

GENERATIONS

Manitoba Genealogical Society Inc.

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Happy



Holidays



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Wednesday Evenings 7:00 to 9:00 (September through June)

Sunday Noon - 4:00 (mid-October to mid-May)

The MANITOBA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC. is a non-profit organization, formed in 1976, and incorporated in 1982. The Society promotes and encourages interest in genealogy and family history in Manitoba.

Membership and Branch Information is available on page 27 of this issue or on our website. Full members receive four issues of *Generations*, general mailings, and are also entitled to one free Query per year, plus library privileges. Correspondence should be accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Please put return address on **both** letter and envelope.

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Editor: David Farmer

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Deadlines: Feb. 1, May 1, Aug. 1, Nov. 1. Please give appropriate credit when reprinting excerpts. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy; however, MGS does not accept responsibility for errors found in *Generations*, nor does it necessarily endorse opinions expressed therein.

Please be sure to spell-check your submissions, and attach appropriate permissions for reprints, and your contact information.

From the Editor

David Farmer #2277



The January 2011 issue of *Generations* was my first at the helm as Editor. This issue represents three full years, or twelve issues that I have had the Editor role. Time has certainly flown by quickly. *Generations* has become a better journal, as we have expanded the types of articles, increased the information provided to members of MGS, and added some humour wherever possible. We have expanded our writers 'block' to include more new authors.

This issue is full of interesting articles, many from first-time submitters; even I have tried my hand at an article ('cause my Mom told me I should!) We have a story with built-in intrigue; a submission by a successfully published author and a couple of articles that will help you with your research.

This issue also has coverage of the recent 'New Directions' Seminar and the MGS Annual General Meeting, along with Award Winners, and of course, a message from our new MGS President. And as usual we have all our regular feature articles. So, all in all, a great issue for reading over a cup of hot cocoa during the holiday period.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our submitters for their continued efforts and great results; our new authors for the willingness to take a chance, and of course, each of you for your continued support of MGS, your kind words and suggestions regarding *Generations* and all those behind the scenes to help get the journal out to you.

Never having been accused of being politically correct, I would like to wish each of you a very Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and a safe and happy holiday period. See you in 2014!

Enjoy the issue.



From the President

Jim Oke #2729



This is my first byline in *Generations*.

I was a bit surprised to receive a phone call asking if I would consider standing for election as President of MGS at the fall AGM. I had been involved with Winnipeg and SE Branch activities for some years, but I wondered if I had the right background and knowledge to attend to the affairs of the Society as a whole. However, I was assured that there was a slate of talented and able MGS Vice-Presidents who would be continuing, so I agreed to see what I could do to assist in the operation of MGS for the coming year.

Much has been written about the future viability of volunteer family history organizations such as MGS. On the one hand, genealogy and family history research has never been more popular, as evidenced by the various genealogy TV shows and Ancestry.com advertising that I am sure many of you have seen. Regrettably, the result has been that many viewers seem to think it's all done with online resources and that groups with local family history expertise, such as MGS, can be bypassed or are, at best, redundant sources. Thus we are hardly the only family history society facing membership and financial issues.

Clearly, MGS must adapt to the times, both to serve our membership better and then to make the MGS collections available to the on-line audience, in a way that earns a reasonable income to keep the lights on and keep our volunteers supplied with the resources they need to continue their valuable work, in preserving Manitoba's genealogy heritage. Plans are in place with the MGS Data Project and web site redesign that are progressing as time and resources permit. I would ask your patience as these important initiatives come to fruition, to give added value to MGS membership and attract others to the Society.

Finally, on behalf of all MGS members, I must thank Kathy Stokes for her past service (two terms, no less!) as MGS President that has brought MGS through difficult times, to where

we are now. We must wish her well in her desire to write her own family history, although I suspect I will be calling on her frequently for advice and counsel in the months ahead.

The Front Cover

In today's politically correct world, it is always a challenge to provide holiday wishes without offending anyone. So for December, with a cozy cottage, snow, a stocking, and Happy Holidays, all should be well!

MGS Volunteers

MGS Award Winners for 2013

The following awards were presented at the Annual General Meeting (or shortly thereafter) to well-deserving members and volunteers:

The Eric Jonasson Award

Rick McLellan

Rick has been a member of MGS since 1992. He is married with three grown children and has had an



abiding interest in family history for many years. This led him to become an active volunteer on Thursdays in 1998. In 2008, after the death of Treasurer, John Christie, Rick stepped up to take on the job. Fortunately, he had retired from the provincial civil service by that time so he could devote the time required for this important and necessary job. Besides working as a volunteer researcher for MGS, Rick also runs a paid research business of his own.

The Library has commemorated the following book honouring Rick's achievement:

How Heavy, How Much and How Long? Weights, Money and other Measures used by Our Ancestors. GENERAL 389 CHA

The Florence Cox Award

Virginia Braid

Virginia 'Ginny' Braid is well known to most people who come



into our library, because she is there so often. As the current Vice-President of Administration for MGS, her job is to keep things running smoothly and she certainly does that. Ginny has looked at all of our policies and procedures and brought things up to date. Currently she is working on sorting our collection of papers and records before they are sent for deposit to the Provincial Archives. She is responsible for membership and research services and special project. Ginny is also, for a second time, the President of the Southeast & Winnipeg Branch of MGS and assists in running their highly successful Monday evening meetings and discussions. She also volunteers on Wednesday evenings. She has been a member since 1982.

The Library has commemorated the following book honouring Virginia's achievement:

500 Brickwall Solutions. GENERAL 929.1 FIV

Marilyn Muller (Dauphin)

Marilyn Muller has been a valued member of the Dauphin Branch since 1996, serving as Secretary, 1st and 2nd Vice-Presidents and then as President in 2000. She is our computer expert hosting "Computer Day at the Library", designing and printing our display signs and raffle tickets. She is always on hand to man our displays at the Fort Dauphin Museum, Heritage Days or wherever we have a display. Marilyn

has organized Family History Workshops at our local Senior Centre, and is always willing to be a guest speaker at our meetings. Marilyn was one of the conveners for the Dauphin Family History event held at our local mall, as well as a driver for our Cemetery Stomp. Marilyn is the person that researches and answers all our queries. She a very gentle person, never has a bad word for anyone, greets you with a smile and is always willing to assist in promoting our Branch and Family History.

The Library has commemorated the following book honouring Marilyn's achievement:

A Dictionary of Pioneer Families of Dauphin Valley. MANITOBA 971.27 DAUP DIC

Mona Phillip

Mona Phillip joined the Wednesday group in 2009, after the death of our computer guru, Bill



Burland. A welcome addition she has been. Her computer skills are a definite asset on Wednesdays and she is also very knowledgeable about our other machines. Mona has done considerable research on her own family and as a result she is able to pass on her knowledge of the history of more than one ethnic group to enquiring patrons. Her sense of humour and her pleasant way of relating to everyone, even the most trying patrons, is appreciated.

The Library has commemorated the following book honouring Mona's achievement:

Genealogy on the Internet... GENERAL 001.64 GEN

Linda White

Linda White is currently the Vice-President of Communications for MGS – a job that involves publicity, promotion, outreach, *Generations* and publications. It takes an enormous amount of time to manage all these tasks. In addition, Linda keeps the web site up to date and has been

involved in our current endeavour to update our computers and to offer new services on-line. Linda joined MGS in 1989. For a while she lived in Ottawa but since her return she has once again become involved at MGS. She also acts as the Chair for Grant Applications, an onerous task, as anyone who has had to complete such applications for funds well knows.

The Library has commemorated the following book honouring Linda's achievement:

An Ounce of Presentation, a Guide to the Care of Papers and Photographs.

GENERAL 025.8 OUN

Judith Roe

Judith Roe has been an MGS member since 2004. As a volunteer at our library, she is part of the Tuesday group and is often found at the front desk, where she is the first contact for anyone who



comes to visit. Judith is very patient with patrons and goes the extra mile with first-time visitors to make them feel at home. She also works some Wednesday evenings as a contribution to the Southeast & Winnipeg Branch. Judith is also the fundraising chair for MGS and her work in this role is very productive, bringing in much needed monies to support our activities. She also served on the seminar committee two years ago and on our recent Capital Campaign Committee. The displays you see around our library are Judith's work – the military display to honour our troops of past and present around Remembrance Day is effective and popular.

The Library has commemorated the following book honouring Judith's achievement:

A Guide to Military History on the Internet.
GENERAL 355 FOW

Member Donations

The Manitoba Genealogical Society would like to recognize and thank all who have made Memorial donations, cash donations, and material donations for the Library between February 2013 and October 2013. All contributions are greatly appreciated.

Mary Bole	W.A. Mogk
James Bracken	Susan Kuzmak
Enid Dorward	Kenda Wood
Isabella Dryden	Robert Claydon
Kathy Stokes	Cecelia Innes
William Payne	Vic Molloy
Joseph Wooley	Marjorie Goodwin
Shirley Middleton	Sandra Eyolfson
Norma Forsman	Garth Mellick
Bonnie Wright	A.E. Briggs
Ron Wardle	Kelly Southworth
Vivian Privat	Patricia Moreau
Patricia Allan	C.W.T. Farley
Peggy Phillips	Bonnie Beamish
Beverley Smith	Elizabeth Borup
Lynn Roseman	Gwen McKenzie
Robert Bowman	Tom Button
Hazel Runchey	James Carcary
Joe Dunsmore	Ilene A Johnston
Ralph Frith	Chris Lebitt
Gail Petrov	Katharine Schulz
Ina Bramadat	Barry Mikkelsen
Susan Bracken	Susan Wellman
Bonnie Clement	Dennis Podolsky
Randy Runnells	Dora Durant
Laura Hanowski	Elmer Lepischak
Pat Shepherd	Norman Howe
Diane Clendenan	Lauraine Syrnick
Douglas Gray	Jocelyne Scott
Barbara Greig	W.A. Mialkowski
Brian Laxdal	Joseph Lalor
Karen Becker	Allan Hayward
Virginia Braun	Iris Krasko Smith
William J Oke	Linda Shopka
Diane Sande-Routhier	
Diane Reed & Terry Aseltine	
Vernalyn Morrow Heale	
TD Bank Financial Group	
Estate of Ethel Luella Denoon	
Estate of Blanche Miller	
East Beaches Senior Scene	

MGS 2013 Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Manitoba Genealogical Society was held on Saturday, October 19, 2013. The following are brief summaries of the key reports presented at the meeting. The complete AGM Report, including complete reports and detailed Financial Statements, can be viewed at the MGS Resource Centre and Library. The reports are available on the MGS website.

MGS Officers for 2013

The following members will serve as the MGS Executive for the coming year:

President: Jim Oke
VP Administration: Virginia Braid
VP Communications: Linda White
VP Finance: Rick McLellan
VP Information Technology: Gord McBean



PHOTO: Announcing the Officers for 2013

Summary of the Reports Presented at the AGM

MGS Presidents' Report

President: Kathy Stokes, MGS #125

This is my last annual report to the MGS membership as your president. My three years in this position have passed so quickly, but we together have made several important strides in modernizing our many activities. All this has resulted in better and more efficient service to our members and to those who visit us from time to time.

Work continues on our biggest project, the upgrading of our computers and the entry of more and more data into them.

For the first time in many years, MGS launched a Capital Campaign. The campaign raised over \$18,000.

MGS has signed a three year renewal lease on our current premises.

In common with many other societies, MGS is losing members. There are many reasons for this, but the main one is the accessibility of so many on-line subscription and free sources of information. Our job is to make those attracted to family history understand that it is so much more than just collecting names, dates and places.

Speaking for myself, I thank all of our members who have supported me with kind comments and suggestions. Our talented executive; committee chairs; volunteers who meet and work with our patrons; and those who give service by working on projects at home have all worked diligently to make MGS the place to be for family history research. As well, our branches based in Neepawa, Brandon, Dauphin, Swan River and Winnipeg carry a heavy load and continue to flourish.

Library

Chair: Mary Bole, MGS #844

851 books were donated during the year and 26 purchased. This year we have had to cut down on expenses; in fact our book budget was zero. The 26 books purchased came from donations from members - an extra special thank you. 1317 books, 515 periodicals, 110 cemetery records, and 1 CD-ROM were shelved. 68 periodicals were exchanged with other societies.

290 periodicals were checked out by patrons. Only 12 books were sent out by mail to members. I wish that more members would use this valuable resource. 8 CD-ROMs went out on loan. We have a wonderful collection that you can find on KOHA. All those computer databases are so easy to use if you enjoy working on a computer.

We have been busy digitizing indexes for the "Master Index" which is coming soon. The library committee has completed an index of the Rural Obits and the People File, and has

changed the format of the United Church Archives so it can be searched on-line. All these records will be available soon to the members.

Thanks to all the volunteers who worked in, and for, the library. Thanks for all the donations of books, CD-ROMs, supplies and money. Thanks to Southeast & Winnipeg Branch for paying for the subscriptions to both of these data collections: AncestryLibrary.com and NewspaperArchive.com.

Research

Chair: Jim Rutherford, MGS #2632

It has not been the best year for the research department generating income for MGS. We had over 120 e-mail requests for information, only 8 direct payments were sent in. We did get some money from a few clients without first e-mailing us, possibly due to our web page.

In total, we took in \$1,627.35. This is about \$1,000 down from previous years. It would appear that people are not willing to pay for research. We have been charging fees about a quarter of what most Societies are charging around the world so in 2014, we must increase our rates. Hopefully if we get our sources available to members around the world for a small fee via the Internet, it should help to keep us operating.

This year our committee is sadly in need of help. At present there are just three of us to do paid research. Fortunately we have a volunteer to help run the front desk, help customers and allow us to devote our time to research. At one time, we had at least 6 people to do research, so it is understandable that it is taking us much longer to complete a research file. If you are retired and interested in genealogy, please think about volunteering for our Thursday group doing paid research.



PHOTO: Listening to the speakers

Membership services

Chair: Janice Butcher, MGS #4419

The following table provides a membership comparison for the last three years, as of the end of the fiscal year (July 31), except for 2012* (August 31). The number of individual memberships continues to decline even though we attracted a number of new members. Unfortunately many of our new members do not renew for a second year. Thus MGS must consider ways of not only attracting more new members but retaining those who do join. Branch membership remains reasonably stable.

Membership Type	2013	2012*	2011
1. Individual	387	426	441
2. Associate	30	26	25
3. Institutional	19	20	18
4. Life	57	57	61
5. Exchange	76	72	75
6. Branches, libraries	15	15	15
7. Heritage Canada	1	1	1
9. No Generations	28	31	29
Total	613	648	665
No. of New Members	51	75	83
% renewing following		52%	38%
Branches			
Dauphin	6	8	6
Beautiful Plains	27	28	30
Southeast & Winnipeg	101	113	114
South West	66	59	60
Swan Valley	6	6	5
Total	206	214	215

Communications Reports

Vice-President Linda White, MGS #2129

Thanks to Daryl Dumanski's success at recruiting new volunteers, we began the year with a full complement of Communications committee chairs. Stacey Lee will be leaving soon as she is expecting a baby in the new year and will no longer have the time to devote to the committee. Many thanks for all her hard work on the BMD indexes.

Tyler Ostapyk, Chair of Publicity has mostly been occupied with maintaining our Facebook and Twitter presence. Tyler has noted that our Likes on Facebook have increased from 146 to 223 this past year and our Twitter followers have gone from 38 to 131.

Bill Curtis, as Outreach Chair, ensured MGS presence at major events including Folklorama and the Selkirk Games as well as coordinating periodic requests for speakers.

My second year in this position began with the MGS web site experiencing a nervous breakdown. We were able to upgrade to a more recent version of the software, and then to the latest version and work out some of the related problems for very little money.

Upgrades to our web presence will have to be made in order to accommodate on-line access to our unified databases, including a pay-per-view option.



PHOTO: Making notes

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Vice-President Gordon McBean, MGS #3033

The MANI project (Manitoba Name Index) MANI has been the major activity in the IT area over the past year. We are working towards providing a members-only area on our web site that will allow our members to log in and access some of our databases from home. We see this as a benefit to our members outside of Winnipeg but will also benefit those inside the perimeter. This will require a redesign of our web site.

The MANI project will combine about 80 MGS indexes, with 1,250,000 entries into one searchable database. It will eventually include access to thousands of additional pages from MGS documents, with expanded information, on a pay-per-view basis. Last January a team of Red River College students completed the initial design for MANI and created a working on-line database that include about 400,000 cemetery

entries by combining our cemetery and Elmwood indexes.

We will have a working in-house MANI by the end of December.

This winter we plan to start the final and most expensive phase of MANI, the web site redesign, e-commerce environment, and the conversion of the non-digital data that exists solely on paper.

The redesign of the MGS web site is required to enable on-line searching of our indexes and documents as well as add an e-commerce feature to support the cost of running MANI. MGS members will be able to search free (through password-protected entry) and non-members will be able to search for a fee. Both members and non-members will be able to download pages from the original documents for a small fee (pay-per-view).

I want to extend a big thank you to the MGS volunteers helping to prepare the data.



PHOTO: Announcing the Award Winners

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Rick McLellan MGS #3353

This year has not only been a difficult year but also a rewarding year.

A Strategic Planning meeting was held in October to try and determine where we wanted the Manitoba Genealogical Society to go in the future and how we were going to get there. The meeting was led by a facilitator and included all the present Council members. It was decided that we needed to make our presence more effective, improve our computer system and

raise some funds to make this all possible. The cost of the session was paid for from funds from the Winnipeg Foundation and the balance was taken from the Memorial Fund.

From this meeting a committee was formed with Janice Butcher as Chair to start a Capital Campaign. We have raised over \$18,100.00 to date.

The Council made the decision to form a Financial Review Committee which would review both the Annual Financial Statements and the monthly financial affairs for the Society. The Committee was made up of Joan Whiston, Daryl Dumanski, and Carol Moore Glenn.

Our expenses do tend to increase; the sales tax increase does have an effect on our expenses. We expect the hydro, telephone and postage to also increase. However we will do our best to keep our expenses in line and the Council has approved a balanced budget for 2013/2014. This is a very positive sign and we expect to have a better showing next year.



Southeast & Winnipeg Branch Seminar – “New Directions”

On October 19 about fifty people attended the “New Directions” Seminar, hosted by the Southeast & Winnipeg Branch. While most of those registered came from Manitoba, a few came from Ontario, some as far away as Trenton and northern Bruce Peninsula. A delicious turkey meal was served for lunch.

In the morning the speaker was Mrs. Robin Shimpa from McIntosh, Minnesota. Robin's talk covered immigration to the United States from Europe. Making use of large maps, she explained how the immigrants moved from the Eastern seaboard west to Minnesota and North Dakota. She touched on the Homestead Act of 1862, the development of the American railroad system, and the movement of Americans and Canadians across the western border to access homesteads. Robin also gave suggestions as to how to research for ancestors who lived in the American West.

Our second speaker, Louis Kessler, talked about ideas to help genealogical societies remain viable and active. He made the talk pertinent to our own Society by using illustrations from our own Resource Centre and pointing out the strengths that are already in place in MGS.



PHOTOS: Seminar Moments

On Sunday, October 20th, the Resource Library was opened early for participants of the seminar. The couple from the Quinte Branch in Trenton made good use of this opportunity to do research, as did other out of town registrants. As well, our guest speaker Robin Shimpa and her husband Jerry took the time to come and see the library.

The Southeast & Winnipeg Branch would like to thank all those who helped make the seminar a success.



Home Visits Service at YOUR PLACE of convenience your "MOBILE LAW OFFICE" Wm. B.K. Pooley B.A., L.L.B. 837 Downing Street Winnipeg, MB R3G 2P6  783-1632  Lawyer, Notary Public Day, Evening and Weekend Appointments Available	Office Visits
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DOES ANYONE HAVE A LARGE MAP OF CANADA?

The American presenter at the New Directions Seminar, Mrs. Robin Shimpa, is looking for a large map of Canada to use in her presentations. Does anyone have one they no longer want and would be willing to give it to Robin? If so please contact Virginia Braid, President Southeast & Winnipeg. Branch at the Resource Centre, 204-783-9139 and she will arrange to get the map from you and send it to Robin.



Help Wanted!

Having trouble finding an ancestor, or don't know where to look for certain types of information? Submit your query to *Generations* and perhaps a reader or two can give you some leads. If you need detailed or long-term help, then please contact our Research Team through the MGS address.

Seeking Relatives of THOMAS DICKENS

I am researching the second husband, Thomas DICKENS, of my grandmother Rose Mary (nee Mundy) McCOLMAN. Thomas was born May 2, 1883 in England and he and his first wife are believed to have resided in Manitoba after coming to Canada. He later moved to Vancouver, BC where he married my grandmother Rose Mary (nee Mundy) McColman on August 11, 1945.

Thomas passed away March 6, 1948 in Richmond, BC. Thomas had two daughters: Alice Audrey (James Edward CLOVER, Lulu Island, BC) and Irene (Robert STRACHAN, Winnipeg). His obituary refers to a brother Edgar and sisters Mrs. L Houghton and Mrs. L Mahon of England.

If you have any information to share, please contact me at macaulayancestors@shaw.ca.

Thank you!
Shirley Clarke
Sherwood Park, Alberta

Descendants of Wilfred NOBLE (1905-1947)

I am searching for any descendants of George Wilfred Noble (1905 - 1947) and his wife Ethel Adelaide Mc Caw of Winnipeg. George and Ethel separated sometime in the mid-1930s.

If you have any information to share, please contact Kathy Stokes at bkstokes@mts.net.



From the Past

Rural Ramblings

Kathy Stokes #125

Winnipeg Free Press October 1, 1937

Alex Levack, 78 years, of Ste Anne died on September 27. He was born in Ogdensburg, New York and is survived by his 2nd wife Anne M., nee Prefontaine, his first wife having predeceased him. Also surviving are the eight children with his first wife; Florence M. Meunier of Detroit; Ina F. Dufresne of Winnipeg; Denise C. Allard of Bruxelles; Lenore E. De Conick of Ste Anne; George G.H. of Ste Anne; Joseph R. of Vancouver; Steven A. of Montreal and Walter J. of Ste. Anne.

Margaret McEwan McGregor Palmer, aged 89 years, died at Cartwright on September 29th after a lengthy illness. Born in Glasgow Scotland in 1863, she came to Canada in 1914. She was active in the United Church, the Women's Institute and the Rebekah Lodge. Surviving are two brothers, James of Chicago and Thomas of Glasgow.

Emory A. Allen died at Swan River on September 28, aged 69 years. He had arrived in Swan River some 17 years previously from Appleton, Wisconsin. The family settled in the

Littlewoody district. He leaves his wife and children Lee of Kalamazoo, Michigan; G.M of Hempstead, New York; Frank of the Shaw district; Ben of Littlewoody; Dan of Pine River; Mrs. William Cox of Swan River and Mrs. George Hunt of Littlewoody.

Winnipeg Free Press October 2, 1937

Joseph Ballentine, a descendant of Factor Ball of the Hudson's Bay Co., died October 1. He was born in Middlechurch in 1852 and leaves his wife and son Edward living in the Brooklands area of Winnipeg. Joe farmed in the Middlechurch area until 1927 when his family moved to Winnipeg.

Winnipeg Free Press October 11, 1937

Mrs. Elsa Motz (photo) celebrated her 105th birthday on October 5th in Napinka. She was born in Exeter, Ontario, and married at Crediton, Ontario. Her husband died in Napinka in 1927. She had 13 children, 10 of whom are still living, five of them being more than 70 years old. They are Mrs. C. Halls of Pipestone; Mrs. F. Sandiman of Souris; Mrs. E. Irwin of Welland, Ontario; Mrs. J. Ford of Weber, North Dakota; Henry of London, Ontario; Mrs. F. Mulvey, George, John, Wesley and William of Napinka. (Note – *Vital Stats* says George Motz died May 9, 1927, aged 92 yrs. No record at *Vital Statistics* of Mrs. Motz' death.)

John Wesley Halpenny of the Minnedosa area died on October 9th. Born in Perth County, Ontario in 1860, he came west in 1883. In 1885, he married Amanda Reid of Clanwilliam. He retired in 1925 and lived in Minnedosa until 1934, when he moved to Strathclair to reside with his daughter, Mrs. W. Head. He leaves his wife and six daughters: Mrs. J.R. Huston of Ruthilda, Saskatchewan; Mrs. A. Murphy of Biggar, Saskatchewan; Mrs. J.P. Cronin of Saskatoon; Mrs. A. Lamont and Mrs. H.P. Brown of Pine Falls. Also surviving are sons Harvey in Lincoln, England; Alfred of Winnipeg and George of Minnedosa.

Other surviving family members are his brothers Thomas of Chilliwack, British Columbia; Robert of Regina and Fred of Minnedosa and sisters Mrs. W.E. Sirrett of Minnedosa; Mrs.

George Hannah of Kelsey AB; Margaret of California and Mrs. Herbert Halpenny of Winnipeg.

Winnipeg Free Press October 15, 1937

James McKnight of Stephenfield, near Carman, died on October 13 at the age of 81 years. Born in Lachute, Quebec in 1856, he came to Manitoba 56 years previous to his death. He was married in Montreal to his wife Mary in 1881. The couple homesteaded near Killarney in 1883, later moving to Winnipeg in 1900 and then to Balmoral until Mary died in 1917. James was of cheery disposition and optimistic nature in spite of having lost both legs and the sight in one eye. He is survived by his children: Mrs. W. McKnight of Ninga, Mrs. W. Kendall of Winnipeg, G.W. and E.R. McKnight of Winnipeg and Ernest of Stephenfield. He is buried at Brookside Cemetery in Winnipeg

Winnipeg Free Press October 23, 1937

At Seamo Anglican church in the Oak Point District, a wedding ceremony united Marie Louise de Simencort of Oak Point, eldest daughter of Charles Henri de Simencort, and Frank Harvey Burdett, eldest son of Frederick Burt Burdett of Clarkleigh. Bridesmaids were the Misses Jessie Ellen and Cecilia Victoria de Simencort and the best man was the groom's brother, John Henry Burdett. The newlyweds will reside east of Oak Point.

Winnipeg Free Press October 28, 1937

In Miniota, a terrible event occurred. Arthur Ross, 28, of the Decker area and Mabel Marguerite Clark had eloped about two weeks previously and were married in Birch River. Mabel was only 16 years old, but had claimed that she was 18 when she and Arthur met with a minister there. The two had become acquainted when Mabel worked as a housekeeper for Arthur and her brother John Clark who lived together. Some hard feelings were apparent in the Decker neighborhood because Mabel was so young and had not obtained her widowed mother's approval for the marriage.

John invited the newly married couple to his mother's home two weeks after the elopement. His mother, Mrs. Samuel Clark, brother, Elmer

and the groom's sister in law, Mrs. James Ross were present. Shortly after Arthur and Mabel arrived, John shot Arthur at point blank range with a shotgun, killing him instantly, in view of other family members present. John apparently was enraged at the conduct of his sister and his friend. He was furious that Arthur had not sought the permission of Mabel's mother for the nuptials. John had lived by a very high moral code of ethics and he had expected that Arthur would live in a similar fashion. (*Note – Vital Statistics shows no record of the marriage of Arthur Ross and Mabel Clark*).



Are These Your Ancestors?

Kathy Stokes #125

What are some of the most sought after records for genealogists? Aside from censuses, they must surely be cemetery records and church registers. Records at commercial cemeteries can be of assistance, but current privacy rules make them less helpful than they once were. Usually, the only information that can be shared is the name of the deceased, the date of death and the location of the grave in the cemetery. Burial records kept by municipal offices are also under similar tight restrictions as well.

Church records of deaths are often referred to interchangeably with cemetery records, but they can have different meanings. Church records are usually kept in registers of some sort and besides burials, these registers may contain records of baptisms and marriages. The burial records in a church register may provide more personal information than that found in the records of cemetery burials. If there is a cemetery run by a church congregation, there may be yet another type of record held by the management of the cemetery, simply listing name, date and place where a person is buried within that cemetery. Records held by commercial or community cemeteries are also not as likely to contain a great deal of pertinent information.

The term “church records” covers a variety of written records, not all of them common to all places of worship, and not all using similar formats for record keeping. Different terms are used by different denominations to describe what is essentially the same type of records. Records vary from church to church and from denomination to denomination. Some keep detailed accounts while others keep only names and dates of events. Some keep careful track of their records and store them in safe places within their church premises. Others view the registers as the possessions of the clergy involved. Many church registers have been lost in fires or floods over the years or perhaps they have been thrown away by later generations who did not realize their importance.

Denominations which operate through a centralized system are the most likely to have a more complete set of records. These include Anglican, Lutheran, Roman Catholic, and Ukrainian Catholic and Orthodox faiths. While some of these groups retain records in their parishes, others are required to deposit registers in church archival repositories when they are full. Some archives do not allow access to the original registers, but may have microfilm or fiche copies or computerized records. At one time, the Manitoba government held some records. The earliest church records in Manitoba date from 1818 for Roman Catholics and 1820 for Anglicans. Presbyterians have records from the 1850s; Icelandic Lutherans and Mennonites from the mid-1870s; Ukrainian Catholics and Orthodox from the 1890s. Do not assume that church records from years past will be kept within the province. They may well have been sent to a centralized denomination collection point or archive in another province.

Some of these records require the skill of a sleuth to track down. For example, you might expect early Lutheran records for Niverville and Friedensthal to be found in nearby Steinbach, but they are actually in Emerson. Reading the handwriting of some clergy once you have located the records can be an exercise in patience and deduction. In searching for records of a now defunct church, ask at nearby churches

of the same denomination, or inquire at the local municipal office for possible information. Even if you locate some church records, you may not be able to access them yourself. Whoever is in charge of the records may have been instructed to give you the information contained in them, or a photocopy of a record, but will not let you handle the actual records.

Names of churches can give clues to their denominations. If a church name is Sts. Peter & Paul, then you can usually be assured that it is a Ukrainian church, either Orthodox or Catholic. Anglican and Roman Catholic churches almost always have names of saints or either religious references in their titles. Methodist, Presbyterian, United and Mennonite churches often reflect their location by street, suburb or town names. Baptists seem often to number their churches. We noticed while travelling through the United States that there were many First Baptist Churches. Only once did we see a Second Baptist Church!

Common theology is reflected in the recording practices of some churches. Roman Catholic, Anglican and Lutheran denominations all have, by one name or another, the events of baptism, confirmation, marriage and burials. Church records reflect these special services. Other churches may combine baptism and confirmation in one service.

Churches also keep membership lists, communion rolls and other records of their members. Minutes of church administrative meetings are also recorded and may give clues to families in their membership. In Scottish Presbyterian records for instance, records of church hearings can be seen which determine the name of the father in the case of children born out of wedlock. A favorite term found in baptism records of such children is “Begotten in fornication” between the named father and mother. Such a phrase makes it sound as though the child is responsible for its birth and thus must be labeled.

I spent many volunteer hours reading and indexing church records. One thing noticeable was that many early marriages in Manitoba

between fur traders and aboriginals labeled the latter as heathens or half breeds. I also recall a poignant description in the record of a child's baptism which took place in a local funeral home beside the casket of the newborn's father. How touching of the minister to note it in the record. It should have meant a lot to the child if he learned of it in later years. On the more humorous side, there was a comment by the minister officiating at a baptism service that the father of the children was a Baptist and was not present at the baptism ceremony and that the mother had "rescued the children from him in order to have the ceremony performed".

From early records in County Durham, England in the early 1700s, I noticed two comments by the same minister. The first one was beside the burial record of Michael Hunter and it noted that he was the "honest and inoffensive parish clerk of Dalton le Dale, clerk above 30 years". The second comment made note that someone had been buried in Dalton le Dale who was not a parishioner, "Elizabeth, wife of John Watson of Hetton le Hole, aged 65 years was buried in the parish church of St. Andrew's Dalton le Dale. NB, fees to minister for that privilege are 16 shillings, beside the payment for reading the burial service, one shilling, in all 17 shillings". So perhaps we can deduce from this that Mr. Watson was not without funds.

MGS is very fortunate that more than one group outside our organization has shared their work with us. Before the era of digital cameras or phones which take photos, members of the Jewish Historical Society in Manitoba, headed by Louis Kessler, undertook to photograph all the stones in all the Jewish cemeteries in the province. They then compared the stones to the burial records in the various synagogues and made a complete and inclusive index of their findings. They donated a copy of their work to MGS. Photos of the stones are available through the Jewish Historical Society.

Members from the Ukrainian Self Help Reliance Group TYC, Winnipeg Branch, under the direction of Maurice Bugera undertook to locate and read or reread all of the known Ukrainian Orthodox cemeteries in Manitoba and to

compare their readings with written church records. This was no easy task, for there were many small or abandoned cemeteries in the rural areas of our province. When the group had this work completed, they kindly shared a copy of their labours with MGS.

MGS appreciates receiving research of the kind mentioned above and those who perform the research do a service, not just for family historians, but for all Manitobans by helping to preserve our heritage.



So How Long Have I Been In Manitoba?

David Farmer #2277

(In addition to being the Generations editor, David is also a great-grandfather, part-time genealogist and is hopelessly committed to trying to find his relevance in an ever-changing world.)

Just recently someone asked me how long I had been in Manitoba. My immediate response was "which time?"

This got me to thinking just how long have I lived here and what is my Manitoba connection. I wasn't born here, so just how is that connection made?

I have lived in Manitoba on four separate occasions, totaling 32 years or 49% of my life (yes, do the math and I am old!) But is my connection more than that? To figure that out, I need to go back in time to just before WWI.

Around about 1918, my grandfather, Edward Simon Treitz, came from Ontario to Manitoba to work for his brother John, in the Boissevain area of the province. During his time here, Edward was able to obtain two quarter sections of land (not sure yet how he was able to do this, probably some kind of homestead land grant program), in what was then known as Lonely Lake. One parcel of land was pretty much swamp and unusable, while the other would be

homesteaded and ultimately be across the road from the Lonely Lake school.

Lonely Lake doesn't exist today. Well it does, but it is just a drainage swamp with a channel to Lake Winnipeg. There is no one there and all the land is used for cattle. But in its day, it was slightly bigger, and just east of Eddystone (which also is much less today than it was). Unfortunately even the dry land was not of much use, being covered in large rocks, and almost impossible to farm. But it was free and every man has a dream of creating a home and foundation for his family, so Edward gave it a try.

Not much is known of Edward's life at Lonely Lake by himself. Eddystone and the bustling town of Ste. Rose du Lac were both a wagon ride away, so it was probably a lonely life, filled with work and not much else.

When WWI broke out, Edward enlisted, like most young men in Manitoba, and became a 'Sapper' or engineer, where he served in many of the famous Canadian battles in Europe. He was at Vimy Ridge and played a major role with his unit in building the network of tunnels and roadways up to the front, allowing the fighting troops to travel much more easily.

One of these duties was also to bring back the dead and injured from the front. It was during one of these times, that he learned of his own death! It seems that on a previous trip, gas was being used and the injured soldier no longer had his gas mask. Edward gave him his and thought no more about it.

Later in the day, a friend saw Edward and exclaimed 'You're alive!' "Of course I am, why wouldn't I be?" It seems that the rear medical team was in the process of preparing his body to ship home and to notify his family. Edward hurried to the rear and stopped the process just in time. It turned out that it was the young man to whom Edward gave his gas mask who had died. The doctors had used the mask's serial number to determine who the victim was. But I digress.

After the war, Edward returned to his estate in Lonely Lake. After getting re-established, his next order of business was to find a wife. Edward's sister, Pearl, was a friend of a young lady from St. Thomas, Ontario, named Iva May Oliver. To make a short story even shorter, they started writing and after a brief period, Edward asked her to marry him. Iva accepted. Thus began my Manitoba connection with my grandparents.

Now back in the day, around 1924, St. Thomas was a railway town, with money, big stone and brick homes with large verandas and busy streets. So perhaps Iva did not really know what she was headed for when she got on the train and headed to Winnipeg. Edward met her at Union Station and they were married the next day. They then boarded the train to Dauphin, and then by wagon to Ste. Rose du Lac. After a night in the big town, a smaller wagon ride to her new home.



PHOTO: Edward and Iva's original home in Lonely Lake.

Iva's first comment was, "Why Edward, there are no curtains on the windows!" To which Edward replied, "No need, the nearest neighbour's a couple of miles away!" And so began over forty years of marriage. (By the way, Iva's new home would have almost fit on the veranda of her house in St. Thomas!)

On 17 October 1924, their second child was born, Marion Iva Treitz. This wonderful lady is my mother, so I guess my Manitoba connection is pretty well-founded. A couple of years after her birth, the family packed up, left everything on the land and moved back to Ontario. It was

just impossible to make it work on the land that Edward had been given.

Manitoba didn't enter into picture again until 1957. My father was in the Army and I was nine. We ('cause where my Dad went we all went) were posted to Canadian Forces Base Shilo, where my father would train paratroopers at something called the Jump Tower? (Actually it was a Landing Practice tower, where would-be paratroopers would be pulled up to the top and let go, in their 'chutes and practice landing as if it were real). I was the only child (still am for that matter). So once again Manitoba played a large role in my life.

But it did not last long at Shilo. Two years later, we headed to Fort Churchill, where we spent two years learning how to survive in the snow and cold, surrounded by polar bears (they were just a nuisance, not the tourist attraction they are today!).

After leaving Churchill, we headed back to Ontario, where Manitoba was out of mind for nearly a decade. But once it is in your blood, it keeps coming back. By 1967, I was grown and a member of the Royal Canadian Air Force (it is important to keep that fact in mind). After I finished my basic training and my trade training (I was an electronics specialist), I was posted to, are you ready for this? CFB Shilo! In case you were not aware CFB Shilo is and always was an Artillery base. So much for integration of the armed forces.

While in Shilo, I married a lovely girl from Woodstock, Ontario and we moved to the base (not sure she has ever forgiven me for that). Over the next four years, our oldest two children, who wouldn't let me use their names, were born in Brandon. Our eldest daughter is a Manitoba Centennial baby, but she never got her commemorative spoon (of which she reminds us periodically!)

In 1973, we left CFB Shilo and the military and moved back to Ontario to attend university.

Then in 1988, the Manitoba connection reared up again, as through my work I was transferred to Winnipeg. We have been here ever since. Life in Winnipeg has been good, albeit cold.


Now up to four children, who have met and married people they would not have met living elsewhere. And although most of the family has moved on, the winters just got to be too much for them, we still get together on holidays and reminisce about the good old days. The eldest stayed and lives outside Winnipeg. I think she is still hoping to get that spoon!

But in thinking about those days, one fact bears mentioning and perhaps preparing for in some way. The original Lonely Lake homestead is gone; the Jump Tower in CFB Shilo has been taken down; the Army base at Churchill has been demolished; the underground bunker in which I worked at CFB Shilo is, you guessed it, gone, and the original IBM offices I worked in have been moved several times. Will Winnipeg survive?

So the next time I am asked how long have I been in Manitoba, I guess my answer should be "most of my life!"



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Our Library

Mavis Gray #008



Were Your Ancestors Involved in Sports?

Sports were an important part of the lives of many of our ancestors. The Manitoba Genealogical Society Library and Resource Centre has a number of works which can help you find out more about those sports and the people involved in them. Some of the titles are:

General and Miscellaneous

Off and running: horse racing in Manitoba by Keith Wilson and Antoine S. Lussier. Peguis, 1978. Manitoba 796 OFF

Canada's sporting heroes by S.F. Wise and Douglas Fisher, for Canada's Sports Hall of Fame. 1974. Canada 796 WIS

Rise and fall of the Oak River arena by Harold Griffith. 1987. Manitoba 971.27 BLAN RIS
Wiltshire and Olympian ancestors [computer file] CDROM 942.3 WIL

A history of the Blue Bombers by Vince Leah. 1980? Manitoba 796.33 LEA

The Jewish athlete, a nostalgic view by Leible Hershfield. 1980. Manitoba 796.09 HER

Official program, forty-sixth annual national open track and field championships of the Amateur Athletic Union of Canada. 1935. Manitoba 796.4 OFF

Glendale Golf and Country Club anniversary yearbook, 1946-1996. Manitoba 796.352 GLE

Hockey

Kenora Thistles, our hockey heritage. 2006. Eastern Canada 971.3 KENO KEN3

Manitoba hockey, a history by Vince Leah. Manitoba 796.9 MAN

When Falcons fly: the story of the world's first Olympic gold hockey team by David Square. 2007. Manitoba 796.9 SQU

Hockey in Selkirk compiled by Lord Selkirk Minor Hockey Association. 1981. Manitoba 796.9 HOC

River East Minor Hockey Association, souvenir year book, 1979-1982. Manitoba 796.96 RIV

The HTHL story: a history of the Hanover Tache Hockey League, 1958-1983 by Wes Keating. 1983. Manitoba 796.96 KEA

Curling

Morden's century of curling, 1888-1988 by Paul A. Sigurdson. 1988.

Manitoba 971.27 STAN MOR2

Curling capital: Winnipeg and the roaring game, 1876-1988 by Morris Mott and John Allardyce. 1989. Manitoba 796 MOT

Library Lines

Mary Bole #884

MGS Librarian



For further information on any of the following books check KOHA, our card catalogue. The link can be found on the MGS web site.

Manitoba

287 Winn Cen2 *Crescent Fort Rouge United Church, One Hundredth Anniversary, November 1983.*

309.197127 W *Women in Manitoba History, 1966.*

371.8 Winn Isa *Isaac Brock 100th Anniversary, 1913-2013, 2013.*

371.8 Winn Kel *Cherry and Grey, Kelvin High School. [Yearbooks 1942-1944]*

355.3 Roy *Military Service Recognition Book, Vol. 3. [Royal Canadian Legion, Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario Command]*

- 971.27 Loui *Crystal City and District*, 1912. [Louise municipality]
- 971.27 Nort *Wabowden, Mile 137 on the Hudson Bay Railway*, 2004.
- 971.27 Wlan *Along the Mission Trail, Lake Francis, Bonnie Doon, Graysfield, Glennie*, 1988. [Woodlands municipality].

Eastern Canada

- 393 Sma Smart, S. *A Better Place, Death and Burial in Nineteenth-Century Ontario*, 2011.
- 929.3713 Mac MacNamara, J. *Inheritance in Ontario, Wills and Other Records for Family Historians*, 2013.

Western Canada

- 305.4 Gre *A Great Movement Underway, Women and the Grain Growers' Guide, 1908-1928*, 1997.
- 904.5 And Anderson, F. *The Hope Slide Story*, 1968.

Canada

- 920 And Anderson, A. *Remembering the Farm*, 1977.
- 920 Pet Peterkin, Audrey. *Mrs. Doctor, Reminiscences of Manitoba Doctors' Wives*, 1976.
- 970.1 Ind 2 Morris, A. *Treaties of Canada with the Indians of Manitoba and the North-West Territories*, 1991.
- 971.03 Fif *50 Faces of War*, 2012. [War of 1812]
- 971.2 New Newman, P. *Empire of the Bay, an Illustrated History of the Hudson's Bay Company*, 1989.

Great Britain and Ireland

- 914.1 Tra *The Fortified House in Scotland, 1977-1986*.
- 914.25 Man *Manors and Families of Derbyshire*, 1984. [England]
- 941.3 Wal Wallace, J. *Further Traditions of Trinity and Leith*, 1990. [Edinburgh, Scotland]
- 941.4 Irr *Irregular Marriages Recorded in the Berwick Advertiser and Other Border Papers, 1808 to 1864*, 2004. [Scottish Borders]
- 941.4 Spr *Sprouston & Lempitlaw*, 1992. [Roxburghshire monumental inscriptions – Scotland]
- 941.5 Gre Grenham, J. *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors*, 2012. 4th edition.

General

- 929 Vit Nor *Vital Records Index, North America*, 1998. [8 CD-ROMs]
- 929.1 Hul Hull, L. *Tracing Your Family History*, 2006.
- 929.2 Ped *Pedigree Resource File*, 2000. [5 CD-ROMs]

Family History and Biography

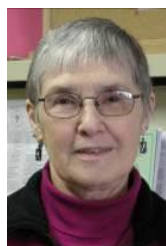
- 921 Cot 2 *The Wheat King, the Selected Letters and Papers of A.J. Cotton, 1888-1913*, 1985.
- 921 Dou 3 Bumsted, J. *The Collected Writings of Lord Selkirk, 1799-1820*, 1984-88.
- 921 Gra 2 Montgomery, D. *Cuthbert Grant of Grant's Old Mill*, 2010.

- 921 PIC 3 Williamson, N. *The Diary of Mary Louise Pickering-Thomson*, 1978.
- 929.2 Gal 4 Galbraith, P. *Journeys, a Chronicle of Family History*, 2013.
- 929.2 Hub Hubbell, H. *History and Genealogy of the Hubbell Family*, 1980-1995. [2 volumes]
- 929.2 Hub 2 *Hubbell Pioneers*, 1989.
- 929.2 Lab *Labossiere Descendants*, 1878-2006. 2009.
- 929.2 Tib Page, E. *Fingerprints of Life, 200 Years on the "Tibble" Trail (1797-1997) and the Stanish Story (1791-1997)*, 1997.

Book Reviews

Enid Dorward #4502

You can borrow these materials from the MGS library!



The MGS library has recently received two generous donations of family history books:

Labossière Descendants 1878 – 2006. Winnipeg, Labossière Family Association, c2009 & c2013. Two volumes. MGS library call number FH & BIO 929.2 LAB.

This family originated from France and Quebec, and in the 1870s, the four founding members of the Manitoba Labossières came to Manitoba. These volumes include 18,000 names from 7,000 families.

Volume 1 describes the history of the family, followed by the genealogies of the families, as well as photos. Volume 2 contains biographies of the Labossière pioneers and their

descendants. Both English and French are used in the books.

The second family history donation was three volumes about the Hubbell family.

History and Genealogy of the Hubbell Family 3rd ed., *Hubbell Pioneers*, and *Additions and Revisions to the History and Genealogy of the Hubbell Family*. MGS library call no. FH & BIO 929.2 HUB

These volumes cover the history of this extensive family from the time that Richard Hubball came to Connecticut around 1635. They span thirteen generations.

Manitoba & Northwestern Ontario Command Military Service Recognition Book, Volume 2 and Volume 3. Royal Canadian Legion, 2012. photos. MGS library call number: MAN 355.3 ROY

A tribute to all veterans from Manitoba & Northwestern Ontario, including those who fought in the two World Wars and Korea, and those who served in special duty and peacetime. Pictures and brief biographical notes of Legion members are arranged alphabetically. There is also an alphabetic table of contents for quick reference.

Wabowden; Mile 137 on the Hudson Bay Railway by Raymond Shirritt-Beaumont. Frontier School Division, 2004. 144 p. photos, index. MGS library call number MAN 971.27 NORT WAB

This is a history of the village of Wabowden, located 137 miles north of The Pas, as it was in its heyday. It was an important railway centre and the hub of a vast transportation network in northern Manitoba. Well illustrated and annotated.

Please Note: If you have written a history of your family, please consider donating a copy of it to the MGS library!

Periodical Potpourri

Enid Dorward #4502

All periodicals mentioned in this column are available for loan from the MGS library.

MANITOBA

Manitoba History (spring/summer 2013) The Doukhobor Settlers of the Swan River Valley.

Articles about EASTERN CANADA (QUEBEC & ATLANTIC PROV.)

American Ancestors (spring 2013) Quebec research essentials.

Connections (autumn 2012) *Montreal Star* death data base 1900-1910.

- (winter/spring 2013) Victoria Bridge and the Irish of Montreal.

- (autumn 2013) *Filles du Roi* -This is the 350th anniversary of the arrival of young marriageable women from France to New France, to become wives of men who already lived here.

Generations (New Brunswick) (fall/2012) The North Shore: incidents in the early history of eastern and northern New Brunswick.

- (winter 2012) People burned out in the great fire, Saint John, NB, July 1877.

- (spring 2013) Early settlers of Marrrtown.

- (summer 2013) Roll of honour 1872-1873, Saint John.

Newfoundland Ancestor (vol. 28 #2 & #3, 2012) St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church burials 1879-1920.

- (vol. 28 no 4 2012 and vol. 29 no.1 2013)

Transcription of records of Congregational Church (Dissenting Church of Christ) St. John's, Newfoundland, 1816-1873.

- (vol. 29 no. 2, 2013) Harbour Grace Methodist marriages 1820 – 1891.

Nova Scotia Genealogist (summer 2012) Sexuality and family history – a conversation?

- (fall 2012) The Nova Scotia connection to the Hillcrest (Alberta) mine disaster.

Okanagan Researcher (Oct 2013) Quebec church records: the Drouin collection.

The Ottawa Genealogist (Oct-Dec. 2012) Early Bytown settlers index – names starting with B only.

PEI Genealogical Society (Feb. 2013) Charlottetown railway vignettes from the early days. (1875-1939)

The Treehouse (Sept 2012) English genealogy research in Quebec.

Articles about ONTARIO

*** Old friends back in the library after an absence!! **Lambton Lifeline** and **Rooting Around Huron**. ***

Just look at all these lists of names in Ontario!!

Brantches (Nov. 2012) John Norton and the Mohawk warriors in the battle of Queenston Heights.

- (Feb. 2013) Women in the War of 1812.

Families (August 2013) Inheritance in Ontario: wills & other records for family historians.

Halton-Peel KINnections (fall 2012) Veterans of the War of 1812 buried at St. Paul's Presbyterian Cemetery, Burlington.

- (spring 2013) War of 1812 veterans of the 2nd regiment of York Militia. Many names listed.

Hamilton Branch (Nov. 2012) A map showing the location of cemeteries in the Hamilton area.

Lanark Log (Oct. 2012) Upper Canada land petitions online.

- (Feb. 2013) Paylist of the volunteer militia 42nd Battn., Almonte, July 1867 (name, rank and amount of pay).

- (June 2013) A list of wardens of Lanark County 1850 – 1967.

Leeds & Grenville Branch News & Views (March/April 2013) Ontario provincial elections 1937 polling list, electoral district of Leeds, Township of Elizabethtown A – K.

London Leaf (Nov. 2012) A list of converts to Roman Catholicism 1852-1855 in Middlesex County.

- (May 2013) Honor roll for Strathroy Collegiate Institute, 1896.

Norfolks (Nov. 2012 & Feb 2013)

Lists of names of people who registered to attend the Norfolk Old Boys Reunion in 1924.

Notes from Niagara (Aug 2013)

1907 voters list for the Township of Crowland.

Ottawa Genealogist (April – June 2013) Early Bytown settlers index, including surnames D to I.

Our Waterloo Kin (Nov. 2012) Waterloo region marriages (1847) extracted from the Gore District marriage register.

Perth County Profiles (Nov. 2012) Little Lakes Company, muster roll, 1838.

Quinte Kin (fall 2013) Hastings county land records now on the Quinte Kin web site.

Quinte Searchlight (Sept 2013) Info on a database of doctors who graduated up to 1909 in the area surrounding Belleville.

Roots, Branches & Twigs vol. 36 #1 2013 – Alphabetical list of residents of the township of Camden & Gore 1864-1865.

Talbot Times (Sept 2013) A list of students at Aylmer Public School in 1891.

Traces & Tracks (Wellington Co.) (spring 2013) St. George's Anglican Churchyard burials 1833-1853.

The Tracer (Feb. 2013) Contains a list of merchants, manufacturers, and traders in Oxford County in 1877.

Trails (fall 2012, winter, spring & summer 2013) Index of wills of Essex county 1785 to 1869.

York Region Ancestors (Nov. 2012)

Primitive Methodist preachers 1854 to 1925.

- (Feb. 2013) Innkeepers in Markham Twp. 1805 – 1841.

- (May 2013) List of businessmen and professional people in Markham Township in 1860.

CANADA

Hamilton Branch OGS (August 2013) The 1921 Canadian census images available.

Heritage (vol. XVI no. 3) Ottawa's Chaudière Heritage District.

Internet Genealogy (Oct/Nov 2013) Canadian and UK military records on Ancestry.com.

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“Lord Elphinstone is, ..., as if a ghost from the past.”

Muriel Rzepa Koscielny

(Muriel is an active octogenarian, with a deep passion for the history of Manitoba. She was born of peasant farmers, the first Slavic-Canadian tenants on land belonging to good friends of Lord Elphinstone. Muriel was born just outside the town of Elphinstone and attended the Elphinstone School, but knew little of the town's namesake. This article is based on a recent presentation Muriel gave to the Fort Garry Historical Society earlier this year. She is a retired teacher and can still give the Elphinstone School cheer, but you have to ask her!)

The town of Elphinstone, Manitoba is located northwest of Brandon, Manitoba on Highway 45 (also known as the 'Old Turkey Trail'), between Minnedosa and Russell. It is on the west bank of the Little Saskatchewan River. The primary industry of the community is agriculture.

Elphinstone has been known by different names during its history. Originally it was called 'Old Hudson's Bay Company Post' and later became 'Riding Mountain House'.

When Lord Elphinstone first came to the area in 1879, his mailing address was listed as:

*Old Hudson's Bay Company Post,
Riding Mountain
Northwest Territories, North America*

The town was indeed named after Lord Elphinstone, who came to Canada as a guest of Robert Campbell, chief factor of the Hudson's Bay Company. Lord Elphinstone bought about 2,000 acres (8.1 km²) of land on the Little Saskatchewan River. The Elphinstone post office was established on August 1, 1887 with John A. McDonald as the first postmaster. Credit for naming the town actually goes to John A. Lauder who officially named the town in 1880.

But who was this Lord Elphinstone and why was he such a significant part of this local history?

William Buller Fullerton Elphinstone, the 15th Lord Elphinstone and the 1st Baron Elphinstone, lived from 18 November 1828 until 18 January 1893. He was known as William Elphinstone until 1861. He was a Scottish Conservative politician. The 1st Lord Elphinstone was created in 1513, so William came from a long line of gentry.



PHOTO: The 15th Lord Elphinstone

William was educated from an early age, not only in the academics of the day, but also in how to take one's place in society and to conduct oneself in the affairs of the English-speaking world. As a member of the 'ruling'

class, Lord Elphinstone was instructed in the meaning of duty and how to fulfill that duty.

By the time Manitoba was entering into Confederation as a province, in 1870, Lord Elphinstone was already of no small consequence in the English political world. By 1870 he had been elected as the Representative Peer for Scotland, privileging him to sit in the prestigious House of Lords of the English Parliament.

In 1874 he was appointed as the Conservative Lord-in-Waiting to then Queen Victoria. William held this position for most of his life, with only one or two short interruptions. (Lords-in-Waiting are considered to be members of the Royal Household, but with nominal duties).

As Manitoba officially became part of Canada, Lord Elphinstone began purchasing tracts of land within the Province.

The township maps of Manitoba show that even as our Province was only beginning to find its own feet, Lord Elphinstone was already prepared to commence the purchase of its lands. These maps show in fact that, through 1877 and 1878, William is registered as having purchased some 8,000 or more acres of land. This amounted to 12 to 13 sections and it might be safe to say that when he arrived in Canada in 1879, Lord Elphinstone may well have been the owner of most of the territory of Manitoba!

But sources inform us that Lord Elphinstone was granted, in the Virden Area, an additional few sections of land. The plan here was to build a house, which he did. It was a manor house modeled after his ancestral home in Musselburgh, Scotland. Additionally, a horse ranch was also created.

The larger twelve sections of land were to become a cattle and sheep ranch.

Writers of history, especially local Manitoba history, like to refer to Lord Elphinstone as an aristocrat or a nobleman, and while indeed he may have been those, he can and perhaps should be referred to as one of Canada's earliest and foremost Landed Gentry. But even this label refuses to stick.

There is insufficient evidence to legitimize Landed Gentry status; William and his son made several extended trips to Canada and to Manitoba, but there is no evidence that he ever took up more permanent residence here.

Common knowledge of history has it that, when a country becomes invaded, the militia arrives first; followed by the landed gentry and finally the masses arrive. The masses in this instance being the hundreds of thousands in their sheepskin coats. Lord Elphinstone was clearly not one of these, nor was he present in the Red River Valley in 1869 at the time of the resistance. It is therefore unlikely that he was one of the militia either.

“If therefore, he was not of the landed gentry and not of the masses, nor of the militia, then was Lord Elphinstone one of the invaders, after all?”

For our purposes here, Lord Elphinstone was in the end as he was in the beginning, a Lord; except that he was no ordinary lord. Being the 15th Lord Elphinstone, William was part of a long line of heritage, influence and indeed power.

In 1882, as his manor house was being completed in the Virden area, Lord Elphinstone was himself sitting in office in London, England, attending to the affairs of the English-speaking world. Along with a number of other British capitalists, including the 7th Duke of Manchester, William was crafting a land company. Though crafted in England the company would be known as the Canada North West Land Company, whose objective was the development of the vast acres of land resting in what would become Western Canada. Lord Elphinstone would be one of the prominent Directors of the Company.

But there is evidence that Lord Elphinstone played a prominent role in several land companies of the time, notably the Syndicate, the Canadian Pacific Railway and even the Scottish and Ontario Land Company, in addition to his own Canada North West Land Company. It would seem that at the heart of all these land

companies, was the same small group of British capitalists.

Millions of acres of land passed into the hands of the various land companies. Millions of dollars associated with the sale of these lands passed from the land companies to the Syndicate, which in fact was the Canadian Pacific Railway. As a prominent director in many of these land companies, Lord Elphinstone became a very rich man!

Lord Elphinstone was born a man of great power and as such was taught early, not only how use this power, but in fact, to use it. As a Lord-in-Waiting to the Crown, he was also called to duty. There were many obstacles to overcome in the development of the vast lands of soon-to-be Western Canada. It was the duty of Lord Elphinstone to overcome these obstacles.

But in all of this; is there a sinister thread running through the life of Lord Elphinstone? Is there a connection in the following events? In 1885 three significant events took place. Are they connected?

- *The construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway was completed*
- *Louis Riel was hanged as a traitor*
- *Lord Elphinstone was created a Baron, the 1st Baron of Elphinstone, in the United Kingdom.*

Could there be more to the story of William Buller Fullerton Elphinstone? Is someone ready to take up the challenge of finding out?



Moments in Time

Barbara J. Becker #5302

*(Barbara J. Becker is a linguistic consultant who writes, edits, facilitates workshops, and analyzes English language text. She enjoys recording the extraordinary stories of ordinary folk, and has published two Winnipeg bestselling anthologies: **Measured Words an anthology** and **Measured Words second helpings**. She has contributed short family stories to *Prairie Writers' Vol. 1*, and *Vol. 3*. Her current project is a third anthology, **Measured Words third course**, which will launch at*

McNally Robinson Booksellers, December 5, 2013. Barbara recently joined the Manitoba Genealogical Society hoping to add authenticity to the voices of stories about her ancestors. She was the 2012 essay contest winner with Men in Black Hats which appeared in Generations Vol. 37, Number 3, September 2012.)

Voices ripple through my Christmas preparations. Snatches of conversation, billows of laughter, a gentle Scottish brogue amidst the harsher Canadian dialects.

“Ache, Jessie, get away with you. Don’t be dripping pine needles from that garland into my pudding.”

“Like and all, as I would be doing that, then. I value my life, Christina Campbell. I’ve no wish to incur your wrath. I’ll just set these branches on the sideboard. They’re destined for greater things. Mrs. Cochran is off to the shops for candles and ribbon for the table center. Grand and all it will be.”

Christina (Campbell) Dewar was my maternal grandmother, a cook in the grand Victorian mansion known as 33 Mayfield Gardens. In my head, I can hear her chastising Jessie, the parlour maid, back in that kitchen in Scotland ... Edinburgh, to be precise, one hundred years ago.

Christina left Scotland in 1910 to come to Canada with a wee bit of money Mrs. Morrison, her employer, bequeathed her in her will. She waved goodbye to her widowed mother, Jean Grant Campbell, her sister, Isabella Campbell, and her brother, Alexander Grant Campbell. She met and married my Grandfather, Alexander Dewar, in Winnipeg in 1911. He was the brother of one of the maids, Euphemia (Fame) Dewar, who worked with Christina, at the Tudor-style, Bain mansion at 69 Eastgate, in Winnipeg. Christina was trained as a cook, a distinction that was very important to her.

Christina (Campbell) Dewar retired from domestic service when she married and turned her attention and cooking skills toward feeding and entertaining their family and friends. The couple had two daughters. The Dewar family resided at 49 Inkster. Christina’s husband,

Alexander Dewar worked for the Winnipeg Transit as a Streetcar conductor.

Today, as I’m sorting recipes, I come upon this one for Carrot Pudding. *Christmas* Pudding, I think to myself. It’s long been a tradition in my family. My mother, Catherine Stewart (Dewar) Graham, and my aunt, Jean (Jane) Grant (Dewar) Odell, her only sibling, traded off, year in, year out; one doing Christmas dinner, and the other New Year’s dinner, until the Odells retired to Penticton in the 1970s.

Aunty Jean was venturesome – duck, goose, whatnot. You never knew what would pop up on her festive table. Mom was a turkey person, through and through. But the Christmas pudding was borrowed back and forth. It always appeared in one kitchen or the other, on Christmas day.

Now the pudding was good. Rich, delicious, warm, moist, a fair treat, guaranteed to broaden the girth, but the sauce, *oh, the sauce*, was the making of the meal. The sauce was simple. Beat egg, or eggs, and add ½ cup, or so, of fruit sugar per egg, and brandy to flavour. Yes, indeed, *brandy to flavour*. And raw eggs, for a number of years reported to kill – *salmonella*, or some such thing. Of course, there was no truth in that rumor. Raw eggs have never killed anyone in our province.

But, glancing again at that pudding recipe, I fancy I can hear Jean’s and Mom’s strident voices as they debate the issue of Aunty Fame and Aunty Lizzie.

“Well, all I can tell you, Jean, is that Aunty Lizzie is a sweet soul. Never a harsh word for anyone. It’s Aunty Fame that will have caused the trouble. You mark my words”

“Oh, sure, you always take Aunty Lizzie’s side. You don’t even know what they’re fighting about, now, do you?” Jean had a tetchy older sister edge that drove my mother mad.

“Well, no, I suppose not. But neither do you! And for that matter, neither do *they*....” Mom always retorted by upping the ante ... using her *you want to fight* voice.

I would shudder. This conversation was never going to be resolved. Only argued. Annually ... endlessly.

The ladies in question were my grandfather Dewar's sisters, Elizabeth and Euphemia, or Lizzie and Fame. And Mom was right. No one knew why they weren't speaking. The feud had gone on for so long that even they didn't seem to know its origin, or for that matter, wish to discuss it. Just two old gals, both widowed, and living in the same apartment block. In fact, they lived right across the hall from one another. They hadn't spoken to each other in years.

But every Christmas, my mother and my aunt would take a moment to rehash the situation. Mom hated it when Jean bested her in an argument. As the younger of the two she seemed to feel compelled to poke at her older sister, and the two of them never tired of wrangling over Auntie Lizzie and Auntie Fame. On would go the argument as the electric mixer churned the eggs, sugar and generous drop of brandy into a frothy white sauce.

Of course, they only raised their voices because they had to compete with that noisy electric mixer.

Eventually, I would interrupt them, and remind them that one day they too would be old, and perhaps neighbours. And when that time came, I *would* remember what they were fighting about. How could I ever forget?

I never had a sister, or a brother, for that matter. But I did inherit the Christmas Pudding recipe, and laboured over it on many jubilant occasions.

"Oh, Mom!" Heather or Jen, my own daughters, would screech. "How much brandy did you put in the sauce?" Then they would giggle, sometimes finding it difficult to stop.

Back then, when our girls were young, let's see, the early 1980s, we hosted large family Christmas dinners, fifteen or so people crowded around the table, all a little tiddly on the brandy sauce and groaning from too much turkey. Those were happy times. Lots of children, games, lights, food

I keep the recipe, not because I use it much anymore, but as a key to unlock my past. When I think about the pudding, I can see the faces gathered around all those Christmas tables. Young, then. I can hear the laughter, the music, see the tree lights, smell the turkey, and of course, taste that pudding.

Marriages have come and gone. People have come and gone. There's not much family left now. Mom, Jean, and Lizzie, Fame, and, of course, Christina and Jessie – all in a better place, I hope.

My cousin, David, Jean's son, points out that we will likely soon join them. I'm rather more optimistic, but he is older than I am. My wish is, though, that somewhere in this pudding recipe my children, my grandchildren, will hear my voice, and recall the Christmas traditions such recipes hold, and be transported back to their youth if only for a brief moment.

Remote Research – Using the Internet Archive

Elizabeth Campbell

(Elizabeth is a genealogy student at the National Institute for Genealogical Studies (NIGS), working towards her certification in English and Canadian research. She has deep roots in Manitoba being a descendant from the original Selkirk Settlers, and has served for some years as the genealogist for the Lord Selkirk Association of Rupert's Land. Elizabeth writes a regular column in the Lake of the Woods Area News and has written for Cottager Magazine and other area newspapers. In her spare time Elizabeth is the webmaster for the Ancestor Seekers of Kenora Network, where she blogs on the subject of genealogy, and a frequent contributor of historical blog entries on the Lord Selkirk Association of Rupert's Land web site blog.)

More and more data is being added to sites like Ancestry.ca every day. I've found it very helpful in some ways, but at the same time, I'm often frustrated by its limitations. And it's an expensive place to research (if your local library doesn't have access to it), as are the many other data-driven sites on the Internet. Many of the archives on-line will send copies of materials they have, but the prices they charge are too steep for my budget...

This has led me to comb the Net for other sources. While I may not be able to find many of the microfilmed documents available on the subscription sites, it is surprising how much other and sometimes unusual information I've been able to find when I've searched for material elsewhere.

Often I've found reference to a book and tried to obtain a copy through interlibrary loan without success (usually because the book is rare and used for reference only in a distant library). My tenacious 'never give up' attitude led me one day to stumble upon a wonderful site called the Internet Archive <<https://archive.org/>>. Many out-of-print treasures from university libraries have been scanned and are available there for free, including many of W. P. W. Phillimore's British parish register transcripts, early American census collections, histories....

The Internet Archive is a great place to start looking for more information on a specific ancestor you know has a bit of history or maybe was active in a larger organization. The site has a simple and an advanced search. Here's a simple search using my 3g-grandfather's name, John Pritchard and Red River, for example (Figure 1).

I have obtained four results, three of which are relevant; one of those is a duplicate of the first. Both are copies of his own words – a very exciting trove for building context and a sense of character in any biographical sketch I might decide to write about this ancestor!

Let's click on the first one. In the new screen, click on "Read Online", mid-left side of the screen (Figure 4). We'll do a search for Simpson to see if Pritchard mentions the famous Hudson's Bay Company Governor.

You can see by the results (Figure 2) that Gov. Simpson is mentioned three times. Hovering over the yellow tabs at the bottom of the screen will bring up the part of the text on that page where your search term appears.

Unfortunately, due to the print quality of the original document, the text appears somewhat garbled. You can quickly access that same page

to view the actual document scan by clicking on the yellow marker instead of hovering over it (Figure 3).

If this reference is particularly valuable to you, take a photo of it using your computer's screen capture feature. Since this document is so relevant to my family history, however, I think I'll download a PDF file (Figure 4 – Since the documents reproduced here are copyright free, downloads do not infringe upon copyright law.). I can print a hard copy from that, I can photograph a page using Adobe Reader tools, or I can highlight any text I want to quote in my biographical sketch and copy it. A word of warning, though... the computer will cut and paste the text as it appears in the OCR scan, that garbled looking preview in Figure 2. Sometimes there are only a few typos and it is quicker to scan and correct, but in this case, it might be faster just to type out my own transcription.

I've used Internet Archive to find ancestors who I knew were missionaries but couldn't figure out where in the world their career paths took them (I looked for annual missionary society reports issued during the period of interest). I've also used it to learn more about the communities my ancestors came from, even about the time period during which they lived there. Travelogues from the era and area in which your ancestors lived may lurk on this site. Sometimes I've found collections of photographs for tourists that show what the towns looked like back in the day. I've even found articles written by one ancestor in now-rare Victorian gardening journals – what a connection!

Don't be afraid to get creative in your searches. Use words that are key but perhaps not so common: place names, professions, last names, geographical names, organization or association names. You'll be amazed at what you will find here!

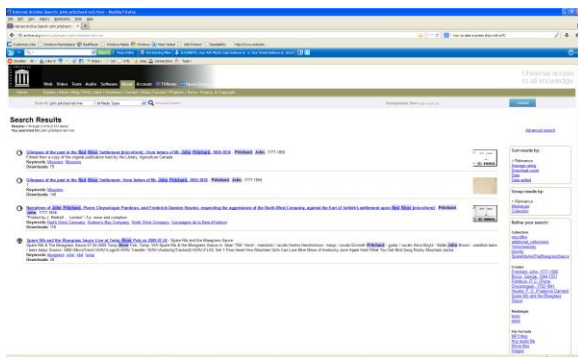


Figure 1

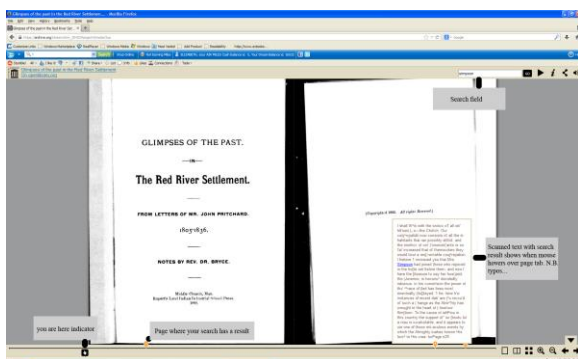


Figure 2

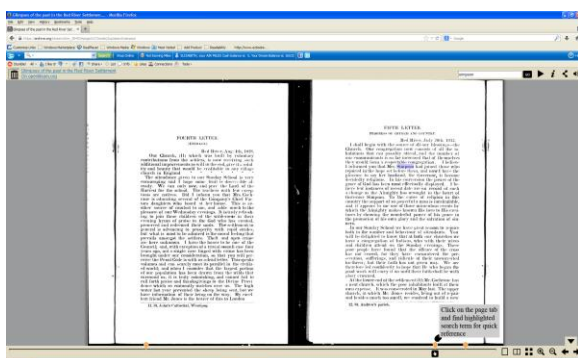


Figure 3

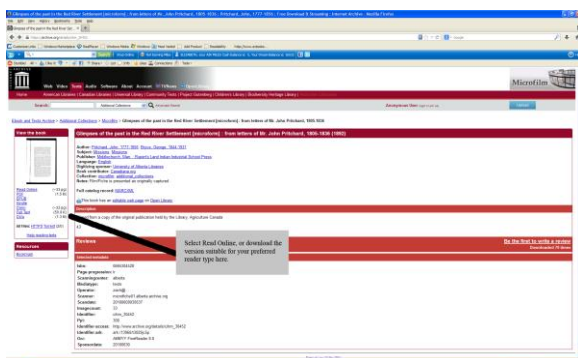


Figure 4

The Last Laugh

I went to a restaurant that serves "breakfast at any time". So I ordered French Toast during the Renaissance.

- Stephen Wright

AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA

A 4-year-old boy who was asked to give thanks before the family's Christmas Eve dinner. The family members bowed their heads in expectation.

He began his prayer, thanking God for all his friends (naming them one by one). Then he thanked God for Mommy, Daddy, brother, sis, Grandma, Grandpa, and all his aunts and uncles.

Then he began to thank God for the food.

He gave thanks for the turkey, the dressing, the fruit salad, the cranberry sauce, the potatoes, the rolls, the butter, the drinks. Then it was on to the desserts, the pies, the cakes, even the Cool Whip.

Then he paused, and everyone waited--and waited--and waited.

Finally his mother told him to go on and thank God for the broccoli (the only item he hadn't mentioned yet).

After a bit longer silence, the young fellow looked up at his mom and said, "I can't! But I know I should, so I don't know what to do!"

"What do you mean, dear?" asked his mother.

"Since it's Jesus' birthday, I bet he's listening closer than usual," said the boy. "So if I thank God for the broccoli, he'll know that I'm lying, won't he? And then he'll tell Santa I lied! And that will mean Santa won't bring me anything!"

You have to stay in shape. My grandmother started walking five miles a day when she was 60. She's 97 today and we don't know where the heck she is.

- Ellen DeGeneres

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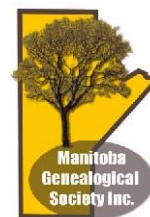
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