Spain all of the now States of Texas, New Mexico, Utah, Nevada, California and parts of other Western States. Many of these were then sparsely or not at all settled. One of these not settled States was Texas. In 1821 the Viceroy of Mexico gave Moses Austin, an American land agent, permission to settle 300 families from the Louisiana Territories in the now State

of Texas. By 1830 some 25,000 English speaking naturalized Mexican citizens were living in the area. That was the foot in the door action that eventually led to the famous siege of the Alamo by the Mexican leader Santa Anna at San Antonio and later the capture of Santa Anna by Sam Houston in 1836. They forced Santa Anna into signing a secret Treaty to recognize Texan Independence and proclaimed in September 1836 by the U.S. government with the Rio Grande River being the southern boundary. Of course Mexico did not honor this Treaty. A new U.S. President, James K. Polk, later tried to purchase New Mexico and California but this was also refused and eventually in 1846 the Americans under General Zachary Taylor invaded Mexico across the border at Monterrey. On 23 February 1847 the Americans defeated Santa Anna at Saltillo, 200 miles north of Mexico City. On 2 February, 1848 the Guadalupe Hidalgo Treaty was signed in which Mexico ceded to the United States what is now Utah, Nevada, California, New Mexico, Arizona and parts of Colorado and Wyoming as well as recognizing the Annexation of Texas. The latter part of this account of the political climate in Mexico seems to fit very well with the Walsh account of Hugh's residency in that country. After the treaty was signed and Hugh was released from prison about 1848-1849 was the time when the news broke that Gold had been discovered by James Marshall. On Monday 24 January, 1848 Marshall, the boss of Sutter's lumber mill in California found gold in the mill race. When the news was broadcast the Gold Rush started about 1849. This also ties in very well with Walsh's story of Hugh and the Gold Rush. It turned out later to be a very small Gold Rush, comparatively speaking. It was small in area and length of time. The 49ers, as the prospectors of this Gold Rush were called, got very little out of it. Very few became wealthy and Marshall himself got nothing. So it was not surprising that Hugh did not do well either. At this time Hugh was 56 years of age and prospecting must have been very hard for a man that age. The gold rush was practically all over with by 1854 but some stayed on until 1857. Hugh stayed almost another 20 years in California, Walsh says, and "continued to plod on in very reduced circumstances from one year to another". We do not know the exact date of his arrival back in Vittoria. Walsh says "recently" when he wrote this in April 1874, so we may presume he had come home about 2 years before. Some day we may find some evidence of his stay in Mexico and that thrilling episode of escaping the firing squad which has all the elements of suspense and drama of a movie thriller. I would doubt if we will ever find out much about the gold seeking adventure in California as he probably didn't stay in any one place for too long. How did

Hugh travel from Mexico to California? At that date there were no railroads going across the continent. But that was one good result of the gold rush. The men from the Eastern seaboard in the U.S. who wanted to go to California in 1849 booked passage on sailing vessels making the long trip south and through the Panama and then journeying north again through the Pacific waters. This started people in Government to think of a rail line to California and by the time Hugh left to come home there was a rail line to San Francisco. It is a coincidence that at this particular time I should read a story about Frederic Errington, a farmer in Westminster Township near London, Ontario who made a trip to British Columbia. He started this trip not long after Hugh would have arrived back in Charlotteville township. These two townships are only a few miles apart in Southern Ontario. Errington kept a diary of his trip, a copy of which is in the possession now of a granddaughter. "When F. W. Errington and a friend went to British Columbia they had to travel through the United States, as a trans-continental Canadian rail link still was in the distant future. They took a train to Chicago, another to San Francisco, then travelled by boat, along the coast to Victoria." So perhaps Hugh made the trip home in style - compared to the way in which he got to Mexico forty years before and the way he travelled from Mexico to California twenty years before his homecoming. This is presuming that he had the money to go by train. If he didn't have the money it would have been a very difficult journey for a man of about 79 years of age.

## Chapter V

### THE CLOSING YEARS

When the Prodigal Son returned from his wandering, a destitute old man, there were few people left in the area of Vittoria or Charlotteville Township who would remember him. This fact was very likely the reason why Walsh wrote the Memorial for the newspaper after Hugh's death. All his brothers and sisters had passed on with the one exception of Mary Ann McCall Mitchell, wife of Ephriam C. Mitchell whose marriage Hugh had witnessed at a young age. If Hugh had come back in 1872 he may have seen E. C. Mitchell who died that same year. Mary died the next year in 1873. The Mitchells had moved from Charlotteville Township not too long after their marriage, to a farm in Bayham Township, Elgin County which bordered on Norfolk's western boundary. Both Ephriam and Mary were 85 years old at their death. Hugh and Mary were the youngest of the McCall family and had walked to school together along the creek and through the woods. They were close to each other as youngsters and Ephriam had attended that school at the same time. What a reunion that must have been, if they did get together after all those years! There were quite a few nephews and nieces still living in the area, many of them too young to have remembered having seen their Uncle Hugh before he left the area. One of the older ones was of course Simpson McCall who lived on the homestead farm. In 1872 George Daniel McCall, son of Simpson, lived on the farm and Simpson was living just west of or in Vittoria where he had a store and Post Office and was a member of the Municipal Council and later an M.P. for Norfolk from 1867-71-75. Another nephew and niece who would perhaps remember their Uncle would be Duncan's two older children, Daniel and Margaret who had married Aquila Mitchell Walsh a brother of Francis L. Walsh, and Robert Munro son of Hugh's sister Catherine McCall Munro and husband James Munro.

Hugh's wife Aner left almost immediately after his departure, for Yarmouth Township in Elgin County and settled on a farm not far from Port Stanley on Lake Erie. She passed away in 1864 about eight years before Hugh arrived home and is buried in the Wintermute Cemetery near her farm and close to the village of Union. Beside her is her daughter Sarah who died only a few years after they settled on the farm and her two sons both of whom predeceased her. From these two sons Hugh had 11 grandchildren that he had never set eyes on. Four grandchildren died young but seven were still alive. Of these seven there was only one grandson and six granddaughters. The grandson was Nelson

Simpson McCall, our grandfather. The family story is that Hugh came to Yarmouth after his return to Charlotteville and visited and stayed a short while with Nelson, his wife Catharine and their two sons. I don't know if any of the five granddaughters were still living at this time or if any of them were living in the area of Union.

Perhaps the last paragraph in Francis Walsh's eulogy to Hugh is a fitting end to this saga. "On the sixth day of March of the present year (1874) his checkered life was brought to a close, and on the eighth he was buried in the family burying ground near Vittoria, on the old homestead farm where rest the remains of his honored parents and can be seen the epitaphs of his four older brothers, Col. Daniel McCall, Major Duncan McCall, M.P.P., Captain John McCall and James McCall, and of his two eldest sisters and others."

On his death record under "Occupation" he was listed as "One of the World's wanderers". So be it.

## Chapter VI

### THE JOHN HAVILAND FAMILY

Although Aner Haviland and Hugh McCall met and married in Norfolk County, their true origins were not that close. Over four centuries ago the McCalls or McColls migrated from Ireland to Scotland. The Havilands or De Havilands came from France to England. The McCalls settled on the Island of Mull and the Havilands called the Guernsey Islands home. In later years a few Haviland families left the Guernseys to settle in England. One of these families was an ancestor of Aner Haviland. Some time after this Aner's grandfather Isaac moved to the American Colonies - now the United States. Here they settled and raised a family in a valley in New York State. It was in the County of Putnam whose capital was Towners now Patterson. The valley came to be known as Haviland Hollow and the hill above as Quaker's Hill. To this day it is still Haviland Hollow. Later a branch of the family moved to France and eventually became famous for the making of fine china.

Aner's father, John Haviland, married Ann Birdsill (Birdsell). Both of these families were originally Quakers or Friends, but Ann's father James Birdsill married Hannah Akin (Aiken) who was not a Quaker. Therefore James Birdsill was disowned by the Friends. Consequently when John Haviland married Ann Birdsill he also was disowned for "marrying out of Meeting". John and Ann had a son Eli Birdsill Haviland. The source of this information and more to come was discovered by sisters Ruth Gould and Eleanor Chapin in a book titled The Haviland Genealogy written by Josephine Frost, a Haviland descendant in the early 1900's. On page 177 item #212 it says, "John Haviland son of Isaac and Elizabeth (Bates) Haviland was born, probably in the neighborhood of Haviland Hollow and Quaker Hill on 20 of 8 mo., 1752: he served in the British Army and went to Canada. He married Anne, b. 28 of 5 mo., 1756, daughter of James and Hannah (Akin) Birdsall. In her father's will dated June 11, 1814 . . . she is not mentioned, but her son is. Resided Towners', N.Y. - Issue: Eli Birdsall". We now know that the reason Anne wasn't mentioned in her father's will was because she had died young, some time after Eli's birth. The above date of birth for John does not coincide with Aner's Bible, which says he was born Oct. 21, 1751 and died Dec. 10, 1839 aged 88 years. The cemetery stone for John Haviland now in the Waterford Cemetery only says "John Haviland Sr. died in his 88th year". We do not know the date of John and Anne's marriage. Their son Eli was born 11 Nov. 1775, probably at Haviland Hollow. From the records of the Friends the notice of John's being

disowned was printed on the 17 of 3 mo. 1774, so John and Anne were married before that date. John was about 23 years old and Anne about 18 years at marriage. After Anne's death John married Sarah Birdsell who could very well have been a sister or a cousin of Anne's. Sarah was born 14th March 1758 so she was about two years younger than Anne. We do not know the date of John and Sarah's wedding but their first child John Jr. was born 15th November, 1781 in New York City according to his cemetery stone. This date of birth coincides also with the Bible date. The Rebellion had begun in 1777. John was in the British Army and could have been stationed in New York City as it was a main headquarters for his army until the end and also for a short period after the Rebellion.

We are fortunate to have again, due to the research of Eleanor Chapin and Ruth Chapin Gould, many copies of documents obtained from the Dominion Archives showing proof of John's service during the Revolution and also his applications for land grants after coming to Canada. They are descendants of John Haviland as we are also. In one document John Haviland states "that he joined the Royal Standard in or about the year 1776 and served His Majesty in a Corps commanded by Major Mansfield Baugore, afterward by Colonel James Delancy until the Treaty of Separation in 1783. That he bore a Commission as a Captain . . . .". At the bottom of P.179 from The Haviland Genealogy I quote a letter:

"Fishkill, N.Y. Feb. 16, 1779

A few days ago I gave permission to Richard Willis, a refugee, to possess a house and two acres of property of John Haviland, now with the enemy, which can be proved. Isaac Haviland the father of John has warned Mr. Willis out, and in case of refusal, tells him he will apply to Mr. Benson . . . .". From this we gather that John's property or at least part of it, had been confiscated soon after he left to join the British Army which was customary at that time. Perhaps this was the reason for his staying in New York State for some time after the end of the war, in order to try to recover his property. But feelings against the British were running high for some years after the close of the War and he no doubt felt uncomfortable. At any rate we know that by 1787 John Haviland had come to Canada. He came across the St. Lawrence River into what is now the Province of Quebec. At Lachine in Quebec he contacted Stephen De Lancey who was at that time the inspector of Loyalists. Stephen may have been some relation to the above mentioned Colonel Delancey but we only know that he was the son of General Oliver De Lancey, commander of the New Jersey Volunteers in the Revolution. John must have passed inspection as Stephen

and this only to be my Last will and testament.  
In Witness whereof I have hereunto set and  
subscribed my name to the five preceding pages hereof  
and have hereunto set my hand and seal in confirma-  
tion of the same to this the last page hereof at the  
Township of Townsend aforesaid this fifth day  
of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight  
hundred and twenty seven. John Haviland

Signed, sealed, published and  
declared by the above named John  
Haviland senior as and for his  
last will and testament in the  
presence of us who have hereunto  
subscribed our names as witnesses  
in the presence of the said testator  
and in the presence of each other.

Francis E. Walsh  
Abner Corlies  
Cornelius Corlies

John Haviland's last Will 1827

Recommendation for Land Grant  
to John Haviland

The bearer hereof Mr. John Haviland is a <sup>29<sup>th</sup></sup> man  
who served during the late Rebellion in Col. James  
DeLancey's Corps of Loyal Refugees at New York  
he is a Loyal Subject and is recommended to  
the Honorable John Collins for such Proportion  
of lands as he shall Judge him entitled to  
on seeing his Credentials; he has a wife & four  
Children

Step: DeLancey

Lachine Aug<sup>1<sup>st</sup></sup> 26 1787

De Lancey wrote a recommendation to the Honorable John Collins on John's behalf. Collins was the Deputy Surveyor General under Haldimand. He was the man sent to the Cataraqui (Kingston) area to survey town lots and farms for "the distressed Loyalists" fleeing to Canada after the Rebellion. I quote this note in full signed by De Lancey at Lachine on 20th Aug. 1787. "The bearer hereof Mr. John Haviland is a man who served during the late Rebellion in Col. James De Lancey's Core of Royal Refugees at New York, he is a Loyal Subject and is recommended to the Honorable John Collins for such Properties or of land as he shall judge him entitled on seeing his credentials. He has a wife and four children". The end results of all this is that John received his first Land Grant of 400 acres being Lot #26 in the first and second Concessions of Sidney Township. This is on the north shore of Lake Ontario just west of the town of Belleville. At that time Sidney was in the Midland District. The western portion of Midland District was later called Victoria District, and today it is Hastings County. The nearest town was Hallowell and William Reid's book The Loyalists of Ontario lists John as "of Hallowell". Some references say he settled at Adolphustown. Perhaps it was the largest town in the area but it is quite a distance south east of Hallowell in what is now Prince Edward County. In The Ontario Historical Society Papers and Records - Volume III, published in 1900 by L. H. Tasker, M.A. he writes in part, "At the close of the war, he (John Haviland) joined the party which Mr. Grass was preparing to conduct to Upper Canada. They left New York in five small vessels, and sailed around the coast, arriving at Sorel, in Quebec, in October 1783. There they built themselves shanties and wintered. In May 1784, they re-embarked in their boats and reached Cataraqui (Kingston) in July". The Settlement of United Empire Loyalists on the Upper St. Lawrence and Bay of Quinte in 1784 by E. A. Cruikshank tells us a lot of things about Michael Grass and the above remarks by Tasker are all true - except that John Haviland was not with the Grass party in 1784. Much later after John had settled near Simcoe in another application for Land Grant he states, "And this deponent further saith that he came into the Province of Canada in 1787 and received four hundred acres of land in the Township of Sidney upon which he resided three or four years. That the said deponent having private business in the State of New York acquainted the Land Commissioners of his intention of going to the said State for the purpose of recovering property he had left there. That the said Commissioners approved of the deponents disposing of his Lands in this Province in order to enable him to effect his purpose in going to the United States". This makes it very clear as to when John

Haviland came to Canada and about when he went back to New York State.

The reference to "a wife and four children" in the recommendation by Stephen De Lancey is interesting. On the 1787 date of arrival in Canada John had five children - Eli born 1775 by the first marriage, John Jr. born 1781, Elizabeth born 1784, Mary born 1785 and Sarah born 1786. It would appear that Eli did not come to Canada with the family. That would leave the first four children born to John and Sarah. There seems to have been about five years between the death of the first wife Anne and the marriage to the second wife Sarah. It is very possible that in those troubled times of the Rebellion some relative or close friend took Eli to raise. By the time the family moved to Canada Eli was 12 years of age. It is also probable that Aner born March 20, 1788 may have been born in Canada after their arrival in Sidney Township. Another document dated 10 January 1809, some five years after John and family had returned to Canada and had settled in Townsend Township he states: "In consequence of such approval, sold his land (in Sidney Township) and made the said journey which from several circumstances, detained him much longer than he expected. That the deponent ever considered himself as belonging to the Province and never quitted the same with any view or intention of becoming a resident or subject of the United States. That this deponent returned to this Province after having arranged his said business and with his family has continued therein ever since". These statements are proof that the last four children were probably born in New York State, namely Benjamin, Frances, Daniel and Loanne.

I think it will be of interest to note here my experience while researching in Belleville which is now the county town of Hastings County. I first went to the Registry Office to research the early Land Books showing John Haviland received original Crown Grant of Lots 26 in the first and second Concessions of Sidney Township. Imagine my surprise to find another name inscribed at a much later date than 1787! After much mind searching and speaking with researchers we decided the reason must be that John arrived before there was a Registry Office and did not stay on this 400 acres long enough to have it inscribed in the local Land Books. I have read that the first settlers in the St. Lawrence area were given cards to show their allotment of land. This was their only deed until the local Registry Office was established. So we are very fortunate to have all those above copies of documents from the Ontario and Dominion Archives which are proof of his

having received and then sold this land in Sidney Township as it is not recorded in the Registry Office Land Books. Most libraries now have the Micro-fiche cards as well as microfilms. I found micro-fiche cards in the Corby Library at Belleville and the same cards in our St. Thomas Library showing Early Land Grants in Ontario supplied by the National Archives. This not only shows John Haviland's grants in Sidney but many more grants as we shall see later.

## Chapter VII

### THE HAVILAND FAMILY IN TOWNSEND TOWNSHIP

You may wonder why John Haviland chose the Simcoe area on his second trip to Canada instead of going back to the Belleville area? I believe it was because he knew a lot of the people who had settled in Townsend Township before his arrival there. They were former friends and neighbours and in some cases even former army buddies. He may have heard from them about the good sandy loam soil, the plentiful pine forests and a much more temperate climate. On his arrival in 1803 he bought land from the Fairchild Family who were early pioneer settlers in the Boston area of Townsend, having arrived in 1793. From the Land Books in the Registry Office at Simcoe we find that John bought 200 acres, Lot #12 in the first Concession of Townsend from Elizabeth Fairchild and 400 acres, Lots #11 and #12 in the second Concession of Townsend from Joshua Fairchild, all dated 26 Dec. 1803. There is still a Haviland family living on the home farm Lot #12, Second Concession today (1983) and they possess the original Deed of Purchase from Joshua Fairchild to John Haviland. It is now named the Century Farm. There are many descendants of the Havilands still living in the area and the annual Haviland Picnic and Re-union has become quite famous. It has been held continuously for over 80 years. In the past it was held at Port Dover, Brantford and on the family farm, but for some years now it is held at Waterford.

E. A. Owen has written a Haviland chapter in his book and much of his story is correct, but he states that John belonged to Butler's Rangers during the Revolution. We have now in John's own words proof of the fact that he was with De Lancey's Brigade throughout the Rebellion.

Next we come to the many documents which were written in the years 1808 and 1809. These all add valuable information to the Haviland story concerning their early years in Townsend and they also tell us a lot about their first trip to Canada as we have already quoted. Having settled himself quite nicely on his farm he now has more time to put his mind and energies to other matters such as acquiring still more land by grants and also buying and selling farm land. At this time (1808) John would be about 57 years of age and was probably semi-retired from farming. His son John Jr. was 27 years old and no doubt was managing the farms as we know that he lived on one of the farms after his marriage and also took over the home farm later. The third son Benjamin was 17 years old and would also be able

to help with the chores.

As a Captain in the war, John Haviland was entitled to much more in land grants than the 400 acres he had received in 1787. The problem was that a Loyalist could claim land grants from the Crown if he came to live in Canada from the U.S.A. before 1798. John had gone back to the U.S.A. after receiving his first grant and did not return until 1803. This put him in a bit of a jeopardy. So now he put forth his best efforts to make sure all was in order when he applied for this next grant of land. Following is a complete copy of this plea:

"To his excellency Francis Gore, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Upper Canada.

Ve . . . . . Ve . . . . . Ve . . . . . In council.

The Petition of Captain John Haviland of Townsend, Humbly Showeth, that the Pettitioner resided in the British Colonies, now the United States, at the breaking out of the Rebellion, that he joined the Royal Standard and served his Majesty as a Captain in a Corps Commanded by Colonel James Delancy until the Treaty of Separation in the year 1783 . . . . that his Commission as a Captain was taken from him and destroyed by the Rebels and that your Petitioner does not receive Half Pay, as such, nor has he ever received any compensation for his losses . . . . That he has received 400 acres of Land from the Crown in the Township of Sidney and humbly prays that such further portion of land may be granted to him as to your Excellency may appear meet . . . . and that his name may be inserted on the U. E. List.

And Petitioner will ever pray

John Haviland

York, 2 February 1808"

Apparently when John received his first grant of 400 acres his name had not been entered on the U. E. List. This was a serious and very important oversight and he wanted to be sure that his name would be entered this time. Ontario was the only Province that had a U. E. List. When a Loyalist's son or daughter became 21 years old they were entitled to apply for a land grant also. So it was doubly important that John's name be put on that list. Many years later William Reid researched the Archives and other sources and compiled a list of U. E. Loyalists who received land grants in Ontario, as well as their children. That book The Loyalists in Ontario is now a sort of Bible for their descendants. If your ancestor's name is on that list it certainly is a great help in reseaching your family tree. We descendants of Hugh McCall Branch are very fortunate to have both of our Loyalist ancestors - Donald

McCall and John Haviland - listed in this book. Opposite John's name in this book it says "of Hallowel and Townsend". The daughter's names given are mostly their married names as most received the land grants after marriage.

Before going to York in February 1808 to have his deposition written and presented, John was very careful to have many people swear to the fact that he had been on the side of the English during the rebellion and that he had lived in Canada for many years as a good citizen. These sworn statements are brief but very informative. Two of the statements were signed by a Jonathon Williams and a Wynant Williams who lived in close proximity in Woodhouse Township. Both were dated 7 January, 1808, and sworn in the presence of Samuel Ryerse J.P. Woodhouse is south of Townsend and borders on Lake Erie just east of Charlotteville Township. The Williams do not seem to be related. Captain Jonathon came to Canada after the Revolution from Long Island, New York. Wynant Williams was a Justice of the Division Court of Townsend and Woodhouse. Jonathon's statement in part, says "This may certify that I the subscriber was acquainted with Captain John Haviland before the late American Revolutionary War, and knew him to be within the British Lines as early at the year 1777 and that he was a Captain . . . ." Wynant Williams says "This may certify that I was acquainted with Captain John Haviland in the early part of the late American Revolutionary War and knew him to be a Captain in the Corps of Loyalists who embodied themselves at the request of the Commander in Chief and served at the outposts as Volunteers without pay under the command of Major Mansfield Baumore and afterwards commanded by Col. James Delancy.

I have known him to be in this Province for about four years now last past, during which time he has behaved himself as an honest, industrious man and a good subject".

Another paper signed by Peter Van Alstine is brief and has no date. Van Alstine was another leader of refugees coming to Canada directly after the end of the Revolution as did Michael Grass. Van Alstine was much better thought of and always put the well being of his group before any thought of his own personal gain. He was a member of Abraham C. Cyler's Regiment during the war. Van Alstine settled near Adolphustown on the Bay of Quinte on July 10, 1784. He was chairman of the local land board and in 1793 was elected a member of the Assembly for the County of Prince Edward and district of Adolphustown. This was not far from John Haviland when he came to Canada the first time and settled near Belleville and somehow they must have become acquainted and perhaps were

good friends.

The next certificate is signed by six men, nearly all pioneers of the area, and Loyalists. They also had a connection with the local Municipal Government. They too attest to the fact that John was in Townsend for four years and was honest, industrious, etc. They were Samuel Ryerse, Norfolk's first judge and brother of Joseph Ryerson - both staunch Loyalists and prominent in the district. John Bostwick who was sheriff of the London District and a brother of Henry Bostwick. We shall hear more of these brothers later as John Haviland and the Bostwicks were involved in buying and selling of farms in Yarmouth Township in Elgin County. The next two men to sign were Thomas Horner, the Registrar of the District and Thomas Welch the first Registrar of the District and later the first surveyor. The last man to sign was Isaac Swayse who also held a Municipal Office.

The most interesting of these certifications, I think, is the last one, signed by Sarah Ryerse on 4 January 1808 at Woodhouse. It states, "These may certify that I the subscriber was acquainted with the bearer Capt. John Haviland in the time of the late American Revolutionary War, that I knew him to belong to a Regiment raised by Major Mansfield Barmore, and afterwards commanded by Col. James Delancey, and that I frequently heard him called Capt. Haviland and that I verily believe him to have been a Captain at that time . . ."

Sarah was the second wife of Samuel Ryerse. Her husband had been killed during the Revolution and Samuel's wife had died leaving him with a son. Sarah and Samuel had a number of children, many of whom died young, but one who survived was Mrs. Amelia (Ryerse) Harris. It was rare indeed for a woman to sign a document in those days, so this act alone shows the measure of the person who was Sarah Ryerse. E. A. Owen states simply "and his (Samuel's) wife being a woman of more than ordinary intelligence was a distinguished leader in Colonial Society". Owen does not even give her first name, but no matter, as we can see that Women's Lib. seems to have been alive and well in the early 1800's. This is more forcefully demonstrated in the writings of Anne Jamison in 1838. I'm sure that any woman today who reads her Volumes I, II and III of her book Winter Studies and Summer Rambles in Canada would be very surprised and amazed at her thoughts and actions of almost 150 years ago. Many years after Sarah Ryerse's death her daughter Amelia (Ryerse) Harris was at a ripe old age and with the urging of her cousin she put down on paper a Historical Memoranda of her memories of the Pioneer days. In this she frequently mentions her mother and in fact Amelia herself seems to have been a lot like her mother. For many

years she was the leader of the social set in London, Ontario. She played hostess to the great and the near great in her elegant home, Eldon House. Colonel Thomas Talbot was a frequent guest at her home. Eldon House still stands to-day on the banks high above the Thames River as a Museum where any person can view the many rooms and lovely grounds.

The petition of John Haviland has been presented, along with a preponderance of certification, in early February 1808. Now we look at two documents that show the wheels of government turn quickly - for awhile. The first document signed by Richard Cartwright and dated York, 2nd Feb., 1808 which says "These are to certify that John Haviland obtained Lands in the Township of Sidney in the Midland District in the year 1787 on which he settled for three years or more." Mr. Cartwright was probably a civil servant whose job it was to check out this particular part of the Petition and he found it to be correct as stated. The next document was signed by Chewatt V. Ridout, acting Surveyor General dated 4 Feby., 1808 and states, "To His Excellency Francis Gore Lieut. Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Upper Canada. In Council - In obedience to your Excellency's Order of reference to us, to report upon the Petition of Captain John Haviland.

We are to state to your Excellency that we only find him entered for Lot No. 26 in the 1st and 2nd Concession of the Township of Sidney containing together 400 acres". This verifies the location and size of John's first grant of land. Then it takes a year before Council finally decided to grant John Haviland the remainder of the land due to him as a Captain in the war. The right hand side of the front piece of the original Land Grant follows:

"Read in Council Jan'y 27, 1809 .

The Petitioner is recommended for 2,600 acres to make up 3,000 acres to him as Captain and also that his name be inserted on the U. E. List.

Thos. Troll  
Chairman

Approved  
Francis Gore  
Lieut Governor

M C for 2,600 acres  
John M. Sell  
I S P AS.

A Warrant issued to the Attorney General 11th Feb. 1809.

Entered on the U. E. List"

The end result of all these documents gave John Haviland a grant of 2,600 acres of land in King and West Gwillimbury Townships. King Township is in the Northern part of what is now York County and West Gwillimbury is now in Simcoe County. They are north of the Capital of York, now Toronto. As we now know this seems to have been an exercise of acquiring land due him as a Captain. He never did live there. In fact he was well settled in Townsend for 4 years before he asked for this grant and remained there all the rest of his days. Following is a complete list of John Havilands early Land Holdings - some granted and some bought - as recorded on the micro-fiche cards.

|               |  | <u>Lot</u>     | <u>Conc.</u> | <u>Date</u>                         |
|---------------|--|----------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| John Haviland | Sidney Township<br>(Hastings Co.)          | 26             | 1            | Jan. 1790                           |
| John Haviland | Sidney Township                            | 26             | 2            | Jan. 1790                           |
| John Haviland | Haldimand Township<br>(Northumberland Co.) | 4              | 1            | Aug. 1799                           |
| John Haviland | Cramahe Township<br>(Northumberland Co.)   |                |              | 1799                                |
| John Haviland | Reach Township<br>(Ontario County)         | 21             | 14           | Aug. 1809                           |
| John Haviland | Gwillimbury W.<br>(Simcoe County)          | 13<br>14<br>15 |              | Aug. 1809                           |
| John Haviland | King Township<br>(York County)             | 32<br>33<br>35 | 1<br>7       | Jan. 1812<br>Aug. 1809<br>Jan. 1812 |

I was able to find only 3 of the above in the Land Books at the Registry Office. At Cobourg it was recorded that John Haviland received a Crown Grant of 200 acres in the Township of Haldimand, Co. of Northumberland on Dec. 31, 1798. He sold 100 acres (rear half) on 29 March, 1811 to William De Long. On the same date he sold the front 100 acres to John Day. The grant in Gwillimbury of Lots 13, 14, 15, a total of 600 acres received on Feb. 19, 1812 was recorded as being on the west side of Yonge Street, but no record of the selling of these lots. The most complete and exciting part of this research was the Grant of Lots 32, 33 and 35 on the 7th Concession of King Township. They were all dated 18 Feb. 1812. The first lot #32, was sold 23 Dec. 1816 and registered on 25 June 1825 to "Ener McCall, wife of Hugh McCall - 200 acres all." The

next line in the Land Book reads "B. & S. 23 Dec. 1824, (registered) 27 June 1825, Hugh McCall. et Ux - William B. Baldwin - 200 acres all." It also says that lot was sold for \$200. There was no mention at all of any consideration from John to Aner. So I would presume that he gave them the 200 acres. It didn't take Aner and Hugh long to sell it for 200 pounds. It was at this particular time that Hugh had left his father's farm and sailed on merchant ships. At one point he had his own ship. This 200 pds. may have helped him to buy a ship. I don't believe they ever lived on this farm as they were living in Townsend Township about that year 1824 and 1825. Now we come to Lot No. 33 7th Concession. On 1 Aug. 1818 it was sold by John to John Haviland Jr., his son, for one pd. which was a token price. On 21 Nov. 1832 John Jr. sold 100 acres to Joel Hughes for 100 pds. The last parcel of land in this group was Lot 35 in the 7th Concession. John gave this 200 acres, again for a token price of 1 pd. to Joseph Nelles on 1 Dec. 1816. I am sure that neither John Haviland Jr. or Joseph Nelles who had married John Srs. daughter Sarah before 1816, ever lived on this land. They were both living in the Townsend area at this time and both couples were buried in the Pioneer Haviland Cemetery in Townsend when they died. Many people who are wealthy hoard their money. John Haviland was a very generous man who gave to his family when they needed help to get a start in a new country.

While researching the arrival of John Haviland and his family in the Belleville area and the grants of land given to him there, both the Chapins and I have become aware of another John Haviland in that area about this same time. The other John Haviland was a Friend or Quaker Leader. He had a daughter or sister named Jane who married Robert Hubbs. Jane had a brother named Benjamin which could mean the 2 Johns were somehow related as that name occurs in our John's family. Robert Hubbs and Jane arrived at Picton Bay 27 Dec. 1797. Jane Hubbs had a descendant who became Lieut. Governor of Nova Scotia. About the same time the Hubbs settled on Picton Bay "a John Haviland received a grant of land in Cramahe, which he afterwards sold to the pioneer Hubbs." This quotation is from p.403 of Pioneer Life on the Bay of Quinte - a reprint by the Mika Publishing Co. of an original 1904 book. In the above copy of the micro fiche card showing John Haviland Land Grants you will note that the last grant mentioned is Cramahe (Northumberland Co.) and it does not mention any lot or concession number - only a date. I went to the Colborne Registry Office and searched all the concessions in that township and didn't find John Haviland listed. I believe they have mixed up the two John Havilands and the Cramahe lot did not belong to our

John Haviland. This also could be the answer to another mystery. In William Reid's The Loyalists of Ontario which lists the Land Grants given to United Empire Loyalists and their sons and daughters, John Haviland is listed as "of Hallowell and Townsend." The first line under his name is:

Phoebe M. John Smith of Hallowell O.C. 17 March 1812 and the last two lines under John's name are:

Nancy M. Roswell Adsit of Hillier O.C. 8 Sept. 1836  
Jane M. Henry Benham of Hillier O.C. 8 Sept. 1836

None of these three were daughters of our John Haviland. Because they lived in the Bay of Quinte area and one was named Jane, I believe they were related to the other John Haviland. The other six lines refer to our John's children. All but one states "of Townsend". The other one is our ancestor Aner. It states "of Charlotteville". I can understand how errors could be made when both John Havilands came to the same area within a few years of each other.

About the same time that John Haviland was making his plea for the last Land Grants he was also buying farm land on speculation. This farm land was in Yarmouth Township, West of Norfolk County in what is now Elgin County. At that time Yarmouth was part of Middlesex County. The first surveyed lots were on Concession No. 1 which was on the lake running east from Kettle Creek, just a few rods from what is now Port Stanley. A few years later No. 2 Concession was surveyed just north of No. 1. Some of the Crown Grants on these Concessions went to John and Henry Bostwick and to Francis and Aquilla Walsh all of Charlotteville, Norfolk. Captain Joseph Smith received from Col. Thomas Talbot a large number of these lots as well as town lots in Port Stanley. John Haviland first purchased Lots No. 1 and 2 in the First Concession and Lot No. 1 in the Second Concession, a total of six hundred acres. For this he paid John Bostwick the princely sum of seventy-two pounds and ten shillings. Bostwick had received these lands 19 Sept. 1804 and sold them to Haviland in 1807. This deed of Poll was witnessed by John Haviland's son John Jr. and Jonas Omstead both of Townsend and signed by Thomas Horner, Registrar. The land books show that John Haviland sold back to John Bostwick all three of these lots on 17 Aug., 1811. The transaction that we are most interested in is the 200 acres of Lot No. 3., Conc. No. 2, which John bought from Henry Bostwick, brother of John, on 10 Aug. 1812 because that is the farm that he sold some years later to his daughter Aner. In later chapters concerning Aner's life we will hear more about this particular farm.

JOHN HAVILAND'S LAST YEARS

John Haviland and his wife Sarah continued to live on their farm in Townsend. Between 1808 and 1815 John was busy with his farms and his land deals. Now he is close to 65 years of age and at that point he seems to have slowed down his activities. Perhaps he felt he had enough wealth or that his age began to take it's toll. The children were grown up now and certainly he and his wife deserved a rest. Their life had been a turbulent one. The American Rebellion and the pioneering days of settling in two different locations in the wilderness of Canada was not an easy life. They did not have too long together in their retirement as Sarah died on 8th of February 1822 at age 64 years. They buried her in the Pioneer Cemetery on the home farm beside a grandchild, Ira, son of John Haviland Jr. and his wife Esther Fairchild Haviland. The little boy died on 7th of October, 1815, aged 3 years.

Earlier in the Haviland story I mentioned E. A. Owen's Chapter on the Havilands. One of his statements really aroused my curiosity. Owen began by saying that John Haviland was a wealthy man and had loaned the County of Wentworth \$16,000 to build the Court House in Hamilton. Owen went on to say "when he died he left \$12,000 buried in the ground. He stated the amount of this buried sum in his will, and also gave instructions as to how and where to find it." The story goes on - how the executors had to hire Thomas Welch, a surveyor, to find it, etc. It was a very good story and I wondered if there really was a will. I certainly didn't doubt that John was a wealthy man. We know he had land in New York State that he sold. We know how much land he received in Canada by grants and that he bought three 200 hundred acre farms in Townsend and four 200 acre farms in Yarmouth. As so often happens I took my questions to Bill Yeager, Curator of the Eva Brook Danley Museum in Simcoe. He replied that some years ago while at the Ontario Archives he had seen the name on a list of early wills and advised me to write to them. Six days after I had written, I received a large envelope with six handwritten pages of foolscap size - the will - and two similar pages of a codicil to the will! They were Xerox copies of course, but that did not dampen my excitement. At first, the finding of this will posed more questions than it answered, but in the end it made us dig a little harder and eventually the pieces fell together. After some discussions with Eleanor Chapin and Ruth Gould and reading of the Haviland Genealogy by Josephine Frost, which they possess, we now know that John Haviland was married three times. His first marriage was to Anne Birdsill, second to Sarah Birdsill

and third to Catharine Hardy a widow. We also found that his first child was Eli Birdsill Haviland, born to John and Anne Birdsill Haviland.

The will was made "at the Township of Townsend aforesaid this sixth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and Twenty Seven." Therefore it was drawn up five years after Sarah's death and after John's third marriage to Catharine. Ten years later on 7th of June, 1837 he added the codicil which made a few changes in the will. John Haviland signed his name with a strong hand at the bottom of each page of the original will and also at the end of the will. At the bottom of page 2 of the codicil he could only manage a wavering X. He was 76 years of age when he made the will and 86 years old when he signed the codicil - two years before his death. After the usual preliminaries the will states: "Having heretofore given my eldest son Eli Birdsill Haviland, two hundred acres of Land since I came to this Province and the same together with whatever else I have given him heretofore, being nearly all I intend for him to have of my property or estate as his portion, I therefore further give, will and bequeath to him my said son Eli Birdsill Haviland the sum of ten shillings sterling money of Great Britain as his final portion of my estate or property." This is the only time that Eli is mentioned in the Will or Codicil. I think it is worthwhile to digress from the will here a bit and add to this Haviland family story what we have discovered about Eli and his life. From the Haviland Genealogy we learn that "Eli Birsall (Birdsill) Haviland was born 11 November 1775 (probably at Haviland's Hollow)." His parents were John and Anne (Birdsall) Haviland. Eli married Anna (known as Nancy) Towner 25 October 1795. Nancy was born 14 March 1783 at Towners, New York, (now known as Patterson). Nancy's parents were Samuel and Mary (Birdsall) Towner. Eli's mother Anne and Nancy's mother Mary were sisters. Anne and Mary's parents were James and Hannah (Akin) Birdsall. This would make Eli and Nancy first cousins. The Quakers (Friends) did not allow their members to marry "out of Meeting" so it was not uncommon for cousins to marry. Some time before 1809 they moved to or near Ithaca, N.Y. Eli died at Ithaca, 7th June, 1853, and is buried at Towner's Cemetery, N.Y. Nancy died at Ithaca on 21 April 1856 and was buried at Hayt Cemetery at Ithaca, N.Y. They had 3 sons and 4 daughters: Martha, John Ward, James Aiken, Isaac Towner, Mary Ann, Sarah Elizabeth, Anna Jeanette. There is further data on only Mary Ann. She was born at Haviland's Hollow on 15 April 1809 and was married at Ithaca, N.Y. on 4 July, 1848 to William Girard. Ann and William Girard had one daughter, Martha Louis Girard born at Ulysses, N.Y. 16 August 1849.

Before seeing the Will we did not know that Eli existed as a son of John Haviland. I don't believe that Eli came to Canada with the family to Sidney Township nor to the Townsend Township area of Norfolk. At the time of the last move the family made to Canada Eli was 28 years of age, married for 8 years and had young children. A thorough search of Norfolk and Hastings County Land Books did not turn up any Eli Birdsall Haviland who owned land in those areas. The search did show that some years after 1803 there appeared quite a number of Birdsall families that settled in Townsend. Here are a few names with the date of purchase of land in Townsend:

William Birdsall 1830, Isaac Birdsill 1839, Samuel Birdsell 1840, James Birsell 1865, Isaac Birdsall and wife Elizabeth 1865.

It could be that brothers or cousins of Sarah Birdsell Haviland migrated to the Townsend area after hearing about how plentiful were the chances of acquiring land at that time. The thought that they were related to Sarah Birdsell Haviland is born out by the fact that quite a few Birdsell were buried on the old Pioneer Haviland Cemetery. For example: James Birdsell 1791-1866 and wife Ellen Birdsell 1802-1844. Mary Ann Birdsell 1827-1912 and husband James Birdsell 1834-1918. I believe that when John Haviland says in his will "Having heretofore given my eldest son Eli Birdsell Haviland, two hundred acres of Land. . . .," it refers to Land and other gifts from his holdings in New York State. This could have been done at the time when John and family returned from Canada to New York State for a sojourn of some six years. It was during this period that Eli married in 1797 and started a family. Because Eli does not appear to have lived with the family and because of the difference in their ages this could account for the fact that Aner Haviland McCall did not list Eli in her Bible. Also there is no mention in Reid's book of an Eli Haviland having received land in Canada as the son of a Loyalist or no record of his burial in the Pioneer Haviland Cemetery.

While my first surprise on reading the will was to find Eli was the eldest son, the second surprise was the following, "to my wife Catharine." Here again the Chapins in their research had found in the Norfolk County Marriage Records of 1803-1845 by Bill Yeager, on p.429 an item which says, "John Haviland the elder, yeoman, Townsend, and Catharine Hardy of Dumfries, Halton Co. Gore District applied for a licence Sept. 9, 1822 at Ancaster." To make things more confusing the Chapins had also found in Mount Pleasant Cemetery near Brantford a stone with this inscription, "Catharine relict of Alex Hardy and Capt. Benjamin Haviland - d.1869 aged 90 years." From the will we now know that Catharine Hardy the widow,

FAMILY RECORD.

MARRIAGES.

MARRIAGES.

John Haviland was  
born October 27<sup>th</sup> 1751

Sarah Haviland was  
born March 14<sup>th</sup> 1758

John Haviland born  
Nov<sup>r</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 1781

Elizabeth Fairchild born  
Apr<sup>l</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 1784

Sarah Kellies born  
August 28<sup>th</sup> 1786

Haner McCall born  
March 20<sup>th</sup> 1788

Benjamin Haviland  
born Mar<sup>h</sup> 23 1791

Francis Cornwall born  
Apr<sup>l</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> 1795

Daniel Haviland born  
Oct<sup>r</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> 1797

Loanne Lawrence born  
Mar<sup>h</sup> 23 1800

Else McCall born Aug  
18<sup>th</sup> 1744. Hugh McCall

born Apr<sup>l</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> 1799

The first page in Aner Haviland McCall's Bible mentions the birth date of her mother and father and her brothers and sisters. She gives her sisters their married names. In the bottom right corner Aner mentions her mother-in-law Else McCall and her husband Hugh McCall.

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married Captain John Haviland Sr. about six months after Sarah's death. It is quite obvious that the name of Benjamin on the stone is an error and should be Captain John. Captain John's sixth child was Benjamin. He was buried in the family cemetery with his first wife and second wife on either side of him. His second wife Elizabeth died Sept. 20, 1878 which was long after Catharine had died.

The will next mentions John's other three sons. "To my other sons John Haviland, Benjamin Haviland and Daniel Haviland, in addition to what they already had from me, I will and bequeath the sum of ten shillings of sterling money of Great Britain to each of them." He never mentions John Jr. again in the will but many times he includes Benjamin and Daniel in the sharing of proceeds from the sale of lands and stock. Then John names his wife Catharine and his daughters Elizabeth Fairchild, Aner McCall, and Fanny (Frances) Cornell (Cornwall) to an equal fourth share in "all my said personal estate or property which shall remain at my decease, that is to say such consisting (as aforesaid) of all my monies, household goods or various descriptions, property in Bonds, Notes, Securities, accounts, debts owing to me, dues and demands whatsoever." John makes specific mention of "all such disposable Real Estate as I may own at the time of my decease . . . . to my executors to be sold . . . ." and "all such horses, cattle and other farm stock." These latter two lists when sold are to be divided equally between his wife Catharine, the above named daughters and two sons, namely Benjamin and Daniel.

Now we come to Loami (Lo-Anne, Loamy, Jo-Anne) "And to my youngest daughter Loami, to her I give the sum of ten shillings lawful money of Upper Canada." This is the only time Loami is mentioned in the Will. She was twenty-seven years old at the time the will was made and had married a Mr. Hoag (Hodge). There seems to have been a falling out of favor between John and his youngest daughter at this time. The fact that he does not even mention her married name - which he does with all the other daughters - makes one wonder if he disapproved of her marriage. Thankfully, that all changes as you shall see later in the codicil. John had another daughter Sarah, no doubt named after her mother, who was born in 1788 between Elizabeth and Aner. Sarah married Joseph Nelles. She died August 1825 leaving three young children. Now John in his will, thoughtfully names his three motherless grandchildren. He gives each one the sum of twenty-five pounds. In the case of the two grandsons John Nelles and Joseph Nelles "to be paid to him together with the proceeds thereof when he shall arrive at the age of twenty-one years." But with granddaughter Mary Nelles, "their sister," she is to get her money when "she arrives

at the age of eighteen years." He also instructs his executors to "place the 75 pounds out at interest for the use of the said legatees as soon after my decease as may be possible." After mentioning that he states, "all his debts and funereal expenses are to be paid before the above-mentioned apportionments are to be made."

John now turns his attention to his burial.

"The place for burial containing two Roods and twenty perches of land or thereabout, as set apart for that purpose from the place whereon I live, with the privileges thereto belonging, I will and devise to my right heirs forever to be appropriated to the purpose of a place of interment." From the above we may presume that John and Catharine lived on the home farm after their marriage until his death and burial in the Haviland Pioneer Cemetery on his own farm. After his death it is possible that Catharine moved to the Brantford area and was buried there 30 years later when she died at age 90 years.

Of particular interest to those of us who are descended from Aner Haviland McCall is a slight change John made in his will when he mentioned Aner's share. This statement also appears in the bequest to Fanny Cornwell, but not Elizabeth or any of the sons. I quote, "To my daughter Aner McCall I will and bequeath another like equal one fourth part or portion of such my said personal estate . . . . my monies household goods . . . . property in notes, bonds, securities, accounts . . . . to her my said daughter Aner McCall, to her own proper use and benefit and after her decease the same to devolve in equal portions to her children." At this particular time (1827) Hugh McCall had virtually, if not completely abandoned his wife and children. John obviously was not going to let Hugh or any future husbands to ever have a chance to get his hands on any of Aner's inheritance. In Aner's story we shall find out who really did get her estate.

Lastly John Haviland names his executors "and shall appoint my daughter Elizabeth Fairchild to be executrix and my son-in-law the said Benjamin Fairchild to be executors together with Francis L. Walsh . . . ." The witnesses Francis L. Walsh, Asher Corlis and Cornelius Corlis signed their names on the left side of the page and John Haviland signed his name on the right. Two wax seals had been attached to the left side of the front page of the will at the top and bottom. The signature of F. L. Walsh is not new to you. In Hugh's story you learned much about Walsh. He was an M.P. as well as a long time registrar. I am sure that he wrote out this will for John Haviland, which he had been doing for others over a span of many years. Asher and Cornelius Corlis were friends and neighbors who lived near the village of Boston in

in Townsend Township. Asher was the eldest son of James Corlis who had brought his family from New Jersey to Canada twenty years after the Rebellion. They were not Loyalists but Asher had fought at the battle of Lundy's Lane in the 1812-14 War and was wounded many times. Cornelius, son of Asher, had married into the Fairchild Family. He had married twin daughter Elizabeth whose parents were Noah and Elizabeth (McCall) Fairchild. Cornelius and Elizabeth also live in Townsend.

Ten years later on 6th June, 1837 John Haviland Sr. added a codicil to his will in order to make two important changes. Since the will was made Loami's husband Mr. Hoag (Hodge) had died and she married again. From the St. John's Church Registrar, 1830-39 "Marshall Lawrence, gentleman, m. Lo Annie Hoag widow, both of Townsend, on 23 Jan. 1832 by F. Evans; banns; W. Benjamin Haviland, John Haviland." Her father must have approved of Marshall Lawrence as a husband for Lo Annie - so much so that he changed his will. In the codicil he states that he wants her to have a one fifth share along with his wife Catharine and his so-called 3 eldest living daughters, Elizabeth, Aner and Fanny. He also revokes the former tiny sum of ten shillings he had awarded her in his will. To show that he really did like Marshall Lawrence he goes so far as to add him as an executor as well as his son Benjamin Haviland. It is signed by the witnesses F. L. Walsh and Henry C. Townsend. The writing in the codicil appears to be different than in the will and although he signed as a witness I don't believe F. L. Walsh wrote the codicil.

It is interesting to note that in the codicil John mentions a particular sizable loan. ". . . . and I declare a Debt being for the sum of six hundred and twenty-five pounds loaned by me in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and twenty seven, and interest thereon and to be repaid to me out of the public monies of the District of Gore, to be included in the bequest to my said wife and my four daughters . . . ." This could be the money loaned to the County or District that E. A. Owens mentions, for the purpose of building a Courthouse in the City of Hamilton. And what about the buried treasure that Owens mentions also? There is nothing in the will or codicil to indicate he left money buried in the ground. As there were no banks as yet in the vicinity it is a plausible story, but when you read John Haviland's life story, he just doesn't seem to be the kind of man who would bury his money. I think of him as a solid business man who was more interested in making his money work for him in the form of interest from investments, rather than burying it in the ground.

There is some uncertainty regarding the children of

John and Sarah Haviland. John's will and Aner's Bible mentions the following children: John Jr., Elizabeth Fairchild, Sarah Nelles, Aner McCall, Benjamin, Frances (Fanny) Cornwell, Daniel, Loame (Lo Annie) Lawrence. In Reid's book all the above except Daniel are mentioned as having received land by order in council (O.C.) because their father was a Loyalist. Daniel as well as all the above sons and daughters are mentioned on the micro fiche cards of Early Land Grants by the Dominion Archives. Ruth Gould and Eleanor Chapin have discovered another daughter of John and Sarah Haviland. Her name was Mary and she married Omri Edy. Mary (Polly) is not mentioned in the will, Aner's Bible or in a list of early land grants. She is mentioned in E. A. Owen's book by first name only. Because she is mentioned so little and the Chapins have done a lot of research on her I am including their findings for the benefit of her descendants. Mary was born 15 April, 1785 probably in New York State 2 years after the Revolution and 2 years before the Haviland family came to Canada on their first trip. She was born between her sisters Elizabeth and Sarah and was 4 years older than Aner. Mary married Omri Edy and they had 6 children. They were

1. Andrew Newcombe Edy who married first Miss Harriett A. Fletcher of Brantford on 10 Feb., 1869 and second Miss Clara Flanders of Townsend, Norfolk Co. on 17 Dec., 1873.
2. Minerva Edy married Edward Evans
3. Benjamin m. Josey
4. Vivih Loama Edy m. Thomas Wright
5. Malon Edy m. Mary McLean
6. Peter Holly Edy m. Mary Ann Secord.

A stone was found in the Oakland Pioneer Cemetery in Brant Co. for Omri and Mary (called Polly on the stone). It shows that Omri Edy was born 30 Aug. 1780 and died 21 April 1853 in his seventy third year. Mary was born 15 April, 1785 and died 8 May 1847 in her sixty third year. In the same cemetery there is a stone for their first born child, a son Andrew Newcombe Edy and his wife Mary. Andrew was born 20 Dec. 1809 and died 1 Sept. 1882 in his seventy second year. His wife was born CA. 1819 and died 18 Feb., 1903, aged 84 years. A marriage notice in the Brantford Expositor states that Mr. Peter Edy married Miss Mary Ann Secord in Townsend on 17th Feb. 1869 at the bride's residence. From all this it would appear that Mary and Omri Edy made their home in Brant Co. which was not very far from Townsend. While it would be nice to know why Mary seems to have been left out of the family affairs of the Havilands I do believe that you will agree that Mary was a daughter of John and Sarah Haviland.

John Haviland and his third wife Catharine continued to live on the home farm in Townsend until John's death 10 Dec., 1839 at age 88 years. John and Catharine had been married about 17 years. He was buried in the Pioneer Cemetery on the farm beside his second wife Sarah, surrounded by graves of

daughter Sarah and 3 grandchildren. Recently the remains and markers from this Pioneer Cemetery were transferred to the Greenwood Cemetery at Waterford. A bronze marker has now been attached to John Haviland's stone to signify that he was a United Empire Loyalist. The Ontario Government Historical plaque which has been placed here reads:

"The markers and remains in this burial area were originally located in a Family Cemetery on Haviland property in Lot #12, Concession 2 in the Township of Townsend. They were moved to this location in 1972 by the family with the co-operation of the Township of Townsend and the Government of Ontario. This plaque erected in Loving memory by the Haviland Family."

Thus ends the illustrious life of Captain John Haviland. He has passed on but is not forgotten by the numerous descendants who still to this day honour and remember him as their Loyalist ancestor.

## Chapter IX

### ANER HAVILAND'S EARLY YEARS

Aner Haviland was born 20 March 1788, five years after the Revolution. We aren't sure if she was born at Havilands Hollow in New York State or in the Township of Sidney near Belleville. By the time she was old enough to be aware of her surroundings it would be the primitive country on the north shore of Lake Ontario. When she was young the family moved from place to place. They moved from Sidney in 1791 back to New York State until 1803 when they came back to Canada. Although she learned a lot about pioneer life she missed out on her schooling and could neither read or write. The first settlers to arrive at Cataraqui (Kingston) and west of Kingston on the north shore of Lake Ontario came in 1784 with refugee parties led by Captain Michael Grass and Major Peter VanAlstyne. Shortly before this Governor Haldimand at Quebec City Headquarters had instructed Hon. John Collins, Deputy Surveyor, to survey Cataraqui and the Bay of Quinte area. He wanted to have lots ready for the Refugees of the Rebellion who were now beginning to pour into Canada. In 1984 Ontario celebrated the 200th Anniversary of the arrival of the Loyalists who were the first to settle in large numbers in what we now call Ontario. This was the beginning, the very roots of the Province of Ontario, which determined it as an English speaking settlement, loyal to the Crown of England - which we remain to this day after a 200 year period of time. These first settlers had been here for about 3 years when the Havilands came so they would at least have a few neighbors. They no doubt lived in a log cabin.

Aner might not remember the trek back to New York State because she was only about 3 years old, but she was certainly old enough to remember details of the trip to Norfolk County when she was about 15 years old. In those early days travel wasn't as easy as it is today. The journey would be a combination of riding batteaux along rivers and across lakes as well as walking or riding on wagons on the portages between waterways.

When they arrived at Townsend Township in Norfolk County the settlement there was somewhat more advanced. The first group of Loyalists and settlers had arrived there in the early 1790's and found about 3 families living there. Governor John Graves Simcoe had surveyed the lots on the lake first. By the time the McCall family arrived in 1796 they were given lots on the fourth and fifth concessions of Charlotteville Township which fronted on Lake Erie near Long

Point Bay. Just east of Charlotteville was the Township of Woodhouse which also bordered the lake, and north of Woodhouse was Townsend Township where John Haviland bought 3 two hundred acre lots of land. They were on the second concession of Townsend and he bought this land from the Fairchild family who had settled in Townsend a few years earlier. We don't know if these farms had been cleared for planting of crops or if there were any buildings on the land when the Havilands arrived, but at least they had neighbors close by to help them get started with the task of making a home. Aner already had a lot of training and experience in the art of home making, cooking and helping to look after the younger children. Her older brother John Jr. was 22 years old and he must have been a great help to his father in clearing, plowing and planting of the land. Aner's three older sisters; Elizabeth 19, Mary 18, and Sarah 17 also would be invaluable helpers for their mother.

It would be interesting to know how Aner Haviland and Hugh McCall met each other. In Hugh's story we learned that he went cranberry picking with Benjamin Fairchild and the Corlisses who were from Townsend Township and family friends of the Havilands. So it is possible that they met in this way, through mutual friends. Aner and Hugh married on 19 May 1813 while a war was waging through the countryside and on Lake Erie. They lived on the home farm of Donald and Elsey McCall for some years and all their children were born there. The second and third children died as infants; Isaac born 21 October 1815 lived 10 days, and Mervyum (Mervyall) a girl died the day she was born 20 April 1817. These two children were probably buried in the McCall-Fairchild Cemetery. It was only a few minutes walk from the McCall pioneer home. There had been a few burials there before this, but not very many. At this early date there were no stones to put up and the custom was to plant a wooden cross on the grave. These crosses and their inscriptions were soon weather beaten and disappeared. So again, it is wonderful to have a Family Bible where they were duly inscribed - both birth and death. Hugh and Aner's family lived on this farm for 5 years. I believe that Hugh's mother Elsey and Aner were close friends and that bond of friendship lasted until Elsey's death. Later we shall see more evidence of this bond between the two women. It must have hurt them very much when Hugh sold the farm so soon after his father's death, and Aner and Hugh moved to Townsend. Our branch of the family possesses the oldest and most precious document of the McCall Family. It is the original parchment Deed of Land granted to Donald McCall and six other soldiers by King George III for their Service in the Seven Year's War between the French and the English in America. The deed is quite well preserved and most of the writing is

FAMILY RECORD.

| MARRIAGES.   | BIRTHS.   |
|--|---|
| Hugh and Aner McCall<br>Married May 19 <sup>th</sup> 1813                        | George McCall born<br>Mar <sup>h</sup> 24 1814              |
| Nelson S. and Catharine<br>McCall Married<br>July 16 <sup>th</sup> 1862          | Isaac McCall born<br>Oct <sup>r</sup> 21 1815               |
| George McCall<br>Son of Nelson & Catharine<br>Born October 18 <sup>th</sup> 1864 | Maryann McCall born<br>April 20 <sup>th</sup> 1814          |
| Herbert Hugh<br>McCall<br>Born June 30<br>1867                                   | Allen McCall born<br>June 23 1818                           |
| Charles Muritt<br>McCall born August 14<br>1872                                  | Sarah McCall born<br>Apr <sup>l</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup> 1820 |
| Celia P. McCall born<br>November 29 <sup>th</sup> 1874                           | Nancy McDowell born<br>June 5 <sup>th</sup> 1825            |

The second page of Aner's Bible showing her marriage date and her children's birth dates. Also the marriage date of her grandson Nelson Simpson McCall and birth date of Nelson's children.

legible and is complete with an attached seal. The seal is large and round and imprinted on one side with the coat of arms of the Province of New York. It is dated 14 May 1765. I believe that some time between Donald's death in 1819 and Elsey's death on 27 March 1837 that she gave this document into Aner's hands for safe keeping. Later, after Aner's three children all died before her, I believe she gave the deed to her only grandson, Nelson Simpson McCall, our grandfather.

We know from the letter that Hugh wrote in 26 January 1827 to F. L. Walsh in Toronto that his family was living on Lot #15, second concession of Townsend. This would be fairly close to Aner's parents' home which was fortunate for Aner and her children. In this period of their life, for about 7 years, Hugh was probably home only a few winter months in the year. The rest of the time he spent on boats plying the Great Lakes. It must have been a hard life for Aner to keep a house, garden and farm besides the care of her young children. No doubt her own parents and brothers and sisters who lived nearby were a great help to her in many ways. At the time they left the McCall farm in Charlotteville their first son George was only 6 years old, Allen was 2 years old and Sarah a month old baby. As we have read in Hugh's story, after his luck ran out in getting work on a boat he decided to leave his family and live a life of traveling all over the continent, south to Mexico and west to California. He had abandoned his mother earlier and now he also shirked the care and responsibility of his family.

## Chapter X

### ANER AND HER FAMILY MOVE TO YARMOUTH

Aner is now left alone with a family to raise.

She is living as a squatter on land she cannot buy. No doubt she sought advice from her family. Perhaps she was depressed and a bit uneasy about being abandoned by her husband. In the end she decided to leave the area. Her father owned some farm property in Yarmouth Township near Lake Erie in Elgin County. About a year after Hugh deserted her, Aner bought a 200 acre farm from her father and moved her family to Yarmouth Township. In the preceding pages we learned that Captain John Haviland had bought land in this area from both John and Henry Bostwick, who obtained the original crown grants of these properties. On 7 July 1807 John bought 600 acres of land from John Bostwick for 72 pounds 10 shillings. They were Lots #1 and #2 of the first Concession of Yarmouth, and Lot #1 of the second Concession. All these Deeds of Poll are very interesting old documents and I feel it is worthwhile to comment on them. These Deeds or Memorials had to be passed by an "act of the Legislature of the Province of Upper Canada". After they were passed then they were registered. Sometimes there was a considerable lapse of time between the grant or sale and the registration of the transaction by the Registrar of the area. This particular deed was registered on the "fourth day of January 1808 at the hour of 9 o'clock in the forenoon" and signed by Thomas Horner Reg<sup>r</sup>. It was also signed by John Haviland Jr. and Jonas Omstead as witnesses. In 1800 Horner was made the Registrar of Oxford Middlesex and Norfolk, and John Bostwick was appointed High Constable for London District. The deed says John Bostwick of Woodhouse Township and the Havilands and Jonas Omstead were of Townsend Township. At this time there was no Registry Office in St. Thomas. A few years later Col. Mahlon Burwell was the Registrar of the County of Middlesex and had a small branch office at Burwell's Corners, south of Iona and west of Fingal on what is now the townline between Southwold and Dunwich Townships. This office was close to Port Talbot and also the Burwell's home. It was just across the road from St. Stephen's Anglican Church and its nearby cemetery where Burwell and his wife are interred.

The sum of 72 pounds and 10 shillings was quite a lot of money to pay out for farms in those days, but it was for 3 farms of 200 acres each. Five years later, on the 8 August 1812, John Haviland bought another 200 acre farm, Lot #3 in the second concession. This lot was bought from Henry Bostwick, a brother to John. It was registered "24th day of January 1813 at 10 o'clock a.m." This Memorial, as

well as the first, spells out in detail the boundaries of the farm but it does not mention a price. It states in part "Together with all woods, waters and water courses - - - -". It was signed and sealed in the presence of Jno Ten Broeck, John Williams as witnesses and by Deputy Registrar Lewis Burwell, as well as by Henry Bostwick. All the names affixed to these early documents are well known pioneer settlers of the Norfolk area. Lewis Burwell could have been related to Mahlon Burwell. John Williams, one of the first school teachers, is the son of Captain Jonathon Williams, a U.E.L. John married into a prominent U.E.L. family when he took Hetty Ryerson, daughter of Colonel Joseph Ryerson, to be his wife. John Ten Broeck was an attorney, the first lawyer in the settlement. He and Henry Bostwick were brothers-in-law, having married Captain Jonathon Williams daughters Mary and Nancy, sisters of John Williams. The Ten Broecks eventually moved to London after it became the centre of the district and John Ten Broeck died in that city. To this day there are descendants of the Ten Broecks living in this area. From the above remarks you can see that the early settlers of Norfolk had their own little Family Compact - just like the government in Toronto. In Norfolk at this particular time it was quite a natural turn of events. The population was sparse and so it was a closely knit group. Consequently there was a lot of inter-marriage among the few families. Who is to say that each of these men were not suited to their jobs? There were very few teachers, lawyers or educated men to choose from and they all seem to have done a good job of running the affairs of the Municipalities.

The "Memorial No. 1101, of a Deed of Bargain and Sale from John Haviland Esq. to Aner McCall - No. 3, 2nd Concession", is the one that we descendants of Hugh and Aner McCall would most like to see. We have read that this Lot no. 3 was bought in August 1812 by John Haviland from Henry Bostwick. Now, 17 years later, he is selling this 200 acres of land to his daughter Aner Haviland McCall. I wonder if John ever made the trip from Townsend to see these lands he bought from the Bostwicks. If he didn't see them then perhaps the Bostwicks had given him a good description of the property. At any rate John certainly chose to sell Aner an excellently located farm. It had a stream running through it - a tributary that emptied into nearby Kettle Creek, as we call it today. It was very important then to be near water or streams as they provided good drainage, transportation and were suited for the locating of saw mills and grist mills. The above quotation is recorded at the top of the Front Piece of the Memorial. At the bottom it says "200 acres in Yarmouth - Recorded the 13th day of June 1829, at 10 o'clock a.m. in Liber C, Folio 88, on the oath of Benjamin Haviland of Townsend,



taken before a Commissioner in B.R. for the London District. (signed) M. Burwell, Registrar". By 1829 Mahlon Burwell was the Registrar and this time it was a younger brother, Benjamin, who was the witness. Now we come to the Memorial itself and it states:

"A Memorial to be registered of an indenture dated the twentieth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand and eight hundred and twenty-nine, made at Townsend in the County of Norfolk in the Province of Upper Canada Whereby John Haviland of the Township of Townsend in the County of Norfolk in the district of London in the Province of Upper Canada, Esquire, in consideration of the natural love and affection for his daughter Aner McCall of the said township of Townsend in the County and District and Province aforesaid Spinster, and for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred and twenty five pounds of lawful money - - - - - that certain piece and parcel of land and premises situate lying and being in the Township of Yarmouth - - - - -, containing by admeasurement Two Hundred Acres more or less, being composed of Lot Number Three in the Second Concession of the said township of Yarmouth - - - - -". From here it goes on with a detailed description of the location and exact boundaries of the lot. The first time I read this Memorial I was quite surprised to see the word spinster used as a description of Aner. In talking with persons who do Historical Research they had also seen the word used in the same way. We came to the conclusion that spinster then perhaps meant what we call today "single parent". The price is fair enough but one wonders just how would Aner have ever saved that much money. Of course she may have received a farm as the daughter of a U.E.L. and sold it prior to this purchase. At the end of the document it states: "Which said indenture is witnessed by Benjamin Haviland and John Case both of the aforesaid Township of Townsend yeoman, and the Memorial thereof is hereby required to be registered - In Witness thereof the Grantee in the said deed named has hereunto set her hand and seal at Townsend aforesaid this twentieth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty nine.

Signed and sealed  
in presence of

Benjamin Haviland  
his  
John X Case  
mark

Aner McCall"

Aner could not sign her name but many times on documents and letters her name is signed in beautiful and legible writing, as is the case on this document. It is a bit of a mystery

but in all probability someone signed for her. Accompanying these two hand written pages of Deed of Sale was a separate smaller page. On it was a lengthy oath signed by Benjamin saying that he and John Case had witnessed both John and Aner's signing of the document. To the left of Benjamin's signature at the bottom of this smaller page was the following: "Sworn before me at Woodhouse in the London District this fourth day of May 1829 - John B. Askin - a Commissioner in the Court of King's Bench for taking Affidavits in the London District". This name is not familiar in the Norfolk area but was prominent in the London area. These court and government men were stationed in London, the seat of the area government but would travel to the different parts of the District to carry on their work.

With the purchase of this farm from her father Aner McCall is now ready to move with her family to her new home. What better time of year, May or June, could she choose! The lake is free of ice and calm and the road, such as it was, is free of mud and mire. Colonel Thomas Talbot, the first white man to settle, and bring in more settlers to this area, also was a road builder. He knew that to attract settlers and keep them he had to build a road. If Governor Simcoe could build Yonge Street to go due north from Toronto to Lake Simcoe, Talbot figured he could build the Talbot Road to go from Windsor to Niagara. Simcoe had soldiers stationed at York (Toronto) to do the job but Talbot did not have soldiers. Instead he continuously pestered the Government at York for assistance with this project. Talbot also instigated an ingenious plan for getting parts of the road built and maintained. Mahlon Burwell and John Bostwick were the surveyors for Talbot. They surveyed the roads and the adjacent lands into 200 acre lots for farms. When a settler arrived at Port Talbot to ask for some land Colonel Talbot would assign them one of these lots. One of the rules for receiving a lot was that each settler must clear the road in front of the farm of bush and trees. He must also spend so many hours each year on keeping up this road. If he did not carry out this and other rules he would lose his farm, and it would be given to another settler. The custom of spending so many hours a year on the upkeep of the road in front of the farm extended right down to the early 1900's. As a child I spent my summers with my Grandfather and Grandmother Lethbridge on their farm on the Talbot Road at Watson's Corners. It was just east of Burwell's Corners. The road was gravelled then and I remember the hired man being sent with a team of horses and a wagon to get gravel from Talbot Creek to put on the road. It became a competition or a matter of pride to see who had the best road in front of their farm. When I became a little older my Uncle would take us in a car to the lake at the mouth of Talbot Creek for a

dip on a hot summer day. As we passed Burwell's Corners they would point out to me a plain, weathered old frame building, much like a house. They said that was where Mahlon Burwell once lived and later he used it as his registry office. It disappeared many years ago.

By the year 1829 when Aner journeyed to Yarmouth there was a road - a little better than an Indian Trail. It was not very wide, about the width of an ox cart or wagon. It was not gravelled but better than walking through a trackless woods carrying a pack on your back. The easiest way to travel to what is now Port Stanley was by boat. Aner's eldest son George was now 15 years old, Allen was 11 and Sarah was 9. Aner's mother had died seven years ago and her father had married again. She had 4 sisters and 3 brothers living in the vicinity of Townsend. They probably helped her to prepare and make the journey of about 70 miles. The family with their luggage and small treasures were probably taken by boat from Port Ryerse. They would sail west on Lake Erie staying close to the shore until they reached the mouth of Kettle Creek. After entering the Creek they would travel north about one and a half miles and disembark very close to their farm. It is possible that her brothers loaded the larger belongings such as furniture, farm implements and one sheep on a cart and a wagon, then set out along the trail to Aner's new home. Later in the story we'll hear more about that one sheep. When Aner arrived at her lot there were not many settlers living near her. Lots #1 and #2 were not settled yet - later there would be Turvills and Hepburns living there. On Lot #4 there was Captain Joseph Smith living just east of Aner. He had been a foreman on the farms of Colonel Talbot and had received many grants of land on both Concessions but Lot #4, Con. #2 was where he lived with his wife Elizabeth and family. They had not lived there very long when Elizabeth died in May 1818 at age 36 years and left him with 5 young children. At this time there was no established church and no resident preacher. Elizabeth was buried on their farm near the Concession road. Joseph Smith set aside the small area of land around his wife's grave for a cemetery. There the Pioneer Cemetery remains to this day with some 60 stones still to be seen. Joseph's farm was large and as he grew older he sold the eastern part to his only son William and the other part to his son-in-law John Wintermute who had married his daughter Sally (Sarah). He lived with Sally and John and their family until his death on February 1, 1840 at 61 years of age. He is buried beside his wife Elizabeth in the cemetery he gave to the community. In the early years the Cemetery was called Captain's Cemetery but later became known as the Wintermute Cemetery.

Aunt Celia McCall Campbell who like her mother

Catharine Ketchum McCall was interested in the family history. In 1945 I asked her to write down some of the things she could remember about the family. From her account I quote "Aner Haviland McCall split the rails and built the first rail fence in South Yarmouth. She kept one sheep and made all her clothing from the wool, shearing, spinning and weaving and dying." Celia was born ten years after Aner had died but she had a vivid memory of the family stories told to her by her Mother and Father, Nelson McCall, who had been so close to Aner. Just this one small item makes one stop and think of the hard life that Aner faced when she came to Yarmouth with her young family. It wasn't long though before Aner found someone to assist her with the farm chores and a companion to drive away her loneliness. Recorded in a Register of the Old Anglican Church of St. Thomas is the following item: "Marriage: St. Thomas, November 8th, 1829 - Samuel McDowell, of the Township of Yarmouth, was married by License to Aner McCall, of the same place, widow, on this day by me - Given away by John (his X mark) Storms. Witnesses - Daniel (his X mark) Hendershott, Henry (his X mark) Storms.

Signatures: Samuel McDowell  
Aner McCall (her X mark) "

As you can see, McDowell was the only member of the wedding party who could sign his name. The notation was made in the Alexander MacIntosh Register, a minister at this church for some years. It just happened that MacIntosh had left the church in May, 1829. It seems that for a while they did not have a regular minister and the church was served during this period by an itinerant or saddle bag minister, Edward Boswell. He was the actual minister who performed the marriage and entered it into the Register. Note that Aner called herself a widow. It could be that she hadn't heard anything of her husband in 2 years and she didn't even know where he had gone. As far as Aner was concerned he was dead. We know very little about Samuel McDowell. It has been suggested that McDowell had formerly lived in the Norfolk area and that Aner knew him before moving to Yarmouth. I have never been able to find any mention of him in Norfolk. We do know that Aner had entered into her Family Bible the following notations under Births: Nancy McDowell born June 8th 1825 - Samuel McDowell born May 16th 1827 - Henry Adolphus McDowell born Jan. 26th 1843". In the death column of her Bible is noted: "Henry A. McDowell died 13th March 1844". It would seem that Samuel McDowell, like Aner, had been married before they married each other. In Hugh McCall's story we have seen a copy of a letter he sent from Townsend on Jan. 26, 1827 to Francis L. Walsh which shows that he and Aner were living together at that date. Therefore I hardly think that Nancy McDowell and Samuel McDowell could have been Aner's children, but I do believe that she

raised these children. The family story concerning Henry Adolphus McDowell is that Nancy was keeping company with a young man from St. Thomas. When she became pregnant the young man's parents forbid him to marry Nancy. As you can see, the baby died at age 1 year and 2 months. None of the McDowell's were mentioned in Aner's will and at present there are no stones for a McDowell in Wintermute Cemetery.

Three years after the family's arrival in Yarmouth Aner lost her daughter Sarah. She died 18 sept. 1832 at age 12 years. Her stone in the Wintermute Cemetery is the second oldest at the present time and stands beside Aner's stone. George McCall, the elder son, married five years after coming to the area, at age 20 years. The Land Book in the Registry Office in St. Thomas shows that Aner sold to George 100 (south half) acres of her farm in 1834, the year of his marriage. She treated Allen S., her second son, in the same manner. He was 4 years younger than George and he married about 1840. He bought the north half 100 acres of Lot #3. Census taking had not yet started so it is hard to trace where people lived in 1834 or 1840. We may presume that Aner stayed on her farm at least until she had sold both 100 acre lots, probably in her own house while her sons would build homes of their own at marriage. In the meantime Aner's father, Captain John Haviland, had died in 1839 leaving Aner a substantial sum of money. It was to be much needed by her as in 1843 her son George died "of a fever" at age 29 and left a young family of one boy and four girls. No doubt Aner stepped in and assisted the young widow. The eldest child Nelson, was taken into Aner's home and she raised him. Nelson, who was our grandfather, was eight years old at his father's death. The land books tell us that the widow Elizabeth Thayer McCall was in danger of losing the farm for non-payment of taxes. As George McCall had died intestate and left 5 under age children, James Hamilton the Sheriff of Middlesex had to step in and administer the estate. In 1846 William Smith and William K. Firth bought a piece of the farm bordering the stream that ran through the property in order to build a mill. This sale covered the back taxes. By 1850 Elizabeth was in debt again. Before this date she had married John Stephenson, a butcher. Sheriff Hamilton, whose office was in London, still administered the estate. On 15 April 1850 he advertised the farm to be sold on the 27 July. "at noon at the Court House in the town of London". John Wilson, a lawyer in London, and David John Hughes a judge in St. Thomas and a brother-in-law of Wilson were the highest bidders. Together they bought the farm for "one hundred and ten pounds and five shillings lawful money of Canada". Apparently this sum of money was held in trust, probably by Sheriff Hamilton, until Nelson Simpson McCall was 21 years of age. In the year 1856 on the 7 May this particular 100 acres that had been his father George's farm was sold to Nelson, I

quote the Deed of Poll "Nelson Simpson McCall eldest son and heir at law of George McCall formerly of the Township of Yarmouth, builder, deceased - - - - -". Nelson had become 21 on 26 January 1856. He received the farm for the exact sum that Wilson and Hughes had paid for it 6 years earlier. It seems to have been an exercise of kindness and according to the land Books it happened quite a few times. The two men don't seem to have made any profit to speak of. In those six years it is very possible that they collected a rent from Elizabeth as I'm sure she stayed on the farm for most of that 6 years. Elizabeth had a dower right to this property of her husband and the Deed of Poll also states: "and by the said indenture it is witnessed that the said parties of the fourth part (John and Elizabeth Stephenson) in consideration of the sum of one hundred pounds to them in hand paid by the said party of the third part (Nelson Simpson McCall) the receipt whereof is thereby acknowledged by them, released to the said party of the third part his heirs and assigns forever all their claims upon the said Lands". The end result is that Nelson ended up with 10 pounds 5 shillings cash on the deal and also became owner of the farm. He was 21, not married and probably living still with his grandmother Aner who by this time had left her original farm and had bought a 12 acre plot farther east on the same concession. I don't believe that Nelson ever farmed the land or lived there again because he immediately sold it all to a Thomas Green.

I found these two documents of Deed of Poll very fascinating, especially the second one, mostly because of the persons involved. It also shows the great amount of data and information that can be obtained in a document that is very old. Wilson and Hughes were both well known and prominent figures of that era. John Wilson was particularly famous in all parts of Upper Canada. As a young farm lad Wilson first taught school and later attended Queen's University at Kingston to become a lawyer. While at University he became involved in a duel with another student, Robert Lyon, son of an army officer. Lyon had made some disparaging remarks about a young lady, Elizabeth Hughes, and Wilson took exception to them. They decided on a duel to settle their differences. So on a rainy 13 June 1833 they met with their seconds at Perth, at the eastern end of Upper Canada. Lyon was mortally wounded. Wilson and his second, Simon Robertson, were charged with the killing and tried at a court in Brockville in August 1833. They were both acquitted after the jury deliberated for 12 minutes. Wilson later married Elizabeth Hughes, who was the sister of David Hughes. After graduation he opened a practise in London. He became a very prominent man in London and his nickname was "Honest John". He served in many offices such as District Warden, School Superintendent, and also was an M.P. for London at one time. Some years later John Wilson

CANADA.

County of ~~Middlesex~~ York, George Brown of the  
 City of Toronto  
 in the County of York, Require

maketh oath and saith that he was present and did see the due execution  
 of the Indenture of Bargain and Sale, by way of Quit Claim  
 of which the annexed is a Memorial; and also, that he was present and did  
 see the Re said John Wilson in the said Indenture named, duly sign and seal  
 the annexed Memorial, for the Registry thereof; to each of which he is a  
 subscribing witness: and that the said instruments were  
deposited by the said John Wilson at Toronto in

Sworn before me at Toronto in the County of  
York the fourth day of  
May A. D. 1856.  
J. J. Munro  
 A Commissioner for taking Affidavits in and for the United  
Counties of York and Peel

the County of York meet the  
United Counties of York and Peel  
Geo. Brown

Above is a copy of an affidavit by  
 John Wilson of Quit Claim of the farm of  
 George McCall, deceased, witnessed by  
 George Brown in Toronto.

Memorial of 631  
James Hamilton Sheriff  
John Wilson and David  
John Hughes  
Deed Poll  
 Recorded the 27 day of  
January A. D. 1857, at 50  
minutes past 2 o'clock  
Minister B for Toronto  
Lot 291 outcrops of  
the Coll. of London, Ont  
H. Binnell  
Registrar

The front piece of the Deed of Poll  
 of the George McCall farm when  
 it was signed by Middlesex Sheriff  
 James Hamilton and sold to  
 John Wilson and John Hughes.

was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court of Upper Canada which sat in Toronto. After this duel took place the government passed a law prohibiting the fighting of duels. So this was the last fatal duel to be fought in Upper Canada, which took place exactly 150 years ago.

This Deed also contains the signatures of both of their wives, Elizabeth Wilson and Sarah Hughes in order to release their dower rights to this land. All of these many signatures had to be witnessed and three of these witnesses were Edward Ermatinger, David Hanvey and Samuel Hathaway, all well known pioneers of St. Thomas and vicinity and all Justices of the Peace. Edward Ermatinger was a friend and admirer of Thomas Talbot, the founder of the Talbot settlement and St. Thomas. Ermatinger wrote a book about Talbot in 1859 called Life of Colonel Talbot. Since John Wilson was living in Toronto by this time his signature was witnessed there. This was an extra form attached to the other pages of the Memorial and witnessed by none other than George Brown, one of the Fathers of Confederation and at that time owner of the well known Globe Newspaper in Toronto. This has to be the most interesting of all the signatures in this Memorial! It is interesting also to note the escalating prices for farm land, which is continuing to this day. In 1812 John Haviland bought the 200 acre farm from Henry Bostwick for about 25 pounds. In 1829, seventeen years later, he sold it to his daughter for 125 pounds. In 1850 Wilson and Hughes bought half the farm (100 acres) for 110 pounds, 5 shillings.

Some time before Aner's son George died in 1843, Samuel McDowell had disappeared from Aner's life. She now has another companion - Samuel Hughes of Yarmouth. They were married 9 November 1840 by Rev. W. McKillican of the Scotch (Presbyterian) Church. She was listed as Ann McCall of Yarmouth. The witnesses were D. B. Rapelje and John Campbell. On the 1st May 1843 Aner wrote a letter to Francis L. Walsh. It is in the Walsh papers at the Simcoe Museum. This letter was written at Yarmouth and post marked on the outside of the folded letter, "Port Stanley, U.C. 2 May 1843" and addressed to "F. L. Walsh Esq., Vittoria, Canada West". There was a round stamp (like our place and date stamps today) in the upper left corner. It said Port Stanley and under that written with pen and ink "2 May 1843". The letter says:

"Dear Sir: Yours of the 17 ult. same duly to hand and I am sorry to inform you that my son George died on the 19th ult. after being sick about 4 weeks, with regard to Mr. Hughes for bidding you to pay any money Mr. Hughes knows he has not any power to do anything of the kind. He has given a bond under a very heavy penalty not to molest me or min(e) in any shape or form of wick bond I will send

you a copy as soon as my son Georges affairs are a little more arraigned. And I hereby for bid you letting any person have anything without my othoraty. F. L. Walsh Esq. Vittoria

Yours Respectfully

Aner Hughes "

The writing in this letter is very good and legible but the spelling is somewhat different than ours today. This letter tells us that Aner's marriage to Hughes did not last for long - a matter of a little more than two years. Her marriage to Samuel McDowell had laster almost ten years. It sounds like there was a great deal of hostility between them which had boiled over into a court case. It seems as if Aner had received a letter from Walsh before George died and in those upsetting days Aner hadn't answered until after his death. It is very probable that there had been quarrels about her money, the inheritance from her father's estate. If you remember, F. L. Walsh was one of the executors of John Haviland's Will and codicil. I wouldn't be surprised if Mr. Hughes was trying to get some of that money!

## Chapter XI

### ANER'S LAST YEARS

After Aner's son George died she was very busy helping his family. She had taken Nelson to raise. The four girls were younger, their ages ranging from 6 to 1 years. They stayed with their mother. Allen Simpson McCall, Aner's second son had married in 1840 and he lived on the 100 acre farm beside George's family. His first child, a son named George Simpson McCall was born right after his brother's death, so there continued to be another George Simpson McCall. Aner is now 55 years old but was apparently healthy and strong. A few more years passed and Aner found yet another companion. Here again we can't find out much about Timothy Brown. In 1851 Aner bought a 12 acre plot of land further east on Concession #2. David Burgess Jr. owned 63 acres of north half of Lot #9. He was the son of David Burgess Sr. one of the Pioneer settlers on that Concession. The Land Books show only Aner Brown's name as purchaser. But in her Will in part it states "I will - - - - - all my Real estate to my grandson Nelson Simpson McCall aforesaid being a part of lot number nine in the second concession containing by admeasurement 12 acres - - - - - the same being described in a deed made by David Burgess and Mary Ann Burgess and given to me under the name of Anor Brown and signed by me as Anar Brown which deed was signed also by Timothy Brown - - - - - ." So she had married Brown before 15 May 1851 but we can find no marriage registered and he is not entered in the Bible or in the Will except for the one mentioned above.

Sometime after 1839 Aner started to have recorded in a Family Bible some births, deaths and a few marriages. She chose a person who was good at penmanship as the first entries are in beautiful writing. Later entries are in many different styles of hand writing. Using these different styles I have deduced that the Bible was started in late 1843 or early 1844. It was published in Philadelphia by Hogan and Thomson and the date of publishing was 1839. In those early days there were few books in the home, but nearly every home had a Bible - a much prized possession. There are many pioneer stories of families whose cabin burned down and some family members had managed to save the Bible. Because of Aner's lack of an education she could not tell the writer how to spell a name. Therefore her own name is spelled Haner on one page and Aner on another. Recorded on the first page are the names and birth dates of her own family. By this time her sisters had all married so they were recorded by their married names. As almost an after thought squeezed into the corner of

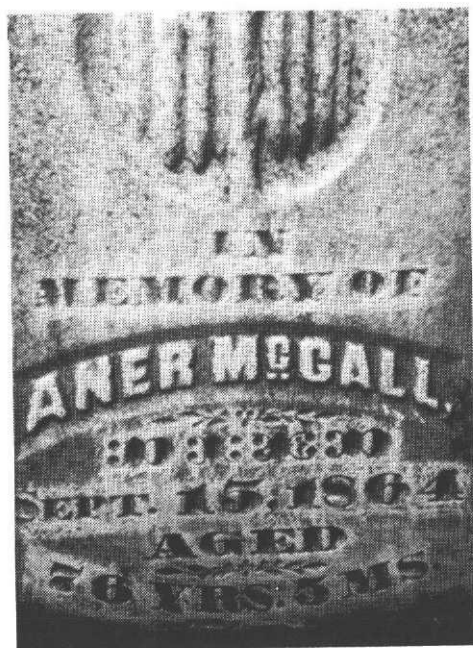
the lower right column is recorded "Else McCall born Aug. 18th 1747" and "Hugh McCall born Apr. 1 18th 1793". Elsie was her mother-in-law and both she and Hugh are also recorded in the death columns. There is no mention of her father-in-law Donald McCall, perhaps because he had died in 1818, over 20 years earlier. This would seem to be another indication of the close relationship between Aner and Elsie McCall. It is puzzling that Aner omitted one of her sisters - Mary, who married Omri Edy. Mary was born in 1785 and died in 1847. She was three years older than Aner. But maybe this omission isn't so odd because her father, John Haviland, left Mary out of his will, although Owen mentions her in the Haviland chapter of his book. All of Aner and Hugh McCall children are recorded. George and wife, Elizabeth Thayer, and all their children are recorded. Allen and two of his children are recorded but not the other children or either of his wives. There are 4 entries of McDowell children. Below the entry of Hugh and Aner's marriage date at the top of a column is entered the marriage of Nelson McCall to Catharine Ketchum. Below that item is listed her great grandchildren, issue of Nelson and Catharine. The writing for the great grandchildren is a very different style and I believe these were recorded by our Grandmother, Catharine McCall. No other great grandchildren are recorded in the Bible. Aner didn't live to see any of Nelson's children as the first born was George Simpson McCall and he arrived about 1 month after Aner's death. In the death columns the first entry is Sarah, Aner's mother. This is followed by Aner's three children who died young. At the bottom of that first column is her father, John Haviland's death. The last two entries in the second column are in a very different style of writing than the others. The first is her son Allen and below that is entered Aner's death. Allen died 9 months before his mother's death. On the last page are only two names recorded as follows: "Perley Moore died June 23<sup>d</sup> 1872, 31 years, 8 months, 14 days" and "Hugh McCall died March 6<sup>th</sup>, 1874." Perley Moore was Perley McCall, daughter of George and Elizabeth Thayer McCall, and grand daughter of Aner McCall. Elizabeth had a sister, Perley Thayer Willis, and she named her daughter after her sister.

The move that Aner and Timothy Brown made in 1851 to the 12 acres down the road was perhaps made to obtain a little peace and quiet as she grew older. Her grandchildren were growing up and Nelson was over 16 years of age. I would hope that her life was more pleasant, which she deserved after the turbulent times and many moves of her earlier years. By 1863 she must have been feeling her age and thought it time to make a will. The family story is that in her old age she lived with her grandson Nelson and this is born out by the census of 1861 which shows them in the same

household. By this time Timothy Brown may have passed away as there is no mention of him. Nelson married Catharine Ketchum in July of 1862 and now there was a household of 3 persons. Her will was short and simple. "I - - - - - bequeath all my personal estate and effects what nature or kind soever to my Grandson Nelson Simson McCall." The will then goes on to state specifically the 12 acres of Lot #9 second concession which we have noted above. She also made Nelson the sole executor of her estate. Now comes an interesting item which furthers my belief that Allen was not a favourite son. I quote "I give and bequeath to my son Allen S. McCall the sum of two dollars which sum shall be paid to him by my Grandson immediately after my death". Eleven months after Aner made this will Allen died so Nelson didn't have to perform this unpleasant duty. It is possible that Aner never forgave Allen for selling the 100 acres of her original farm 6 years after she sold it to him in 1840. The will was witnessed and signed by R. Johnson and Sarah E. Johnson. They are the Randolph and Sarah Johnson who obtained the original crown grant of 100 acres of N.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Lot 9 Con. 2. Here I must mention the Simpson, Simson controversies since Simson is in the will. We have wondered for years which one was proper. In doing this kind of research there are so many so called "mistakes" in spelling. Spelling is subject to change over a period of years. In the U.S.A. they have changed so many words from the old English spelling, such as labor and labour, which we still cling to. In the olden days it was mostly a matter of no education or very little, so it really didn't matter that much as long as every one understood what was meant. It is rather unique that Simpson, which was Elsey McCall's maiden name, has never skipped a generation all through the years down to the present time. When I visited Breckenridge in New Jersey I found that the same thing was happening there; sometimes it was Simson and other times it was Simpson. So I think you could say that either one is correct. The family Bible and the Will and many family pictures and other papers are in the possession of cousin Mrs. Florence Campbell Brown. They were handed down to her by her mother Celia McCall Campbell who had received them from her mother Catharine Ketchum McCall. What a wealth of material this legacy has proven to be! With these papers and also all the Haviland papers any descendant of the Hugh McCall branch of the family would have no problem in proving descent from ancestors on both sides of the house - The McCalls and The Havilands - who were United Empire Loyalists.

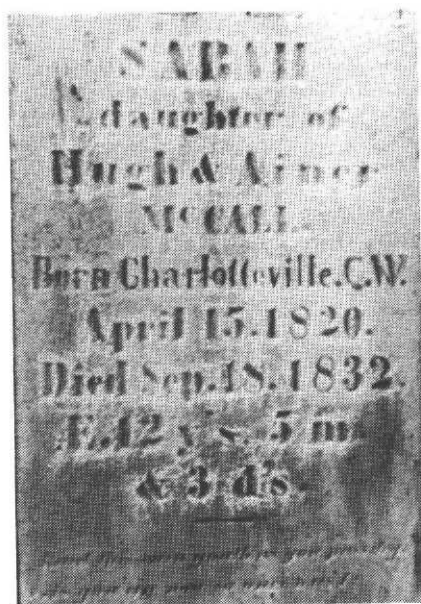
Aner passed away on 15 September 1864, a year and a half after making her will. She was 76 years old, which was a ripe old age for those days. She was buried in the Wintermute Cemetery beside her daughter Sarah. Not far away

were her two sons, Allen's first wife Mary and four of her grandchildren. The simple grey slab stone reads "In Memory of - Aner McCall - died September 15, 1864 - aged 76 years - 5 months, 25 days." In spite of her different marriages she chose to remain at her death Aner McCall.



⟨Aner McCall stone in the Pioneer  
Wintermute Cemetery  
South Yarmouth Twp.

Sarah, ⟩  
Aner's daughter



## Chapter XII

### ANER'S SONS - GEORGE and ALLEN

In Aner's story you learned where her children were born and spent their early childhood. George was 15, Allen 11, and Sarah 9 years of age when they arrived with Aner at their new home in South Yarmouth. The 200 acre farm was located just west of the junction of the second concession and what is now Highway No. 4, formerly the London-Port Stanley gravel road. It was situated in a beautiful spot with the Beaver Creek meandering through it on its way to emptying into nearby Kettle Creek. This created a small valley with hills rising on either side. It also provided them with a good supply of water and later mills were built on its banks. The farm was very close to the small village of Port Stanley which was situated at the mouth of Kettle Creek where it flowed into Lake Erie. Port Stanley had a natural harbour and long sandy beaches. The area of the farm was heavily wooded when they arrived and there weren't many neighbours. The closest one was just east of Aner's farm at Lot No. 4. This was the farm of Joseph Smith. His children - four girls and a boy - were older than the McCall boys. George was old enough and probably strong enough to help build their log cabin home which had to be completed before winter weather arrived. Perhaps this is what gave George the idea of becoming a carpenter which is what he first practised when he grew to manhood. James S. Brierly, the publisher of the Southern Counties Journal in St. Thomas, offered prizes in 1895 for school essays by pupils and teachers of Elgin County Public Schools. The subject was to be the early history of each rural school district. He later published them in the form of a book. In most cases the authors interviewed older residents of the area who were the original settlers. While some memories may have been faulty the fact remains that these essays are a wealth of information about the early days in Elgin County. Ida Binns wrote her essay about School Section No. 2 - White's School in south Yarmouth. She tells how the first school was built in 1843. Binns first wrote about the early settlers in her area. I quote, "Among the first to settle on this land (east of Port Stanley) were Richard Lanning, George McCall, David Burgess, Randolph Johnson, Captain Smith and William Binns." In 1843 William Binns, Richard Lanning and William Hindley instigated the building of the first school on the southeast corner of Lot 7 on the north side of Concession 1. "A small frame building was erected at the cost of five hundred dollars." "George McCall's residence was on Lot 3, 2nd Concession. He worked at the carpenter trade and helped to build our school." If this date is correct that was the year George McCall died and that may have been his last job.

At age 20 George married Elizabeth Thayer. The entry

in the old St. Thomas Church Marriage Registry states, "George McCall of Yarmouth married Elizabeth Thayer of Yarmouth by licence, by Rev. M. Burnham on 6 March 1834. Witnesses: Cyrus Thayer, Amos McDowell, mechanic." Cyrus Thayer was Elizabeth's older brother. I wonder if Amos McDowell was a half-brother of George McCall through Aner's second marriage to Samuel McDowell? After George's death on 19 April, 1843 at an early age, he was buried in the Wintermute Cemetery near the farm. The day before his death his brother Alan's son was born. Alan named his son George Simpson McCall after his late brother. George McCall was the second of the McCall family to be buried in this cemetery. In the years after many more members of the family would be buried there. The simple inscription on the stone says, "George McCall, born Charlotteville, C.W., March 24, 1814, died April 19, 1843, aged 29 years, 26 days." Elizabeth Thayer was only sixteen when she married George McCall. She was the ninth and youngest child of Jarvis Thayer Sr. and Susanna (Parker) Thayer. She was 25 years old when George died and left her with 5 children. Elizabeth married George 2 months after her mother's Will was probated. In the Will she received a 50 acre share of a 200 acre farm on Lot 4, Con. 3 in Yarmouth, which is now part of Union. Her 50 acres was on the northwest corner of the lot. When George McCall married Elizabeth his mother Aner sold or gave him the south half of her 200 acre Lot 3, Con. 2 in Yarmouth and that was where George and Elizabeth lived until his death. Nelson McCall the oldest child of George and Elizabeth was 8 years old at his father's death and he went to live with his grandmother Aner. You have already read of the struggle that Elizabeth had to bring up her 4 daughters, pay the taxes and try to hold the farm. On 19th Sept. 1844 a St. Thomas newspaper, The St. Thomas Standard, printed on page 3 this advertisement: "Elizabeth McCall, living in Yarmouth, 2 Conc., Lot 3, reported a stray steer on her property since the middle of June. Request owner to prove property, pay charges and take him away." From this we know that the family was still on the farm as of 19 Sept. 1844. I have been able to find a little information about the four daughters and their children. We will learn more about Nelson in the next chapter.

Sarah Anne, first daughter, was born 26 April 1837. All the children were born on the farm south of Union. She married "Caleb Steele on 1 June 1855 by Rev. Thomas Mills Baptist in Elgin County. Witnesses: Jarvis Their (Thayer) and Elizabeth Their (Thayer)." Caleb Steele was born about 1832 in Ontario. His father Jonathon was of Irish descent and a farmer. His mother Maria was born in the U.S.A of German descent. There is a small discrepancy in Sarah Ann's birth date. The bible says she was born 26 April, 1837. The Old St. Thomas Church Baptismal Register says: "Sarah Ann McCall born 20 April, 1837. Baptised 22 May, 1838. Parents, Elizabeth and George McCall

by Rev. Burnham." Sarah Ann and Caleb's children were:

- |                    |         |
|--------------------|---------|
| 1. Delphine Steele | b. 1857 |
| 2. Orlando Steele  | b. 1860 |
| 3. Guy Steele      | b. 1862 |
| 4. Carrie Steele   | b. 1865 |
| 5. Delos Steele    | b. 1867 |
| 6. Maria Steele    | b. 1870 |

Florence Brown has some memories of her mother's "Aunt Sarah Ann Steele." As a young girl living in St. Thomas she remembers going with her grandmother Catherine McCall, in the early 1900's, to visit Sarah Ann. They travelled by street car along Talbot St. from the Queen's Hotel, opposite the Grand Central Station, to Sarah Ann's apartment on the second floor of a house on the corner of Centre St. and Queens St. Sarah Ann's son Guy Steele owned a fruit store in London. When he came to visit his mother he always brought her some of his produce. This is where Florence first saw and tasted grapefruit. She didn't like it because it was too sour.

Mahala McCall, second daughter, born 21 June, 1839, married Mr. Croft. I have never found the marriage of Mahala and Mr. Croft and I don't know his first name or his relationship - if any - to Mahala's Aunt Perly Thayer's first husband George Croft. We do know that in the 1871 Census of Yarmouth Mahala and her four children are listed as living with Perley who was now married to John Church. There is no mention of a Mr. Croft. Florence Brown says Mahala's husband deserted her and she moved to Michigan. So the 1871 Census bears out the fact she was deserted. Elizabeth (McCall) Stevenson, Mahala's mother, had moved to Michigan before 1871 and it is very possible that after 1871 Mahala and her family moved to Michigan also. Their children were:

- |                 |         |
|-----------------|---------|
| 1. Walter Croft | b. 1861 |
| 2. Lura Croft   | b. 1863 |
| 3. Effie Croft  | b. 1865 |
| 4. Archie Croft | b. 1866 |

Perly McCall, third daughter, born 9 September 1840, married John R. Moore, born about 1837, of Irish descent and living in Sparta. According to the Census John R. Moore's father was John Moore and his mother was Deborah. Recently I found in the Century Homes magazine, published in Port Hope, Ontario, an article about the old home near Sparta that was built by John Sr. The information for the article was given by Sam and Faith McLorn, the present owners of the house. After buying and restoring this old house Mrs. McLorn researched the history of Lot 21, Con. 4, Yarmouth and the family who built it. I quote from the article: "She discovered the property was bought

by Samuel Moore, a Quaker from Rahway, New Jersey. After the American Revolution Moore went to Nova Scotia, then returned to New Jersey. After his wife died in 1813 he bought land in Norwich, a Quaker settlement in Upper Canada, in 1818. Samuel Moore's sons John and Elias came to settle in Sparta. Samuel gave each of them a farm, John received the farm which is the subject of this story and Elias the farm across the road. John Moore is thought to have built the house in 1824." These two sons must have been born before the father Samuel came to Upper Canada. They were definitely a Quaker family and Sparta, like Norwich, was a Quaker settlement. In reading Colin Read's book The Rising in Western Upper Canada of 1837-38 you learn that Norwich and Sparta were hot spots in the Rebellion. I noticed also the names of John and Elias Moore are mentioned many times in this book. They had also an older brother Enoch of Malahide who was involved in the uprising. They were all tried in court after the Rebellion but their part in the affair was judged to be not serious enough to be hanged as was the fate of their neighbour and fellow Quaker of Sparta, Joshua Doan.

The house was built on the west side of the road, halfway up the hill north of Sparta. It was unique because the two storey brick house was built into the hillside which is now called the Sparta ridge. The front door on the ground floor was in the middle of the house. Upstairs at the back of the house there was also a centre door that you entered from the hillside. John Moore died in 1854 and the property was left to the widow Deborah. By that time the south end of the farm was in Sparta and the land was divided into village lots. Again the article states, "In 1857 John R. Moore Jr. took over the management of the property when Deborah deeded 150 acres to him. He leased fifty acres back to her and she retained half the house and garden....." Deborah died in 1872 (sic) and the farm was sold only a few years later. From a microfilm of Elgin County marriages 1853-1873 we found the following: "April 21, 1857 - John Moore and Adelia McCall of Yarmouth by licence. Wit: Jane Smith and Alma Rapelge by Abraham Smith, a regular Baptist minister." In the 1861 Census Deborah is listed as a widow of age 60 years. In her household is listed Annie, 22 and single, James 20, Mahlon 19. These are apparently brothers and sisters of John. In the 1871 Census it states, "John R. Moore 34, born in Ontario, Quaker Irish, farmer, wife Perley Moore, born in Ontario, Quaker, Walter 12, Millard 11. James 30 born in Ontario, no occupation, unsound mind. Thomas Pearce 20, born in Ontario, no sect, farm servant." John's mother Deborah had apparently died before the 1871 Census and John had taken his brother James into his home and care. There is some confusion about Perley's name. She was named after her Aunt Perley. In the 1861 Census she named Adelia Perley and the 1871 Census says Pearley Adelia. As you will read later

her death record says Perley A. Moore. Their children were:

1. Walter Moore b. 1858
2. Millard (Willard) Moore b. 1859

We have proof that Pearley also moved to Michigan, probably with her family some time after the 1871 Census. We have been provided with the following notation from Early Death Records of Lapiere County, Michigan, "Perley A. Moore, born in Canada 9 Sept. 1840, died 23 June 1872 in Burlington, Mich., aged 32 years, 9 months. Daughter of George and Elizabeth McCall of Canada." Perley did not live very long after they moved to Michigan. I have no further information on her family.

Caroline McCall, born 19 July, 1842 fourth daughter, married Mr. Hammond. I have never been able to find anything more about Caroline and her family. In fact, Florence Brown was surprised her mother had an Aunt Caroline. She must have left the area soon after her marriage. All the above grandchildren of George and Elizabeth were born in South Yarmouth and appear in the 1861 and 1871 Census.

A few pages back we left Elizabeth with her young family still living on the farm in Sept. 1844. Some time after that Elizabeth married John Stephenson (Stevenson) a butcher. You have seen his name mentioned in the document of sale of the farm to Nelson McCall when he became of age. We do not know the date they left the farm, but before 1851 they moved to the piece of land that Elizabeth inherited from her mother Susannah Thayer. According to the Tweedsmuir History of Union on page 71, John and Elizabeth Stevenson sold a piece of this land to the trustees of S.S. #9 school in Yarmouth. This property became the site of the Union school for the next 100 years. The sale took place on 19 February, 1851. A few years ago I purchased a picture of this school. It was a lino engraving in black on white done by Joyce Thomas of Union. It was taken from a 1908 postcard and corresponds to the picture of the old school in the Tweedsmuir book. This was the second Union school and the building still stands. The first school built of logs was built on the same road west of this school.

After 1851 Elizabeth and John dropped from sight. After searching for a long time I have given up. Recently, I received a letter from Fred Thayer with this information: "After Elizabeth's second marriage to John Stevenson they moved to Alpena, Michigan. She had 7 children by this marriage." This information was found in the Thayer Genealogy. I would hope that at some future date another researcher of the Thayer family, perhaps living in Michigan, may be able to find more about Elizabeth's life at Alpena.

For a long time Fred Thayer has been providing me the genealogy of the Thayer Family. More recently I have received information on the Thayers and the Parkers from Mrs. Jean (Hepburn) Griffin of London, Ontario. Mr. & Mrs. Donald Erkfritz of Clarkson, Michigan and Richard Thayer of Billings, Montana. I feel it is worthwhile to record these well-researched findings. We owe a great deal of gratitude to the above-mentioned persons who have told us so much more about our great-grandmother Elizabeth (Thayer) McCall. The direct descent of the Thayer family down to Jarvis Thayer that was Elizabeth's father is as follows:

1. John Thayer born c. 1503 at Thornbury, Gloucester, England.
2. His son John Thayer Jr. born 1531, died 1589 at Thornbury, England.
3. His son Richard Thayer, born Aug. 2, 1562, Thornbury, England.
4. His son Thomas Thayer born Aug. 1596, died 2 June 1665, Thornbury, England.
5. His son Ferdinando Thayer, born Apr. 1, 1625, died 28 May, 1715, Thornbury, England.
6. His son Isaac Thayer, born 11 Feb. 1664, died 1730, Mendon Worcester, Massachusetts, U.S.A.
7. His son John Thayer, born 1706, died 1760, Mendon, Mass.
8. His son Silas Thayer, born 1731, married Perley Pond c. 1746. Migrated to Canada
9. His son Jarvis Thayer, born Nov. 20, 1770, Mendon, Mass. Came to Canada with his father and mother. Married about 1796 Susannah (Susan) Parker.

Both the Thayers and the Parkers moved to Canada from the U.S.A. after the rebellion. They entered at Niagara Falls and settled in that general area. As the children grew up they often inter-married. By the early 1800's most members of each family made their way west to South Yarmouth. They settled near Sparta, Dexter, Union and Port Talbot. In the next generation in the new area they continued to inter-marry and many of these marriages were first cousins, which was not unusual in those days. The children of Jarvis Thayer Sr. and Susannah Parker Thayer were:

1. John Thayer born 10 Nov. 1798.
2. Nahum Pond Thayer, born 30 July 1800.
3. Jarvis Thayer, Jr. born 1802. Married Nancy Ann Parker, 25 Dec. 1825. He died before 1832.
4. Simeon Thayer born about 1804.
5. Cyrus D. Thayer born about 1807 in Niagara District, Ontario. Married Hester (Esther) McLelland on 1 Sept. 1831, died after 1881.

6. Elmiro (Almira, Elmyro) Thayer, born 1811, married Edmund Smith on 28 Nov. 1828. Died in Welland, Ontario.
7. Nancy Thayer, born 1813 near Port Talbot, married Henry Mandeville on June 20, 1834. Settled in Alpena, Michigan.
8. Perley Thayer, born 2 June, 1816 at Port Talbot, Ontario. Married:
  - A. George Croft on 27 Nov. 1831 at St. Thomas
  - B. John C. Willis in 1837
  - C. John Church in 1860
9. Elizabeth Thayer, born at Union, 4 June 1818. Married:
  - A. George McCall, 16 March 1834
  - B. John Stephenson (Stevenson)

From the Old St. Thomas' Church Registers, the Thayer Genealogy and other sources, I have found a lot of information about most of the above children of Jarvis Sr. and Susannah (Parker) Thayer.

John, first child, was a farmer. He "married Deborah Johnson of Dart, Talbot Co., Ontario on 17 December 1820 and settled in that place. Deborah was born 9 Nov. 1800." I would guess that the above location at that time was in Dunwich Twp. near Port Talbot. John died 15 Nov. 1865. They had 2 children, Susan and Lovina Thayer. Susan was born 3 Aug. 1822, married on 4 June, 1844 to Robert Hepburn who was born in Scotland and lived in South Yarmouth near the McCall farm. They had 11 children, two of whom died young. We will hear more about this Susan (Thayer) Hepburn later. Lovina, born 1 Jan. 1824, married John Weldon on 10 Aug. 1843 and settled in Dart, Talbot Co., Ontario. They had 8 children.

Second child, Nahum Pond Thayer, "married Lovina Swick, daughter of Peter and Sally Swick of Canada West on Sept. 1825 and settled in Greenfield, Wayne Co., Michigan." He was a carpenter and house joiner. Lovina was born 31 Aug. 1808. They had 10 children. Nahum P. Thayer died 26 October, 1851.

Third child, Jarvis Thayer Jr., was a farmer of Yarmouth, "married Nancy Parker, Yarmouth, by banns on 25 Dec. 1825 by Rev. A. Machintosh. Witnesses: William Parker, Nahum Thayer, Charles McGaw." Nancy Parker born 28 Feb. 1809 in Wainfleet Twp., Niagara District was the daughter of George and Hannah Parker. George was a brother of Susannah (Parker) Thayer and Susannah was the mother of Jarvis Thayer Jr. So he and Nancy were first cousins. They had 4 children. There appears to be some discrepancy about 2 of the children, but we do know for certain about the other 2 children, Nahum Pond Thayer and Jarvis Simeon Thayer were baptised in St. Thomas' Church. "Nahum Pond Thayer, baptised 7 Jan. 1827 and Jarvis Simeon Thayer born 28 Dec. 1830, baptized 27 Nov. 1831. Par.

Jarvis and Nancy (Ann) Thayer by Rev. Burnham. Sponsors: George and Perley Croft." This latter baptism was a matter of convenience. Jarvis and Nancy Ann were apparently invited to the wedding of Jarvis' younger sister Perley Thayer to George Croft. After the wedding ceremony they held a baptism and George and Perley Croft were the sponsors. The first-born Nahum Pond Thayer grew up, married and went to live in Buffalo, N.Y. Later "he was killed at Buffalo, N.Y. by the fall of a liberty pole. He left no children." Jarvis Simeon Thayer was the fourth child of Jarvis Thayer Jr., and Nancy Parker. He married Nancy Pace on Nov. 18, 1855. They had 2 or 3 children. Jarvis Jr. and Nancy may have had 2 children named George and Silas who died young. Jarvis Jr. himself died at age 37 in 1832 of an accident. While riding a horse over a bridge the horse fell off the bridge and took Jarvis Jr. to a watery grave. His wife Nancy married again. "Nancy Thayer, widow, Yarmouth m. Edward Pratt, yeoman by banns on 20 Dec. 1832 by Rev. M. Burnham. Wit.: Cyrus Thayer, George Croft, George McBeth." They moved to Bayham and later went to Detroit, Michigan. Nancy had eleven children by Pratt. Donald Erkfritz of Clarkston, Michigan is descended from the ninth Pratt child - Nancy Maria Pratt. She married Jacob Westover. She also married a second time to William Bird. Nancy Pratt Westover Bird died in Wayne, Michigan in 1925.

Fourth child, Simeon Thayer, born about 1804 seems to have eluded all researchers, as we can find no information about him. Both the Thayer and Parker families, who have intermarried, were fond of naming their children after their fathers, brothers or sisters and themselves. This makes researching of these families very difficult and sometimes very confusing.

Fifth child, Cyrus D. Thayer "married Hester (Esther) McLellan (McAllen) by license on Sept. 1, 1831" and settled in Sparta, Canada West. They were married by Rev. M. Burnham and the Witnesses were: Wm. Parker, Peerless Dowling and Jarvis Thayer. Cyrus and Esther had 6 children most of whom married and settled in Sparta. Rev. Barnham also baptised their first child named Jarvis. "Jarvis Thayer was born 25 March, 1832 and baptised 13 December, 1832. Parents Cyrus and Esther Thayer. Sponsors: George and Perley Croft."

Sixth child, Almira Thayer "married Edmund Smith, yeoman, Southwold, by banns on 23 Nov., 1828 by Rev. A. Machintosh. Wit.: Wm. Parker, Wm. Smith, Jarvis Thayer and John Thayer." She had several children.

Seventh child, Nancy Thayer married on 20 June, 1834. Later settled in Alpena, Michigan.

Perley and Elizabeth Thayer are the eighth and ninth

children born to Jarvis Thayer Sr. and Susannah Thayer. We will be hearing more about them later. The birth dates and places of birth give us a clue as to about when they moved from near Welland in the Niagara district to the area of Port Talbot, South Yarmouth and Sparta. The Thayer children up to and including Elmyra were probably born at Welland. Nancy born 1813 could have been born at Port Talbot. We do know that Perley was born 1816 at Port Talbot. Before 1816 Jarvis and Susannah Thayer had moved to Port Talbot. It is known that Susannah owned land in Dunwich township in 1816. Dunwich is the township in which Port Talbot is situated. The Thayers didn't stay there very long. Elizabeth, the next child after Perley, was born in Union on 4 June, 1818. Jarvis and Susannah had settled on a farm at Lot 4, Conc. 3 which is now in Union. On page 22 of the book John and Nancy Parker Descendants there is a photocopy of this land Grant because Susannah was a daughter of a U.E.L. The copy of the record in the Ontario Archives says:

"Lieutenant Govr. Office  
York January 29th, 1816

The following location to be made  
under the usual Rules and Regulations  
Susanna Thayer alias Parker D. of U.E.  
upon Lot. No. 4 in the 3rd Concession of Yarmouth.

I have the honour to be  
Sir

Your most obediant

Humble Servant

Wm. Halton

Secretary

Thomas Ridout Esq.  
Surveyor General"

It would seem that most of the Thayer children came west with their parents, although I haven't much information on the fourth child Simeon. His brother Jarvis Jr. named one of his sons Jarvis Simeon Thayer. When his mother Susannah Thayer made her Will on 22 Feb. 1833 she named her sons and Simeon was mentioned. Almira seems to have gone back to the Niagara area after marrying Edmund Smith of Southwold as she died in Welland. It is interesting to note that all down through the generations the names Perley and Pond keep cropping up. Their grandmother Perley's maiden name was Pond and her children and grandchildren must have cared a lot for her. The most recent one so named was my sister Pearl who remembers, as she grew older, asking where her name came from. She was told it came from a distant aunt of her father Charles McCall. Perley Thayer died the year our father was born so he didn't know Aunt Perley, but he certainly heard about her. The youngest children Perley and Elizabeth were born and lived for some time in the Talbot and Union area so we have discovered much more about them. They seemed to have been very close to each other and I think



*Standing is Elizabeth (Thayer) McCall Stevenson.  
Seated is her sister Pearly (Thayer) Croft Willis Church.*

they had interesting lives.

Perley was 15½ years old when she "married George Croft, Yarmouth, by license 27 Nov. 1831 by Rev. M. Burnham. Wit.: George Parker, William Parker and Peerless Dowling." the latter were all uncles of Perley Thayer on her mother's side. Peerless Dowling had married her Aunt Mary Parker. No Thayers are mentioned and it is entirely possible that her parents did not wish her to marry so young. George and Perley had a son. "Leander Croft, baptised 6 March 1834. Parents, Mr. & Mrs. Croft. Sponsors: George and Elizabeth McCall, by Rev. Burnham " No birth date was given. Here again we have a double ceremony, as that was the same date that George and Elizabeth McCall were married. I don't know if there were any other children and I have had no success in tracing Leander. I have heard he died young but I have no proof of this. But we do know that his father George Croft died young in about 1835 or 1836. In 1836 or 1837 Perley married again at age 20 or 21. She married John C. Willis. By this time Perley's mother Susannah (Parker) Thayer had died and left Perley 50 acres of Lot 4, Con. 3. John and Perley actually lived on the 50 acres left to Nancy Thayer (Mandeville). Nancy and Henry Mandeville had left the area the year before Perley married John Willis so there must have been some switching around or buying and selling. At any rate this is the farm on which the Union Cemetery now stands. The History of the Methodist (United) Church in Union which was printed in 1937 to celebrate their Diamond Jubilee states: "The first Methodist Church was built on the east side of the road (London and Port Stanley), part way up the hill..... This was a frame building..... On June 17, 1850 one and one half acres of land on the west side of the plank road and beyond the top of the hill was bought for church and burial purposes by the trustees of the Wesleyan Methodist Church from John and Pearley Willis. The sum of fifteen pounds being paid for the same..... The first interment in the new cemetery was that of Harrison Willis, infant brother of the late Archelaus Willis." This is verified by the stone in the Union cemetery except that Harrison was 3 years old. The Braintree History Society's reprint of the The Thayer Genealogy is at odds with the stone in the Union cemetery as to the children of Perley and John Willis. An exact transcript of this beautiful tall grey stone reads:

"In Loving Memory of  
Perley Thayer Willis  
born June 2, 1816  
at Port Talbot, Canada  
Eighth (sic) daughter of  
Jarvis and Susan Thayer  
Pioneers of Elgin County  
died November 19th, 1899

at Lexington, Mich. U.S.A.  
This stone is erected by  
her son Archelaus  
whose remains are interred here  
and who entered into rest  
December 26th, 1921  
In his eighty-fourth year  
at Toronto, Ontario  
where he had been an honoured  
resident for fifty years.

Thy Father and thy Mother, shall  
be glad and she that bear thee  
shall rejoice.

Proverbs XXII-25"

I believe "Eighth daughter" should read Eighth child, a probable error by the stone cutter. On the other side of this flat slab of grey marble it reads"

"In Loving Memory of  
John Willis  
born at Montplier, Vt. 1807  
died Oct. 13, 1853.

Harrison  
born Aug. 16, 1847  
died April 1850

Lura Anne  
born Oct. 16, 1853  
died March, 1858

children of John and Perley Willis.

The first inscription on this side of the stone is Archelaus' father John Willis. Harrison and Lura Anne are his brother and sister. The Braintree, Mass. History gives 4 children: "Archelaus born 24 Sept. 1838. John born 1844, Lafayette born 1845 and Lucy Ann (Lura Anne) born Oct. 1853. Died aged 7 years." According to the stone in the Union cemetery there was a gap of 9 years between the birth of Archelaus and Harrison. It is very possible that the above John and Lafayette that are not mentioned on the stone were stillborn or died shortly after birth. That would mean that John and Perley Willis had 5 children. Lura Anne was born 3 days after her father's death. Florence Brown tells me that Archelaus, many times, came to visit his relatives in the Sparta-Union area and always called on our Grandmother McCall. Florence remembers as a young girl going with her mother to the train station in St. Thomas on Archelaus' burial day. His widow and two daughters arrived on the same train as the coffin carrying Archelaus. A hearse met the train

and conveyed the coffin to the Union Cemetery on that cold December day, where he was interred. What a sad Christmas that was for his family! Florence says she remembers the widow as a little old lady. Neither she or her daughters are buried there.

After John Willis' death Perley married John Church about 1860. John Church died in 1863. They did not have any children. We don't know when Perley Church moved to Michigan or if John Church died there. I do have a copy of Perley Church's obituary and it tells us many things about her later life. Here are some quotes from the obituary: "A Pioneer passes away. Mrs. Perley Church, an old and respected citizen of Lexington (Michigan) died Sunday 19 Nov. 1899 at the home of her granddaughter Mrs. Frank Wolfel, in the village. She first came to Lexington with her family 60 years (sic) ago and except for a short period had been a resident of the village until her death. She was born 1816 at Port Talbot, West Elgin, Ontario. She was the daughter of Jarvis and Susannah (Parker) Thayer and has been a proud, conscientious person and a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. Had she lived until the second of January she would have been 84 years old..... Her husband died years ago and out of her seven children only four are living. A brief funeral service was held at the home, Elder Gordon presiding. Her remains were taken to St. Thomas, to rest in her own cemetery which had been private property of the family for two-thirds of a century." The fact she lived there for years is in error. While she was married to George Croft and John Willis, we have proof she lived in Yarmouth. In the 1871 Census she is married to John Church and still in Yarmouth. She could have lived there 28 years at the most. Also her stone says birth date was June 2 not Jan. 2. The obituary says she had 7 children. I wish they had mentioned the children by name. It also says 4 children were still living. We would like to know who the four living children were and the maiden name of the granddaughter she lived with. We only know of the one living child which was Archelaus. Perhaps, some day we will be able to fill these gaps in the family history. There is one more interesting inscription at the bottom of one side of the Willis stone which reads: "Lura Croft Birtch, niece of the above (Perley Willis) with her infant son Alson." Lura Croft was a daughter of Mahala McCall and Mr. Croft, and Mahala was a daughter of Elizabeth (Thayer) McCall. We have already read that Mahala and her children had moved into Perley's home when Mahala's husband left her. Perley was a great aunt to Mahala's children and naturally felt close to them. Lura Croft had married a Mr. Birtch and it is possible she died young at the birth of her child Alson. There are no dates given in this inscription. It is interesting to note that Archelaus, who erected the stone in the Union Cemetery, chose to mention only three Willis children and no mention of Croft child or children. He also ignored his

mother's first husband, George Croft, and last husband, John Church. But he bought the stone, so you might say he had the right to put on it whatever he wished. Perley was a remarkable pioneer woman who lived to a ripe old age and was truly worthy of being honoured by her son in this manner.

We have covered the Thayer side of Elizabeth's family and now we look at the maternal or Parker side. You have already learned a lot about Susannah (Parker) Thayer who was the daughter of John Parker and Nancy (Watson) Parker. In 1981 Mrs. Jean (Hepburn) Griffin put together and published a book, John and Nancy Parker and Their Descendants, with the help of many Parker descendants who are still living. From this book and many other sources such as land grants, census, Old St. Thomas Church registers, documents from the Archives, Wills, death notices, etc., we found out a lot about the Parker Family. John Parker Sr. born in Cork, Ireland in 1739 married Nancy Watson, born in Dublin, Ireland in 1743. When John was 36 years and Nancy 32 years they emigrated in 1775 to Nova Scotia, Canada. About a year later they moved to Northumberland County in Pennsylvania. They secured a property claim of 200 acres of land on the Susquehanna River and also title to an island in the river. They built their first house on the island but after many spring floods damaged their home and threatened their lives they moved to the mainland. During the American Revolution John Parker, being a Tory, fought on the side of Britain as a Sergeant General in the Royal Regiment of New York. After the revolution ended in 1783 and the British lost, John and family abandoned his land and went back to Nova Scotia. In the late 1700's the family moved once more. They settled in Upper Canada (Canada West) in Welland County - the Niagara district. The earliest listing of a Land Grant given to a Loyalist like John Parker Sr. was kept by the government of what is now Ontario. I quote the entry for John Parker Sr. from the "Old List". "H district, a Loyalist during the war - S.G. An old soldier P. (petition) of E. District, soldier R.R.N.Y. (Royal Regiment of New York), MROLL." The H district at that time covered all the Niagara Peninsula and South Western Ontario. The farm was in Wainfleet Township, on the Chipawa River 30 miles from its mouth. Because John Parker was a Loyalist each of his children, when the boys became 21 or when the girls married, was entitled to a land grant also. Reid's book Ontario Loyalists which is in our St. Thomas Library is where we look for the Loyalist sons and daughters who received these grants. On page 243 in Reid's book we find, "John Parker of Wainfleet" listed and below his name is the following list of his children who received an Order in Council (O.C.) for grants of land.

|  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| "Parker, John of Wainfleet             |                          |
| Mary, md. (Nelson) Rees of Wainfleet   | O.C. 11 July 1799-age 21 |
| Ann,                                   | O.C. 20 Feb. 1810        |
| Elizabeth md. Jesse Page of Wainfleet  | O.C. 20 Feb. 1810        |
| John Jr. of Wainfleet                  | O.C. 9 June 1812         |
| George of Wainfleet                    | O.C. 9 June 1812         |
| Susannah, md. Jarvis Thayer of Dunwich | O.C. 27 Jan. 1816        |
| William of Gainsborough                | O.C. 27 Jan. 1816"       |

Nearly all the Parker family moved to South Yarmouth after the war of 1812-14 as did the Thayers. John Sr. at age 77 and wife Nancy at age 73 moved to the farm on Concession 1, Lot 14 overlooking Lake Erie. This area is now called Dexter just east of Port Stanley. John Parker Sr. U.E. died in February 1822 at age 83 and Nancy died in November 1840 at age 97. They are both buried in the Seminary Cemetery on the Sparta road. Their children were:

1. John Parker Jr., born 1775 on the ship that brought the family to Nova Scotia. Much of the following information about John Jr. was given to me by Howard and Eunice Parker of Dexter. John Jr. married Harriet (Mary) Dilts, probably before they migrated to the Niagara area. John Jr. fought in the war of 1812-14. They apparently moved to Kent County, Howard Twp. near Morpeth as there is evidence to show they were living there by 1816. On at least one occasion we know they visited the St. Thomas area as they were sponsors at 4 baptisms on 10 Sept. 1824. Their son John and wife Sarah Parker who lived in Yarmouth had their children John, Jane, Sophia and George baptised on that date at the Old Anglican Church. Harriet died in 1824 at Morpeth and John Jr. married a second time to Rosanna Shippey, daughter of Zebulon Shippey. Later John Jr. moved to Malahide Twp. in Elgin County in 1841. He died Feb. 1848 aged 73 years and is buried in Dunboyne Cemetery near Port Bruce. John Jr. and Rosanna had 2 sons - William and Henry B. William born in 1826 married Amanda Powers. Henry born 28 June 1835 married on 25 Dec. 1854 to Sandra Kennedy.

2. Elizabeth Parker, born 2 Jan. 1776 in Northumberland Co., Pennsylvania. This tells us that John Sr. and Nancy only stayed in Nova Scotia about a year before moving on to Pennsylvania. She married Jesse Page and settled on Con. 3, Lot 12, Yarmouth. Jesse Page came to Yarmouth from the Long Point area and was an early settler in Yarmouth. He built the first tannery on Beaver Creek which flowed through his property. They had two sons, Jesse Page Jr. born 1814 and died by drowning at 18 years of age on 2 April 1832, the unhappy result of a boating excursion on Lake Erie. The second son, Joseph Page m. first Elizabeth J. Watson who died 29 Feb. 1836 in her 22nd year. Joseph married secondly, Mary Jane Wilkins who died 3 June 1900, aged 75 years. They had 2 children Janet Page and

Emily Frances Page. Elizabeth Parker Page died 25 Sept. 1845 at age 69. Jessie Page who was born July 30, 1771 died 3 Mar. 1852 at age 81. Both are buried in the Seminary Cemetery.

3. Mary Parker, born 11 July 1778 died 10 August 1845 and is buried in Seminary Cemetery. She married Nelson Rees probably in Wainfleet. We don't know much about Rees. He is not buried in the Seminary Cemetery with his wife. His name does appear as a witness at the wedding of Mary Parker to Peerless Dowling on 18 May 1831, in Yarmouth Township. Mary was the daughter of Mary Parker Rees' brother George Parker.

4. Susannah Parker. (We will tell her story later.)

5. George Parker born in 1781. He married Hannah, probably in Wainfleet. They moved to Yarmouth and settled on Concession 1, Lot 13 on 30 Sept. 1817. George died 5 June 1838 at age 57 years and is buried in Seminary Cemetery. They had nine children - six boys and three girls.

1. Nancy born 28 Feb. 1809 in Wainfleet Township married firstly Jarvis Thayer Jr., farmer in Yarmouth on 25 Dec. 1825. Nancy had four children before Jarvis Jr. died. She married a second time, Edward Pratt, yeoman of Yarmouth on 20 Dec. 1832. He was the son of Jefferson Pratt and Hannah Spooner. Nancy and Edward moved to Bayham Township. They had eleven children. Nancy died 24 August 1895 at 86 years of age and was buried in Grant Township, Clare County, Michigan. Edward died 12 Jan, 1897 at 87 years in Bayham Twp. and is buried at St. Luke's Cemetery in Vienna, Ontario.
2. George Jr. born in 1811. He married Lydia Van Syckle on 5 Sept. 1839 at St. Thomas. They had nine children - Ellen, Sarah A., Leander, Betty, Mary, Hannah, Fanny, David and George.
3. Mary who married Peerless Dowling 18 May 1831.
4. William.
5. Frances who married James Richardson 29 May 1833.
6. John.
7. Patrick who was baptised 27 March 1825.
8. Jesse who was baptised also on 27 March 1825.
9. James.

6. Samuel Parker born 1785 and died in 1812 during the war and was single.

7. Ann Parker born in 1788 married David Patterson.

8. William Parker born in Nova Scotia in January

1790 and came to the Welland area with his family. William married Nancy Senebaugh, born 1795 in Welland County. She was German descent. William fought in the war of 1812 at Queenston Heights under General Brock. They moved to Yarmouth and settled on Concession 1, Lot 15. William died on May 28, 1871 at Dexter and Nancy died 14 Jan. 1872. Both are buried in the Seminary Cemetery. They had ten children. There is a most complete Family Tree down to the 9th Generation of William and Nancy Parker on pp. 10-14 of the Parker Family History book.

Now we come to the fourth child of John Parker Sr. and Nancy Watson, a daughter named Susannah (Susan) Parker. She was born in 1779 and died in 1832. Her husband Jarvis Thayer died in 1834 and we do not know where they were buried. Susannah Parker Thayer was the mother of Elizabeth Thayer McCall, our great-grandmother. You have already read a lot about Susannah in the story of Jarvis Thayer and their children. We have a copy of Susannah's Will. On the frontpiece it states "Perceived (probated) this 22 day of February 1833 at 10 o'clock a.m. in Libre E., Folio 23. This oath of George Lawton, Yarmouth, Yoeman, before me Reg. M. Burwell - 1 Pd. Regr. tax (signed) M. Burwell." This bears out the fact of Susannah's death - probably late in 1832. The Will was made "this 10th day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-six." It could be that her health at that time was not too good. At any rate she lived another 6 years after the Will was made. At the time of the making of the Will none of the daughters were married, so they all are mentioned by their maiden names. She signed the Will, Susannah Thayer L.S. I do not know what the L.S. means. Loyalists today have the right to use U.E after their names. Perhaps in her time they used L.S. Susannah was her proper name but the short form Susan is often seen. She names each of her four daughters, Almiry, oldest; Nancy, second; Pearly, third; and Elizabeth, fourth. Elizabeth was eight years old when this Will was made. Susannah gave each daughter a 50 acre lot of her 200 acre farm. "Lot number four in the third concession of Yarmouth." Almiry got the southwest quarter, Nancy the southeast quarter, Pearly the northeast quarter, and Elizabeth the northwest quarter. In each case it stated, "This I give to her and her female heirs forever." The nominated executors of this Will were "Jessie Page of Yarmouth, John Thayer of Dunwich and Jarvis Thayer of Yarmouth." The witnesses signed their names as "Joseph Smith, Thomas Hardison, Geo. Lawton." To this was added a Supplement (Codicil) on the same date as the Will and signed by the same witnesses. In this codicil she names her sons as follows: "I give and bequeath to my sons John Thayer, Nahum P. Thayer, Simeon Thayer, Jarvis Thayer and Cyrus Thayer each of them five shillings apiece to be paid out of my estate . . ."

Susannah made sure she provided for her daughters, but in order to make it legal and free from controversy, she also named her 5 sons.

At this point I should mention that it was believed that a Susannah Thayer that married Robert Hepburn was also a daughter of Susannah Parker Thayer. We wondered why Susannah would leave out of her Will a daughter Susannah. Recently, having received the Thayer Genealogy we now know that this particular Susannah Thayer was the daughter of John Thayer - the oldest son of Jarvis Thayer Sr. and Susannah Parker Thayer. The Susannah that married Robert Hepburn is actually a granddaughter of Jarvis and Susannah Thayer. From page 425 of the Thayer Genealogy I quote, "John, born 10 Nov. 1798 married Deborah Johnson on 17 Dec. 1820....." Their children are:

1. Susan, born 3 Aug. 1822.
2. Lovina, born 1 Jan. 1823."

On the same page it goes on to say, "Susan married Robert Hepburn 4 June, 1844 and settled in Yarmouth Plains, Union, P.O. Yarmouth Ontario. Mr. Robert Hepburn was born in Scotland, 16 March, 1807 and was a farmer. Their children were:

1. Lovina;
2. Andrew;
3. William M. (died young);
4. John Henry;
5. Louisa;
6. Robert Wallace;
7. James Malcolm;
8. Emma Annis;
9. John Williams;
10. Ada;
11. Susan."

Jean Hepburn Griffen is descended from Susan and Robert Hepburn and she has the very interesting obituary of Susan in which is mentioned all her sons and daughters who lived to be adults. She died a very wealthy woman. The land books for Yarmouth at the Registry office show that Susan was a real wheeler and dealer in real estate - mostly farms. Robert and Susan are buried in the Union Cemetery and their stone tells us that Robert was a mason, born in the County of Perth, Scotland on March 16, 1807 and died May 12, 1873 aged 66 years. Susan Thayer, wife of Robert Hepburn born in Co. of Elgin, Ontario 3 Aug. 1822, died April 22, 1887 at age 65 years.

This concludes the story of George McCall and Elizabeth Thayer McCall. Because of the research that has been done on the John Parker Sr. family, we McCall descendants find that we are Loyalist by a third ancestor. We are descended from Donald McCall, U.E., John Haviland U.E. and now John Parker, U.E. There is much more information on the Parker and Thayer families than I have recorded here. If you are interested I would urge you to look in these three sources:

John and Nancy Parker and Their Descendants, The Tweedsmuir History of Union, and Area, and the Genealogy of the Thayer Family.

Allen Simpson McCall was four years younger than his brother George. At age 22 in 1840 Allen married Mary who was 20 years old. We have not been able to find Mary's maiden name. Aner's bible never mentions Mary. In fact, Allen is mentioned at birth and death and only two of his five children are recorded in her bible. On January 30, 1840 Aner sold 100 acres, north half of her Lot 3, Con. 2 farm to Allen and he and his wife Mary lived on this farm after their marriage. They had five children:

1. William H. (Hugh) born 27 March 1841 - died 12 Sept. 1850.
2. George Simpson McCall, 18 Apr. 1843 - died 15 Aug. 1844.
3. Mary Eloy McCall born (?) - died 21 Oct. 1853.
4. Sir. James A. (Allen) McCall born 6 Feb. 1845 - died 22 Sept. 1854.
5. Sarah Delia McCall, born 1848 - died (?).

Allen lost all his children in their early years except the last born, Sarah Delia. William at 9½ years, George S. at 1½ year, Mary E. at about 8 years and James A. at 8½ years. All died in the autumn of the year. In those days epidemics of scarlet fever, diphtheria, smallpox, flu, etc. took many children, and some adults too. There was no immunization against disease as there is now. In our own time we hardly ever have polio, tuberculosis and other diseases that we used to have very frequently. It was particularly sad for Allen when he lost his wife on the same day as his son James on 22 Sept. 1854. He was left alone to raise his 6 year old daughter Delia. All the children were born in Yarmouth and four of them died in Yarmouth and were buried in the Wintermute Cemetery. The stone for George's wife, Mary, simply states: "Mary - beloved wife of A. S. (McCall) - died Sept. 22, 1854 - age 24 years, 7 months & 22 days." All the stones are still quite legible except for daughter Mary Eloy. The bottom part that tells her age has broken off and disappeared. The stone for James has created a lot of interest since it states: "Sir James A. son of A. S. and Mary McCall - died Sept. 22, 1854 - aged 8 years - 7 months and 16 days." The Sir is very plain on the stone, but was almost certainly not meant to be a title. It could have been a nickname, meaning little gentleman. In those days many people gave their children names from the Bible. The English people were fond of naming their children after Royalty or titled persons in the Old Country. We found a very interesting announcement in an edition of the Christian Guardian magazine edited by Egerton Ryerson, a descendant of the Ryersons in Norfolk County. Under the heading of births it stated that on November 20, 1830 Mrs. (Colborne) Bennett had given birth to triplet sons in Simcoe, London District. They are to be called Sir and John and Colborne. Then in the July 31, 1841 edition of the Norfolk Observer, a Simcoe newspaper, a report was made of a "prodigious increase in population." It was

# ELGIN TOLL GATES.

*Scaled Tenders will be received by the undersigned, at his Office, until Noon, on*

## Thursday, 29th Instant,

For the leasing of the Tolls receivable at the undermentioned Gates, on the Port Stanley Road, for the period of one year from the

## 1st Day of January next to the 31st Day of December, 1854,

According to the Schedule of rates hereunto annexed, and the Statutes passed in that behalf, subject to all exemptions by Law, and no Toll to be taken from Contractors and their Agents, while repairing the road; Officers connected with the Road while on duty; or persons having to pass any Gate to perform Statute Labour, when actually engaged in said duty.

| No. of Gates.        | Road.             | Remarks.    |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| No. 1, at McCall's,  | Port Stanley Road |             |
| No. 2, at Kissains,  | do.               | Check Gate. |
| No. 3, Sandy Mount,  | do.               | Check Gate. |
| No. 4, Lyons' Creek, | do.               |             |

} These Gates check each other.

## CONDITIONS.

Parties Tendering for any of the above Gates are required to furnish the subscriber in their Tender with the real signatures of two solvent persons, stating their occupations and residences, who will agree to enter into bonds with the Tenderer for the due monthly payment of all such sums of money as he may become liable for by virtue of any Gate or Gates being awarded him. It will not be incumbent on the Board of Road Overseers to accept of any Tender unless otherwise approved of. In the event of a breach at any time occurring to the road by which travel is obstructed or impeded, the lessee shall in no case be allowed a greater amount as damages sustained by such obstruction than the proportion of rent which would be due for the period such breach continued with reasonable wages for the Gate Keeper & Cartage period. No New Stakes to be furnished by the County ~~to the~~ Toll Houses.

## SCHEDULE OF TOLLS

*To be paid at every Gate on each time of passing, except when checking each other.*

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| For every vehicle drawn by one horse,  | 00 2   |
| For every vehicle drawn by two horses, and not more than 2000 lbs. weight, including weight of vehicle,                                  | 00 3   |
| For every additional 1000 lbs. up to 2000 lbs. including weight of vehicle, and the fractional part of 1000 lbs. as 1000 lbs. one penny. | 00 1   |
| And for every additional 100 lbs. over and above 2000 lbs. including weight of vehicle, the sum of one half penny.                       | 00 1/2 |
| For every additional Horse or head of draft attached to each vehicle, or for a saddle horse and rider one penny.                         | 00 1   |
| For every score of Sheep or Swine, at the rate of two pence half penny per score.  | 00 2   |
| For every head of Cattle one half penny.   | 00 1/2 |

Waggons having five inches tires to pass by paying half the above rates of Toll.

**Freeman Ellison to be allowed to pass and repass Gate No. 2 free of Toll, when going to and from his Saw Mill.**

**All persons passing through either of the check gates shall be allowed until noon of the following day to repass with their tickets, the other check-gate.** Also, all persons living within one mile of the north side of Gate No. 1, on the Gravel Road, or persons coming to the Road within that distance, and living within two miles east and west, shall pass said Gate No. 1, for half Toll, provided they register their names at the Gate.

**WILLIAM McKAY, County Clerk.**

COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE, December 22nd 1853

PRINTED AT THE DISPATCH OFFICE, ST. THOMAS.

*The poster advertising for tenders for the Toll Gates on the Port Stanley Road. The number one Toll Gate at McCall's I believe was at Allen McCall's Hotel in Union, Ont.*

concerning the same Mrs. Bennett having given birth to triplets again - 1 girl and 2 boys. This time she named them Victoria, Albert and Kent.

In the record book of Burials of the Old St. Thomas' Church in St. Thomas, is recorded the burial of Mary McCall and son James Allen on Sept. 23, 1854, the day after their death. The minister who presided at the burial in "the Cemetery in the south of Yarmouth" was St. George Caufield, minister from 1852 to 1873 at St. Thomas's Church who later moved on to a church in Windsor. There is no mention of "Sir" in the burial register which also leads me to believe it was used as a pet name for James.

On 29 Aug. 1846 Allen McCall sold his farm to George Elliot. James was only six months old when they left the farm. The family at this time consisted of Allen and wife Mary, sons William and James and daughter Mary Eloy. Delbert T. McCall in his book History of the Norfolk McCall Family says: "Allen kept a hotel for several years on the St. Thomas and Port Stanley gravel road (now Highway #4). Subsequently he moved to St. Thomas where he died." There is a gap of 9 years between the time he sold the farm and the first evidence we have of his living in St. Thomas. The fact that the Yarmouth Census of 1852 is missing makes it difficult to pin down just where they lived and when. Their daughter Sarah Delia was born 2 years after they left the farm and the Census of 1861 says Delia was born in Yarmouth township. I believe that Allen did have a hotel in Union, which was on the Port Stanley gravel road in those days, before going to St. Thomas. Later we shall see that Allen's nephew, Nelson Simpson McCall had a hotel on the main corner of Union about 1860. David J. Hall in his book Economic Development in Elgin County 1850-1880 shows a copy of a poster advertising for tenders for the leasing of the "Tolls receivable at the undermentioned Gates on the Port Stanley Road for the period of one year from the 1st day of January next to the 31st Day of December, 1854." Sealed Tenders were to be received at the County Clerk's office by Thursday, 29th December, 1853. Then a list of 4 Gates: No. 1 at McCalls; No. 2 at Kissains (?); No. 3 SandyMount; and No. 4 Lyon's Creek. I believe that the No. 1 toll gate was at Allen McCall's Hotel at Union. There is an interesting notation on the poster which says, "Freeman Ellison to be allowed to pass and repass Gate No. 2 free of toll, when going to and from his sawmill." At the lower right corner was the name of the County Clerk - William McKay. These toll gates helped to pay for the building of the road and its upkeep.

From the Marriage Register of the Old St. Thomas' Church I quote this item, "Allen Simpson McCall of St. Thomas

m. Sarah Johnston, St. Thomas on May 28, 1855 by St. George Caulfield. Wit.: W. L. Smith, Adelia McQueen." Allen's first wife Mary died Sept. 1854. Eight months later he had moved to St. Thomas and married again. By this time all his children had died except Adelia. The 1861 Census of St. Thomas lists: "Allen S. McCall, hotel keeper, mar., Sarah 41, Adelia 13, Sarah Johnson, 11, members of the family; David Smith, 33, bar keeper, member of the family and 3 non-members, servants." Allen had married a widow Sarah Johnson with a daughter Sarah (Letitia) Johnson. David Smith may have been a brother or nephew of Sarah and it is possible Sarah's maiden name was Smith. The following advertisement appeared in the Weekly Dispatch on April 1860 and April 11, 1861. "A. S. McCall has reopened the commodious inn known as Farmer's Inn at West End of St. Thomas. Also he is a licensed auctioneer at the above address." Another Weekly Dispatch of 23 October, 1861 tells us that Allen has formed a partnership with Robert Neil as an auctioneer. Two years later on 1 Oct. 1863 in the same paper he announces that after a long illness he "begins to feel the old itching of my tongue to commence my profession again as an auctioneer. Now available." Allen obviously was not a well man and four months later a death notice in the 11 February, 1864 Canadian Home Journal, a St. Thomas newspaper states, "Died in St. Thomas Wed. Evening Feb. 10 (1864) aged 45 years, 8 months, Allen S. McCall. Funeral will take place Fri. 2 p.m. and proceed to burying ground near Port Stanley." This same notice on the same date also appeared in the Weekly Dispatch. He was buried in the Wintermute Cemetery with his children and first wife Mary and brother, sister, nephews and nieces. Seven months later his mother Aner was buried nearby. She was the last McCall to be buried in that Pioneer Cemetery. At present there is no visible stone for Allen in that cemetery. It could have disappeared or it could be that no stone was ever put there for Allen. All his own family had died except his mother. His own daughter Sarah Delia was only 16 years old at the time. His second wife Sarah is not buried in Wintermute Cemetery. Three days before his death Allen made a Will. It is dated 8 Feb, 1864 and the probaton is signed by, "T. D. Warren, Registrar of Surr. Court of Elgin." It says he lived in St. Thomas, was an inn-keeper and his wife was Sarah McCall. He mentions a note for \$100. in the hands of Colin Munro of St. Thomas, and \$22 of Henry Borbridge Stainess (?) Maker. He mentions his daughter Sarah Adelia McCall and daughter of my said wife, Sarah Letitia Johnson. To the latter he gave, "Lot #7 in village of Tyrconnel in Scotland Street in said village containing 1/4 acre.: "To my daughter Sarah Adelia McCall, not yet 21, her tuition and custody by my wife Sarah Johnson." The executors were: "Alfred I. Allworth of St. Thomas, gentleman, friend and Francis Waddell of Twp. of Yarmouth, Miller, friend and Edward Fordyce of Twp. aforesaid, Yeoman, friend." The Will

was signed Al McCall. The witnesses to the signature were William I. White, St. Thomas and Dr. Henry VanBuskirk. Apparently Sarah received the Hotel called Farmer's Inn as an Elgin County 1865 Directory lists her as "Mrs. Sarah McCall, proprietress of Farmer's Inn, Talbot Street." Four years after Allen's death his daughter Adelia (Delia) married on 3 October 1868 in Elgin by J. T. Fairchild, Church of Canada. "Adelia of St. Thomas to Samuel Cole." The witness was John White of St. Thomas. Samuel was born in England about 1836 which makes him 32 years old at the time of marriage while Delia was 20 years old. The 1871 census of Yarmouth lists his parents as Samuel age 79 years, Mary age 70 and Samuel Cole 37, cattle dealer. All were born in England and lived in the same house. At the time of his marriage Samuel was a blacksmith living in St. Thomas. There is no mention of Delia. Apparently the marriage did not last very long, in less than 5 years they were separated. The family story is that Delia left her husband and went to live in Cleveland. She married again there and died in a suburb of Cleveland.

I discovered two more items about Allen's step-daughter. Book #2 of St. Thomas' Register on P.54 it states: "Sarah Letitia Johnston, St. Thomas m. George H. Newcomb, Manitoba by licence on 21 Sept. 1876 by T. C. DesBarres. Wit.: George Kerr and Amelia Boggs." The other item is a plaque on the inside back wall of the Old Anglican Church. It is among a group of plaques in memory of choir members. This one particular plaque says:

"1850

1928

Letitia Johnson Newcomb  
Alto in the Choir for many years.  
Erected by G. H. Newcombe."

Letitia had died at age 78 years. She and her husband are not buried in the Old Church cemetery. As far as I know this appears to be the ending of the descendants of Allen Simpson McCall.

Chapter XIII

NELSON SIMPSON McCALL

We have already learned much about Nelson's early years in the Aner McCall and George and Allen McCall chapters. He grew up under the care of his grandmother Aner and now he is ready to earn his living. When Nelson became 21 years of age on 26 January, 1856 his father's farm was sold and the estate was finally settled. As a "lawful heir" of George McCall, his father, Nelson received the farm, but he had to pay his mother 100 pounds as her dower rights. Each of his sisters were to receive 25 pounds. The oldest girl Sarah Anne married before the farm was sold and I would presume that by this time Elizabeth and John Stephenson and the other three girls living at home had moved to the 50 acre lot that Elizabeth's mother Susannah Thayer had left to her. The farm was sold in May, 1956 to William Hepburn who was to take possession on 10 Jan. 1857. Nelson sold it for 625 pounds which was six times the price paid for it in 1850 by Wilson and Hughes. From the registry office in St. Thomas I obtained a photocopy of the original Deed of Sale which I quote: "It is agreed by and between Nelson McCall of the Township of Yarmouth in the County of Elgin and Province of Canada, carpenter, and William Hepburn, farmer, of the same place as follows. The said Nelson McCall do hereby agree to convey to the said William Hepburn in fee simple a certain tract of land being south half of Lot No. 3 on the second concession of Yarmouth by a warranty deed in common form for six hundred and twenty-five pounds lawful money of Canada, two hundred and fifty pounds to be paid by the 1st of May next. The balance as follows; to Thomas Green a mortgage he holds for sixty-two pounds ten shillings, also one hundred pounds to Nelson McCall's sisters, also seventy-five pounds one year from next May and the balance to be paid in one year from that time and the said Nelson McCall agrees to run the lines on the above property free of charge. The said Nelson McCall reserves the wheat now on the ground and the said William Hepburn may enter upon and occupy the premises on 10th of January 1857.

Witness  
W.H. Mandeville

[Nelson McCall  
[ William Hepburn

Received on the above agreement the sum  
of one pound five shillings.

Nelson McCall"

On the back of this document there is this notation:

|                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| 1861 Sarah McCall         | 25 |
| 1863 M. (Mahala) McCall   | 25 |
| 1865 P. (Pearley) McCall  | 25 |
| 1867 C. (Caroline) McCall | 25 |

When Sarah and Mahala each became 24 years old and Pearley and Caroline each became 25 years old, they received their legacy of 25 pounds each. William Hepburn was a son of Andrew Hepburn who was a later settler on Concession 2 Yarmouth. Some time before Andrew Hepburn died he had moved to Lot 3, Concession 6. He made a Will in which he named his son William. Andrew made his Will on 18 September 1850 and it was probated at the Surrogate Court of the County of Middlesex on 22nd February 1851.

From this deed of sale we know that Nelson was still living in Yarmouth in May 1856 and at that time was a carpenter which is the trade that his father plied. Some time after that he became a distiller in Union according to his application to become a Mason in Port Stanley's St. Marks Lodge No. 94 in 1864. In this year Nelson was 29 years of age and had been married about one and a half years. On 16 July 1862 he had married at Union, Catharine Ketchum. Catharine's father Alexander Ketchum owned and ran a distillery on the Union Pond. There was no other distillery in Union so Nelson must have worked for his father-in-law. It is possible that Catharine and Nelson happened to meet because he was working at her father's distillery.

We have two important documents concerning our Grandmother McCall's family - the Ketchums. We have their marriage certificate on the back of which is listed the birth dates of their children and the death dates of the two children who died young. Then we have a large 14" x 10" sheet of heavy paper. It is very decorative and the colours are still beautiful. In the centre the lined space is divided into 4 columns - name, when and where born, when and where married, and when and where died. On a red scroll above this it says "Family Register". On the top and bottom are 4 green wreaths and in the centre of each wreath is a family scene or buildings such as a wedding, a family, a church with graveyard, a house and a flour mill. The two sides are decorated with vines and morning glory blossoms. Our great-grandfather Alexander Ketcham was born in Oneida County, New York on 1 January 1800 and great-grandmother Catharine Deo was born at Montgomery, New York on 20 December 1805. Their families must have moved from New York State in the early 1800's to the area of Bath and Ernestown on the Bay of Quinte. During the U.E.L. Convention I met Mrs. Crawford Smith of R.R.#1, Bath, Ontario. She was a President of the U.E.L. of Canada. I asked her about the Ketchums and the Deos who had settled in the area some years after the American Rebellion. We don't believe the Ketchums were Loyalists. In her usual thorough manner Mrs. Smith sent me a long letter full of information. In the early days Bath was part of Ernestown and John Stoughton was the rector of St. John's Anglican Church in Ernestown. At this particular time

April 25<sup>th</sup> March 1023

I certify that I this day married by  
license according to the rites and  
ceremonies of the church of England  
Alexander Ketchum & Catharine Deo, both  
of the Township of Portland, in the  
Midland District, & Province of  
N. Canada.

John Livingston

Rector of

West. York.

This marriage was  
solemnized in presence  
of us.

Nathaniel Deo  
his  
Gilbert & Thomas  
mark

Wedding Certificate of Alexander Ketchum and Catharine Deo.

the Mother Church in England sent to America Anglican missionaries. These early missionaries worked very hard travelling by foot or horseback to visit the sprawling settlements. Eventually a small log church would be built and soon they would have their own minister with more frequent services. The settlers would walk or ride great distances to attend church. They would bring food with them and while eating their lunch have a good visit with fellow members before leaving for home. The marriage certificate mention above states:

"Bath 28th March, 1823

I certify that I this day by banns according to the rites and ceremonies of the Church of England, Alexander Ketchum and Catharine Deo, both of the Township of Portland in the Midland District and Province of W. Canada.

The marriage was solemnized  
in presence of  
Nathaniel Deo  
Gilbert (X) Stormes"  
his mark

John Stoughton "  
Rector of Ernest Town

Portland Township mentioned in the certificate is north of Kingston in what is now Frontenac County. Mrs. Smith knows that the Deos (now spelled Deyo) and the Stormes were friends and connected to each other by marriage. Mrs. Smith was born in Portland and says the name Deo is very familiar there. Northwest of Verona, a village on Highway #38, is a settlement called Deoy's Corners. All down through the generations the name Sylvanus Deo has been prominent and so it is likely that Sylvanus was the early ancestor who came after the Rebellion. We believe the Deos may have been Loyalists. William Reid's book lists a Sylvanus Deo of Portland married Arilla, daughter of Peter Jackson U.E of Augusta (now Prescott). This same book lists three Ketchum girls who married boys that were sons of U.E. fathers i.e., Elizabeth Ketchum married on 25 Jan. 1838, Rubin Knapp, son of Joseph Knapp U.E. of Montague; Esther Ketchum married Joseph Benedict U.E., son of Jonathon and Lucy (Castle) Benedict of New Meeford; Ruth Ketchum married John Gould U.E. of Cornwall. These three Ketchums seem to be younger than Alexander and could be neices or cousins.

According to the Family Register and also an inscription in a small Bible given by Catharine (Deo) Ketchum to one of her sons, both she and her husband were born in New York state. I have often heard it said in the family that grandmother Catharine (Ketchum) McCall was of Pennsylvania Dutch descent. It is very possible that the families lived for awhile in Pennsylvania before coming to Canada. We do know that Pennsylvania was the home of many Quaker and Pennsylvania Dutch settlements. In Lancaster County, Pennsylvania there is a town named Bath and perhaps our Bath in Ontario was

named by immigrants from Pennsylvania. Another piece of evidence that backs up this connection is the story of Robert Clark. He was hired by the British government to build the first mills in the area of Quinte. He was a U.E.L. born at Quaker Hill, New York State on 16 March 1744 and died in Ernesttown 17 December 1823. His wife Isabel Ketchum was born on Long Island, New York in 1751. You have read in the Haviland Chapters that Quaker Hill and Haviland's Hollow in New York State were Quaker settlements. While Quakers and Friends did not believe in fighting in a war it is not unusual to see Quakers who are U.E.L. During the Rebellion Quakers who sheltered or cared for the sick and wounded on the English side were considered "Loyal". Many moved to Canada after the Revolution and received grants of land as such.

On the back of the above quoted marriage certificate is a list of the children and birth dates and death dates of the two children who died young. Later they are all listed with their parents on the Family Register. The dates in both are exactly the same. Because the Family Register tells us much more I shall list it as follows:

#### Parents

Alexander Ketcham b. Jan 1, 1800, Oneida Co., State of N.Y., married March 20, 1823 C.W. In the Village of Bath, d. May 8, 1861 Union.

Catharine Ketcham b. Dec. 20, 1805 Montgomery, State of N.Y.

#### Children

Amy b. March 3, 1825, Frontenac Co. d. Nov. 18, 1840?

Marvin b. April 24, 1826, Frontenac Co. m. Oct. 9th, 1864, Union, C.W. d.?

Charles b. Feb. 6, 1828, Frontenac Co. m. July 25, 1849, Union d. Nov. 29, 1860 at Mount Bridges (Middlesex Co.)

Nancy b. Sept. 20, 1829, Frontenac Co. d. Sept. 12, 1834 C.W.

Clarisa b. March 3, 1832, Frontenac Co. m. May 11, 1851 at Union, C.W. d?

Miles born Oct. 13, 1833 at Middlesex Co. m. Feb. 3, 1855 at Union, C.W.

John b. Sept. 7, 1839, Middlesex Co. m. Oct. 14, 1858 at Springville, Erie Co., St. of N.W. d.?

Catharine b. March 12, 1843, Middlesex Co. m. July 16, 1862 at Union C.W.

I have been able to find more about the Ketchum children as you will read later.

Until I found this Family Register I had thought the Ketchum family had come directly from Frontenac County to Union and the family story was that Grandma McCall was born in

Union. The Register shows that the Ketchums moved from Frontenac Co. to Middlesex Co. between Mar. 1832 and Oct. 1833. They remained there until after March 1843. From there they went to Union where the children grew up and many married there.

In the Tweedsmuir History of Union and Area there is quite a lot of information about the Ketchum family. Some of it, along with pictures, was supplied by Celia Campbell granddaughter of Alex Ketchum. When the Ketchums first arrived in Union Alex had conducted a hotel in a large house on the Mill Road overlooking the Union Pond. The four storey distillery was built before 1860 on the Mill Road in a valley west of Union. When Alex ran the distillery his family lived in a house at the top of the south hill. I will quote Celia Campbell's story on page eleven: "She spent her vacations there (at her grandfather's house) as a little girl. She said the grain for making whiskey was ground by horse power-----. The wife of the owner Mrs. Catharine Ketchum used the small addition at the front of the building to scorch the raw brown sugar used to colour the whiskey. The whiskey sold for 2 York shillings (25¢) a gallon. The several buildings beside the distillery were used as hog sheds with the grain mash being fed to the hogs to fatten them." I remember hearing the family story that my grandmother Catharine McCall had another use for the alcohol used in the making of whiskey. In those days women wore long, heavy black taffeta dresses. There were no dry cleaners then so she used the alcohol to remove spots and clean her taffeta dresses. On page 15 there is a picture of the four storey distillery with Mrs. Sarah Ketchum, wife of Miles Ketchum (who was Sarah Babcock) standing in front of it. One of the papers from Grandmother McCall's collection is a bill of sale for a tombstone bought by Alexander Ketchum. On 21 October 1852 Alex Kitchim (sic) was billed for a stone he had bought for a James Wilks from H. H. and M. Hurd, Monuments, Tombstones, Headstones and Tablets of Hamilton, Ontario. Alex had payed down \$10.00 of the cost of \$18.00 for the stone. On 24 March 1853 Alex Ketchum of Union paid the remaining \$8.00 plus interest of \$1.14. It could have been that James Wilks was an employee at the Distillery or a close friend whose family could not afford to buy a stone and Alex Ketchum helped them out in this manner.

Alex Ketchum died in Union 8 May 1861 at age 61 years and Catharine Ketchum died 5 Sept. 1886 aged 83 years. Later on in the story about his son John we shall hear about the tombstone for Alexander and Catharine Ketchum in the Plains Baptist Cemetery.

I have some information about Catharine (Ketchum) McCall's brothers, Charles, Marvin and Miles. Later I will tell you more about her brother John. Her two sisters Amie and Nancy died as small girls before Catharine was born.

Marvin Ketchum born 24 April 1826 came to Union with his parents. On page 5 of the Tweedsmuir History Marvin's name is among a list of men who had owned the large Union Hotel on the northwest corner in Union. This hotel was built by Major John Ellison and the mason work was done by George Philpott. A picture on page 10 shows Marvin Ketchum and his wife Mary in front of the hotel. A prominent feature in the picture is Marvin's horse Jinny. As mentioned previously a family member has the small hand Bible that Catharine (Deo) Ketchum gave to her son Marvin. This Bible was printed in 1842. I quote the inscription in the front of the Bible: "Parents - Alex Ketcham and Catharine Ketcham, both of the St. (State) of N. (New) York. Married March 20th, 1823 C.W. in the Village of Bath." The inscription in the back of the book says: "Marvin Ketchum, born April 14, 1826, Frontenac Co. C.W. A gift from your Mother in the year of our Lord 1854, the 28th year of your age." All these dates are confirmed by the Wedding Certificate and the list of births on the back of it. The C.W. stands for Canada West which preceded the designation of Upper Canada. Florence Brown says that Marvin left Union and went to work in a mill at Poplar Hill. He was injured in an accident at the mill and was never a strong man after the accident. Shortly after Marvin died, and was buried at Poplar Hill.

Miles Ketcham, born 13 October 1833, married Sarah Babcock of the Union area. Sarah was born in 1837. Miles worked for his father in the distillery and also had a tailor shop over McKenzie's General Store in Union with Harry Fewings and Charles Wiggins. The Land Registry shows that Miles bought a 1/4 acre Lot #6 in Union west of the London and Port Stanley road on 26 April 1858. On 28 March 1862 he sold the lot to Wm. H. Mandeville. From an old St. Thomas Directory we find that Miles had bought the Abdallah House near the corner of Wilson Avenue on Concession 7. This concession is now Elm Street in St. Thomas. They may have moved to London in their last days as Miles died there. Miles had bought a plot in the St. Thomas Cemetery. Both Miles and Sarah lived a long life dying at age 86. Miles died on 9 March 1919 and Sarah died 25 January 1923.

Miles Sr. and Sarah had 3 three children. The eldest child Delia was born in 1858, the year her parents had bought the house lot in Union. When Delia grew up she went to live in New York city. She married Mr. Quirk and lived in New York for 40 years. She was living there at the time when Uncle Hub and my father Charles McCall were living in New York and they became close cousins. She visited our home on First Avenue in later years and became fond of my mother. Delia died in New York on 21 August 1934 at age 72 and was buried there. In her Will she left my mother a beautiful dinner ring with a large ruby in the middle surrounded by diamonds. Delia did not have any children.

The second child of Miles and Sarah Ketchum was Ida Ketchum. She was born 3 March 1863 when the family lived at the Abdallah House. Ida was single and lived in St. Thomas and London. At one time she worked for my Father and Mother in the Western Hotel on St. Catherine Street in St. Thomas. Ida died on 13 February 1932 aged 69 at Highgate (west of London) at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Okes. The funeral service was held at the home and her casket was transported to the Ketchum family plot in St. Thomas. Among the relatives who attended the funeral were her sister Mrs. Delia Quirk of New York, cousins Mr. and Mrs. Hubert McCall of Detroit, Mr. and Mrs. George McCall, Toronto, Dr. and Mrs. Charles McCall, and Mrs. Celia Campbell of St. Thomas. Also Mrs. Hugh White (Doris, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Miles Ketcham Jr.) of Niagara Falls. I had always heard that Ida, being a maiden lady, was always available to help out her relatives when it was needed in time of sickness or help to care for children. The above lists of relatives, some of whom came from a distance, attests to the love they had for her.

The third child of Miles Sr. and Sarah was Miles Ketchum Jr., born 13 October 1864. He married Catherine May Neil who was born 22 March 1874, the daughter of George A. Neil and Elizabeth Romance. She was a sister to Mrs. Harry Martin, Mrs. E. O. Whiteside and Leonard Neil. Miles Jr. died 5 October 1932 at Brockville in his 58th year. They brought him back to St. Thomas for burial in the Ketchum family plot just 8 months after his sister Ida was buried there. His wife Catherine Ketchum died in Niagara Falls on 1 March 1944 in her 70th year. She was buried in Elmdale Memorial Park in St. Thomas. Miles Jr. and Catherine had a daughter Doris Kathleen Ketcham born 5th February 1900, Ailsa Craig, Ontario. She married Hugh Gordon White, son of Gordon White of Springwater. They had two children - Neil Gordon White born in 1924 and a daughter Jean. Doris Ketcham died before her mother on 10 February 1938 and was the first to be buried in the White plot at Elmdale Memorial Park. About a year and a half later on 8 July 1939 her son Neil Gordon White died at Orillia at age 15 and is buried in the White plot.

There are a couple of mysteries about the Ketcham plot in the St. Thomas Cemetery. Beside the foot stone for Ida Ketcham is a stone that says "Estella". The cemetery files do not list Estela. She could have been a baby daughter of Miles Sr. and Sarah Ketcham. I know that Sarah had a sister Stella. The other mystery is an entry in the Ketcham plot file for Charles Ketcham who died 14 September 1899 at age 7 months. That name is not on the monument and there is no marker stone for Charles. I believe this was a firstborn child of Miles Jr. and Catherine Ketcham and Miles named him Charles after his Uncle Charles Ketcham.

I have never been able to find any information about brother Charles Ketcham, other than his birth date. even Florence Brown had never heard of Charles. Very recently while researching the record books at the St. Thomas Cemetery and after that helping the St. Thomas Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society (O.G.S.) in transcribing the monuments there I made a discovery. On the highway side of that large cemetery I found a grey sandstone slab type of stone which read, "Chas. Ketcham - died - Nov. 29, 1860 - aged 32 yrs. - 9m & 23 d." In figuring backwards to get the birth date I came up with 6 February 1828 which is exactly the date of his birth on the back of his mother's and father's wedding certificate. I must conclude that this is the long lost Charles. The stone also had "Phoeba, wife of Charles Ketcham, died Jan. 10, 1912 in her 80th year." Phoeba's birth date is C 1832 which is compatible with Charles's birth date of 1828. Other names on the stone are Rowena Ketcham 1860-1940 who died in London and could be a daughter of Charles and Phoeba; Frances C. Jarvis died Oct. 9, 1918 aged 72 years, 4 ms.; and William C. Jarvis died Nov. 20, 1914 aged 46 years, 9 ms. I don't know the relationship to the Ketchams of these two, but they appear to be a mother and son. the last inscription is Catherine Aurilla Perkins 1855-1934, who also could be a married daughter of Charles and Phoeba.

This is the conclusion of the story about the Ketchams who were my Grandmother McCall's family. Now we shall return to the story of Nelson McCall and Catharine McCall.

Nelson McCall and Catharine Ketchum were married on 16 July 1862. Nelson left the distillery and spent the rest of his life in hotels. He owned or managed hotels in Union, Port Stanley, Sparta, St. Thomas and Fingal. The hotel in Union was on the southwest side of the main corner. Half-way up the hill south of the corner and on the west side of Colbourne Street there still stands a one and half storey farm house. In this house Nelson and Catharine's children were born. Some say this building was the hotel on the corner and it was later moved up the hill. I do know that my father Charles McCall always said as we passed by this house on our way to a picnic at Port Stanley, "I was born in that house." His sister Celia said all the children were born there. The children were:

George Simpsons McCall, born 18 October 1864  
Herbert Hugh McCall, born 30 January 1867  
Charles Merritt McCall, born 14 August 1872  
Celia McCall, born 29 November 1874.

According to the Land Books at the St. Thomas Registry Office



Nelson Simpson McCall and first child, George S. McCall, taken ca. 1865

**WESLEYAN METHODIST BURYING GROUND AT UNION.**

No. *1* Union, Ont., *June 3<sup>rd</sup>* 18 *72*

Received of Mr. *N. S. McCall* of *Union*  
the sum of *Two* dollars, being the fee for the full right of Burial in  
Lot No. *108* in the Wesleyan Methodist Burying-Ground at Union.  
Should the holder thereof not require the Lot for Burial, nor any member  
of his family, the said Lot to revert to the Trustees of the said Burial  
Ground.

Witness my hand at Union this *3<sup>rd</sup>* day of *June* A.D. 18 *72*

*C. S. Moore* Secretary.

Receipt for a Lot in the Burying-Ground at Union.

between the year 1868 and 1881 Nelson did a lot of wheeling and dealing in land in the vicinity of Union. For example on 20 Jan 1868, N. S. McCall bought 200 acres N.1/2 of Lot 3, Concession 4 from Samuel and Stephen Hathaway, Gravel Road. He immediately sold back to Stephen Hathaway 89 acres and apparently kept the rest of the lot. In June 1872 Nelson bought 44 acres of N.W.1/4 of Lot 4, Concession 3 for \$2,000.00. In December 1875 he sold all of this except 1/2 acre for \$2,450.00. This parcel of land is part of the 100 acres that Nelson's mother Elizabeth Thayer McCall had left to her by her mother Susannah Thayer. In May of 1881 to April 29, 1886 he was involved in buying and selling Lot 4, Concession 4 Yarmouth - 50 acres in the central part of Lot 4. In connection with this transaction he took a mortgage with John Pincombe and James Davidson of St. Thomas. I believe this John Pincombe is my husband's grandfather. Among the family papers is a receipt for a small lot of land that Nelson bought in 1872 which is not entered in any Land Book. This receipt states:

"Union, Ont. 3rd June, 1872

Received of N. S. McCall of Union the sum of two dollars being the fee for the full right of burial in Lot No. 108 in the Wesleyan Methodist Burying Ground at Union. -----  
Witness my hand at Union this 3rd day of June A.D. 1872.  
C. S. Moore, Secretary."

This plot of land still belongs to the family. It was 27 years before Nelson himself was buried there and now it is almost filled.

While I don't know the exact dates of the family's moves to Port Stanley and St. Thomas, I have been able to find some dates. The above date of 1872 tells us he was still in Union. Also in January 1864 he applied for membership in the Masonic Lodge in Port Stanley. In the application he states he was a "distiller in Union." The Tweedsmuir History also states that "Nelson McCall left Union and moved to Port Stanley. I could find nothing about his going to Sparta. Florence Brown says the hotel in Sparta was across the street from Moedinger's Hardware store and funeral parlour. It could be that the family stayed in Union while Nelson had the hotel in Sparta. Nelson's children were all born in Union in the period between 1835 to 1874. After 1874 they moved to Port Stanley to a hotel on the site of the old L.&P.S. station.

On page 4 of the Tweedsmuir History there is a photo supplied by Celia Campbell, of four Union men. In the middle foreground Nelson McCall is seated on a chair. Behind him standing are Major John Ellison, William Mandeville and the third man is not identified.

While Nelson still lived in Union he joined the St. Mark's Lodge (Masonic) #94 at Port Stanley in January 1864 about 2 years after his marriage and before any of his children were born. He was 29 years of age when he joined and all the rest of he life he was an ardent Mason. We are much indebted to George R. Gale of Port Stanley, the Historian for St. Mark's Masonic Lodge, for his research in 1980-81 on Nelson McCall's membership in three Lodges in the area, namely Port Stanley, St. Thomas and Fingal. Nelson received his first degree on February 9, 1864, his second degree on March 8, 1864 and his third degree April 26, 1864. He received his Certificate #3929 on April 29, 1864. He served as Worshipful Master of the Lodge for 2 years - 1868 and 1869. It was during his term of Master that he was "instrumental in purchasing the land for the Lodge in Port Stanley in 1869. ----- The Lodge was then built on that site in 1869 as a result of his courage and farsightedness in a time and age when money was hard to come by and travel was difficult even on a good day. All this was accomplished by him in his two years as Master, giving St. Mark's Lodge in Port Stanley it's very own lodge building and property for the first time. This new lodge hall was dedicated by the members of Grand Lodge and many other visiting Masons from Ontario in full ceremony complete with a banquet and dance, all this on his last day as Worshipful Master. ----- The lodge today is still on this same Lot #1, Township of Yarmouth, but the building there now is the second lodge building on that site." George Gale also gave me a copy of the last page of the Deed of Purchase which shows the signatures at the bottom of the page and the stamp of the St. Mark's Lodge seal. It reads as follows: "In witness whereof the said parties hereto have hereunto set their hands and seals this day and year hereinbefore mentioned.

Signed, sealed and delivered  
in the presence of

*Ino Price*

) N. S. McCall, W.M.  
) Joseph Mettchell, S.W.  
) Thomas Edgecombe, J.W.  
) Lachlin Leitch, Sec'y"

George Gale also discovered a very odd situation that really puzzles him. He found a demit notice which states: "St. Mark's Lodge of Ancient and Free Accepted Masons, Number 94 Grand Registry of Canada.

*N.S. McCall* This is to certify that Brother Past Master N.S. McCall who has signed his name in the margin hereof, was admitted as a member of this lodge on February 1864 and retired on the Eleventh day of January 1870 in good standing, and so hereby fraternally recommended in the Croft throughout the Universe.

*John Ellison, W.M.*  
*pro tem*

Dated at Port Stanley, Canada West this eleventh day of January 1870 A.D. 4870."

George Gale comments, "For him to take his demit only 15 days after his reign of Master with such an outstanding term must have taken something of a giant magnitude to upset him and cause his withdrawal." While Mr. Gale was greatly puzzled by the withdrawal he was also pleased to report that Nelson McCall rejoined St. Mark's Port Stanley Lodge on 14 October 1873 and withdrew again on 20 April 1880. In his research George Gale found that Nelson was said to have been a member of St. Thomas Lodge #44 but their records were lost in two fires so this cannot be verified. I am wondering if the first demit may have come at the time Nelson acquired the hotel in Sparta and the second demit was when the family moved to St. Thomas. I do believe that the family was living in St. Thomas about 1880-1889. George Gale found that Nelson McCall joined the Warren Lodge #120 at Fingal on 4 March 1890 and remained a member until his demise in 1899. He also found that Nelson McCall served as a representative for Warren Lodge at the meeting of Grand Lodge in 1893. Again I quote Mr. Gale: "He seemed to love to travel as he visited many lodges. We owe a large thanks to Nelson Simpson McCall." Florence Brown has told me an interesting story about Grandpa Nelson McCall and the Fingal Lodge. The Lodge was going to have an important meeting. The members were able to buy a piece of white kid skin and suitable material for the making and trimming of some new aprons for the lodge members. Nelson's daughter, Celia Campbell, Florence's mother, made the new aprons. Celia was married and living in Fingal at the time and she had her first child, a boy named James who was born 15 March 1892. When Celia finished the aprons there was some of the white kid left over. She used this to make a pair of small booties for her baby James. It is interesting to note the signature on the demit of John Ellison. The same John Ellison had sold the distillery he built on the edge of Union pond to Alexander Ketchum, Nelson's father-in-law and also appears in the Tweedsmuir picture with Nelson. Recently while reading a small booklet The Old St. Thomas Church I noticed another mention of John Ellison. The book was written by Charles O. Ermatinger, son of Edward Ermatinger, both of St. Thomas and both of whom had written a book about Colonel Talbot. Edward Ermatinger was a member of St. Thomas' Church and Charles O. Ermatinger wrote about the history of the Church and some of his memories, as a child, of attending the church and sitting in the old square box pews. At the back of the book is a list of the first pew members as owners or renters of the pews. There were 46 families listed and number 30 on that is: "John Ellison, owner."

In a box of small articles, jewellery and clippings kept by my Grandmother McCall is the Masonic pin belonging to her husband Nelson McCall. It is a very large pin compared with the pins of today. I am grateful to the St. Mark's Lodge No. 94, Port Stanley, Ontario for the very nice certificate of

thanks they presented to me. It states, "The Worshipful Master, Officers, and members of St. Mark's Masonic lodge wish to extend to Mrs. Helen Pincombe our heartfelt thanks for assisting us with our project of past masters gallery of pictures." It is signed by Robert Helmer, W.M., and George Gale, Historian, and dated January 25, 1981. I really feel that I received the better of this deal. I supplied them with the photo of my grandfather, but I received a great deal of authentic information about the Masonic life of my grandfather for which I am truly grateful.

About 1880 Nelson McCall and family moved from Port Stanley to St. Thomas. In St. Thomas he ran 2 hotels, the City Hotel and the Lisgar House. It would appear that while he had these hotels his family, at least part of the time, lived in a house on Centre Street and also a house on Curtis Street. Florence's mother Celia told her that as a child in St. Thomas she had a girlfriend that lived on Walnut Street. In the winter she would visit her friend and went sleigh riding down the hill behind the Old St. Thomas Church on Walnut Street. The City Hotel was on William Street across from the market. There was another hotel on the corner of William and Talbot Streets, at that time, where the Royal Hotel now stands. The Lisgar House was on the south side of Talbot Street at the corner of Church Street where now stands a high-rise apartment building called the Mansion House. In the 1884 St. Thomas Directory it reads: "Nelson S. McCall, proprietor of Lisgar house at 106 Talbot Street. In the same directory is noted: 'George McCall, clerk of Lisgar House.'" George was the oldest child of Nelson and at that time was 20 years of age and already learning the hotel business. There is no mention of either of the above in the 1901 directory.

After about 9 years in St. Thomas, in the year 1889 Nelson moved to Fingal. I believe that all the family moved there with perhaps the exception of the second son, Hugh, who was not interested in the hotel business. Hugh would be 22 years old then and probably had a job in St. Thomas. He also belonged to a very popular and famous baseball team of that day in St. Thomas. The eldest son George was 25 and interested in the business. I know also that Charles, 17 years and Celia, 15 years went to live in the Fingal Hotel.

Fingal is about 7 miles west of St. Thomas at the intersection of the Talbot Road and what is now called the Union Road. This road runs north to Shedden and south to Port Stanley. The owners of the four lots on the main corner of Fingal were Samuel and Lewis Burwell, Mr. Nevills and Mr. Cowal. In 1830 it had been surveyed into lots and named Fingal by Col. Talbot after the famous Fingal Caves of Ireland. Fingal grew fast over the years and had churches, stores, post office,

hotels, mills and one large industry, Macpherson, Glasgow and Company which made farm machinery such as planting and harvesting implements. One of the reasons for its success was because of the excellent farmland in Southwold and nearby Yarmouth.

The reason for the move to Fingal was to buy a hotel called The Fulton House on the southeast corner of the main intersection at Fingal. In Fingal's best years a man named Fulton had owned the hotel and it kept that name for many years after he sold it. On the 5th of November, 1883 Joseph S. Barnes had bought this property from Thomas Warren. It is listed in the land books as one-half acre of No. 2, part of Lot No. 19 southerly side of Talbot Road East. Barnes paid \$6,700.00 for the property. About 5½ years later Barnes sold this property in August 1889 to John Ketchum for \$5,000.00. John Paid \$2,500.00 in cash and Barnes took the remaining \$2,500.00 as a mortgage. In about 1 month's time Nelson Simpson McCall bought it from John Ketchum. John Ketchum was Nelson McCall's brother-in-law, brother of his wife Catharine, and youngest son of Alexander and Catharine Ketchum. I have a copy of this deed of sale dated 13 September 1889. Nelson paid John Ketchum \$2,500.00 and assumed the mortgage on the property. The document gives a full description of the boundaries of the corner lot. In this description is mentioned the name of the neighbour to the east who was William A. Gillan. He had a blacksmith shop on the Talbot Road and later became fast friends with the McCall family. I quote one of the conditions of the sale, "..... and to furnish to John Ketchum sufficient Board and Bed with his family until the obligation is fully carried out....." Another condition of the sale was that it was to be paid off in 10 years time - by September 13, 1899. Nelson had the option of paying off the mortgage sooner if he wished to do so. It was signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of Malcolm Campbell, Municipal Clerk. John Ketchum and Nelson S. McCall also signed the agreement of sale. On 21st September, 1889 this deed, No. 10631, Southwold was entered at the Registry Office in St. Thomas for the fee of \$1.50 by the Registrar James M. Coyne.

We shall digress here awhile to tell the interesting story about John Ketchum - who seemed to always spell his name Ketcham. He was an adventurer who never settled down in one place for too long. The family story about John, for which I have no proof, tells that John went to the United States as a young man. Apparently he married a girl in Pennsylvania and they had a son. The Civil War in the States was fought between 1861 and 1865. John joined the Army when he was about 23 years old. After the war he returned to his family and found out from the neighbours they had gone west in a wagon train with his

wife's mother and father. He went to search for them and found they had died in a blizzard while crossing the mountains. After many years had passed at about age 50, John came back to the area of St. Thomas. Florence Brown says John bought the hotel in Fingal with money he received from back pay and services in the army. Twenty-four years had elapsed since the end of the war. The fact remains that John did have money. He bought the hotel at Fingal and also the monument for his parents' grave as we have already learned. Recently in a treasure box belonging to my Grandmother Catharine McCall I found newspaper clippings, old postcards, Grandpa's Masonic Lodge pin and 2 papers regarding John's purchase of the gravestone. The first was an order form of the firm of Hutchinson and Miller of Aylmer who sold monuments of Marble, Granite and Statuary. It noted the type of stone, the inscriptions to be made on it and the fact that they would set up the monument in the Baptist cemetery across from the Plain's Church. It was signed John Ketcham, Township of Yarmouth, P.O. Union. It was dated August 22, 1889. The second paper was a receipt "from Jno Ketchum, \$45.00 full payment for Monument." It was dated Aylmer, Ont., Aug. 6, 1889 and signed by Hutchinson and Miller. These dates tell us that this purchase was the first thing John had done on his return to Ontario. This Plains Baptist Cemetery is on the Union-Sparta road across from the Plains Baptist Church. The monument is a very nice medium size stone. The slender grey stone pillar is set on a larger grey base. In large letters on one side of the base is printed **KETCHUM**. The inscription on one side of the column says: "Alexander Ketchum - died 8 May 1861 - aged 61 years, 3 mos." On another side it says: "Catharine Ketchum - died 5 Sept. 1886 - aged 83 years and 8 mos." Below this it says "Stone erected by son John." The following September John bought the hotel in Fingal. At this time John had a severe drinking problem and his business failure ensued. In spite of the terms of the deed of sale Nelson had to evict him. Before John left Fingal he made a will. I quote parts of it, "This is the last will and Testament of Mr. John Ketcham of the village of Fingal.....Gentlemen. I devise and bequeath all the real and personal estate to which I shall die in any wise entitled after my just debts and personal funeral expenses be paid.....to my sister Catharine McCall of the aforesaid village of Fingal:....., wife of Nelson Simpson McCall absolutely. And I appoint my aforesaid sister Catharine McCall sole executor of this my will....."

In witness whereof  
I the Testator have hereinto set my hand this eighteenth day of  
October in the year of our Lord one thousand and eight hundred  
and eighty-nine.

Signed published and )  
declared as and for his )  
last Will and Testament in )  
the presence of us who )  
in his presence at his )  
request and to the )  
presence of each other )  
have hereinto subscribed )  
our name as witnesses. )

John Ketcham

Malcolm R. Campbell  
Malcolm Campbell Sr. "

Malcolm Campbell Sr. was the clerk of the Township of Southwold for many years. Malcolm R. Campbell is the son of Malcolm Sr. who later married Celia McCall Campbell. Florence Brown says he went back to the states and eventually entered an Army hospital where he died and was buried in a cemetery near the hospital. This fact is partially proven by two old postcards from Grandma McCall's box. Both cards are very ornate with beautiful colours. The first card was apparently sent to Catharine McCall inside an envelope as there is no stamp or address on it. It is an Easter card with a cross on it covered with grey plush material and surrounded with Easter lilies. On the back it says "Our address is Mrs. Ella Price, R.E.D. #3, New York, in care of Herman Hartwell." The second card had on its front a picture of General Grant's tomb in New York City, enclosed by a wreath of violets and at the bottom of the wreath was a bow of red, white and blue ribbon. Below this was printed In Memoriam to Those Who Fought For Us. On the other side is a green one cent American stamp. The post office stamp says Cherry Creek May 4, 1912 N.Y. It was addressed to Mrs. N. S. McCall, St. Thomas, Ont. Queen's Hotel. I record here the message. "Cherry Creek, May 4, 1912 - Dear Aunt - I thought I would drop you a card and let you know that Uncle John was gone done with World of care and trouble. He had a stroke last Sunday and died Tuesday night 30 April but this is the way of the world. Well there is no more news at present. Write and let me know if you get this. - With Love From - Ella Price" According to the map of the State of New York, Cherry Creek is about 30 miles southwest of Buffalo, N.Y. I do not know Ella Price, but obviously she is the daughter of one of John and Catharine's brothers.

We now return to Nelson McCall and his family living at the Fulton Hotel in Fingal. It was an unfortunate time to buy a hotel in Fingal as you can guess by the decreasing value of the property at each sale noted earlier. The railroads had arrived and the tracks were placed north of Shedden. Also Hotel

competition was tough as Sam Burwell had a hotel and also the post office on one of the main corners. Nelson joined the Masonic Lodge in Fingal - Warren Lodge #120. He became a Master of the Fingal Lodge. He visited many lodges in the area and attended Grand Lodge meetings in Toronto. His son George was a grown man now and able to look after the hotel in his father's absence. Nelson was a staunch Conservative all his life and interested in baseball and horse racing.

Almost 10 years after Nelson purchased the hotel in Fingal he passed away on 30 August, 1899. I quote his obituary from the Sept. 8, 1899 edition of the Dutton Advance Weekly newspaper: "Nelson McCall, proprietor of the Fulton House, Fingal, and one of the best known hotelmen in Elgin, died Wednesday. Deceased was born near Union and resided in Elgin all his life having at different times conducted hotels at St. Thomas, Union, Sparta and Port Stanley. He was one of the largest men in the county and was a familiar figure at all legitimate sports. He was a staunch Conservative and a man who had the respect of the neighbourhood. Besides a widow he leaves four children, viz. - George and Mrs. M. E. Campbell, Fingal; Charles and Hubert of New York. He had been ill for sometime and his death was not unexpected. Deceased was in his 65th year." The account does not mention his four grandchildren, all of Fingal. They were James Campbell, 7 years, Myrtle Campbell, 3 years and Florence Campbell, 1 year, children of Celia and Malcolm R. Campbell and Hazel McCall, 3 years, daughter of George and Annie McCall. It is interesting to note the reference to his size. I have heard the story many times that he was so large that when he died they had to make a special coffin for him and take off the door and door jamb to get the coffin in and out of the hotel. There were no funeral homes in those days and everyone was buried from their home. We have two pictures of Nelson McCall taken about 1865-1870. Although he was seated in the pictures you can see that he was a big man - but not exceptional at that time. The obituary also does not mention that after the funeral his coffin was taken from Fingal south on the Union Road toward Port Stanley, then north a short distance on the Port Stanley gravel road to the Union cemetery. He was the first to be interred in the plot of land he had bought many years before. It would be another 27 years before his wife Catharine was placed beside him. Now I shall quote briefly from the obituary in the St. Thomas paper of August 30, 1899. "Nelson McColl (sic) Dead - A Well Known Hotel Man Passes away at Fingal this morning - Mr. Nelson McColl (sic) proprietor of the Fulton House, Fingal and one of the best known hotel men in the district..... At different times he conducted the City Hotel and Lisgar House in St. Thomas

and hotels in Union, Sparta and Port Stanley. . . . .  
 Deceased was in his 65th year. He was a member of Warren Lodge No. 120 of Fingal, a charter member of the Dexter Orange Lodge and the Royal Arch Masons." His funeral in the St. Thomas paper is interesting because it mentions so many Lodges of that day. I quote, "The funeral of the late Nelson S. McCall took place yesterday afternoon to the Union Cemetery. Rev. Mr. McFadden, Fingal conducted the service. The bearers were W. Berry and H. Deming representing St. Mark's Lodge, Port Stanley, S. E. Burwell and C. W. Glasgow, Warren Lodge, Fingal. G. L. Grey, St. John's Lodge, Toronto. J. Hacker, A. Widdifield and W. D. Killens, Prince of Wales Lodge, Lawrence. Members of the Masonic Order from St. Thomas, Sparta, Port Stanley, Lawrence and Toronto were present. The members of Warren Lodge, Fingal placed a floral offering representing a square and compass on the coffin."

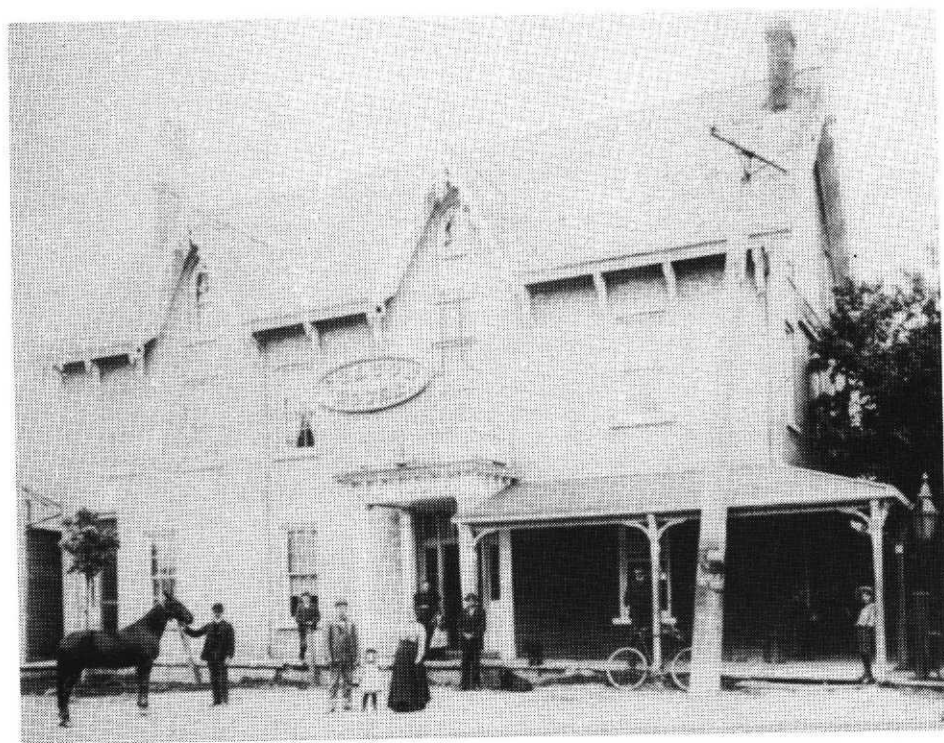
On the first of March 1899 Nelson had made a Will. It was a direct and short Will which says: "This is the last Will and Testament of me, Nelson McCall of the Village of Fingal.....hotel keeper. I devise and bequeath all the real and personal estate.....unto my son George S. McCall of the village of Fingal.....absolutely. He the said George S. McCall to pay all my just debts.....and to take care of his mother Catharine McCall, furnish her with bed and board and clothing so long as she remains with him and no longer. And I appoint the said George S. McCall sole executor of my Will..... I have set my hand this first day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine." His signature is inscribed Nelson S. McCall and the witnesses were Archibald Brown and Samuel Burwell. The solicitor was W. S. Doherty. From the Archives of Ontario in Toronto I received, along with the Will, many more pages. Some of these pages had to do with the Surrogate court of the County and the probation of the Will. The first page dated fifth of Sept., 1899 started with the swearing in of Samuel Everitt Burwell and Archibald Brown. They swore before John A. Kaines that they had witnessed the Will, etc. But the saddest pages were those concerning the Inventories which were also done by Burwell. I know that traditionally these figures are always lower than the real value but still it shows how things in Fingal were really going downhill. I quote:

|   |          |            |
|---|----------|------------|
| "Real Estate consisting of the Hotel property on Talbot Rd., Fingal |          | \$2,000.00 |
| Mortgage  |          | 1,450.00   |
| Value of Equity   |          | \$ 550.00  |
| 1 horse   | \$ 60.00 |            |
| 1 cow   | 25.00    |            |
| Liquor in stock   | 100.00   |            |
| Household goods & furniture   | 545.00   |            |
|   |          | 720.00     |
|   |          | \$1,270.00 |

Once again the signatures on all these documents are very interesting. The registrar of Surrogate Court was David McLaws, the Surrogate Court clerk was Francis A. Anglin. David McLaws as a child first came to Fingal from Bannockburn, Scotland with his parents. He later was in the carriage business and came to St. Thomas. He was a member of the Legislature and following that was appointed Registrar. But the most famous signature was that of David John Hughes, Judge of the Surrogate Court of Elgin County, the same Judge Hughes that was involved with the buying of Nelson's father's farm which Nelson later inherited. He was the Judge of Elgin County from 1853, when it separated from Middlesex, until 1903. The document that Hughes signed was the final one in the process of probating. It states, "Upon reading the application of George Simpson McCall.....I do order that probate of the Will be issued to the applicant. Dated at Chambers this 11th day of September A.D. 1899." Below this was the statement of expenses. The clerk, the registrar, etc. charged fees for transcribing, filing and so on. The total bill came to \$8.65. One document had 11 fifty cent stamps in a row across the bottom. They were tall narrow stamps. Across the top was "Ontario" and in the two bottom corners was 50. The center of the stamp had a picture of a tall slender woman in an oldfashioned long dress, large hat and umbrella.

George McCall obeyed the instructions of the Will to look after his mother. For the next 27 years he carried out this duty to the letter. In a few years George moved to the Queen's Hotel in St. Thomas and Grandma McCall moved with them. I remember going to the Queen's Hotel to visit Uncle George, wife Aunt Annie, cousin Gladys and Grandma McCall as a little girl. I have a vivid memory of the inside of that hotel. Grandma's room was the best in the house. It was on the second floor front middle of the building. It was one of two rooms on the front with a balcony looking out over Talbot Street and the Michigan Central park and station. As you entered the large room you walked down two steps. After the First World War George, his family and Grandma McCall moved to Toronto. George and my father Charles were very close and we visited each other often. They would bring Grandma to visit us in St. Thomas and she always enjoyed these visits especially, because it also gave her the opportunity to visit her daughter Celia and family who also lived in St. Thomas. In the summer we would go for a visit to Toronto. Grandma's room in his three storey house was at the top of the stairs on the second floor. It was a large room with a bathroom beside it. I can still recall the huge old bed in that room. The headboard was carved, dark wood that almost reached the ceiling. Being right at the top of the stairs she was never lonely. Everyone who went upstairs always dropped

in to talk to her. In June of 1926 at age 83 years, Catharine Ketchum McCall died. They brought her coffin to our house in St. Thomas and for two days she rested in the large bay window at the front of the living room. On the third day after the funeral service her coffin was transported to the Union Cemetery where she was laid beside her husband, Nelson Simpson McCall.



*Fulton House in Fingal, Ontario  
From left, front: Dr. Charles McCall, V.S., George S. McCall, his brother,  
with wife Annie and daughter Hazel. At back under porch is  
Catharine Ketchum McCall, widow of Nelson S. McCall  
and her grandchild Myrtle Campbell.*

THE DESCENDANTS of NELSON SIMPSON McCALL

George Simpson McCall was the first-born child of Nelson and Catharine McCall. He was named after his grandfather George McCall, and given the Simpson name that has come down through the generations of McCalls. In fact, he was the last McCall descendant of Hugh McCall to carry that name. He was born 18 October, 1864 at Union in South Yarmouth not far from where his father was born. He followed in his father's footsteps and was a hotel keeper for most of his life. He was 25 years old when the family moved to Fingal from St. Thomas. Five years later on 22 May 1894 at St. Thomas he married Anna (Annie) Hockin of Strathroy. They lived in the Fulton House in Fingal and it was there on the 8th of August, 1896 that their first child Hazel was born. In about 1905 George, his wife, his mother and his daughter moved to the Queen's Hotel in St. Thomas. It wasn't until 1 May 1908 that the Fulton House was sold to Christine Cameron (Mrs. Dan Cameron). George sold the Fulton House for \$3,000.00 and had paid off the mortgage of \$1,600.00 that he had inherited with the Hotel at his father's death.

As recently as 1981, the Fulton House was much in the news because it was going to be demolished. According to the Land Books, the next owners of the hotel were Mary Stanton (1915), Samuel Meek and Flemming Hunter (1930), Frank and Lydia Ferguson, Harry and Bernice Wong (May 1955, Glenn Hamilton (1957) and his heirs after his death 27 July, 1964. Many people were saddened by the thought of the destruction of the historical old Fulton House. Two men wrote to the St. Thomas Times-Journal and reminisced about the hotel and its history. These letters were printed in the paper on Feb. 27 and March 6, in 1981. I will quote some interesting parts of the first letter: "Mr. and Mrs. George McCall owned the hotel at one time. They kept boarders and served meals. They had banquets and suppers. Mr. and Mrs. Dan Cameron ran it for many years. There was a local option vote and there was no beer or wine sold. ----- The hotel was the first stop of the stage coaches. If the weather was bad the people stopped for the night at the hotel. There were sheds and covering for the horses. Mr. and Mrs. Cameron sold to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ferguson ----- . At one time Fingal was larger than St. Thomas. It boasted of a foundry, grist mill and sawmill, ----- wagons, harness and thrashing machines were made and the workers boarded at the hotel. There was a bank with Harold Hall as manager and two Fingal girls were bank tellers ----- . Fingal could afford a policeman (Henry Younge). Charlie Couse had a bake shop and the Lute sisters owned a tailor shop. There were four churches----- . We also had a

doctor, Dr. Smith. It has not been until just lately that Fingal has been going down-----." I think you will find the quotes from the second writer very interesting also. "This building was historic due to the fact that it was in this hotel on the 9th day of February, 1853 that the remains of Colonel Talbot, the founder of the Talbot Settlement, rested till the next day when it was removed to St. Peter's Church for a service and burial. My memories of the old hotel are pleasant....especially when Mr. Frank Ferguson and his wife operated the institution.....(the first letter writer) did not mention the era when the hotel was operated by a Chinese family. It was beautifully renovated and delicious meals were served-----." I also have a memory of the Dr. Smith mentioned in the first letter. In about 1921 he treated me for an infected ear successfully and saved me from having a mastoid operation. The mention of the remains of Thomas Talbot being kept overnight in a building next to the hotel was first told in a book Life of Colonel Talbot written by Edward Ermatinger in 1869 about 10 years after Talbot's death. Ermatinger was a friend of Talbot and had visited Talbot in London during his last illness. It was a bitter winter day, Feb. 8 and the hearse and driver had stopped at St. Thomas for food and drink. When they arrived at Fingal it was late and dark, so the driver decided to stay at a hotel whose inn-keeper was Mr. Lewis. Maybe the story is not all true, but certainly some of it was true. Later we will read more about this small shed or lean-to that Talbot's coffin rested in overnight. In the summer of 1981 the old hotel was pulled down and now it is a vacant lot. It is nice to know that one can still see the Fulton House if they visit the Central Elgin Collegiate Institute (C.E.C.I.) in St. Thomas. On a wall of the lobby at the front entrance of the school is a mural that was painted some years ago when the school was built. The artist was the late Clark McDougall of St. Thomas. Mr. McDougall chose to paint buildings and scenery from different areas of Elgin County to make up his mural. If you look at the eastern end of the mural you can see the Fulton House, a small piece of history preserved in this painting.

Now we have George S. McCall and family living at the Queen's Hotel on the corner of Talbot Street and Horton Street in St. Thomas. A daughter Gladys was born here on 6 May 1908. Two years later both daughters were baptized in the old St. Thomas' church. From page 73 of the Baptismal Register I quote, "Hazel Irene McColl (sic), born 9 Aug. 1890 - baptized 16 Jan. 1910, daughter of George Simpson and Annie Rebecca McColl (sic), hotel keeper, by Rev. Hill. Sponsors Herbert Fluelling and Margaret May McNernie. Gladys Elizabeth McColl (sic) born 6 May 1908 (parents as above) bap. 16 Jan. 1910 (sponsors and minster as above)." Mr. Fluelling was



*Queen's Hotel, St. Thomas and  
George McCall, Proprietor.*

## **Bailiff's Sale Under Tax Warrant County of Elgin**

By virtue of a Tax Warrant, and to me directed against the Goods and Chattels of George S. McCall of Queen's Hotel, in the City of St. Thomas, I have seized and taken the following property, viz.: All the Goods and Chattels in Queen's Hotel, consisting of beds, springs, mattresses, bedding linen, commodes, dressers, carpets, toilet sets, chairs, tables, blinds, curtains and fixtures in about 50 bedrooms. Also two silent glass show cases, typewriting machine, chairs, tables, cigars, clocks, pictures, carpets, linoleums, deer and moose heads, sideboard, crockery, glassware, cutlery, dishes, cooking range and utensils, piano and parlor furniture, carpets, writing desk, R. R. L. classy birds, large quantity of fruit jars, salt, empty kegs, and a large quantity of other articles, which I shall offer for sale at the Queen's Hotel, in the City of St. Thomas, on Saturday, the sixth day of October, 1917, at the hour of nine o'clock a.m.

G. W. SMILEY,  
Bailiff.

Locke & McLachlin, Auctioneers.

Sept. 26 & 29 Oct. 1-3-5

*< Bailiff's Sale Advertisement*

a railway engineer and he boarded at the hotel. Later he and Miss McNernie were married and they were lifelong friends of George and Annie McCall. The Queen's Hotel was a large 4 storey brick hotel with about 150 rooms. As it was across the street from the New York Central Station the hotel had a large commercial trade complete with sample rooms on the first floor. It was also the home of many railway engineers, conductors, etc. Because the railway had its yards in St. Thomas and it was also the main stop halfway between Windsor and Fort Erie the train crews were changed here. In 1914 the St. Thomas Journal Printing Company published a book St. Thomas and Its Men of Affairs. On page 93 there is a picture of the Queen's Hotel and an oval inset portrait of George S. McCall. I will quote from the biography of George McCall on page 60. It tells who his parents were, when and where he was born and that he was a hotel keeper at Fingal. Then it states, "Mr. McCall continued in the hotel there until 1905 when he purchased the Queen's, which has a very large commercial patronage. In 1913 he remodelled it inside at a cost of \$10,000.00 making it into one of the finest hotels in Western Ontario. Mr. McCall is a keen sportsman, horse racing, shooting and curling being his hobbies. He has trained and marketed some of the fastest horses in the stable of Miss K. L. Wilks, the celebrated horsewoman of Galt. He also owns three fast ones. He organized the Elgin Driving Association six years ago and for five years filled the office of secretary and now serves as a director. He was elected President in 1914 of the Canadian and National Trotting and Pacing Association which makes the rules and directs the meets throughout Canada. He is also a director of the Standard Bred Association. Mr. McCall is an excellent shot and has taken part in shooting tournaments throughout the Dominion for the past thirty years. He has been an ardent curler since 1905 and in 1906 he was the winner of a medal in the Colts League of Western Ontario."

I remember the inside of the hotel with its large lobby and parlour. To the right was the bar. The wall at the back divided the entrance lobby from the dining-room. On the wall at the left was George's office and at the right was the wide staircase leading to the upper floors. The doors leading to the dining-room were in the center between these two. The dining-room was also large and elegant with its carpeted floor and white linen table cloths and white nappies. The tables were set with good china, crystal and silverware. The silver flatware was especially made with Geo. S. McCall engraved on the top front of each handle. In recent years, Steven Peters and his brother of St. Thomas, as very young boys, enjoyed the hobby of collecting old bottles. Their favourite spots for searching were the old "dumps" on the outskirts of the city. In the Palm Street dump they found small china butter

patties with the hotel name on them. My sister Pearl and I each have some of the cutlery pieces with Geo. S. McCall on the handles, little reminders of the hotel that has disappeared. For many years the hotel was a going concern, like all the hotels in that day. But, along came the war of 1914-1918 and Prohibition - the Canada Temperance Act in 1915. There was to be no more liquor or beer to be served in hotels. All hotels suffered and many failed. That was to be the fate of the Queen's Hotel as shown by the Bailiff's Sale advertised in the St. Thomas Journal. The Bailiff was G.W. Smiley and the auctioneers were Locke and McLachlin. The showing of the items was for five days, Sept. 28, 29 and Oct. 1, 3, and 5. The date of the sale was Saturday, sixth day of October, 1917 at 9 a.m. It is interesting to read the items to be sold. All the furniture, rugs, drapes, beds, commodes, toilet sets, piano, empty kegs, etc. Two items mentioned bring back memories - stuffed and mounted deer and moose heads! It was a hard blow to take. George and Annie went to Detroit to stay for a while with some of Annie's relatives. George wisely decided, at age 53 years, to leave the hotel business. He was very fortunate to have as a longtime friend and fellow Conservative M.P.P., The Honourable Finlay G. McDiarmid, Minister of Public Works for Ontario. McDiarmid was a native of Aldborough Township and an M.P.P of Elgin County for many years. He found a job for George McCall in the Department of Games and Fisheries. The family moved to Toronto and lived for about 27 years in a large 3 storey red brick house at 125 Bedford Road. George enjoyed his job in which he did a lot of travelling all over the Province. He kept his interest in horses and after his retirement was kept busy judging horses and conducting horse races at Fairs in Ontario. After his death the Standard Bred Association named a meet after him and along with the first prize money the winner each year was presented with the George S. McCall silver plate. George was a well-built man with a jovial temperament and a keen mind. He loved to play cards and was very good at it. He had many friends and no enemies. George and my father, Charles, were very close brothers having the same interests. George McCall died of cancer on Monday, 24 November 1941 at age 77 years in Toronto. A year and a half later his widow Annie died of a stroke on 16 June, 1943 at age 70 years in Toronto. They were both brought from Toronto to be buried in the McCall family plot in the Union Cemetery.

It is interesting to read some of the Obituary and Funeral write-ups in the St. Thomas Times-Journal of November 24, 1941 and November 28, 1941. From the obituary I quote, "For many years he (George S. McCall) was a horse show judge at the Royal Winter Fair and the C.N.E. Surviving are his widow, Anna Hockin McCall, two daughters, Mrs. Hazel

McEvoy of Ottawa and Mrs. A. H. Donley of Toronto. A sister, Mrs. Celia Campbell, St. Thomas and a brother, Hubert H. of Detroit----- . The late Dr. Charles McCall of this city was a brother." From the Obituary I quote, "The funeral service of George S. McCall whose death occurred at the family residence 97 Walker Avenue, Toronto ..... for burial Thursday at Union Cemetery at 2 p.m. with the Rev. J. M. Laird of Knox Presbyterian Church in St. Thomas officiating. The pallbearers were John Locke and Joseph Saint of Toronto, Alex Parsons and Arnold Coughlin of London, A. M. Brown and Eugene P. Ray of St. Thomas....."

George and Annie's elder daughter Hazel, born on 8th of August, 1896 in Fingal, was 12 years old when the family came to the Queen's Hotel in St. Thomas. She attended Balaclava Street Public School and for a short period attended Alma College in St. Thomas. She finished her schooling at Loretta Academy, a private Catholic School for girls in Niagara Falls. On 27 December 1916 Hazel married Lt. Otto Ewart Ziegler. They were to marry at Trinity Anglican Church in St. Thomas, but her father George McCall was ill with the flu. During the First World War there were very bad flu epidemics which caused many deaths. So Hazel was married in the hotel so her father could give her away. Her cousin Florence Campbell (Brown) was her bridesmaid and Charles Marple of St. Thomas was the best man. Hazel gave her bridesmaid a gold pin embossed with pearls to form the shape of a bird. Florence still has the pin and treasures it because of the memories it evokes. After the wedding the bridal party went to dinner at the Tecumseh House - a posh hotel at that time in London. Uncle George was among the first to have a car in St. Thomas. I wonder if they used his car to go to London? The bride and groom went to Detroit on their honeymoon. On the way home from their honeymoon they stopped to spend a day and a night with my family, as we were living in Thamesville at the time. Thamesville is a village near Chatham and about halfway between St. Thomas and Detroit. I was only eight years old at the time, but I remember the visit very well. Otto was so handsome in his uniform and the bride so beautiful. Eventually, Otto had to go overseas and Hazel went to Halifax where he was stationed to spend some time with him before he left. While he was away she lived in Toronto and there on 17 November 1917 her daughter Yvonne was born. By the time Otto came back from the war Hazel's father and mother had moved to 125 Bedford Road in Toronto, and that is where Hazel and her daughter were living. After the war was over things did not go very well for Hazel and Otto, and they were divorced. For most of her life Hazel worked for a living. She worked at many jobs, for example, she was with the McCall pattern company in New York, head of the lingerie department for the Heimelhoch's store in Detroit and sold Insurance in Toronto. While in



*Hazel McCall Ziegler & Otto Ziegler  
taken in Halifax before going  
overseas in 1917.*



*Gladys McCall Donley and  
mother Annie McCall who visited  
in Winnipeg in 1943.*



*Hazel's daughter Yvonne Ziegler and George McCall  
in front of McCall home in St. Thomas.*

Detroit, she met and married Andrew Maxwell McEvoy in September 1928. He worked in Detroit, but was a Canadian. His father and mother lived in London and Toronto. His father was a Judge of the Supreme Court of Ontario. The Depression struck and Max McEvoy lost his job. Hazel and Max moved back to Toronto. Eventually, Max and Hazel separated. The Second World War had started and Hazel went to Ottawa where she became Manager of a large Cafeteria in a government building. After the war she bought and ran Pine Grove Motor Court on the southern fringe of Ottawa. She also ran a summer resort in the Gatineau area in the early 40's. She was an energetic and determined person, ready to tackle anything. She did very well at each job she had. Hazel died 24 August 1980 at age 84 at Ottawa after a lengthy period of ill health. She is buried in the Memorial Gardens in Ottawa.

Yvonne Anne Ziegler, daughter of Hazel, was brought up mostly by her Grandmother Annie and Grandfather George McCall at 125 Bedford Road in Toronto. For a short period of time when she was in her teens, she did live with her mother and step-father Max McEvoy in Detroit. She, also, spent some time as a child at my parents' home in St. Thomas, where she was a companion for my younger brother, George. When Yvonne was past 18 years of age, she married in Toronto on 3 July 1936 Alfred W. Dowding. They had two daughters, Yvonne Anne Dowding born 26 October 1937 at Toronto, and Helen Gayle Dowding born 20 January 1939 at Toronto. In 1948 Yvonne divorced Alfred Dowding after a separation and married Wilfred C. Wicket, on 3 Sept. 1948 at Toronto. This marriage did not last very long, and after another separation they were divorced in 1959 in Toronto. During that period of her life Yvonne was bringing up her 2 daughters by herself. She, like her mother, worked at numerous jobs and was successful at both her tasks - bringing up her children and her work. With her daughters now old enough to be on their own, Yvonne married Charles Edward George on 25 December, 1959 at Mississauga. There they still reside at 1890 Pagehurst Avenue.

Yvonne's, eldest daughter Anne at 31 years of age married Harvey Burkart on 30 March 1968 at Calgary, Alberta. They had two children. Katherine Anne Burkart, born 1 October 1968 at Calgary, and Jason Burkart, born 15 December 1971 at Calgary. Anne and Harvey Burkart were divorced in 1972. She married a second time to Herman Heynan. They reside in Calgary.

Gayle, Yvonne's second daughter married at 21 years of age, Alfred Otto Pfeiffer on 29 January 1960 in Toronto. They had 2 sons. Gregory Alfred Pfeiffer, born 4 June 1960 at Toronto, and Martin Glen Pfeiffer, born 28 April 1962 at Toronto.

Al Pfeiffer died in 1981 at Toronto. Gayle now lives in Florida. The children of Anne and Gayle represent the eighth generation of descendants of the original Loyalist Donald McCall.

George and Annie McCall's second daughter, Gladys was born in St. Thomas on 6 May, 1908. She was about 10 years old when the family moved to Toronto. Besides her formal education at St. Hilda's, a private Anglican school for girls she also took classes in ballet dancing. After school she went to New York and danced in a Broadway production. Her biggest thrill while there was being able to meet Jeanette McDonald, who had a beautiful singing voice. She was our teenage idol when she sang in movie productions of the day with Nelson Eddy. At 21 years of age Gladys married Alexander Hamilton Donley on 10 April 1929 in Toronto. Ham was born 13 November 1905 at Toronto and worked at the Stock Exchange. Those were the boom years for business in general, but it did not last very long. Six months later the crash came to the stock market and overnight it was practically swept away, and a long, deep Depression set in. Many people lost their jobs and life became very hard to endure. Gladys and Ham left their apartment and moved into 125 Bedford Road with her parents, George and Annie McCall. Eventually, Ham found a job and by that time they had their first child, Anna Patricia Donley, born 14 May 1930 at Toronto. Soon after, I went to Toronto to attend the Toronto Normal School. A year later I graduated and was taken on the staff of the Toronto Public School Board. I went to board and room at 125 Bedford Road in my first year of teaching in Toronto. In spite of the Depression and its meager salaries, we had a good time. About seven or eight of us sat down to dinner each night in the large dining-room. Over dessert and coffee, we would start a word game. After supper, we played cards or worked at puzzles set up on a card table. About once a month, if we had 50¢, we would go to the Royal Alexander Theatre and sit in the highest rows to watch Shakespeare or a play. Movies on a Saturday afternoon cost 25¢. Things slowly got better and in the second year of my teaching in Toronto, Gladys and Ham had rented a house in North Toronto and I went to board and room with them for that year. Gladys and I were about the same age, and we had always been close pals. In the early 1940's, Ham's firm, The Canadian Railway News moved him to Winnipeg. By this time, they also had 2 boys, Alexander Hamilton Donley Jr., born 17 June 1934 and Darragh George Donley, born 27 March 1940, both born in Toronto. In June of 1943 Gladys' mother had died in Toronto and in July I went to visit them in Winnipeg. In spite of the terrible war that was raging at that time, we had a nice visit. Ham was full of ideas for the future. It was not to be. In the fall of 1948 Ham had gone to Kenora to visit his brother Judge H.

J. Donley, and also to look at a hotel nearby in Nakina which he was considering taking over. He died on November 5, 1948 of a sudden heart attack at his brother's home. Ham was the son of Mr. & Mrs. H. Donley born 13 November 1905 at Toronto. He attended De La Salle School and Assumption College. Besides his own family and his brother, he was survived by three sisters, Sister Mary of Lourdes, St. Catharines; Mrs. J. T. Mogan, Paris, Ontario and Miss Alice Donley, New York. He was buried in Kenora Cemetery. Ham was only 43 years old. It was a terrible shock and a very sad time for the family. Patricia was 18 years old and had started to go to University in Winnipeg. She discontinued her schooling and took a job. Later Gladys and her two sons moved to Ottawa to live with her sister, Hazel at Pine Grove. In Ottawa, Gladys found a job with the Federal Government where she worked for about 16 years, before resigning to marry a second time to George Wadds. He was a long-time friend from their younger days in Toronto, and now a widower living in Nova Scotia. Gladys and George were married on the 19th March 1966 at Ottawa. George had a house and a resort complex at Liscombe Mills on the south shore of Nova Scotia, east of Halifax. It was a scenic spot for tourists to rent a cabin, go fishing in the ocean and have their meals at his large dining lounge. They are now separated and Gladys is living in an apartment in Ottawa.

Gladys' first child, Patricia married at age 24 to Donald Mathias on 10 July 1954 at Winnipeg. They had two sons, Paul D. Mathias, born 2 May 1955. Gregory Mathias born 10 March 1958 at Fort Francis, Northern Ontario. Patricia and Donald separated and were divorced in 1964. For many years Patricia worked in an Air Line office at the Winnipeg airport. She married the second time on 23 September 1966 to Ray Schumacher and still lives in Winnipeg.

Gladys' second child, Alexander Hamilton Donley at age 21 years married Lillian Cook on 28 May 1955 in Ottawa. They had six children. David Donley, born 27 June 1956 at Ottawa. Robert Donley, born 19 November 1957 at Trenton, Ontario. Stephen Donley, born 4 December 1958 at Trenton, Ontario. Kevin Donley, born 18 April 1960 at Trenton, Ontario. Shari Donley, born 27 July 1961 at Edmonton, Alberta. Alexander Hamilton Donley Jr., born 11 March 1964 at Edmonton, Alberta. Hamilton Donley Sr. joined the Royal Canadian Air Force and trained to be a technician. He has now retired and lives in Alberta.

Gladys' third child, Darragh George Donley at age 23 years married Mary Margaret Scott on 23 March 1963 at Ottawa, Ontario. They had one child Caroline Donley, born 6 September 1964 at Ottawa. Darragh has his own company that

sells accessories and services outdoor swimming pools in Ottawa.

This concludes the descendants of George Nelson McCall.

Herbert Hugh McCall, the second son of Nelson and Catharine McCall, was born 30 January 1867 at Union and moved to St. Thomas with the family from the hotel in Port Stanley. He was a big man like his father and everyone called him Hub. In St. Thomas, Hub worked on the New York Central railway. He was a good baseball player with Bob Emslie, who later went on to play professional baseball in the States, and afterwards umpired baseball for many years. Florence Brown tells the family story about Uncle Hub becoming engaged to a St. Thomas girl. She broke the engagement to marry another man. This upset Hub so much that one day he decided to leave St. Thomas and took the train to New York City. In New York Hub went to work on the New York City street car system. While he was on the job on a cold snowy day, he was hit by one of the cars and was very badly injured, but he survived his injuries. Earlier in Nelson McCall's story, I quoted an obituary for Nelson from a Dutton newspaper. It mentioned that two of his sons, Hugh and Charles, were living in New York at the time of Nelson's death in 1899. At that time, Hub was 32 years old and my father Charles was 27 years. While in New York, Hub met and married Jennie, a widow with a daughter Lillie. Eventually, they moved to Detroit and Uncle Hub worked for many years at the Ford Motor Company plant. I remember as a young girl going to visit them, and Uncle Hub took us on a tour of the plant. I never forgot watching all those hundreds of men as they worked on that long assembly line which was the newest idea in manufacturing at that time. Jennie's daughter Lillie married in New York, a man of Spanish descent. They had a son, Thomas (Tom). Lillie died young and Hub and Jennie took Tom, her grandson, to raise. Hub and Jennie had no children of their own. Thomas McCall was born 19 December, 1901. He was a handsome young man and my sister and I thought he looked like Rudolph Valentino with that Spanish look. When we were teenagers, Tom was old enough to drive a car. When they came to visit us, Tom would take us to Port Stanley for a swim or drive to London to see a movie. As Hub and Jennie grew older, they adopted Tom, as they wished to make him heir to their estates. Uncle Hub died about 1948 and not long after Jennie died on 29 October 1948. She was born on 13 March, 1868. They are both buried in White Chapel Memorial Park in Detroit beside Jennie's daughter, Lillie. Tom married Leola Washburn in Detroit. Leola was born 15 August, 1903 and died 6 December 1958. She was buried in the same plot as Hub and Jennie. Tom married a second time to Mrs. Margaret Madeline Mountford, a widow, of Beverly Hills, Missouri. They resided at Farmington,

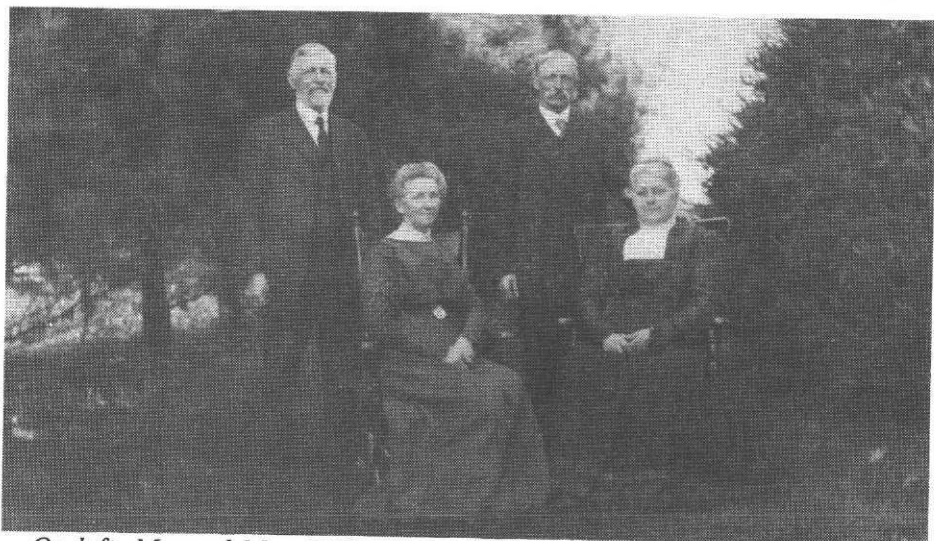
Mi. Tom had attended Polytechnical School in Detroit and graduated as a precision tool and die maker. Uncle Hub was an ardent Mason in a Detroit Lodge. As soon as Tom was old enough, he joined the Lodge. Tom worked his way up through the ranks and eventually became the youngest Grand Master that the Lodge ever had. Tom died 3 February, 1973. The funeral was conducted at the Wm. R. Hamilton Funeral Home on Maple Road in Burmingham, Michigan. Tom had no children.

Charles Merritt McCall, third son of Nelson and Catharine McCall, was born 14 August 1872 in Union. When the family lived in St. Thomas, Charles attended a public school on the site of the present Wellington Street School. Then he entered High School and was not finished when the family moved to Fingal. He boarded in St. Thomas during the school year in order to get his graduation certificate. About 1896 when Charles was 24 years old he decided to become a Veterinary Surgeon. He was always fond of animals. Charles was eight years old when the family moved from Port Stanley to St. Thomas, a distance of about 9 miles. His sister Celia tells the story that she and Charles were put on a wagon load of furniture for the move. Charles had a pet Bantam rooster that he wanted to take with him. His family tried every means to dissuade him, but to no avail. So, he rode the distance with his pet rooster firmly clenched in his arms. Like his father and brother George, Charles was also very fond of horses. He chose to attend a Veterinary College in Kansas City, Missouri. After graduation, he went to New York City to intern in one of the large animal hospitals. That was the era of horse-drawn power. Horses were used for all kinds of transporation of goods and people. The wealthy people had their own fine carriage horses. The hospital was many storeys high and the animals were moved to their floor by heavy freight elevators. Now the Barnum and Bailey Circus spends the winter in Florida, but in the early 1900's their headquarters was in New York. Charles was assigned to help look after the animals and horses. He got to know and like the circus people and their animals, and the love of the circus continued all his days. Florence Brown tells the story that when she was young and living in Shedden, and her Uncle Charles was living in St. Thomas at the Western Hotel, the Barnum and Bailey Circus came to St. Thomas in about 1908. Charles had renewed his acquaintances with the circus people and, as was their custom, they gave him box seat tickets for the show. So, he asked Florence, her sister and brother to come as his guests to the circus. She remembers the excitement of travelling in a stage coach from Shedden to St. Thomas and watching the performance from a box seat. Charles and his brother. Hub were in New York City at the same time, and I wonder if that was why Charles chose to intern there. After a couple of years there, he returned home to Fingal where he first set up his practise



*Front row: George, Libby, Alex Lethbridge, and their mother Catherine.*

*Back row: Jim Lethbridge and Father William George, taken ca. 1887 before youngest child Kathleen was born.*



*On left, Mr. and Mrs. William George Lethbridge on a visit to the farm of brother Mr. James (Jim) Lethbridge and wife Sarah Ann Chittick.*

as a Veterinary surgeon. He lived at the Fulton House with his mother, brother George and his wife Annie and his niece Hazel. Earlier you read about the storage shed on the south side of the Fulton House where Thomas Talbot's coffin was stored for one night. This same shed was remodelled and made into an office for Charles. At the beginning of the 1900's a veterinary in this part of Ontario was a little ahead of his time. It took some years before the farmers accepted the fact that a doctor could help their sick animals. Charles had met and started courting Elizabeth Ann Lethbridge who lived with her father and mother, on a farm at Watson's Corners on the Talbot Road west of Fingal about 3 miles.

Elizabeth Lethbridge was born in Dunwich Township, 21st November 1880. Her parents were William George Lethbridge and Catherine (Kate) May. We shall digress here, for a time, from the McCall story in order to tell the Lethbridge Family story. I have been assisted in some of the following information by Mr. and Mrs. Perry Clutterbuck, R.R.#2, Port Stanley; Mr. & Mrs. Maxwell Lethbridge, R.R.#1, Fingal; Mrs. Arnold (Ruth) Lidster, Fingal; and Miss Kim Glover of St. Thomas, granddaughter of Max and Margaret Lethbridge. Kim was asked in high school by her teacher to research her family tree and write an essay on it by the end of the school year. She turned to her grandparents for help and they also sent her to Perry Clutterbuck. The Clutterbucks and Lethbridges had inter-married, and Perry had researched the Lethbridges right back to their roots in Devon, England. The William George Lethbridge that emigrated to Canada was the grandfather of my grandfather William George Lethbridge.

The first William George who came to Canada in about 1840 to 1850 was born in Devon, England on 1 May 1791, and died at Boxall in Southwold Twp. in 1881 at 90 years of age. He married Mary Cridle who was born in 1791 at Somerset, England and died in 1873 at Boxall at aged 83 years. They had six sons and two daughters. They had heard that in Canada the sons could buy large farms, which you could not do in England. A copy of William George's Will names all his sons. The Will was drawn up on 27 July 1860, when W. G. Lethbridge was 69 years old. His wife was to receive the farm, stock, and furniture as long as she lived. At her death, son Thomas was to get all the estate, but he was to pay the following legacies: To brothers, John \$140.00, William \$10.00, James \$400.00, Richard \$600.00, and George \$500.00. A daughter Jane Davey had apparently died before the Will was made so he names grandchildren, George and Elizabeth Davey \$30.00 each, and Mary Davey \$50.00, when each became age 21 years. The executors and witnesses were Thomas Samuel Edgcombe of Port Stanley. On 10 June 1875 a codicil to the Will was drawn up. Thomas

Edgecombe, an executor, had died so the codicil revoked both of the above executors and named 2 more. The executors were "my son, George Lethbridge of the Township of Ekfrid in the County of Middlesex and my friend, Samuel Shepard, Port Stanley." After William George Lethbridge died in 1881, the Will was being readied for probation which occurred on 20 June 1881. On the 18 June 1881 Samuel Edgecombe, blacksmith, and Alfred Meek, merchant's clerk, swore they had witnessed the original Will of 27 July 1860.

Our branch of the Lethbridge family is descended from the above-mentioned James, who moved to Tait's Corner in the Glencoe area. According to the book The History of Middlesex and the Middlesex County Atlas, his brothers, George, John and Richard, also lived nearby in Ekfrid Township, Middlesex County, just north of the Thames River. James, born in 1825 married Ann Trestain at Glencoe. James died Nov. 15, 1882, age 57 years and Ann died 29 July 1908, aged 76 years. Both are buried at Oakland Cemetery north of the Longwoods Road in Mosa Township. James and Ann had three sons and a daughter.

1. John Thomas, born 1853 and died 26 Dec. 1905 at aged 52 years.
2. William George (our grandfather), born 29 July 1857 and died 8 Jan. 1929, at aged 71½ years.
3. James Henry, born 1859 and died 1948 at aged 89 years.
4. Mary Ann, born 5 March 1862 and died 21 Jan. 1937 just before her 75th birthday.

William George Lethbridge married Catherine May on the 2nd July 1878. Catherine was born 8 May 1859. I quote from their marriage certificate, "These certify that George William Lethbridge of the Township of Exfrid (sic) in the County of Middlesex and Province of Ontario, and Catherine May of the same place aforesaid by license from His Honer the Honorable Donald McDonald Lieutenant governor of the Province of Ontario were married on the second day of July in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight at the Manse of Saint Andrews Church in the City of London. In the presence of John Lethbrdige and Elizabeth May.

by me

J'. Allen (Mc?)

Minister of St. Andrews Ch. London"

London, Ont.  
2 July 1878

His brother, John and her sister, Elizabeth stood up with them. They settled on a farm in Dunwich Twp., Elgin County, where, I believe, their first two children, James and Elizabeth, were born. When Elizabeth was a small girl, the family moved to the Scotch Road in Southwold Township - the second road north of Lake Erie. Later they moved to the Watson Corner farm

on the Talbot Road in Southwold. Their last 3 children were born in Southwold. I remember the Watson Corner farm, because that is where I spent a year with my grandparents when I was 5 years old. After that, I spent every summer on the farm as soon as school closed for the summer. I remember the big barn with its corner room called the milk parlor, the corn crib where the cobs of corn were put to dry, the drive shed with all the sleighs, cutters and buggies, and its tack room where the harness, whips, etc. were stored. The farm was on the northeast corner and its southern border ran along the Talbot Road. It had a wood lot with lots of hickory trees. By 1916, when my grandparents went to live with their son George, grandpa was more or less retired. It was here that William and Catherine celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on 2nd July 1928. All the Lethbridges and Mays, as well as friends, neighbours and church friends from Knox Presbyterian Church in Fingal gathered to wish them well. Grandpa's health had started to fail and he passed away 7 months later on 8 January 1929 at age 78 years. Quite sometime before his death William had bought a large family plot at the St. Thomas Cemetery. There he was buried to be joined later by his wife. Grandma Catherine lived on until she was 95 years old. She died in London on the 10th of November 1954. William and Kate had 5 children - James, Elizabeth, George, Alex and Kathleen.

The eldest child, James (Jim) Lethbridge was born in 1879 and died in 1963 at age 84 years. He is buried in the St. Thomas plot. The Registrar General's office has informed me that James' birthdate was never registered. We don't know if he was born in Ekfrid Twp. or in Dunwich. Jim worked on the railroad for awhile, but ended his days working on the farm of his brother George. While working on the railroad he met and married a girl in Detroit. They had a daughter, Irene Lethbridge, born 5 April 1904. The marriage did not last very long and Irene was raised by her grandparents and her Uncle George. Irene graduated from the Watson's Corner Public School. When she was about 23 years old, she went to London to work for her Aunt Kathleen Lethbridge in her Bakery Shop. Later, Irene worked for many years at a Dry Cleaning and Laundry firm on Richmond St. North. In her retirement she lived in an apartment at 170 Kent St., London. Irene passed away on Sunday 11 July 1982 at 78 years of age and was buried on Tuesday July 13, 1982 at Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens, London. She left to mourn her passing, a daughter Mary and son-in-law Mervyn Carter and four grandsons, Timothy, Randy, Glenn and Daniel, all of London.

The second child of William and Kate was Elizabeth (Libby) Ann Lethbridge, our mother. We shall be hearing more about her later in this story.

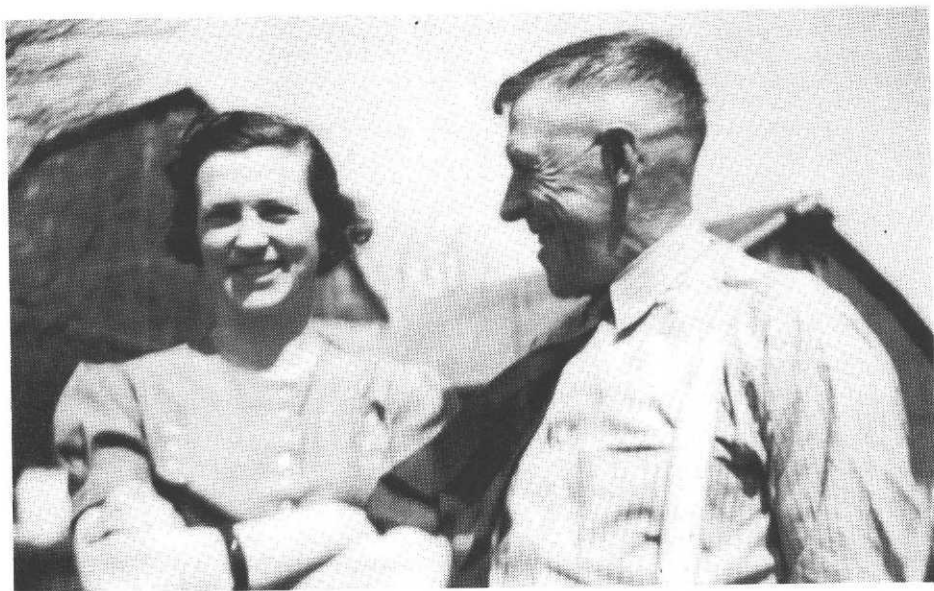
The third child was George Lethbridge, born on the Scotch Road in Southwold in 1882, shortly after his parents moved there from Dunwich Twp. He spent almost all his life on the farm. When his younger brother, Alex, married on 3 August 1916, George bought the farm on the southeast corner of Watson's Corner. He and his parents moved to the new farm, and Alex and his bride moved into the home farm on the northeast corner. Later George bought a second farm on the Talbot Road, the second farm east of the first farm. George was a very successful farmer. At one time, he had a large apple orchard and also rented nearby orchards, so that at harvest time he could ship railway cars full of barrels of apples to Western Canada. He also planted a field of raspberries, and daily shipped boxes of raspberries to Windsor during raspberry season. He had a herd of dairy cattle and many horses. Later he specialized in raising purebred hogs. He kept his house and all his farm buildings freshly painted. He loved flowers and his grounds were kept well landscaped. I have vivid memories of all the summers I spent on this farm between 1916 and 1920. All during my childhood, we also went to Grandmother Lethbridges for Christmas Day. At the outbreak of World War II, the Federal Government purchased both of Uncle George's farms and the farm between them. The department of National Defence needed the land to build No. 4 Bombing and Gunnery School. Down came all the trees and buildings, in order to build barracks and runways for planes at the Air School. It was very sad to see the farms disappear, but he felt that could be his effort toward helping to win the War. George was now 60 years of age, and it was time for him to slow down. Grandpa had died, so Grandma, George and Jim moved to a house in Fingal on the Talbot Road, just west of Knox Presbyterian Church. Later, George bought a small farm on the northern boundary of Fingal, just to have something for he and Jim to keep their hands and minds busy. George had always been a bachelor until now, at age 64 in the summer of 1946 he married Norma Marr of Detroit. When they married, Grandma went to live with her youngest child, Kathleen and her husband Arnold Coughlin, in a house just northwest of London. In 1949, Grandma came back to the house in Fingal to celebrate her 90th birthday. That was such a wonderful day for her. She saw and visited with all her old neighbours, relatives and friends. George was a kind and generous man. Like his parents, he regularly attended Knox Presbyterian Church in Fingal. He took good care of his parents, and was always ready to assist his brother Alex, after his wife died and left Alex with four small children in his care. On 13th August 1955 at 73 years of age, George died in the house in Fingal of a sudden heart attack. I quote in part from his obituary in the St. Thomas Times-Journal: "George Lethbridge Dies; Leading Southwold Farmer. ----- Mr. Lethbridge's farm at Watson's Corners was one of the finest in Southwold and Mr.



*Kathleen (Lethbridge) Coughlin.*



*Irene Lethbridge.*



*Pearl McCall Ray and her Uncle George Lethbridge.*

Lethbridge took great pride in its operation and its appearance. Many will remember the long row of evenly-spaced trees which stood along the Talbot Road east from Watson's Corners bounding the north side of the farm, and the clumps of daffodils close to the fence which came up each spring in lovely clusters. They were planted by Mr. Lethbridge's hand and helped to keep the rural scene of the neighbourhood beautiful.....a son of Mr. and Mrs. William George Lethbridge who came to this country from England. His mother died last November at the age of 96....." The funeral notice in the paper names the relatives and friends who came from Seattle, Washington, Detroit, Glencoe, Dutton and Lobo. He was buried in the family plot in St. Thomas Cemetery with his father and mother.

The fourth child of William and Catherine was Alex Lethbridge, born May 25, 1885. When Alex was 19 years of age he was hauling logs to St. Thomas with a team of horses and a sled in the winter. They were going along the Gravel Road (now Sunset Drive) on the southern edge of the city when they came to the railway tracks. A train whistle frightened the horses and they bolted and started to run away. The chains holding the logs broke and the load started to fall, taking Alex with them. His left leg was so badly crushed that it had to be removed above the knee. For the rest of his life he wore an artificial leg, and always made the best of it. His parents, thinking that now he would not be a farmer, sent him to Business College in St. Thomas. He did not like Business College, but did like one of the students - Eva Smiley of St. Thomas. They were married in St. Thomas and went to live on the home farm. They had four children - Maxwell, Kenneth, Marjorie and Ruth. When Ruth was about 2 years old their mother died in 1925 at age 32 years. She was the first to be buried in the plot in St. Thomas Cemetery. All the Lethbridge family pitched in to help Alex and his children, but eventually Alex was able to find a good housekeeper who helped to keep the family together. They stayed on the farm until the children grew up. Maxwell was interested in farming. When he married Margaret Ann Irvine in March 1938 and settled on the farm, Alex and the two girls moved to a house in St. Thomas. Kenneth joined the Army and later was a carpenter. Maxwell is still on the farm - the third generation of Lethbridges to own the farm. Maxwell and Margaret had five children - Harold, Rose Mary, Charlene, Robert and Ruth Ann. Kenneth married in 1946 to Mildred Metcalfe and they lived in Fingal. They had four children - William, Douglas, Mary Sue and Wendy. Kenneth died 20 April 1978. He was buried in the Lethbridge plot in the St. Thomas Cemetery. Marjory married after the War to Malcolm Pratt. They have lived in California for many years. They had 2 boys, Gordon and Robert. Ruth married on 11 July 1945 to Arnold Lidster, who had also joined the Army during the war. Ruth and Arnold lived in Fingal. They had 5 children -

Rosemary, Ronald, Kathryn, Judith and Randolph. Arnold passed away on 3 June 1980 and was cremated.

Alex Lethbridge, the father of the above children passed away in St. Thomas on 18 July 1967 at age 82 years. He is buried in the Lethbridge plot in the St. Thomas Cemetery beside his wife, Eva Smiley who had died 42 years before him.

The fifth child of William and Catherine was Kathleen Lethbridge, born in 1891 on 25 January. There was 11 years difference in age between Elizabeth and Kathleen, but they were close sisters. Elizabeth always said she helped raise Kathleen. After Kathleen graduated from public and high schools, she went to Guelph College to become a dietitian. After graduation she spent a year of internship at Westminster Hospital in London for War Veterans. Then she spent 7 years in Regina as a dietitian at the Y.W.C.A. She was a very beautiful, young lady with her fair skin and lovely blond hair. After that she worked at the Y.W.C.A. in Windsor and the Psychiatric Hospital in Kingston. At age 32 years, she decided to go into business. Her brother, George, loaned her the money to get started. She rented the store at Richmond and Piccadilly Streets and made it into a bakery, which she called Mother's Cupboard. She baked pies, cakes and cookies, but her speciality was homemade bread. About 1928, she married Arnold Coughlin. She had first met him at the Westminster Hospital. Each had gone their separate ways, but now they met again and decided to marry. Arnold set up an ice cream making business at the back end of the shop. They both did very well. In about 1945, they retired and bought a house on the north western edge of London. It was while they lived here that Grandma Lethbridge came to live with them, for many years. Arnold and Kathleen had plans to build themselves a new home on land they had bought near Lambeth. Before they could start to build, Arnold passed away on 13 July 1951 at 62 years of age. Kathleen decided to carry on the plans to build the new house. It was a large, beautiful house built on a hillside, with a creek running through the little valley below. Here she enjoyed her years of retirement. Kathleen was fond of travelling and took many wonderful trips to Mexico, Japan, Ceylon, the Mediterranean, England and to our own Northwest Territories. On Sunday, December 30, 1973, Kathleen passed away at age 83 years. She is buried in a special area of St. Peter's Seminary in London beside her husband, Arnold Coughlin. This concludes the story of the family of William George Lethbridge and his wife, Catherine (May) Lethbridge.

The first son of James Lethbridge and Ann (Trestain) Lethbridge and brother of the above, William George Lethbridge, was John Thomas Lethbridge, born 1853 and died 26 Dec. 1905 at age 52 years. He is buried in the same plot with his father

James and mother Ann, in the Oakland Cemetery. I have no further information on John Thomas Lethbridge.

The third son of James Lethbridge and wife Ann, was James Henry, born 1859 and died 1948 at age 89 years. He married Sarah Ann Chittick, a school teacher. Their farm was on the road that crossed the bridge over the Thames River into Southwold Twp., south of Glencoe. He and my grandfather, William George Lethbridge, were very close brothers. Every summer that I spent on the farm with my grandparents, we always made a trip, by horse and buggy, to see Uncle Jim and Aunt Sarah. James Henry was born in 1859 and died in 1948 at age 89 years. Sarah Anne was born in 1861 and died in 1944 at age 83 years. James and Sarah had a daughter, Anna Lena. She never married and moved to Detroit, where she worked in an office. She was born in 1892 and died in 1970, aged 78 years. James and Sarah also had a son, Wilfred (Bill) Lethbridge who married A. Leota Steacy. Wilfred was a Pharmacist. He was born in 1899 and died in 1977 at age 78 years. His wife, Leota was born in 1902 and died in 1977 at age 75 years. James, Sarah, daughter Anna Lena and Wilfred and wife Leota are all buried in a plot in the Oakland Cemetery. In that plot there is also a footstone that says: "In Loving Memory of our baby - infant daughter of Wilfred and Leota Lethbridge - Sept. 6, 1938." Wilfred had no other children.

The fourth child of James and Ann (Trestain) Lethbridge, was a daughter Mary Ann. She was born on March 5, 1862 and died 21 January 1937. Mary Ann Lethbridge married Donald May of Ekfrid Twp. on 26 September 1882. Donald was born 29 September 1854 and died 27 October 1926. Mary Ann's brother, William George Lethbridge had married Catherine May. Now we have Catherine May's brother Donald May marrying William Lethbridge's sister Mary Ann. It doesn't happen too often, that a brother and sister marry a brother and sister. But, when it happens there is that special feeling of attachment, especially between their children. My mother called the May children her double cousins. The Donald May's settled at Littlewood in Delaware Twp. and eventually moved to London Twp. near the city of London. In those days that was quite a distance from the Lethbridges at Watson's Corners, but the two families never lost touch. I can remember going to the Mays in the summer, and having them come to see us, at least once a year. Donald and Mary Ann had 7 children, six boys and one girl.

1. Donald Leslie, born 20 June 1833, died 9 June 1969.
2. George Henry, born 21 Aug. 1884, died 13 July 1955.
3. William Malcomm, born 26 March 1887, died March 2, 1963.
4. Archibald, born 13 July 1890, died 29 September 1928
5. Alexander, born 2 June 1894, died 8 October 1953.
6. James (Jim), born 17 September 1901, died 1st September 1969.
7. Mary Ann, born 13 August 1904.

Mary tells me the May burial plot is in St. George's Cemetery in Hyde Park. There lie buried Donald and Mary Ann, her father and mother, brothers Jim, Alex and wife, William Malcomm and wife.

As you can see from the above list of children Mary Ann May is the sole survivor of that large family, but she has lots of nieces and nephews. Mary Ann and James (Jim) are the only ones that I remember well, besides her mother and father. Mary Ann came to our St. Thomas hospital to train to be a nurse, many years ago. After graduation she remained to nurse at the Memorial Hospital. Most of her years of nursing were spent here and she worked her way up to Assistant Superintendent. She is now retired and living in London. Recently, I visited Mary Ann at her lovely hillside home, and she gave me a lot of information about her family, and also some photographs. She has a beautiful large book full of pictures, family trees, etc. that she has worked on for years. I want to thank her for all this information. I was particularly thrilled when Mary Ann showed me the large petit point sampler hanging on the wall of her living-room. In the centre were brightly coloured birds, flowers, trees and 2 deer, enclosed by a border of green leaves. At the top of the sampler was a basket of flowers and below it was stitched the name, Ann Trestain and the date of 1841, encircled by a wreath of ivy. Ann Trestain stitched this sampler when she was 9 years old and completed it before her 10th birthday. She counted every stitch as it was made. As you have read before, Ann Trestain was my grandfather's mother. She was also Mary Ann May's grandmother.

Thus ends the story of the Lethbridges.

Now, we must cast our memories back to the point where we left Charles McCall and Elizabeth Lethbridge. They had met, fallen in love and started to plan their marriage and future life. Since Charles was not earning enough as a veterinarian to marry, he decided to go into the hotel business and practise the veterinary business as a sideline. He bought the Western Hotel on St. Catherine's Street in St. Thomas. It was situated some distance south of the Wabash Station. The old station is still there, but the hotel has now disappeared. From their printed Wedding invitation, I quote: "Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Lethbridge request the pleasure of your company at the marriage of their daughter Libby to Mr. C. M. McCall, Thursday September twenty-seventh nineteen hundred and six, at three P.M. at the home of the bride." In the St. Thomas Evening Journal of that date is an account of the wedding. "Pretty Home Wedding - Marriage of Dr. A. (sic) M. McCall and Miss Libby Lethbridge - a pretty home wedding took place this afternoon at 3 p.m. at the residence of Mr. George Lethbridge Southwold, when his eldest daughter, Miss Libby was united in



*Living quarters in Empire Hotel in Thamesville, Ont.  
Libby (Lethbridge) McCall and her daughter Helen McCall.*



*Empire Hotel bar room and bar tender Bert Leitch.*

marriage to Dr. A. M. McCall D.S. (sic) proprietor of the Western Hotel in this City. The ceremony was performed by Rev. R. C. MacDiarmid of Fingal, in the presence of about 40 relatives of the contracting parties. The couple were unattended. The bride was married in her blue travelling suit. After the wedding breakfast, the couple drove to the city and left for New York to spend their honeymoon. The esteem in which the bride is held was evidenced by the large number of presents received."

While they were living at this hotel their first child was born. Libby was not brought up in a hotel and she didn't want to have her child born there. So, she went to the Amasa Wood hospital in St. Thomas, and that is where I, Helen Catharine McCall, was born on St. Patrick's day 17 March 1908. I was about a year old when the family moved to Thamesville where Charlie had bought the Empire Hotel. I have a letterhead from that hotel and it states: "First-class accommodation. Rates \$1.50 a day - Empire Hotel, Thamesville. C.M. McCall Proprietor." While we lived at this hotel my sister Pearl Elizabeth McCall was born on 3rd of October, 1909. There was no hospital in Thamesville, so Libby went to the home farm at Watson's Corners and there Pearl was born in Southwold Township. Charles had been practising as a Veterinary Surgeon, as well as running the hotel in Thamesville. By 1914 he was doing well as a Veterinary, so he sold the hotel and the family moved to a small house across the street from the Presbyterian Church. It was in this house that brother, George Nelson McCall was born on 7 May 1915. About a year later the family moved to a larger house that also had a small two storey barn at the back on the bank of a small creek. Just across the creek was the Thamesville arena, where we learned to skate. I have so many memories of Thamesville, the stores, post office, schools and the people. But, my sharpest memory was the news in 1918 of the German surrender, and the end of a horrible war that our public school teachers had been telling us about. The whole town went mad! By evening a parade has been hastily arranged. We school children were put in the back of a truck. The noise of the celebration was horrendous. I had never been out at night and never had ridden in a truck. I was 10 years old and very frightened. Two years later in 1920, my father was in ailing health. He needed a series of two operations over a period of 2 years. The family moved to the large vacant house on George Lethbridge's second farm on the Talbot Road. The operations were performed at St. Joseph's Hospital in London. By this time Mr. Ford had invented and was manufacturing the automobile. While we lived in Thamesville my father and Dr. Stewart M.D. were the first to have a car. Before we came to the farm Charles had bought a second car. My mother had never learned to drive. Now she had to learn or we would be stuck on the farm. After she learned, I remember



*Mrs. Libby McCall  
at 104 First Ave., St. Thomas*



*Front row: Pearl McCall, Ethel Young  
Campbell, Celia McCall Campbell,  
Helen McCall. Back row: George  
McCall, Florence Campbell and  
Myrtle Campbell at the Farm house  
near Watson's Corners.*



*Helen McCall, her cousins,  
Ruth Lethbridge, left, and  
Marjorie Lethbridge, right.*

going with her to London to see my father in the hospital. I had never been in one and it was huge, complete with very large sunrooms. We children attended Watson's Corners school. Pearl and I were in Junior Fourth (7th grade). The next year we passed our entrance (8th grade) and went on to Continuation School in Fingal. That was the first two years in high school in those days - but, that is passe now. We attended Continuation School for 1 year and then we moved to St. Thomas. Charles was fully recuperated and after 3 years on the farm, we were experiencing a whole new life in the city. Charles bought a large, old white brick house with four bedrooms and about 3 acres of land. It had a large front lawn in front, and behind was a large two storey barn, a hen house, large garden and an old orchard. It was then numbered 104 First Avenue, so we were in Yarmouth Heights. Across the road was St. Thomas, but at that time it was an empty field of grass where we often tethered our Jersey cow. Besides the cow in the barn, there was a horse for we two girls to ride. At the front of the barn was special stalls for sick horses and small ones for cats and dogs.

We moved to St. Thomas in the summer of 1923 and in the fall Pearl and I went to the old St. Thomas Collegiate on Eylsian Street. We were in 2nd Form (Grade 10) and brother George went to the 4-room public school in Yarmouth Heights. The first year or two, we were able to go to school via the St. Thomas street car. When it stopped, we rode on bicycles in good weather and Dad took us by car in the winter. We liked Mondays the best. The curling club that Dad belonged to, met every Monday at 4 p.m. for a bonspiel and dinner. After school, we walked to the rink on Metcalfe Street and drove ourselves home in the car. We were pretty well settled and getting to know people. We were active in Knox Presbyterian Church in the city. The large house and grounds, as well as a garden, kept us busy. Charles' business was growing and he had been appointed Inspector of the Elgin Humane Society. Without warning, a tragic accident occurred and our family was never quite the same afterwards. As a Humane Society Inspector, and in order to destroy large farm animals who were suffering and couldn't get better, Charles had a revolver. He was a good marksman and belonged to the St. Thomas Gun Club. Their range was at the back of Pinafore Park. I did not belong, but Pearl enjoyed going with Dad to practises and competitions, where they used rifles to shoot at Clay 'birds' propelled into the air by machine. Charles kept his revolver in his desk drawer and the bullets were in a box in another part of the desk. The desk was in the back living-room with shelves for his books and a heavy floor safe in a corner. My father was a very strict disciplinarian and it was a rule that no one should ever touch his desk. It was a Wednesday afternoon on June 28, 1924 when brother, George

and 2 girls, who lived close by came home from school. George found there was no one at home, which was unusual, and asked the girls to come into the house. They said George went straight to the desk, got out the gun and bullets, and proceeded to show off to the girls. He had trouble putting in a bullet (the gun had a safety catch). So, he turned it around and was still working at it when the gun went off and the bullet went through his heart. We all arrived home minutes after, but there was nothing that could be done for him. It took a long time to get over such a shock. We were very glad that neither of the girls were hurt. He was only 9 years old, but we have never forgotten him. The outpouring of sympathy for our family was overwhelming. The funeral was held at our home on Friday, June 30, and the Yarmouth Height's School was closed for the afternoon. His classmates formed a pathway on the 'front lawn for the casket to be taken from the house to the hearse. Six older boys from the school were pallbearers. He was buried in the family plot in the Union Cemetery near his Grandfather Nelson Simpson McCall. Many friends from Thamesville and relatives from Fingal, Dutton, Glencoe, Detroit, Toronto, Kingston and London attended the funeral. During the following summer, Charles and his brother George McCall decided it was time now to erect a monument on the plot in Union. It was a timely act, as you have read that almost 2 years to the day after George's burial, Grandmother McCall was brought from Toronto and buried in Union Cemetery, between her husband Nelson Simpson McCall and her grandson George Nelson McCall.

Charles and Libby had a very busy life, and made a lot of friends. They were active in the Knox Presbyterian Church in St. Thomas, Charles was an elder and Libby as president of the Ladies' Aid. Charles was a Mason, member of the Tecumseh Lodge #245, Thamesville. Both Charles and Libby were members of the Maple Leaf Chapter of the O.E.S. in St. Thomas. They both liked to play bridge and belonged to a mixed bridge club. Charles was extra busy in the summer and fall, as he was a starter at horse races and a judge of horses at all the district Fairs and horse meets, and also at the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto. The depression struck in 1930, and for a few years it was a hard time for everybody. Many farmers couldn't pay the doctor bill, but they always gave him some hay, straw, wheat or oats. That fed the Jersey cow, the horse and the chickens. Besides that, we had a very large garden so that we never went hungry, but there wasn't much money.

In the fall of 1934, Charles became ill. The doctor discovered that he had leukemia. It was not well known at the time, and for a while he was sent to hospital in Toronto.



*Seated, Catharine (Ketchum) McCall and daughter Celia (McCall) Campbell. Standing, Hubert (Hub) McCall, George S. McCall and Dr. Charles M. McCall. This picture was taken on June 20, 1924, the day of Little George's Funeral.*

He became very weak and passed away on 22 March, 1935. Libby had had enough of funerals at home, so Charles rested in the Sifton Funeral Home. He was buried in the Union Cemetery in Union near his son.

Libby was a widow at age 55. Pearl was living at home, and I was teaching in Toronto. I was able to find a teaching job near St. Thomas by the fall and came home to live and add my support. For about 5 years, we struggled with a large house, grounds and garden, and finally gave it up and moved to the city. My mother was a wonderful cook and loved to cook and bake. She started to cook for families in private homes, but soon got the job as manager of Campbell Cottage on the corner of Wellington and Elgin Streets. It was a large old home for mostly maiden ladies, who could afford to pay the price for an elegant retirement. Eventually, Libby retired and lived in an apartment. She loved to travel and in her retirement, she went on many trips to Florida, Mexico, California and Canada's west coast. Libby had made plans to go to England when she became ill and had to have an operation. Now Libby was over eighty years and she still enjoyed playing bridge at the Y.W.C.A., and also belonged to a club that met in the homes of the members. At age 88, Libby fell and broke her hip. While it was healing, she suffered a stroke. After 2 years in hospital she passed away on 7 January 1971 in her 91st year. Libby had been a longtime member of the St. Thomas Chapter of the I.O.D.E. and they placed the flag at the head of her coffin in the funeral home. After the funeral service, the casket was transported to the Union Cemetery where she was buried between her son, George Nelson McCall and her husband, Charles McCall. She left to mourn her passing a sister, Kathleen (Lethbridge) Coughlin of London, two daughters, Helen and Pearl, and a grandson Darcy McCall Ray.

I, Helen McCall, after graduating from Upper School (Grade 13) at St. Thomas Collegiate attended Normal School (Teacher's College) in London. I taught 2 years in Northern Ontario at Dryden and Dorion in the Thunder Bay area. I also taught 1 year at Broughdale, a suburb of London. Next, I attended the Toronto Normal School for one year which enabled me to receive a Permanent First Class Certificate. On graduation, I was hired by the Toronto Board of Education, and taught there for 3 years until the death of my father. I came back to St. Thomas and taught in a rural school near Shedden. I had started my teaching in the fall of 1928, and the next fall the stock market collapsed, and the Depression set in. I was never out of a job, but salaries went down drastically. I had started teaching at \$900.00 a year and my last teaching job was \$500.00 a year. Near the end of my last year, I became very ill and had to have an operation

and a stay of 6 weeks in hospital. I was still recuperating at home that summer of 1936, when I got a chance to fill in as a payroll clerk in the office of the Medcalf Shoe Company, where my sister Pearl worked as a stenographer. It was a temporary job that turned into a permanent job for 10 years. The depression finally ended and soon the Second World War started. I had joined the Badminton Club and the Municipal Golf Club. But when the War started, we became very busy. I was a member of the Tonti Chapter of the I.O.D.E in St. Thomas, and we soon became involved with volunteer work among the many Air Force Schools surrounding St. Thomas. We took our turn working in the hospitality room in the city, where the young recruits could come in the evening to relax, play cards and read papers and magazines. We also had coffee and homemade pies, tarts, cookies and cakes to serve to them. We chaperoned dances at the Air Force Technical School, just south of the city and the Bombing School near Fingal. At the same time, I was active in Knox Presbyterian Church as a Sunday School Teacher.

In April of 1947 I resigned from my job because of my upcoming marriage to Harold Pincombe. Harold was the youngest child of Robert T. Pincombe and Elizabeth Worth. He had three brothers, William J., Clarence Robert and Kenneth Worth Pincombe, also a sister, Irene. Harold was born in St. Thomas on the 9th of October 1898. In 1916, as soon as he became 18 years of age, he joined the Army to fight in the First World War. He was sent to England and was assigned to guard duty in the City of London. Later he was trained to drive ammunition supply trucks, and was posted to Belgium and then to France. On his return from the war, he entered the butcher business, which was a tradition in the Pincombe family. It began with Harold's grandfather, John Pincombe and lasted for four generations. On the 15th of June 1921, Harold married Vera Dolores Collins of St. Thomas. The Rev. Geo. W. Henderson of Central Methodist Church performed the rites. The witnesses were Harold's brother K. W. Pincombe and sister-in-law Nila Pincombe. Vera was born 30 January 1899, the daughter of William G. Collins and Ruth Amelia Keat. Harold and Vera had two children, Robert William born 16 May 1922 and Ruth Elizabeth (Betty) born 25 April 1924. In the fall of 1924 the family moved from a house in the city to a house they had built in Lynhurst, a suburb of St. Thomas, where most of the Pincombes resided at that time. The children grew up in this home and it wasn't long before there was another War to be fought. At 20 years of age in 1942, Bob joined the Air Force and trained as a technician. He served on the west coast of British Columbia, and then was posted to England. About the same time, Betty started to train to be a nurse at the St. Thomas Memorial Hospital. In February of 1943

Vera Pincombe became very ill with pneumonia and died in the Memorial Hospital on 18 February 1943. She was buried in the Robert T. Pincombe plot in the St. Thomas Cemetery. It was a terrible shock for all the families, but they carried on as others did during the war years. Bob came home after the War was over and joined his father in the business. Betty had to give up the idea of being a nurse after a bout of pneumonia, and the doctor advised her to seek something less physically draining. She attended Business College and worked in a law office and a bank. On 23 October 1946 Bob married Betty Cooper, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Cooper of St. Thomas.

Shortly after that, Harold and I were married by Dr. Harry Rodney at Knox Presbyterian Church in St. Thomas on 12 March 1947. Bob was his father's bestman and my sister, Pearl Ray was my matron of honour. Her husband Gene Ray gave the bride away. After our marriage, Betty started to work at the Psychiatric Hospital, south of the city. She worked at many jobs there, but at the end of her career there, she was for many years, a Director of Volunteers. Before her retirement, she was presented with the Queen's Silver Jubilee Commemorative Medal to honour her work for the community. After 33 years at the Hospital she has retired and is enjoying her apartment at 82 Parkside Drive in St. Thomas.

Bob and Betty Pincombe had four girls, all born in St. Thomas. About 1951 Bob left the business and the family lived in Sarnia and Toronto. All the children attend high school in Toronto.

The first daughter of Bob and Betty Pincombe was Kerry Ann Pincombe, born on 22 May 1947. She trained to be a nurse at Sick Children's Hospital in Toronto, graduating in 1969. She nursed in St. Lucia, W.I., Toronto, Switzerland, and in Yellowknife, N.W.T. She married Douglas Naylor at Yellowknife on 21 March, 1975. Douglas was the son of Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Naylor of Montreal. Douglas and Kerry were divorced. Kerry married a second time to William Norgate of Toronto. They have lived in Burlington and Toronto. They have 2 sons - both born in Burlington. The first son, born 30 January 1980, was Andrew William Addison Norgate. The second son, Cameron Robert Norgate, was born 19 January, 1984.

The second daughter, Catherine Louise Pincombe was born 13 August 1948 at St. Thomas. After graduating from High School, she took a business course. She worked as a secretary in offices in Toronto. On Saturday, April 5, 1975, Cathy Pincombe and Robert J. Bingham of Toronto were married in First United Church in St. Thomas, by Rev. Donald Parsons.

Bob Bingham is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Ian Bingham of Scarborough. Cathy and Bob now live in Scarborough also. They have one child, Tracy Elizabeth, born 18 May, 1982 at Scarborough General Hospital.

The third child, Christine Elizabeth, was born 12 May 1950 at St. Thomas. After graduating from high school in Toronto, Christy took a course to become a dental assistant. On graduation she worked in dental offices in Toronto. On September 19th, 1970, Christy married John McBride in West Hill, a suburb of Toronto, where the Pincombe family lived at that time. They did not have any children and are separated.

The fourth child, Cynthia Dolores, was born 28 May 1952. After graduating from high school Cindy trained to be a nurse at Women's College Hospital in Toronto, graduating in 1973. She nursed in Toronto and Vancouver where she has nursed ever since, and still lives there with Harvey Wolfson and her son, Michael William who was born on 11 May 1980.

Harold Pincombe continued his butcher business on the corner of Ross and Wellington Streets until January 15, 1966, when he retired in his 68th year. At one time there had been 3 Pincombe stores in St. Thomas, and Harold was the last one in business when he closed his store. We both enjoyed our retirement very much. We travelled to the East coast of Canada, Florida and England. I, also, visited Bermuda and Hawaii and Los Angeles, California. Harold had a part-time job as a court constable at the Old Court House in St. Thomas, which he very much enjoyed, as it kept him in touch with people. I, also, had more time for my hobby - researching my family history. For many years I had belonged to the Historical Society of St. Thomas and Elgin. Now, I joined 2 branches of the United Empire Loyalist Association of Canada - the London Branch and the Grand Branch (Brantford and Waterloo). About 4 years ago, I joined the new St. Thomas Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society of Ontario. In June of 1975, I received a certificate from the U.E.L. London Branch stating that I was a United Empire Loyalist descendant. My Loyalist ancestor was Donald McCall, and as I had done a lot of research on him and had been given a lot of information from other researchers, I decided to write a booklet on Donald McCall's military service, 1756-1763. He was a member of the 1st Battalion of the 42nd Highland Regiment (Royal Highland Regiment of the Black Watch). He came with his Regiment to the colonies (U.S.A.) in 1756 to fight in the Seven Years War. After his service, he settled in New Jersey. Having had this experience, I decided to write my family history, partly because our Hugh McCall Branch of the McCall family is rapidly coming to an end.

As the years passed by Harold started to have some health problems. Bob and Betty Pincombe had moved from Toronto to the Haliburton Highlands, where they had had a cottage for many years. Harold's 80th birthday was coming up, and he wanted to celebrate it in Haliburton. After that he declined rapidly and went to hospital in mid-December. Harold passed away on Sunday 28 January 1979. I quote in part from his obituary: "He was the third generation of his family to belong to the First Methodist Church (now First United) and held a position on the Methodist Official Board for many years. ----- Mr. Pincombe belonged to the Royal Canadian Legion, was a past Chancellor and life member of Rathbone Lodge number 12 Knights of Pythias, a life member of the St. Thomas Lodge number 44 AF & AM, as well as being a charter member of the St. Thomas Rotary Club." The funeral service was held on Wednesday, January 31, 1979 and he was buried in the family plot in Elmdale Memorial Park Cemetery. In the autumn of 1979 Bob and Betty Pincombe moved to Penticton, British Columbia, where they still reside. In June of 1981, Betty and I moved to Parkside Drive, where we each have our own apartment on the same floor.

Among the clippings, postcards, etc., in that wooden treasure box of Grandmother Catharine McCall, there was one item especially personal to me. Wrapped in tissue paper and enclosed in an envelope was a clipping from my hair as a child. It was a curl of blond hair tied on one side by a very narrow pale, blue ribbon. On the envelope in Grandmother McCall's handwriting it said: - "Helen McCall's hair."

Pearl Elizabeth McCall, the second daughter of Charles and Libby McCall, graduated from High School and took the two year business course at Arthur Voaden Vocational school in St. Thomas. She excelled in typing and shorthand. She worked as a private secretary at the Talbot Shoe Co., the Medcalf Shoe Co., the New York Central Railway, and later at Alma College. While she attended the Vocational School she met Eugene Penton Ray. They became engaged and after the Depression, they were married on 19 October 1940 at Knox Presbyterian Church in St. Thomas. I was Pearl's bridesmaid and the bestman was Law Chantler. Uncle George McCall of Toronto gave the bride away. Gene Ray was born in St. Thomas on 27 January 1909, son of Richard Albert Ray and Marcia Long. He had 2 brothers and 2 sisters, Robert Glendon Ray, Albert Fairborne Ray, Nila McLarty (Ray) Pincombe and Eleanor Grace (Ray) Nicholson. After attending Myrtle St. School and Arthur Voaden Vocational School, Gene worked at the St. Thomas Times-Journal in the Advertising Department. He worked there for 35 years, and was the Director of Advertising for the last 25 of those years. Pearl and Gene lived for many years

at 55 East Street. They had a son, Darcy McCall Ray, born 14 January 1946 at the St. Thomas Memorial Hospital. In about 1960 they bought the house at 3 Margaret Street. Not long after they moved to their new home, Gene Ray was appointed Sheriff of Elgin County in December of 1963. He also had the added duties of Registrar of the Supreme Court of Ontario and Surrogate Court and the Clerk of County Court. Shortly after his 65th birthday, on 31 January 1975, Ray retired with 10 years of service.

Their son Darcy also attended High School at Arthur Voaden Vocational School. After graduation he joined the office staff of the Ford Company of Canada, just north of St. Thomas and is still working with this firm. On 20th September 1969, Darcy married Claire Helen Bennet at Knox Presbyterian Church. They lived in St. Thomas and London. They separated and were divorced in 1975. Darcy and his second wife Judy Holcmann were married on 19 September 1977 at Dearborn, Michigan. That marriage was very short and they were divorced in 1978. There were no children born of these marriages. On 7 July 1984 Darcy married Lenora Violet Lester (Vanpuyenbroeck Foster) in the Lyle Chapel of Knox Presbyterian Church. Lenora was born 26 June 1950. Her parents were Blake and Olive Lester of the Aylmer area. Lenora has 2 girls, Christine Stephanie Vanpuyenbroeck, born 3 February 1971 and Jennifer Wendy Foster, born 22 June 1977. The family resides in London.

Pearl and Gene enjoyed their retirement, but for many years there had been a shadow over their lives. Ever since Pearl was about 34 years old, she knew she had Multiple Sclerosis. She battled it and cheerfully made the best of it with no complaining. In about 1984, it started to take control and at first she walked with a cane, then a walker. In the last year she was bedridden and spent many of those months in hospital. On Friday January 17, 1986 Pearl passed away in her 77th year. I quote in part from her obituary: "Following her retirement, Mrs. Ray assisted in numerous fund raising campaigns and was prominent in the Elgin Progressive Conservative Association's various election campaigns, as office manager for the late F. S. (Tommy) Thomas and Charles Coyle and also for James McBain and Ronald K. McNeil. ----- She also was past Regent of Tonti Chapter I.O.D.E., past-president of the Ladies Division of the St. Thomas Golf & Country Club and also the St. Thomas Curling Club." Pearl was buried on Monday 20 January in the McCall family plot at Union Cemetery in company with her grandparents, parents, brother George and Uncle George and Aunt Annie McCall.

Celia McCall, the only daughter in the Nelson McCall family and the youngest, was born 29 November 1874

at Union. Celia had lived with the family in Port Stanley, St. Thomas and now to Fingal. She was about 15 years old when they moved to the Fulton House in Fingal. When she was about 17 years old she married Malcolm Robert Campbell of Fingal. He was the son of Malcolm Campbell Sr. and Susan Cameron. Malcolm Sr. was for many years the clerk of Southwold Township. Celia and Malcolm Jr. had 3 children, all born in Fingal. They were James Walter Campbell, born 15 March 1892, Myrtle Kathleen Campbell, born 10 February 1896 and Florence Olive Campbell, born 30 July 1898. The family moved to Shedden and the children attended the Public School in Shedden. Malcolm Campbell Jr. left his wife and family, and Aunt Celia became a single mother with 3 young children in her care. Everybody in the family helped them out and the children never knew any great amount of hardship. A few years after George McCall and family and Grandmother McCall moved to the Queen's Hotel in St. Thomas, in about 1912 Celia and family moved from Shedden to St. Thomas. For over 40 years she lived in a large apartment on the third floor of 387½ Talbot Street over what used to be Sanders and Holcombe Confectionary store. Celia found a job as sales clerk in the Mickleborough Dry Goods store. For the rest of her working years she remained a faithful and experienced sales person. She and her two daughters were baptised on 16 December 1921 at Knox Presbyterian Church and all were regular attenders of that church. On November 27, 1955 at age 81 years, Celia passed away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Alvin Brown, 60 Elizabeth Street. Some years before her death Alvin and Florence Brown had bought a burial plot at the Union Cemetery next to the McCall plot. Here Celia was buried on Wednesday 30th of November next to her father and mother.

James Walter Campbell, only son and firstborn child of Celia and Malcolm Campbell found a job with the Bell Telephone Co. He left St. Thomas and moved to Brandon, Manitoba. There he met Ethel Laura Young, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Young of Brandon. Jim and Ethel were married in Brandon on Wednesday, October 6, 1920. I remember going to visit Jim and Ethel just before New Years in 1928, when I was teaching my first year at Dryden, west of Port Arthur (Thunder Bay). They had a nice home in Brandon and they took me to the New Year's Ball which was an annual event sponsored by the I.O.O.F. lodge. Jim was a member of the I.O.O.F. and was a Past Grand Patriarch. Among Florence Brown's effects after her death, we found a black case, 5"x2½" in size, made of fine leather and lined with dark purple velvet. Pinned to the purple velvet on the inside was a beautiful gold medal with bar. The bar resembles a scroll with three gold links added to the top and a tent shaped figure at the bottom. On the scroll are the words, "Past Grand Patriarch." The medal below the bar

is round with sunburst effect trim around the edge. On the medal are the words, "Hope, Charity, Faith, I.O.O.F." In the centre of the medal is a 6 pointed star and superimposed on the star are the initials P.G.P. In spite of the fact that it is about 60 years old, all the pieces are in mint condition.

Jim had volunteered for service in the Royal Air Force in the 1914-1918 war. When the Second World War broke out he was transferred from the Bell Telephone to the Department of National Defense. He was stationed at Camp Shilo, Manitoba and was in charge of Communications. During this period of stress for everyone, Ethel and Jim separated after over 25 years of marriage. They had no children. Jim stayed at Shilo until 1948 when he was posted to Fort Churchill, Manitoba. In August of 1951 Jim suddenly became very ill with pneumonia. His sister Florence received a telegram on Aug. 1 saying that "James Campbell reported dangerously ill -- admitted Fort Churchill Military Hospital." On Aug. 2 another telegram said, "You have been advised of sudden death of your brother James at Churchill stop please wire Army Winnipeg ---- whether you wish us to forward remains to you at St. Thomas at Army expenses." The family chose to have the remains brought to St. Thomas. The coffin was escorted to St. Thomas by Captain W. K. Clay, Commander of headquarter squadron of the Prairie Command, Fort Osborne, Winnipeg. After the funeral service Jim was buried in the Brown-Campbell plot at the Union Cemetery. He was the first to be buried in this plot.

Myrtle Kathleen Campbell, second child of Celia and Malcolm, born 10 February 1896 was retarded. She could not get very far in schooling, but she could look after herself with a little help. She lived with her mother in the apartment on Talbot Street. Myrtle was 59 years of age when her mother died. Shortly after that she moved to a small Senior Citizens apartment in the city. When she was about 78 years old she became ill and was taken to the Continuing Care Memorial Hospital. After about a year there, Myrtle passed away on 9 May 1975. On Monday, May 12, Myrtle was placed beside her brother James Campbell in the Union Cemetery.

Florence Olive Campbell, the youngest child of Celia and Malcolm R. Campbell, was born in Fingal on 30 July 1898. She lived with the family in Fingal, Shedden and St. Thomas. All her life Florence was a sickly person. She spent many days in hospital. A year hardly passed that she was not in a hospital. Yet she lived to a ripe old age. Her biggest problem when she was young was weak lungs. She had pneumonia many times in her life time. She finished her schooling in St. Thomas and when she was about 20 years old she wanted to get a business education. Her mother could not afford

the tuition fee, so my father Charles McCall offered to help. We were living in Thamesville at that time, which is very close to Chatham. Florence came to live with us and Charles paid her train tickets to Chatham and back each day, so she could attend a school there. Florence returned home and got a job in an office. After about 2 years time the doctor was afraid of her contracting Tuberculosis. She must have complete rest and fresh air night and day. By this time our family had moved to the farm west of Fingal. Florence came to live with us in the spring and stayed into the fall. Charles got a good tent and cot and put them on our lawn. Florence slept in the tent every night. After 4 months she was cured. The next job she got was in the office of the St. Thomas Times-Journal. I always remember the time I tried my entrance exams. I had to go to Port Stanley to write my exams, and I was so frightened that I wouldn't pass. The paper came off the press in late afternoon and we on the farm did not get it until the next day. When the reports arrived at the Times-Journal, Florence managed to get a look at them and after finding my name she immediately phoned us to say that I had passed. Of course, I couldn't tell anyone else for another day, but that didn't stop me from looking like a cheshire cat the rest of that day. Florence left the Times-Journal to marry Alvin Brown. Florence was 26 years old when she married Alvin on Saturday 23rd August 1924 at London, Ontario. Alvin was a bachelor at 30 years of age and rather shy, so they had a quiet wedding. Rev. John McNair was the minister who joined them and his wife Bessie McNair was one of the witnesses. The other witness, Mrs. Sarah Stevenson, was probably the minister's secretary.

Alvin McCallum Brown was the only child of James W. Brown and Euphemia (McCallum) Brown. He was born 14 August 1894 at Iona in Dunwich Township. and also lived in Shedden and St. Thomas. A childhood accident with bows and arrows left Alvin with only one eye, but he did not let that hinder his life. He set up his own General Insurance Company in St. Thomas - A. M. Brown Insurance Agency - which he conducted for 51 years. He was a fine man and was always honest and upright in all his dealings. He and my father were very close friends as they had a common interest in horses and horse racing, and also both loved a game of bridge. Alvin often invited my father to play bridge with him at the Talbot Club, to which Alvin belonged. Alvin also joined the Warren Lodge A.F. and A.M., the I.O.O.F. Lodge #31 of Shedden and the Hi-Ro Shrine Club of St. Thomas. His mother died when Alvin was a young boy and he had no sisters or brothers. His father married a second time to Bertha, and they had a daughter Edith who was Alvin's half-sister. Alvin and Florence enjoyed golfing and travelling. At 70 years of age Alvin died of a heart attack on 5 June 1964. He had been to Toronto

on business and was coming back by train to London when the attack occurred. Alvin passed away in Victoria Hospital, London. After the funeral service on Tuesday June 9th he was buried in the Brown-Campbell plot in the Union Cemetery.

In the first years of their marriage Alvin and Florence lived in apartments, but about 10 years before his death, Alvin bought a small house at 21 Queen Street. Florence lived on in this house as a widow for 22 years. It was only in the last 2 years of her life that she became ill. She always kept her sense of humour and had many friends. Every time I visited her I would come away with more stories about the McCall family, which I believe enhanced this story. She had a wonderful memory, and she had inherited from our Grandmother McCall, through her own mother Celia Campbell a real treasure trove of documents, photographs, postcards, newspaper clippings, along with the family bible which had been started by our great, great Grandmother Aner Haviland McCall. Florence passed away on Thursday, April 10, 1986. After her funeral services on the 12 of April she was interred at the Brown-Campbell plot in the Union Cemetery between her husband Alvin Brown and her mother Celia McCall Campbell.

None of the now living descendants of the Hugh McCall branch of the McCall family now have the surname of McCALL. It has disappeared because of the lack of sons in the last 3 generations. Still I would hope that these descendants will remember, and pass on to their children the fact that they are descended from a Scotsman, DONALD McCALL, who was a UNITED EMPIRE LOYALIST.

## SOURCES in GENEALOGY of the McCALL-HAVILAND STORY

### Persons

- Mrs. Mary Middletown, South Orange, New Jersey, U.S.A. - The McCall Family
- William Yeager, Curator of the Eva Brook Donley Museum, Simcoe, Ontario - McCall and Haviland Families
- Mrs. (Alvin) Florence Brown, St. Thomas, Ontario - McCall and Ketchum Families
- Mrs. Ruth Gould of Waterloo, Ontario and sister Eleanor Chapin of Brantford - Haviland Family
- Mr. George Thorman and Mrs. Catherine Lemon - Historians and Genealogists of St. Thomas, Ontario
- Mr. George R. Gale, Historian of St. Mark's Masonic Lodge, Port Stanley, Ontario - McCall Family
- Mr. Donald Carroll, Researcher, Genealogist and Author, of Iona Station, Ontario
- Mr. Fred Thayer, Guelph, Ontario - Thayer Family
- Mr. & Mrs. Donald Erkfritz of Clarkson, Michigan, U.S.A - Thayer Family
- Mr. Richard Thayer, Billings, Montana, U.S.A. - Thayer Family
- Mr. & Mrs. Howard Parker, Union, Ontario - Parker Family
- Mrs. Jean (Hepburn) Griffin, London, Ontario - Parker Family
- Mrs. Crawford H. Smith, U.E., Bath, Ontario - Ketchum and Deo Families
- Mr. & Mrs. Perry Clutterbuck, R.R.#2, Port Stanley, Ontario - Lethbridge Family
- Mr. & Mrs. Maxwell Lethbridge, R.R.#1, Fingal, Ontario and granddaughter Miss Kim Glover, St. Thomas, Ontario - Lethbridge Family
- Mrs. Ruth (Lethbridge) Lidster, Fingal, Ontario - Lethbridge Family
- Miss Mary May, R.N., London, Ontario - May and Lethbridge Families

### Libraries

- St. Thomas and Elgin County Libraries
- University of Western Ontario Library and its Regional Room
- London Public Library
- Waterford and Brantford, Ontario Libraries

Port Stanley, Ontario Library  
Corley Library, Belleville, Ontario  
Ottawa National Library of Canada

### Archives

National Archives of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario  
Ontario Archives, Toronto, Ontario  
Quebec Archives, Quebec City, Quebec  
Nova Scotia Archives, Halifax, Nova Scotia  
New Brunswick Archives, Fredericton, New Brunswick

### Museums

Eva Brook Donley Museum, Simcoe, Ontario  
St. Thomas-Elgin Military Museum, St. Thomas, Ontario  
Chatham-Kent Museum, 58 William St.N., Chatham, Ontario

### Registry Offices of Ontario

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Norfolk County (Simcoe, Ontario)  
Hastings County (Belleville, Ontario)  
Northumberland County (Colborne and Cobourg, Ontario)  
Simcoe County (Barrie, Ontario)  
York County (Newmarket, Ontario)  
Ontario County (Whitby, Ontario)

### Marriage, Death, Burial and Baptism Records

Norfolk County Marriage Records 1795-1870 by William Yeager,  
Eva Brook Donley Museum  
Sources in Genealogy of the McCall Family, Ibid.  
Marriages in the London District (Middlesex)  
Marriages in Elgin County 1853-1857  
Halton County Marriage Records  
Canadian Baptist Records, Reel 3, page 30  
Old St. Thomas Anglican Church Registers (Marriages, Deaths,  
Burials, Christening and Confirmation 1824-1852)  
Baptisms in District of London and Gore 1816 by Rev. Ralph  
Leeming, Minister of Ancaster (at St. Thomas Public Library)  
Early Death Records of Lapeer County, Michigan, U.S.A.

## Wills

Wills of London District 1800-1839 by William Yeager  
Wills of Elgin County 1846-1852 by St. Thomas Public Library  
Wills from Ontario Archives, Toronto, Ontario (John Haviland, Aner McCall, John Ketchum, Nelson McCall)

## Cemeteries

Pioneer McCall-Fairchild Cemetery near Vittoria, Ontario in Charlotteville Township, Norfolk County  
Pioneer Haviland Cemetery in Townsend Township near Boston, Norfolk County (now relocated to Greenwood Cemetery at Waterford, Ontario)  
Mount Pleasant Cemetery near Brantford in Brant County  
Pioneer Wintermute Cemetery near Union, Ontario, Concession 2, Lot 4  
Plains Baptist Cemetery, Yarmouth Township, Elgin County on Sparta Road,  
Union Cemetery at Union, Ontario  
Old St. Thomas Anglican Church, Walnut Street, St. Thomas, Ontario  
The St. Thomas Church, 67 West Avenue, St. Thomas, Ontario  
Straffordville Cemetery, Straffordville, Bayham Township, Elgin County  
Eden Cemetery, Concession 8, Lot #22, Bayham Township, Elgin County

## Census

1851, 1861 Census' of Charlotteville Township, Norfolk County  
1842, 1851, 1861 Census' of Southwold Township, Elgin County  
1842, 1861 Census' of Yarmouth Township, Elgin County

## Miscellaneous

St. Thomas and Dutton Newspapers on Microfilm at the St. Thomas Library  
Simcoe Newspapers on Microfilm at Eva Brook Donley Museum, Simcoe, Ontario  
St. Thomas City Directories, St. Thomas Library  
A 1764 parchment Deed, complete with large wax seal, for land granted to Donald McCall after his services in the 7 Years War against the French and the Indians, now in my possession.  
Aner (Haviland) McCall's Family Bible, also in my possession.  
Memvabilia written by Celia (McCall) Campbell in 1946 at my request.

Catharine (Ketchum) McCall's collection of papers, documents, newspaper clippings, postcards, pictures, Ketchum Family Bible and Marriage Certificate of her parents.

Microfilms of documents re Donald McCall and his sons from National Archives, Ottawa, Ontario

Muster Rolls of the British Revolutionary Armies in the War of 1777-1783. National Archives.

Muster Rolls of the Militia of Norfolk and Middlesex re the battles in the War of 1812-1814 at the Military Museum in St. Thomas, Ontario

Researched account of the Battle of McRae's Farm on 15 Dec. 1813 by George Thorman in the Military Museum, St. Thomas

Early Land Grants of Ontario on Microfiche from the Ontario Archives in St. Thomas Library

London District Court Session Papers (early 1800's) at the University of Western Ontario Weldon Library (Regional Room), London, Ontario

The Talbot Papers by James Coyne, Weldon Library, London, Ontario

The Walsh Papers, Eva Brook Donley Museum, Simcoe, Ontario

Clayton W. McCall, D.C.M., U.E. letters and paper. Ibid.

The McCall Files. Ibid.

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1972.

## ADDENDUM

Recently, I was given a copy of the Will of Jarvis Thayer Sr. by Mrs. Jean Griffin. I quote from this Will: "I further desire and request that my executors all ready named do obtain from the proper authorities my rights of land being a U. E. Right for 20 acres of Land and a flankers Right for 100 acres of land, the document for which is enclosed and ensealed in this my Last Will -----."

There was no document with the Will. It would seem that Jarvis Thayer had tried during all his life in Canada and up to his death to be recognized as a U. E. L. without success. The Thayer Family Genealogy does not mention this nor does Reid's book The Loyalists of Ontario. Perhaps future researchers will one day be able to find proof that Jarvis Thayer's father was in fact a soldier who fought on the side of the British in the Revolution.

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