



Leeds & 1000 Islands Historical Society



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COVER PHOTO

THE SHAW FARM

Pen and ink drawing by
Mary Jane Lamb.
Mary Jane and her husband
Tony owned the property
in the 1970's.

(Used with permission of the artist.)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members:

Greetings from your new president. I look forward to serving as your president and working with everyone to continue the success the society has had in the past. Thanks to Alan Lindsay for his assistance. It is very much appreciated.

Once again we have applied to the Provincial Ministry of Culture for a Heritage Organization Development grant. We hope our application will be approved.

Thanks also to Bill Boulton and the Hewitts who have done another great job with the newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading about the past history of our area.

The Society purchased an original watercolour of the former Lansdowne District Public School by artist Shirley Gibson-Langill. Past President Alan Lindsay presented this painting to Principal Pat Shewchuck at the official opening of the new Thousand Islands Elementary School on May 31. It will hang in the new school.

Our membership has continued to grow and I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming meetings..

Bruce W. Foley - President



Dear Member;

We hope you enjoy this newsletter, and on behalf of your executive I would like to thank you for your support.

Our membership year runs from September to August. Please check the expiry date printed on the label. If you have not renewed for this year, we need you! Our membership has continued to grow and we appreciate your interest and support in helping to preserve the history of the Township.

Yours Truly,
Bruce W. Foley. President LTI Historical Society

MEMBERSHIP FEES



General (Family) - \$10.00 Association - \$10.00 Corporate - \$25.00

Our membership term is Sept. 1 to Aug. 31

Memberships available at any meeting or by cheque to:

LTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Box 332 Lansdowne, Ont. K0E 1L0

NEWSLETTERS



Back copies of our newsletters are available for \$2.50 each
Copies 1 through 22 are now available in a three ring binder.

This makes a nice gift. Cost \$67.00

Also available now is a binder with a coloured cover insert. Cost \$12:00

The coloured cover insert is available for \$3.00



OUR NEW LOGO



With the creation of the new Township, it was felt that we should have a distinctive logo.

We tried a contest with high school students, without success.

Last year we approached Catherine Fifield of Fifield Graphics in Brockville.

She suggested the horse motive would go along with our heritage.

She provided three designs, and this one was chosen by members at a meeting.

We thank her for her excellent work.

The design came from a picture used on the cover of Newsletter #2, May 1994.

The original belongs to President, Bruce W. Foley.

The picture was taken at Lansdowne Fair in 1907 and shows Bruce's grandfather William Henry Oswald Foley (1884-1976) and his fiancée Edith Truesdell (1888-1911).

They were married in 1910, but Edith, a diabetic, died 4 months later.

Before someone notices a discrepancy, we know the driver is on the wrong side in the buggy.

The designer took poetic liberty and reversed the picture to have it looking forward.

Incidentally, the horse's name is "Guy".



Heritage Organization Grant

The Historical Society made an application to the Provincial Ministry of Culture for a Heritage Organization Development Grant. Our application was approved, and we received \$466.00. This grant will be used to cover the cost of preparation and distribution of this Newsletter. We wish to thank the Ministry of Culture for this assistance.



Poole's Resort S.S. #13



ESCOTT FAMILY of SCHOOLS

When Newsletter #22 was published, pictures of three schools in the Escott Family, Poole's Resort, Holland and Junetown, were not available. They are printed here.

(Photos Courtesy former Front of Escott Heritage Committee)





St. Peter's Anglican Church

(By Bill Boulton)

St. Peter's Anglican Church, Seeley's Bay

(Photo courtesy
 Township Heritage Committee)



With the official closing of St. Peter's Anglican Church, Seeley's Bay, on May 20, it seems a fitting time to record some of the history of this congregation.

Originally this area had been a mission of Leeds and Lansdowne Rear. People attended church at St. John's - Leeds, or services held in the school house. In 1864 the Anglicans purchased a property on the south side of the Concession Road, near the canal, in Seeley's Bay. By 1878 they had a building fifty feet in length built by subscription. Rev. Able Henry Coleman was the clergyman responsible for this building. The builders, however, did not follow the admonition to Peter to "build on the Rock". By 1884 the foundation had gone out and the church was falling down.

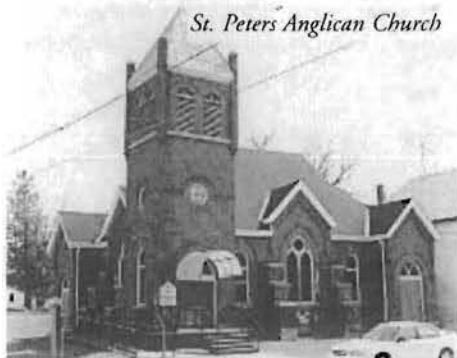
In 1881 the parish was divided and Seeley's bay became a part of the new Parish of Leeds Rear. In the late 1890's a piece of land at the corner of Main and Adelaide Streets, Village Lot # 7, was purchased and a new brick church was opened in 1899. The architecture is considered to be Richardsonian Romanesque, a break from the tradition of Gothic Revival. The arched windows, however, add a Gothic touch. The building was not consecrated until October 26, 1913, as all debts had to be cleared first. Records tell us that "the bell tolled long andd dismally" in 1901 to mark the death of Queen Victoria. The builders again did not seem to learn from past mistakes as within a few years this building was "in very poor shape". In 1913 a contractor by the name of Grever built buttresses on the sides to prevent further shifting.

Some of the ministers we have record of over the years are:

Rev. Able Henry Coleman	Rev. Robert Boothe 1948 - 1957	Rev. John Bailey 1979
Rev. John Osborne 1878	Rev. James H. Scharter 1958 - 1959	Rev. James Dalrymple 1984
Rev. Hilliard Smith 1913	Rev. H.G. Phillips 1961	Rev. Jeff Boeger 1986 - 1992
Rev. Morton 1921 - 1927	Rev. Fred Whittington 1964 - 1967	Rev. Harold Miller 1993 - 2004
Rev. J.A. Postom 1927 - 1934	Rev. John A. Locke 1968 - 1975	Rev. Reg. Gilbert present
Rev. P. Gatley Reynolds 1942 - 1948	Rev. David Buhler 1975 - 1979	

Regardless of the addition of the buttresses, the foundation has again shifted, and the building declared unsafe. The estimate to stabilize the building was _ million dollars. The decision was made to close the the church and amalgamate with St. Luke's, Lyndhurst. The church closed in April. The final service, held outdoors, took place on Sunday May 20.

(Thanks to Mrs. Betty Shaw for material and assistance)



Last service at St. Peter's,
 Sunday May 20, 2005 (R)

(Photos by Bill Boulton)





Romance of Old Ireland Is Recalled in Canada *(By Ernest G. Cook)*

Residents near Lansdowne Tell Story of Shaw family, Early Settlers in Ontario –
William Shaw, Baker in Household of Irish Lord,
Fell in Love And Eloped with Lady Mary, Only Daughter of the House –
Couple set Out for Canada in 1792.



(The Shaw farm - Photo courtesy Mary Jane Lamb)

Lansdowne, Ont., Nov. 11, 1940

"Has any person ever told you about the romance of William Shaw and his settling on Hogs Back Hill just below Lansdowne Turn?"

I had stopped on the King's Highway, No. 2, for information about certain pioneer families of that region when the people of that household asked the question and indicated that there was an interesting story connected with the pioneer Shaw family. Here is the story as it was told to me:

"William Shaw was born in the county of Armagh, Ireland, in the year 1767, his parents being of the farmer class. When a youth in his teens he was put to work in the home of a rich gentleman, a man of the nobility class with a large estate. William was put to work in the bakery of the castle and in time became quite an expert baker and was a great favorite in the household. A laughing, happy, ready-to-do-lad, he even attracted the attention of Lady Mary, beautiful and only daughter of the house".

"In time the servants noticed that Lady Mary was seeking the company of William and that he seemed to think much of Lady Mary. This was reported to Sir and Lady Waldron but they laughed it off, saying that no girl in the position of Lady Mary would permit herself to fall in love with a servant".

"Lady Mary, however, did just that and eloped with the handsome William Shaw. Her parents were shocked, and angered by the act. They at once disowned Lady Mary and cut her off from the family and the large estate which would have been hers had she remained in the home".

(Continued on Page #7)

SAVE-A-TAPE PROGRAM

We are participating in the SAVE-A-TAPE program. Save your cash register tapes from
A & P - DOMINION - SAVE-A-CENTRE

A&P has discontinued the bins for depositing your cash register tapes.

Please give your tapes to any executive member, bring them to a meeting, or drop them in the mail to us.
The Society receives a donation from the companies on a percentage basis.



Romance of Old Ireland Is Recalled in Canada (By Ernest G. Cook)

"This did not seem to affect the happiness of William Shaw and Lady Mary for they found a place to live and he was able by his baking to support her comfortably. Three children were born to them and as William and his young wife talked over the future they found themselves thinking more and more about Canada that seemed to have wealth for all and an equal opportunity. Stories coming from the New World told of land in and about a place called Kingston. So they decided to go there".

"In the year 1792 they set sail after bidding goodbye to all their relatives and friends, but with never a kindly or helpful word from Lady Mary's parents. William said they would gain a home and wealth in Canada and he was ready to work good and hard to gain that end. It was a long, hard trip. The ship was slow, the waters rough and the little family of five often wondered at night if they would ever see land. At last, after much hardship and toil, they started their trip up the St. Lawrence River".

"And that was a long, hard trip, especially to get around rapids of the river and start out anew from the Prescott port. But they knew they were now near their destination and William was happy in the fact that he would soon be able to start his home on his own land. But there was one sad note, - Lady Mary was ill. The ship doctor pronounced it a fever and probably a weakness caused by the long trip on ship. One morning the captain said that by night they would reach Kingston harbor, but Lady Mary reached the end of her trip just before Kingston was sighted. She died of the fever on board the ship within but a few hours of the goal".

"William was heart-broken and the Captain, a kindly soul, brought the ship about and dropped anchor just off Amherst Island and on that island a grave was dug and Mary was buried. There was nothing left or William to do but to take his family to Kingston and there he sought a place to lodge them while he looked about for land. On the Hogs back, near Lansdowne, he picked his farm and there over 130 years ago he built a stone house. He prospered, and died an old man there. He is buried in Lansdowne cemetery, which is on the present King's Highway No. 2".

"And the descendants of William Shaw are many and prominent", continued the party telling the story. "But you will want to see the house, still standing on the Hogs back Hill, and learn about the gold that was buried there and how the descendants, many of them, made their homes in this area".

The King's Highway skirts the foot of the Hog's back and the stone house built over a century and a quarter ago can hardly be seen, unless one climbs the rather steep private drive and wanders back a quarter of a mile to the homestead. The house, one story, with massive walls, has one doorway and three windows on the side that faces the highway. The massive front door, built by William Shaw himself, still swings as sturdy as ever. It is a good spot for memories and a desire to hunt for the gold and the descendants of the hardy pioneer.

(Editor's Note: This article by Ernest G. Cook appeared in the Watertown N.Y. Daily Times on Nov. 11, 1940)



The Shaw Family of Hogsback Hill Farm Escott

In this issue we are featuring Hogsback Hill Farm in Escott Township where Confederate gold was thought to be buried. In the early days this farm was owned by William Shaw and his descendants. William Shaw was born about 1786 in the Diocese of Ossary Co. Kilkenny Ireland. He married about 1811 Mary Waldron who was also born in Ossary about 1790. There is no proof that she came from a titled family as tradition suggests. The Shaws of Kilkenny all seem to be related and connected to the estate given to William Shaw following the Battle of the Boyne in 1689. George Bernard Shaw's grandfather was born on this estate. At some point William and Mary moved to Wexford as their three children were born there. They came to Canada in 1820. Mary became ill and died while travelling up the St. Lawrence. The ship captain put in at Amherst Island where she was buried. William and the children found their way to Escott where the family appears on the census of 1821. He purchased the farm known as Hogs Hill Farm. He married Elizabeth Acton the widow of Joseph Acton. She died Aug. 6, 1845 and is buried in Lansdowne Cemetery. He married a third time to Mary Ann surname unknown. William died between 1861 and 1871.

Children of William and Mary Shaw

- Susan 1810-1892 mar. John McNickle (d. 1885) and Thomas Abram 1827-1899. The McNickles inherited Hogs Hill Farm.
- Robert 1813-1881 mar. Sarah Anne ? lived Windham, Norfolk Co. ON
- Thomas 1816-1901 mar. Mary Davis 1818-1886 daughter of Edward Davis and Mary Oaks both from Co. Wexford. Lived near Marble Rock.

Children of Susan Shaw and John McNickle

- John 1834-? mar. (1861) Susan Bowen-chn: Isaac R. 1861-1881, Sarah 1862-, Wm Shaw 1862-1881
- Mary 1837-1921 mar. Thomas Storey 1826-1902. He was a farmer and inn keeper in Escott.
- Susan 1838-1908 mar. John Phillips 1828-1905

Children of Thomas Shaw and Mary Davis

- Mary Ann 1839-1886 mar. Robert Byers-lived Ancaster Twsp, Brant Co., ON
- Wm Henry 1842-1933 mar. Mary Jane McConnell- chn: Mary, Ida, Sarah mar. Wm Blanchard, Alma (moved eventually to Calgary)
- Edward 1844-1899 mar. (1868) Martha Boulton 1838-1873, and Almeda McNish 1853-1903. Lived near Marble Rock.
- Susan 1846-1870
- Margaret 1848-1890
- Isabella
- Thomas J. 1853-1884
- Sarah 1855-1877
- Eliza 1858-1949 mar. John Day-son Clark ran Alma Villa Tourist Home in Gananoque
- Robert J. 1860

Children of Mary McNickle and Thomas Storey

- Victoria 1856-1947 mar. Nelson Webster
- Susannah ca. 1856 mar. ? Cunningham
- Thomas J. 1862-1924
- Robert Benjamin 1863-1942 mar. Huldie ? 1867-1889
- Margaret Ann mar. Robert S Heaslip 1868-1932 - Chn: Thomas mar. Myrtle Hammond, Francis mar. Ernest Kelly, Charles mar. Jessie McBroom
- Alice 1879-?
- Charles 1874-1957
- Arthur 1876-1956
- Ettie 1878-?
- Harriett 1879-?

(Continued on page #9)



The Shaw Family of Hogsback Hill Farm Escott

Children of Susan McNickle and John Phillips (lived in Escott)

- Adaline
- John McNickle 1857-1928 mar. Mary Kelly & Susan Johnston
- Ida 1864-1905
- Lorella 1869-1927 mar. F W Thompson
- Isabella 1871-1966 mar. Samuel Davidson
- Alma 1873-1951 mar. Wm. R Kaiser
- Colon 1876-1932 mar. Jessie Trickey
- Donald 1880 d.y.
- Sarah 1881-1950 mar. John Gilroy
- Fred
- one son d.y.

Children of Edward Shaw and Martha Boulton

- Thomas Henry 1870-1887
- May -d. 1872
- John W. -d. 1873

Children of Edward Shaw and Almeda McNish

- Wm James 1876-1944 mar. Alice Griffin-chn: Isabella mar. ? Hawes, Ford, Hazel Alice, Irene mar. ? Brickstock, William mar. Doris Baker, Leonard mar. Fern Matthews, Carl Edward, Pauline mar. Eber Reed, Verdun mar. ? Galway.
- Hanna 1876-1970 mar. Herb Conway and ? Newman-lived in Sask.
- Edward Alden 1878- Military officer in South Africa later lived in Jasper Alberta
- Merrick 1879-1960 mar. Lottie Wiley lived in Fisher's Landing -chn: Raymond, Mertice, Aulden, Austin, Leanna, Adrian, Blanche, Marjorie, Bruce, Ivan.
- Bruce 1881-1951 mar. Jennie Yule 1888-1977-chn: Lorne, Don. Bruce was councillor, deputy-reeve, reeve and county warden.
- Verner 1885-1960. Went west.
- Clarence 1890-1960. Went west.
- Mary 1892-1972 mar. Emil Herman. Lived in Wisconsin.
- Clifford 1897-1946 mar. Annie Edythe Adams. One daughter Betty. He was a shopkeeper and councillor in Gananoque.

The children of Victoria Storey and Nelson Webster are well documented in various Webster sources and some of the Society's members and many local residents are their descendants.

The two James Shaws buried at Marble Rock Cemetery do not seem to be related to this family. They are listed as English on the census whereas the descendants of Wm. Shaw claim to be Irish.

(Sources: Census and cemetery data and special thanks to Joe Shaw of Syracuse grandson of Merrick Shaw)



Tale of Hidden Gold Persists After 80 Years at Lansdowne

(By Ernest C. Cook)

Farm Settled in 1792 By Irish Eloper Searched For Bag of Coins Since
Unknown U.S. Visitors Left in 1860's



The Shaw farm (Photo courtesy Mary June Lamb)

Lansdowne, Ont., Nov. 16, 1940 – For nearly 80 years wonderment has never ceased over what became of a bag of American gold that was hidden one winter day on Hogsback hill, east of the Lansdowne Turn, and scores of people have at one time or another made search of the place with pick and shovel in hope they might recover the wealth.

According to the story told in this Hogsback neighborhood, there came to Canada during the American Civil War two men. They seemed to be attracted to the substantial and retiring nature of the Shaw home on the Hogsback hill, back from the highway. They obtained lodging with the owners of the home and in the course of their conversation told that they were from the States and that one of them held office in the U.S. army, commonly reported being captain. They had in their possession some carefully guarded baggage and when they were better acquainted with the household, one of the men said that a part of their possessions included a bag of U.S. gold coins to a considerable value.

After a time the two men said they must be moving on and as their host watched them make ready to go he observed that one of the men went forth alone and had in his possession the bag of coins. When he returned to the house the bag was not seen and so it was concluded that the gold had been hidden somewhere in the rocky cliffs of the hill, or maybe buried in some spot that could be easily marked. Later the two men went on their way and the host never saw them again. Just what happened to them and if they ever returned to the States he could not tell.

As the time went on and peace had been concluded in the States, conditions seemed to warrant the host's telling a little more about his visitors. Neighbors observed that the host was often seen out on the hill, going here and there with pick and shovel, and acting as if he was in search of something. At last the neighbors questioned him and little by little he let it be known about the hidden bag of gold. He stated that he had searched the place carefully, but without success. Now others began to search and dig, and down through the years they kept up the search until it was about decided that all digging was in vain.

The opinion of many was that the two men, if they had gold and buried it, returned some night to secure it. But it might be the effort they made to bury their gold was in the nature of a bluff so as to throw their host off their plan and that they took the gold with them, but that the story would be left that they went away empty handed. There was nothing to prove that they ever had gold with them in the first place, but the fact that some people did make their way into Canada during that period with riches would lend some reason for its truthfulness.

Editor's Note: *This article appeared in the Watertown N.Y. Daily Times about 1940.
Ernest G. Cook wrote many articles for the paper about people and happenings along the
north side of the border. We do not know why he was interested in the area*



Outlaw Frank James hid out for a year in Mallorytown

(From The Brockville Recorder and Times, Friday May 13, 1983)

Mallorytown:

For a year, without knowing it, Mallorytown harbored a notorious American outlaw – Frank James. After the death of his brother, Jesse, in 1882, at the hands of two renegade members of his train-robbing gang, Frank James was a fugitive from American justice. He made his way into the Thousand Islands and was befriended by John Gibson, a famous Mallorytown Landing guide. Gibson was not above a bit of rum-running himself. He brought Frank James to Mallorytown and hid him for a year in a large brick house just west of Clifford Gibson's grocery store. Townspeople knew there was a stranger at the Gibson house but they didn't know who it was. James subsequently returned to the United States, was captured and imprisoned. He was pardoned while serving his prison term and turned to legitimate business. He had learned to love Canada, and in the late 1890's and early 1900's, he often visited Grenville and Dundas counties, trading in horses. He was a guest several times of the Wallace family at Brouseville.

The Mystery of Maple island

In the summer of 1865 a swarthy stranger spent a few days at a hotel in Gananoque. He paid for his lodging in English gold coin. He crossed the St. Lawrence to Fisher's Landing, a small hamlet east of Clayton. He spent money freely and said he had come to fish. Keeping to himself, he was not prone to talk. He purchased supplies and material and built a cabin on Maple Island.

Six strangers appeared in Gananoque in late August. They asked about a man matching the description of the man on Maple Island. Later they were seen in Alexandria Bay, N.Y.

One September night, flames were seen at the cabin on Maple Island. In the morning, fisherman went to the island to investigate. They found evidence of a struggle, the burnt cabin, and the man's half-naked body on the shore. His throat had been cut and three bloody crosses in a triangular shape cut into his chest. It was assumed that robbery was the motive as the man had shown signs of having large sums of money. It was noticed that the six strangers immediately disappeared.

The mystery began to come together. It was thought the man matched the description of John A. Payne. President Lincoln had been murdered on Valentine's Day 1865 at the Ford Theatre. The plot to kill Lincoln may have been planned in Toronto where John Wilkes Booth was appearing in a play. A group approached Booth, among them John N. Surratt and John A. Payne from Kentucky. They were part of a secret society known as the Knights of the Blue Gauntlet. They had gathered a large sum of money in English coin from sympathizers in England. This was to be divided later in St. Catherines where they planned to meet after the assignation. Surratt was the treasurer of the society. After the assignation they both vanished, along with the gold. Surratt was later found in Italy, but Payne's fate was not known.

Many years later, Robert McAdam of Binghamton, N.Y., identified the man on Maple Island as John C. Payne and admitted taking part in the murder.

(Source: Pictorial History of the Thousand Islands Adrian C. Ten Cate Bescancourt Publishing, Brockville 1982)



CANADA and the AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

Our country played a far greater part in the Civil War than most Canadians to-day realize. It is estimated that between 30,000 and 50,000 Canadians fought in the war, mostly for the North. Many joined for the bounties paid, others were tricked by use of alcohol or drugs and kidnapped. About 5,000 Canadians died.

Halifax, Montreal, Toronto and St. Catharines were hubs of a well seasoned network of Confederate spies and adventurers. There is little doubt Confederate cabals in Canada co-operated with the southern administration office in Richmond, Virginia, and played a major role in Lincoln's assassination. John Wilkes Booth made several trips to Canada, planning the assassination of President Lincoln.

When the war began in 1860, most Canadians favoured the North. Several raids on the northern states were organized and carried out from Canadian soil. This angered the North. There was a movement in the American Congress to annex the colonies to the north. This threat convinced many to transfer their sympathy to the South. It was this threat that led to Confederation two years after the war ended. Many from the North came to Canada to evade military service. They were known as "Skedaddlers". Some of them settled in our area.

After Lincoln's assassination, it was thought that Booth might try to escape to Canada. Guards who could identify him were stationed along the border. When Booth was tracked down in a barn twelve days after the assassination, it was Canadian-born Lieutenant Edward Doherty who received the \$5000.00 reward for shooting him.

(From: Canadians in the Civil War, Claire Hoy, McArthur & Company, 2004)

ONE MAN'S QUEST FOR HIDDEN TREASURE

"Canada may still hold millions in secret Confederate gold. Treasure was buried for the day the South would rise again. Southern spies preparing for a Confederate resurgence after the American Civil War may have buried millions of dollars in gold in sites across Canada in the 1860's - part of an enormous treasure that, say the authors of a new book, is only now being unearthed." So says a book review in the Ottawa Citizen.

This book is "Shadow of the Sentinel: One Man's Quest to Find the Hidden Treasure of the Confederacy" by Warren Getler and Bob Brewer.

This treasure was buried throughout the United States and even into Canada, Mexico and Europe by a secret society, The Knights of the Golden Circle. The K.G.C. was founded in 1860. There was a strong mix of officials between it and the Southern Masonic Lodge. It was the most powerful organization ever to operate within the United States. It helped rip America apart during the Civil war and stealthily moved underground to plan a second war. It probably played a hand in the assassination of President Lincoln as John Wilkes Booth had been initiated into the order in 1860. After the war many of the inner sanctum went into exile in Canada, Mexico and England.

The treasure was not only hidden, but was guarded by sentinels. There is some indication some of it may still be guarded. Bob Brewer is a descendant of a family who were sentinels guarding treasure buried in Arkansas. As a boy, his great-uncle and uncle would take him on trips through the wooded mountainous area and point out trees with strange carvings. It was only years later that he was able to work out their meanings. By exacting research he was able to break the code and find treasure in several areas.

Another bizarre twist is the connection of the Jesse James Gang in this organization. This was a gang of hardened ex-confederate guerrillas who had fought with Quantrill's Raiders. To further confuse, there were two sets of Jesse and Frank James, one born in Missouri and the other in Kentucky, who were cousins. They had been comrades-in-arms during the war. They did nothing to correct the confusion. All were active in the K.G.C. after the war.

The James gang was active from 1866 to 1881. Jesse became a field commander and financial overseer for the K.G.C. when it went underground to prepare for a second Civil War. Their thefts were to supply funds for this cause.

Jesse was supposedly shot by Bob Ford at St. Joseph Missouri in 1882. But was he? Being dead would give him cover for his K.G.C. activities. The secret society could help perpetuate the myth. One J. Frank Walton, who died at well over 100 in 1951 claimed, with some proof, that he was Jesse Woodson James. This ruse would have given him the ability to continue as head of the inner sanctum of the K.G.C. until it folded in the early 1900's.

Incidentally, it is believed that most of the money hidden in Canada was repatriated and hidden in the American South.



WAR, OUTLAWS and BURIED TREASURE

Is there any connection between these stories? Did the strangers at the Shaw farm actually hide the money, or could it have been a transfer from Montreal to Toronto or Niagara? Could they have been met by someone who would complete the transfer? Which Frank James hid out in Mallorytown, and why was he there? Stories have circulated for years that part of the planning for the assassination of President Lincoln took place on Wallace or Deer Island in the Thousand Islands. Was the stranger who visited Gananoque the same one who was murdered on Maple Island? Was he killed by K.G.C. agents? The crosses carved into his chest was a common signature of Southern agents. What happened to the money he had?

I talked to one lady who grew up near the Hog's Back farm and admitted to having searched for the treasure in her younger days. "All we ever found were snakes", she said.

Is there any connection in these stories? Did this part of Ontario play a part in the Civil War? I don't know, but it makes interesting speculation. What do you think?

(Your Editor)

LIVING HISTORY

(Article and Photo By Bill Boulton)

MAUDE STRATFORD - HILL ISLAND

Mrs. Maude Stratford is truly living history. On January 12 this year she celebrated her 101st birthday. She moved to Hill Island before the Thousand Islands Bridge was built connecting it to the mainland. Recently I talked to Mrs. Stratford at her home on Hill Island, where she still lives, with some homecare help, on her own. Of her two remaining children, her son lives nearby on the island, as does a grand daughter. Even though she came to Canada in 1921 from Liverpool, England, she still speaks with a definite English lilt. I have edited her comments only for the purpose of placing events and memories together.

We came here in 1937 and lived at Ivy Lea first. My husband worked on the bridge, he was a cable splicer. The bridge opened in 1938, they were only 13 months building it. The cables could only be spliced at certain temperatures so they would sometimes start work at 2 o'clock in the morning. That was why we moved to the island. The winters were bad then, 38 or 39 degrees below zero. They had to chip ice off to work. There was no electricity on the island, but they had it on the American side..

The island was then known as La Rue Island. The name was changed to Hill later, I don't know why. The island was beautiful then, lovely. You could walk for miles through the woods. There were red and white flowers and filbert nuts. You could stand on a knoll and look toward Alexandria Bay, New York. There were people living on the island, farms. The Fergusons and the Cirtwells had a farm. There was a Wakelin family. Another Cirtwell family lived at Lake of the Isles. The Hunt family - Allie Hunt. Bryce Trickey had a camp on the Island, Jack Wilson. There was no one on this part, the north. There was still one boot legger from the prohibition days. After the bridge opened, many people left the island because they couldn't afford the tolls to cross the bridge. Calacut Bus Lines used to come over the bridge so you could get out to town.



(Continued on Page #14)



LIVING HISTORY

(By Bill Boulton)

We made maple syrup, about 14 gallons a year. It was hard work. We had no electric power. I carried water from the river for 9 years, and I had 4 children to look after. One spring day I got tired of carrying water and the floor had to be cleaned, wooden floor, so I used maple sap. I couldn't understand why it was so damn sticky.

I used to row the boat to Mooney's store in Ivy Lea. He had everything. My children went to Selton School on the mainland. After the bridge was finished, they walked over it to school. If the weather was bad, I would go to the bottom of the bridge and wait for them. The winters were bad then. Sometimes it would be glare ice. You have no idea what it was like.. Two children from one family on the island went to school on the American side. They were rowed over by boat.

The Bridge Authority gave us an office that was on the island. The men took it apart and rebuilt it right here near this house. We lived in that, but not in the winter. In the winter we moved into an old farm house, Cherry Hill farm. Its gone now. We opened a little store at the back of the big rock here. I think we served hamburgers then. Then we made it bigger. We had cabins which we rented.. When they were building this road here, they had to blast the rock. I used to take the children up under the bridge for safety. One day the men brought a huge snake they had found in the rocks to show the children.

My husband had served in the navy in World War I. He worked for a steel company so he was away a lot. I would be here alone with the children. My husband was sick a great deal, he has been dead for over 30 years now. There was only one man killed while they were building the bridge. He fell. My husband grabbed the feet of the second man and kept him from falling.

There was no electricity or telephone on the island until after the bridge was finished. The Bensons, the corn starch people, had a big home on the island, but they did not have a phone. They used to come over and use mine. I cooked for the Wisser family on Club Island, the whiskey people. There was a Methodist church on the island, but it was not used after we came here. The stone wall is still there. There were some burials near the Lake of the Isles.

It used to be a nice peaceful island, so many damn changes, not for the better. We used to walk through the woods. We would take our lunch, and pick beautiful fruit. It was a lovely island until all the trucks came, and the conservation area. I used to have beautiful flowers, but the deer eat everything. They even come up and look in my back window. But I wouldn't want to live in town. I used to go to Toronto for three months in the winter and stay with my daughter. Now I stay home, and will as long as I keep my mind. I have a good memory. Thank God for that! □

JANUARY - JUNE 1905 NOTES from the DIARY of JOHN QUINN

- Jan. 1 - 7 The month begins very mild. Township election. Drawing wood for Wes Johnston. Turned cold, 20 below. Terrible storm, roads all full. Got cows dehorned, 50 cents.
- Jan. 8 - 14 Heavy snow. Drove to Lansdowne, road very bad. Miss Stilwell was married. Sent \$216.85 To Saywer massy. I got \$7.00 from W.B. Warren. Mary was home today.
- Jan. 15 - 21 Very cold, terrible storm. Cutting wood for Wesely Johnston at sand bay. Drove to Lansdowne, bought 200 lbs. feed and 50 lbs. flour.
- Jan. 22 - 28 Bright but cold. Good roads. Storm, 28 below zero. Provincial election, Dargavel 900 of a majority. Digging out road all day.

(Continued on Page #15)



JANUARY - JUNE 1905
NOTES from the DIARY of JOHN QUINN

- Jan. 29 - Feb. 4 Went to church at Dulcemane. Cutting sled wood. Terribly cold. Had a cow die. Splitting and piling stove wood. Old Mr. Joseph Running died.
- Feb. 5 - 11 Quarterln meeting at church. Making a rack for drawing wood. Stormy, roads all full. Drove to Lansdowne, got 50 lbs. flour and 305 lbs. feed.
- Feb. 12 - 18 We drove to church. Cold, stormy, roads all full, no driving. Shovelling snow, roads completely blocked. Miss Liala Warren was married. I.O.O.F. At Home and Ball. Feb. 19 - 25 Bright day, first in two weeks. Mr. And Mrs. Wilbural was here for dinner. Only two double teams on the road in 10 days. Shovelling snow, snow 7 feet deep. Dragging snow out of yard. Went to Lansdowne, dug snow as we went.
- Feb. 26 - Mar.4 Went to church. Old Mr. Mike Ivey died last night. James and Jim helping O. Sullivan draw in hay. Month ends fine, bright and warm. (Leap year). Cutting fire wood for Wes Johnston in back woods. Helping Gordon Johnston cut stove wood. Another wind and snow storm, roads full again. Mar. 5 - 11 Had Gordon Johnston helping me. We got home 7 Jags of wood. Mrs. John R. Foley died. Roads getting soft. Drew home 1 load of wood, last for this winter.
- Mar. 12 - 18 We drove out to John Grames. Cut wood up in the yard. Went to Seely's Bay for a load of tile for C.P. Earl. Drove to Lansdowne to C.P. Quinn's Machinery Parade. Got 200 of Bran and 300 of Shorts. St. Patrick's Day. Went to Gananoque with a grist. Heavy rain, first in season. Still 3 feet of snow. Roads very soft.
- Mar. 14 - 25 Freezing quite hard. Cutting wood in yard. Helping O. Sullivan butcher two pigs. Helping draw stack of hay. Mr. Baunting was put in vault. Very warm, bad roads, still piles of snow.
- Mar. 26 - Apr. 1 Snow very deep on roads yet. Lots of sleighs running yet. Cut some wood in Lansdowne. Miss Moxley was married. Very warm, snow going fast. First wheels running this spring. Buggies running.
- Apr. 2 - 8 Evens Steacy got married to Miss Cullen. Some sleighs running yet. Helping C.E. Earl make timber. Frogs are croaking. Finished cutting wood in yard. Helping Wesley Johnston cut wood. Mary was home.
- Apr. 9 -15 Rained nearly all day. I did some ditching. I was sick today. Got grey horse shod. Spred minnure today. Drove to Lansdowne. Started spring work. Started to build Patent Fence up the lane. Roads are bad. Helping C.E. Earl tare down old barns.
- Apr. 16 - 22 Blustery day, big snow storm. Drove to Lansdowne, got 4 gallons coal oil. Drove to Lansdowne and got 5 bags of potatoes. Lots of people sowing now. Land works easy this spring. Sowed 1 bushel of wheat. Finished the fence. Good Friday. Terrible snow and sleet storm.
- Apr. 23 - 29 Easter Sunday. John Quinn an family was here. Mary was home. Plowing across road. Finished sowing 5 bushels of wheat. Sowed 4 bushel of oats back of barn. Let the cows in pasture.
- Apr. 30 - May 6 Quarterly meeting. I.O.O.F. church parade to Methoudst Church. Got 300 lbs. feed, \$3.75. We commenced to draw the milk. Sowing garden seeds.
- May 7 - 13 Miss Lora Dollen was here. Made a pig box for the wagon. Split wood. Sold a pig to Burns and Robnson. Took down box stove. Finished sowing oats, 6 bushel 20 lbs. Put seiling on in the bed room. Helping to houselean. Helping Mr. Smith draw hay.
- May 14 - 20 Put on the screen door. Cleaning and drawing minure off the rock. Finished sowing grane, 30 bushels and 2 bushels of peas. Splitting wood in yard. Helping Wessly Johnston at spring work.
- May 21 - 27 I was sick several days. Got a cow from H.C. Mulvaugh . Feeling better. Planted piece across road with potatoes, beans and cow corn. Went to Lansdowne at night. Cuthbert Summers died.
- May 28 - June 3 Nice summer day. Worked up the ground and planted 4 bushel of potatoes. D.B. Johnston's raising. W.N. Bowen went to Ottawa. I was helping do his spring planting. W.N. Bowen came home from Ottawa.
- June 4 - 10 Helping W.N. Bowen finish planting. Got new lawn mower for front yard. Fixed the pump. Doing rode work
- June 11 - 17 Went down to Fred Fergusons, Macintoshes, to help C.M. Quinn put up a windmill. Came back to Robert Johnstons barn raising and put in a windmill for him. Helping C.E. Earl at his building. Drove to Lansdowne Saturday afternoon.
- June 18 - 24 Very hot day, 80 in the shade. Helping C.E. Earl at barn. At J.W. Bradleys putting windmill together. Took Andy to Uncle Edds. Went to Gananoque to have pictures taken.
- June 25 - 30 Mary was home. Mr. Woods first Sunday at church. Heavy rane and thunder storm. Howing all day. Helping C.E. Earl shingle and put up Hay fork track. Went to Tom Gavens raising. Month ends fine and hot.



Paid up MEMBERSHIPS as of OCT. 12, 2005

<u>LAST NAME</u> <u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>LAST NAME</u> <u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>LAST NAME</u> <u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>LAST NAME</u> <u>FIRST NAME</u>
AKENSON, PROF. D.H.	LONDON, HARRY	STEACY, ROBERT E.	
ANDREWS, AUDRE	LONDON, IRIS	TEDFORD, ROGER & CONNIE S.	
ARROWSMITH, BRENDA	LAPOINTE, YOLANDE	TRICKEY, SPENCER	
ASTLEY, ROGER	LAPPAN, ROSE	TRUESDELL, ERIC & JACKIE	
BARR, DAVID	LAPPAN, WILFRED	TRUESDELL, VAIDA	
BOUCAUD, JOAN	LEGGETT, LYNNE	WARREN, GEORGE & BETTE	
BOULTON, WM.	LINDSAY, ALAN & CAROLE	WARREN, MARGEL	
BOYSEN, MIKE & LIESBETH	LYNCH, CHERYL & LARRY WHITE	WEBSTER, GEORGE & REBECCA	
BRETT, GERTRUDE	LYNCH, DAVID & BEV	WEBSTER, JEAN	
BROWN, JACK	MABEE, KEITH	WEBSTER, LES & DAWN	
BURNS, DON & PAT	MALLORY, LINDA	WEBSTER, ROBERT & BEATRICE	
BURNS, GEORGE & CONNIE	McCREADY, BRUCE & MAXINE	WHITE, WILBERT & FRED A	
BURNS, JOAN	McCULLOUGH, DORTHY	WILLIAMS, HOWARD & JUDY	
BURNS, KEITH & JOAN	McDOUGAL, MARILYN	ZIMMER, JOHN E.	
BURTCH, RITA	McKAY, HUGH & MARION		
BURTCH, ROBERT	MODLER, BERTHA		
CHISAMORE, DON & DANNIE	MONTGOMERY, LEON		
CLARK, ED	MONTGOMERY, LOVERNA		
CRAIG, BRUCE & BETTY	MOORHEAD, ALBAN		
CROSS, THORALD & MARY	MOORHEAD, LORNE		
DESJARDINS, MELANIE	MOREY, ELEANOR M.		
DILLMAN, DUANE & CAROL	MOULT, ELANOR C.		
DOAK, BOB	NALON, JOHN		
DOBSON, JOYCE	NEWELL, AUDREY		
DOUGHTY, ERNIE & MARY	NEWELL, DORTHY		
EDWARDS, CAROL	NUTTALL, BEN & HILDA		
FOLEY, BRUCE & JOAN	NUTTALL, JAY		
FOSTER, DONALD & CAROLE	OLIVIER, GLENDA & BOB		
GAYLORD, DAN & JANET	PAGE, STEVE & JOANNE		
GEEKIE, NANCY	PAQUIN, CAROLE		
GIBBINS, CHRIS & GINNY	PAQUIN, LAURIE		
GILBERT, DAVID	PECK, GARY		
GRAHAM, ANDREW	PERRY, BETTY		
GRAHAM, KATHERINE	PURVIS, DANA & ALLAN MARR		
GRAHAM, TOM & ANNE	REED, GWENDOLYN		
GRICE, LINDA	ROBERTSON, MARY		
GRIER, HAROLD & RUTH	RONEY, MR. & MRS. G.V.		
GRIER, JAMIE & TRACIE	RUNNING, IRVIN		
GRILLS, DIANA	SCHARF, MYRNA & RICHARD		
HAFFIE, JOHN	SHEPHERD, RHODA J.		
HAMEL, HUBERT	SHERREN, MONA		
HEATON, STEPHEN	SHIELDS, JACQUELINE		
HOGAN, KENNETH P.	SHIELDS, JOCK		
JACK, MURRAY	SHIELDS, ROBERT		
JOHNSTON, THANE W.	SHIRE, DAN		
JONES, MARY A.	SHIRE, GEORGE		
KAISER, W.	SIMPSON, DERROL		
KEIR, VIVIAN J.	SMITH, SUSAN		
KELLOGG, MARK & VALERIE	SORENSEN, JOHN & LOUISE		
KELSEY, LLOYD	STEACY, FREDERICK		
KELSEY, MILTON & VIVIAN	STEACY, H. R.		
KENNEDY, ADELINE	STEACY, MARLENE		
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