



BRUCE BULLETIN

THE BRUCE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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Please visit our Bruce County Genealogical Society Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1244653066363730>

and our Bruce County Genealogical Society page:

<https://brucecountygenealogicalsociety.ca/>

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"I AM A GENEALOGIST. Ask me about my ability to annoy complete strangers." -Quote from CavaGenealogy.com
Well, I don't know about you but I've had no problem at all annoying my own family members. Seldom do I have to seek out strangers. I start out conversations intentionally steering away from my "dead ancestors" to avoid the eye rolls but before I know it, I have dived deep into the roots of my tree, telling every relative within ear shot, everything I know about Grandpa George, Great Grandpa John, 2x Great Grandmother Samantha and of course my husband's English sheep stealing relatives. I usually lose my audience back at Great Grandpa John.

Sound familiar?

With summer comes Family Reunions. Maybe even your own. As the "Keeper of the Pedigree", I bet you've been tasked with preparing the tree for all in attendance to fuss over. You will spend weeks making sure every dead and living relative too, has his or her place on it and you've tacked picture after picture to bulletin boards hoping your family is blown away by your efforts. Don't be disappointed though if the cold drinks have more interest to them than all of your hard work.

Are you discouraged? Most certainly not. We're avid genealogists...right, bound to find an audience willing to listen as we share all of our new finds about Aunt Ethel, Grandma Clara and 3x Great Grandfather Alexander, somewhere, sometime.

Happy digging and enjoy those reunions.

Glenys Johnson

President

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BCGS IN PERSON EVENTS THIS SUMMER

"RESTORING RUSK: A BRUCE COUNTY CEMETERY LIVES AGAIN"

produced by Robin Hilborn

July 27 | 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

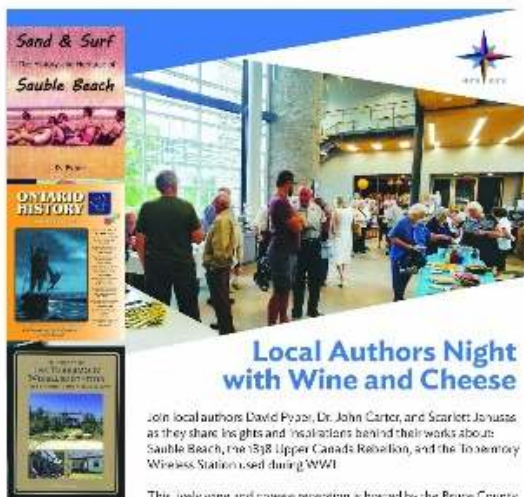


This in-person event will take place on **Saturday July 27th starting at 2 p.m. at the Treasure Chest Museum, which is located at 407 Queen St. S., Paisley, Ontario N0G 2N0.** We will begin with a viewing of the video "Restoring Rusk: A Bruce County cemetery lives again", produced by Robin Hilborn. After the video, the group will have an opportunity to chat over refreshments. The group will then head

out to Rusk Cemetery for a firsthand look at some of the headstones and talk a little more about the people who are buried there.

Space at the museum is limited so interested participants **MUST** email Judy MacKinnon to reserve a seat: eamackinnon@bmts.com

BRUCE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY INVITES US TO:



Aug. 12, 2024. Authors Night. 7 p.m. Bruce County Museum Theatre. **IN PERSON EVENT**

Talks by Bruce County authors:

Dr. John Carter, on editing the Rebellion issue of OHS magazine.

David Pyper speaks on his book *The History of Sable Beach*.

Scarlett Janusas covers her research for the book *The Tobermory Wireless Station*.

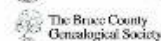
Wine and cheese. In collaboration with the Bruce County Genealogical Society.

August 12

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (doors open at 6:30)
RTE Admission, Cash Bar w/ Entertainment
To guarantee a seat, please register through
the Bruce County Museum by 7:00 AM
or bcmuseum@bmts.com



Proudly presented by



brucemuseum.ca

Aug. 16-18, 2024. Heritage Steam Show, Paisley, Ont. Displays by Bruce County Historical Society and Bruce County Genealogical Society. **IN PERSON EVENT**

BCGS Annual General Meeting: Save the date: Nov 4, 2pm via Zoom

FALL ZOOM EVENTS FROM BCGS

“Home Children Canada” (formally known as “British Home Children Advocacy & Research Association”) with Lori Oschefski

September 9 at 7:00 PM Virtual (via Zoom)

Home Children Canada (HCC) is a distinguished Canadian charity devoted to advocating for Home Children since 2012. Lori Oschefski, President of Home Children, is committed to unraveling the narrative of Home Children Canada. She embarked on her exploration in 2007, fostering a profound understanding of these historical programs.

Lori will be discussing the background of the migration programs and her family connections, while highlighting research tips and reading resources.



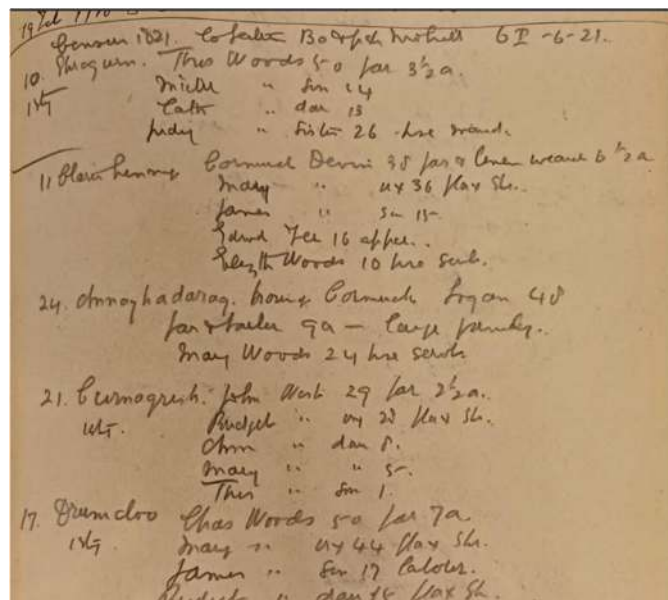
FREE: To register, email the Bruce County Genealogical Society: BCGSwebinars@gmail.com or use the link provided:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_YqFLFWwgTr6XpPu_f2xLcQ

Irish census records in the Virtual Record Treasury of Ireland

Monday, October 7 at 7pm

We are very fortunate to have **Dr Brian Gurrin**, the census specialist on the Virtual Record Treasury of Ireland project speaking to us. Brian has written extensively on census taking in Ireland and is particularly interested in the demographics of Ireland's regions in the pre-Famine period. Brian will speak about the destruction of the Public Records Office, and about how the Virtual Record Treasury of Ireland project is attempting to partially reconstruct some of the lost records. He will explain the development of the Irish census and will compare the census records that were in the PRO with the census records that have survived, and are available in the VRTI. Dr Gurrin will share the VRTI hopes and plans!



A photo of a surviving census extract

FREE: To register email the Bruce County Genealogical

Society: BCGSwebinars@gmail.com

or use the link provided:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_SB45RIULRb-JIK4zu6OC2A

Florence Grant, the Beautician

By Heather Callaghan, Archival Assistant, Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre

"I am proud to be able to say that my grandfather, Peter Grant, was one of the first pioneers to enter Bruce County." – Florence Grant, from "Grant : a Pioneer Family", 1967.



*Florence Elizabeth Grant, [194-].
Bruce County Museum & Cultural
Centre, A2024.033.008.*

Florence Grant was born on July 5, 1914, in the stone farmhouse of her parents, David Grant and Bessie MacKenzie. She attended Teeswater High School and upon graduation, began a career in hairdressing. After some time spent working in salons, she switched tracks and learned her love of teaching, venturing across Canada to different hairdressing schools throughout her career.

When Florence was in her late forties, she dared to do what many of us are still afraid to do today; she made a career change. The new Vocational High Schools were looking for teachers of hairdressing. Florence must have found her true calling; she worked at the Yorkdale Vocational High School for 17 years.

During this time, she also wrote the first hairdressing textbook for Vocational High Schools in Ontario. "The Beautician", first edition, was published in 1965, followed soon after by the second edition in 1971. Florence was thorough and informative in her approach to writing, explaining beauty concepts in scientific terms and of course historical context.

The Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre was fortunate to receive a donation from the Grant family earlier this year, containing a wealth of information about Florence's fascinating story. This donation included photographs rich in Bruce County history depicting the Teeswater area (most notably the 1947 winter storm).



Aftermath of snowstorm, Teeswater, 1947. BCM&CC, A2024.033.010-006.

During retirement, Florence had many hobbies, one of which was history. She received second prize in 1967 from the Bruce County Historical Society for her piece entitled, "Grant: a Pioneer Family". The Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre has a copy of this work by Florence in the archival collection, in which she sets out to "honour [her] grandfather and grandmother by presenting in detail a description of the county to which they came, their background, building their home, and compar[ing] life in this Centennial Year with that of many years ago." This compilation includes family photographs as well as drawings by Florence. Her love for Bruce County was honest, because when she retired at the age of 64, she chose to live in Teeswater where she spent the rest of her life.



Florence Grant and friends in canoe, [194-]. BCM&CC, A2024.033.006.

Learn more about Florence Grant here:

[Grant, Florence Elizabeth | Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre \(pastperfectonline.com\)](https://pastperfectonline.com/grant-florence-elizabeth-bruce-county-museum-cultural-centre)

If you have records about a trailblazing woman in your family, please consider donating them to the Archives at the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre. Contact us at archives@brucecounty.on.ca or 226-909-2890 to make an appointment.

Sources:

Grant, Florence. "Grant : a Pioneer Family", 1967. Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre, archival collection (A988.035.013).

Page, Jean Grant (for the Observer). "A special occasion : Florence Grant of Teeswater is hale and hearty at 85", August 1999. The Teeswater Observer.

Murdock Murdo McLay

By Fawn Moeller

Murdock was born to Kenneth MACLEAY and Mary Ann MACDONALD in Barvas, Scotland about 1849. He was the youngest in the family when they emigrated to Canada. The family is listed in both the 1851 censuses of Scotland and Canada. This is possible because the Scotland census was taken Mar 30 1851 while the Canada census was taken in Jan 1852. Giving a very narrow window of their arrival date.

In the 1851 Scotland census of Upper Shader, Ross and Cromarty the family is listed as MCLEA: Kenneth 57, Mary 40, Donald 20, Catharina 17, Allan, 12 Christy 9, Kenneth 6, John 4, and Murdo 3.

In the 1851 Canadian census of Lingwick, Sherbrooke, Quebec the family is listed as MCLAC (as it was transcribed but on close inspection it was MCLAE): Kenneth 50, Mary 43, Donald 21, Catherine 17, Allan 14, Christy 11, Kenneth 9, John, 7, and Murdo 3. It is always interesting to see the ages change at census time. The family must have decided as a group to keep the spelling for their last name as MCLAY because from this point on that is what they are all listed as.

Murdock married Mary Elizabeth FOX and they had 5 children for the 1891 Southhampton, Bruce Co census and were listed as MCLAY: Murdock 42, Mary 39, Kenneth 16, Tobias 14, Murdock (who went by Merrill) 12, Benjamin 9, and Plesence 6. Their eldest, Angus, had moved out by then. Second eldest, Nelson, had moved to Michigan. The youngest child, Elmer Layfayette, was born 26 Mar 1892 in Bruce Co, ON.

The family moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin USA for the 1900 census under MCLAY: Murdock 59, Mary 48, Kenneth 26, Merrill 20, Plesence 15, and Layfayette 8. Murdock worked most of his life as a laborer and died in Milwaukee 22 Sep 1924. His wife Mary lived just over a year more, dying 15 Dec 1925 in Milwaukee.

The family doesn't appear to have many Bruce Co records. Maybe it was just a stopping point before they moved on to the United States. Son Angus was married in Bruce Co on 15 Feb 1893 to Sarah MCBEATH of Elderslie, daughter of the famed 103-year-old Thomas MCBEATH of Bruce Co. They had moved on to Michigan, USA for the 1900 census. Merrill has a birth record in Arran Twp on 17 Jul 1879 under the name Murdock. Elmer Layfayette's birth record is recorded under the name Francis. Most of the family lived out their adult lives in Milwaukee.

The photo shows Murdock at the far left and is undated but believed to be taken in Milwaukee. His wife Mary Elizabeth is over 3, with glasses. It seems to be a big occasion but that also is unknown. Oh, if only pictures could talk.



If you have any information about this family, please be in touch with Fawn. Her email is 906fawn@gmail.com

Grace Cameron's Cake

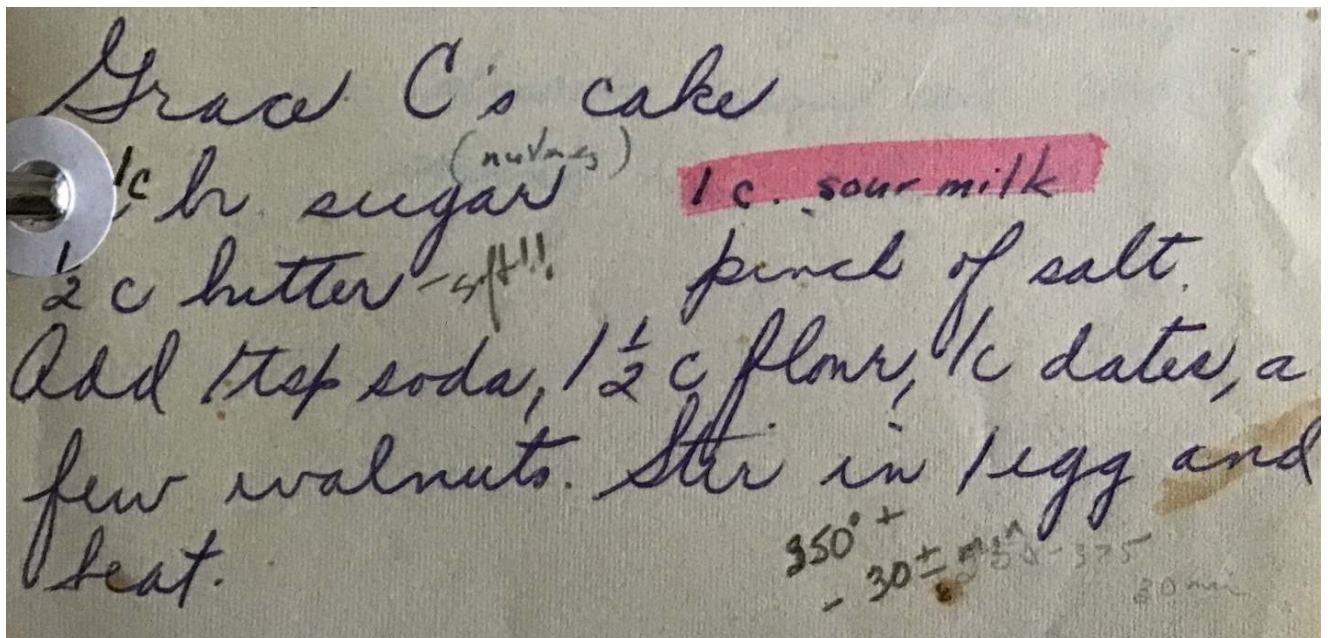
by Ruth Anne Hollands Robinson



Aunt Mamie and Uncle Wes

Mum's diary notes on September 18, 1941 that she went down to help Aunt Mamie and Grace feed the threshers. I had an immediate memory of sitting on the leather couch in the kitchen of the Pollock homestead and watching Aunt Mamie who was standing at the pantry door. She was a big woman, always laughing, and she was vigorously stirring something in a bowl that she cradled in her left arm. What was she making? Perhaps it was Grace Cameron's cake which was a staple served with a bowl of apple sauce or preserved fruit at meals for threshers.

Grandma also used this recipe as did Mum when she needed a quick dessert. That's why it is written in her handwriting into my old recipe book.



And who was Grace Cameron?

In the 1850's and 60's while John and Jane Thompson Pollock were starting their large family on lot 42 and later lot 41 Concession A of Huron Twp north of Concession 8, the family of Hugh and Ann McArthur Cameron were well established on Lot 40 on the south side of the concession. Although the Cameron home was further east toward the Baseline, the two families were soon good neighbours. Our family lore says that Grandma Jane often walked up the eighth to visit, knitting as she walked, talked and returned. Thirteen children did require a lot of socks!

By the 1890's Hugh's youngest son William John and his wife Margaret MacDonald had taken over the farm. Grace was their oldest daughter. When her brother William and Elizabeth Welsh became the owners of the Cameron farm, Grace moved with her parents and sisters down the road to the house on top of the hill overlooking the lake.

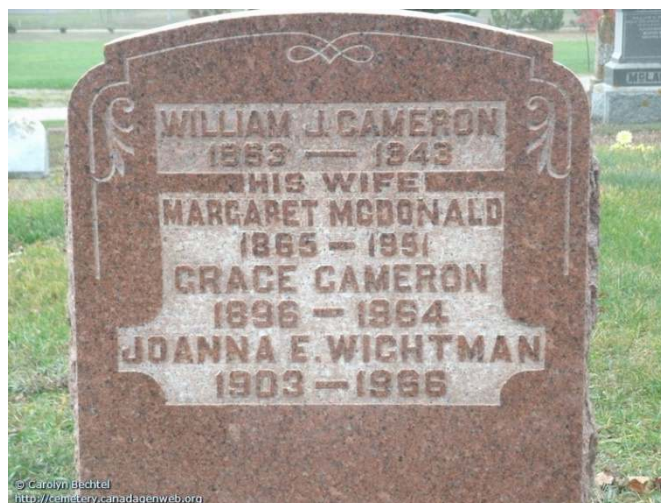
Eventually her sister Joanna married George Wightman and Grace became the "Maiden Aunt" in their household. She was always available to help her neighbours or was involved in garden parties and women's meetings at Bethel Church until she died in 1964.

Now that is why I still enjoy the aroma of Grace Cameron's cake as it bakes in the oven.

Ref: Kincardine Cemetery Records
Families and Farms of Huron

CAMERON

Wm J Cameron 1863-1943
wife Margaret McDonald 1865-1951
Grace Cameron 1896-1964
Joanna E Wightman (Cameron) 1903-1966



Sarah Ann (Sadie) Alexander Stringer (1869-1955)

By Sylvia Hasbury

In a similar way as many of us, Isaac met his life partner at high school. Sadie and Isaac Stringer met at Kincardine's High School. They were both of Irish decent. Sadie was born in Lucan, Ontario on April 8, 1869, Isaac in Kincardine Township in 1866.ⁱ If it was unusual, at the beginning of the 20th century, for a farm boy to go to high school then it was even more unusual for a farm girl to go to high school. Both of their parents valued education and were willing and able to prepare their children for adult life with advanced schooling.

Sarah and Isaac corresponded by letter while he was at the University of Toronto and later at Wycliffe College. Both kept diaries of their adventures throughout their lives in addition to writing numerous letters to friends and family.ⁱⁱ She accepted his advice that "shorthand was the coming occupation for girls."ⁱⁱⁱ It did not take her long to convince her parents that she could stay with her aunt and uncle Belham in Toronto while she studied at Barker's Shorthand School. After successfully completing this course Sadie found employment in a prestigious Toronto lawyer's office. Before long she was offered a post as a stenographer in New York City.^{iv}

Sharing this exciting news with Isaac, he suggested "she accept the position for a month or so as affording her the opportunity of seeing something of the great metropolis."^v Before long the proposed month had lengthened into a year. She returned to Toronto to help Isaac with a decision he was contemplating: he was "thinking of offering himself for work among the Eskimos. Would she be willing to join him later? "Because she agreed wholeheartedly, they put their heads together to prepare."^{vi}

A biographer of Isaac, Frank A. Peake, Doctor of Divinity (D.D.) in the Anglican Church describes Sarah this way: "She was a bright and attractive girl, versatile, full of fun and the spirit of adventure, who sought an opportunity for service in a Christian vocation."^{vii} On a New York Arriving Passenger List from 1937 we learn Sadie was 5 feet 10 inches tall with brown hair and eyes.

Laura Berton reports: "I soon discovered Mrs. Stringer was a woman of great latent strength and considerable humanity. Nothing ruffled her. Whether she was talking to the Indians, crossing the Rat River Divide, or shaking hands with the King and Queen (she was presented on five different occasions), she never lost that inner serenity that marked her every action. She treated duchesses and savages with equal respect."^{viii}

Meanwhile back in Kingarf, the ancestors of "Alexander Families came from around London and Lucan, Ontario to live near one another in the Kingarf area of Greenock Township, but there is no indication of how closely, or if, they are related."^{ix}

Sadie's parents, Henry Dobbs Alexander (1843-1921) and Sarah Young married in 1868 at Lucan, Ontario. They came to live on Concession 6, Lot 32 Greenock Township right after their marriage according to the Greenock Township local history book.^x However, in the Kincardine Township local history book on Concession 7, Lot 33 we find Simon Young (1809-1880) of Tipperary, Ireland married to Sarah Dobbs (1822-1892), who both went to Middlesex County to be married.^{xi} In this time period, some couples travelled to major cities such as London to marry. Quite often local ministers and priests were not qualified to legally marry couples and/or they might have only visited your village once a year.

"William Young accompanied his niece Sadie Stringer in 1869 on her first trip from Kincardine Township to the

Isaac and Sadie Stringer, Herschel Island, 1898.



Sarah Ann (Sadie) Alexander Stringer (1869-1955) continued

Yukon, after selling his farm in Kincardine Township. ^{xii} He lived with Isaac and Sadie for many years helping with mission chores when he lived with the Stringers at Fort McPherson and Herschel Island. Some of these chores included bringing ice into the house to be melted for drinking water and gathering driftwood for heating the Mission house as well as other common tasks that were much more complicated at minus 50 degrees Fahrenheit! In his spare time, he sometimes accompanied Isaac on his annual trips to visit Inuit families. ^{xiii}

As lay preachers, William and Sarah conducted church services for local indigenous people when Isaac was away travelling. He made an "annual canoe journey" to the Inuit village of Kittigazuit in the MacKenzie Delta and back to the whaling base at Herschel Island off the Yukon coast at an average of 300 – 400 Km. one way.

^{xiv}

It was on one of these annual trips, the "Bish" as Isaac was known locally earned the now famous moniker - The Bishop who ate his Boots. The boots he and his companion Rev. C. J. Johnston wore were unlike our modern boots, they were mukluks. These soft hide boots are multilayered and traditionally worn by Indigenous Arctic peoples. As a rule, the sole is made of sealskin, sewn together with sinews using a blind stitch to ensure the soles are waterproof. When Europeans and other in-comers began to arrive in the 17th century they brought tassels and beads to decorate mukluks. At some point, before incomers mukluks were made with a combination of animal skins as decoration thought the priority in their construction was to keep feet warm and dry. ^{xv}



Whalers at Pauline Cove, Herschel Island.

Previously, while living on Herschel Island, Isaac agreed to be a commissary for the Pacific Steam Whaling Company's base on the island. This position required collecting and documenting furs brought to the island by Inuit and Indian hunters as well as caring for stock delivered in the summer months for whaling ships. When Isaac was away, these duties were taken care of by Sarah and William. ^{xvi} Perhaps, this is the period the Kincardine Township History Book is referring to in this quote "He (Wm.) taught Eskimos and Indians how to read, write and count money." ^{xvii}

William remained on Herschel Island for a year after Isaac and Sarah left in 1901 to help the next couple who came to the island as missionaries. In

1915 he was involved with the construction of an Anglican mission station at Kittigazuit in the Mackenzie Delta area. ^{xviii}

About 1901 Isaac, Sadie and family travelled south to San Francisco, continuing overland to Kingarf. During this furlough, Isaac consulted an eye specialist about his eye pain and deteriorating sight." The doctor told the Missionary Society "If they sent Issac back up north, they would have to send him back outside within a year. The dark days of winter and the constant sun in summer would be detrimental," ^{xix} According to Sarah's published diary, Nearly Crazy, their friend, Bishop Bompas of the Yukon asked Isaac to be the Rector for the town of Whitehorse. Bompas promised Isaac "if it didn't agree with him, his way out would be paid for." ^{xx} One of Sarah's diary entries tells us "So we went, reaching there October 3, 1903. Two years later, on Bishop Bompas's death my husband was elected to replace him. He held that post for a quarter century." ^{xxi}

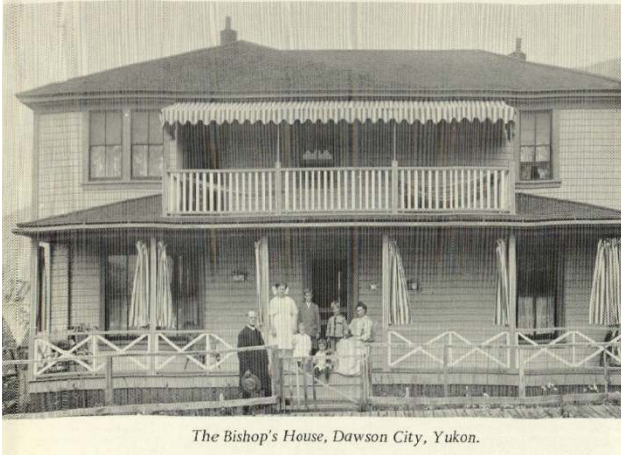
The Stringer family lived in Dawson until 1931. Their children attended school here and their third child William Randall was born here in 1909. ^{xxii} Shortly after taking this position as Bishop, Isaac conferred with local clergy, who urged him to go at once to England and explain to the missionary societies the dire need for more funding for the diocese. Even today, local church Missionary Societies raise money by holding plant sales, pancake suppers, etc., to support missionaries throughout the world. ^{xxiii}

.Frank A. Peake, D.D. relayed that when the Stringers reached Kincardine, their children were to stay with

Sarah Ann (Sadie) Alexander Stringer (1869-1955) continued

discovered according to Peake, "diocese had been awarded \$4,500 instead of \$6,000 he had requested." ^{xxv} The Stringers continued to Halifax N.S. and boarded the "Virginian" for England.

Beginning their seven-month journey in London, "the Stringers were met by cousins Sophie and James Stringer, who had taken rooms for them in Gloucester Place". Almost immediately they began visiting churches to show slides and tell stories about their adventures in the northern Arctic. Word of their visit spread, and they received an initiation to visit with King Edward VII as well as the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. They crossed the Irish Sea visiting with church officials and speaking at meetings. They managed to do some sightseeing, visiting Derrinclare, the place where Isaac's ancestors had come from so long ago. ^{xxvi}



The Bishop's House, Dawson City, Yukon.

In the autumn of 1907, the Bishop and Mrs. Stringer as well as family members moved back to Dawson City when it was chosen as the "See City" or head office of the huge Diocese of Selkirk. In 1907 the name of the diocese was changed to Yukon though it covered a much larger area than just the Yukon! ^{xxvii} The town of Dawson was chosen by the Anglican Church Authorities as it was the largest town as well as the capital and administrative centre for the whole of the Yukon Territory. ^{xxviii}

Laura Berton lays out her thoughts on the differences between the towns of Whitehorse and Dawson saying "The social climate was not the same as in Dawson and there was a bitter rivalry between the citizens of the two towns. Whitehorse felt it was neglected by the Federal Government and claimed Dawson "hogged everything." To add fuel to the fire Whitehorse was Liberal and Dawson was Conservative! ^{xxix} Like the Stringers, the Bertons were happy to be back in Dawson, reunited as neighbours and life long friends once again.

ⁱ Toil, Tears, & Triumph, A History of Kincardine Township, ISBN 0-919783-94-5, 1990, Editor Wanita Hollands, Assistant Editor Isabell Munro, members of Kincardine Township Historical Society.

ⁱⁱ The Bishop who Ate his Boots, A Biography of Isaac O. Stringer by Frank A. Peake D.D pg. 46., Published by The Anglican Church of Canada, 1966 and T.H. Best Printing Co., Don Mills, Ontario.

ⁱⁱⁱ Ibid

^{iv} Ibid

^v Ibid

^{vi} Ibid

^{vii} New York, U.S.A., Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists (including Castle Garden and Ellis Island) 1820-1957

^{viii} I Married the Klondike, Laura Beatrice Berton and Pierre Berton, Publ. by McClelland and Stewart, ISBN-77101230-6.

^{ix} Greenock Township History 1856 – 1981, Published by The Greenock Township History Book Committee 2002 c/o Brocton Municipal Office, 100 Scott Street, Box 68, Walkerton, Ontario N0G 1V0.

^x Greenock Township History, Ibid, Page 86.

^{xi} Toil, Tears and Triumph, Ibid, Page 246

^{xii} Ibid

^{xiii} Google Maps

^{xiv} Ibid

^{xv} 1. Mukluk Article by The Canadian Encyclopedia, the <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/mukluk>.

2. Mukluk Article by Wikipedia, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mukluk>

^{xvi} Project Canterbury, Leaders of the Canadian Church, Edited by Canon Bertal Heeney, Published by Ryerson, 1943, 1919 pp., VII Isaac O. Stringer by Right Rev. A.H. Sovereign., <https://anglicanhistory.org/canada/bheeney/3/7.html>

^{xvii} Toil, Tears and Triumph, Ibid pg. 246.

^{xviii} Taken from Nearly Crazy the Diaries of Sadie Stringer, housed at the Anglican Church of Canada Synod Archives Toronto Stringer fonds M74-3 Box 14, Stringer papers, Mrs. S.A. Stringer

^{xix} Nearly Crazy Ibid no page numbers

Sarah Ann (Sadie) Alexander Stringer (1869-1955) continued

xx Nearly Crazy Ibid, no page numbers

xxi Nearly Crazy Ibid

xxii Frank A. Peake, D.D. Page 92

xxiii Ibid

xxiv Ibid

xxv Ibid Page 93

xxvi Ibid Page 93

xxvii Project Canterbury, Page 6 of 14

xxviii Ibid

xxix I Married the Klondike, Laura Beatrice Berton and Pierre Berton, Publ. by McClelland and Stewart, ISBN-77101230-6. Page 134

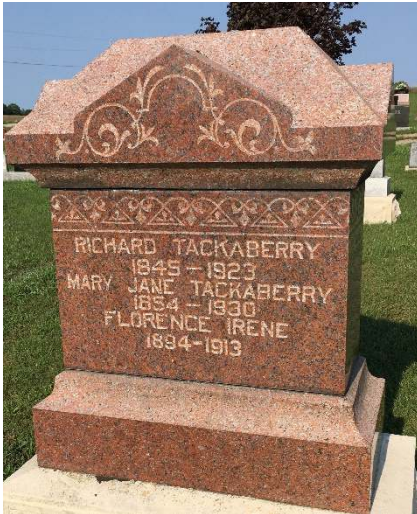


NOTES: My source for Sadie Stringer's Diaries is: Walter Vanast, Editor,
University of McGill, Montreal Campus,
walter.vanast@mcgill.ca

Sadie Stringer wrote an article called "My Husband Ate His Boots" which appeared in MacLean's magazine, July 9, 1955 in response and with the help of Pierre Berton who was the Managing Editor of MacLean's at the time.. This information comes from Frank A. Peake's book page 73.

*Reprinted from the August 2023 Newsletter of Bruce Grey Branch of Ontario Ancestors
with their kind permission*

**“From the Past – 101 Years Ago
FIRST SETTLER OF LION’S HEAD PASSES
Richard Tackaberry Pioneer of Bruce County**



<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/187517653/richard-tackaberry>

The Grim Reaper again visited our community for the fifth time this year, on July 28th, 1923, and took from us another of its old pioneers, in the person of Richard Tackaberry, the dearly beloved husband of Mary Jane Bradley, at the age of 77 years, 2 months and 20 days. The deceased gentleman was born in the County of Carlow, Ireland, in the year 1845. When two years old he came to Canada with his parents, Mr. Nathaniel Tackaberry, who was married to Margaret Fernel and settled in Elma Township in Perth County.

When 19 years of age Richard Tackaberry went to Forest, Mich., and worked in the mills. Later he came back to Canada and then sold out and moved to Lion’s Head which was nothing but a dense forest and moved into the house which they had to build. He then started to clear the land on the farm at present occupied by Grenville Mitchell. This was the first clearing done in Eastnor. His parents then moved onto the farm, now occupied by Mr. James Spiers, which is known as the Tackaberry Homestead. That was in the year 1870. In 1871 the first Government

road was being built on the West shore and he worked at it for two years. The East Road was being built shortly after at which he assisted. In the early days they had to bring everything from Wiarton or Owen Sound. They used to come as far as Adamsville the first day and stay with Mr. William Chisholm and his parents and the second day as far as the late Mr. Joseph Waugh’s at Hope Bay and then home the third day. Waggon could be used the first part of the journey but only the sled hauled by oxen the second part. Many a time he walked and carried provisions from Owen Sound to Lion’s Head in a day. This was some of the pioneer life on the Peninsula.

In the after years when the township was made, he was appointed tax collector, which position he held for some time. In 1871 he was married to Mary Jane Bradley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel Bradley of Kincardine Township, who came to this part and helped to make a home and improve the lands. Their work was not in vain – at the time of his death he has a farm of one hundred and thirty-eight acres with a huge stone house which was the first one built in this part and a bank barn which is the largest north of Wiarton. From this marriage they were blessed with six children, three girls and three boys, of whom five were at home at his bedside when he died. The children are John N., general merchant of Lion’s Head; Mrs. Carter of Timmins, New Ontario, Ida M. who was at home and assisted her mother; Ernest (R.E.W.) of town; [illegible] who has leased the farm and is working it and Irene who predeceased him 10 years ago. A year on [lines missing]leman was troubled with abdominal and kidney trouble which caused him to be taken to the General and Marine Hospital in Owen Sound in May 1920, where he was operated upon and since that time, although the operation was successful, the wound never healed properly and during the last three years he has been unable to do any kind of work worth mentioning. During the last six months his condition has been growing worse until this last couple of weeks he was continuously bed fast and on July 28th, just after midnight, he passed peacefully into rest with very little struggle. On Saturday the funeral was conducted by Rev. J. W. James and Rev. J. E. Anderson who spoke reverently of the deceased. Besides the widow and

her children, 12 grandchildren were able to attend, but the other three were absent with their mothers on account of sickness in their family. His brother John, of Lion's Head was there but Thomas of the American Soo, was unable to attend. Mr. Carter; his son-in-law, and also two daughters-in-law were absent because of sickness, but the nieces, namely Mrs. George Hurd of Belmore, Mrs. Norval Seammel of Meaford and Mrs. George Webster of Owen Sound and Miss Mildred of St. Thomas who is at home were at the service and funeral. During the service his favorite hymns – namely, Safe in the Arms of Jesus and When the Roll is Called Up Yonder, were sung.

The casket, which was of oak, was covered with beautiful flowers, one thing which the deceased was a lover during his life time. The following flowers and bouquets namely "the Gates Ajar" was from the family; two bouquets of roses from Mr. and Mrs. John Tackaberry and their three married daughters, a spray of roses from the Willing Workers of the Anglican Church and a basket of roses and flowers from the True Blue Association, Orange Lily Lodge No. 386, Lion's Head; a bouquet from Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Davidson, also a bouquet from Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Moore and Mrs. R. E. Moore.

The Orange Lodge attended the funeral in a body to pay their respects to the deceased member of which he was a charter member from the opening of the Lodge, also was made an Honorary member and also was a member of the Scarlet Chapter. The True Blue Lodge joined in the ceremony and also attended in a body to show sympathy and respect to the deceased and their work was in co-operation with the Orange Association. The pall bearers were chosen from people who have been old settlers, namely Mr. David Scott, Mr. Charles Webster, Mr. John Pettigrew, Mr. S. F. Warren, Mr. William Shaw and Mr. R. W. Brady. The service was held at 2 o'clock at his family residence from which the cortege proceeded to Eastnor where his remains were interred in the same plot beside his daughter Irene who predeceased him ten years ago. Those coming from a distance were his brother-in-law Mr. John Dagg, of Kincardine Township; Mrs. Dagg being unable to attend through sickness and his nieces mentioned before. The whole community wish to extend their sincerest sympathy to the bereaved people in the loss they have sustained.



Store with a "R.E.W. Tackaberry" sign over the front door. This was a general store.
 Courtesy of BCM &CC's online collection
 A2014.008.0467 -
<https://brucemuseum.pastperfectonline.com/Photo/44DC691A-E2EA-4D23-B97A-707108917048>

Mrs. Tackaberry and family wish to express their sincere gratitude and appreciation to the people of the neighbourhood and societies that have been so kind in helping and assisting them in their hours of sad bereavement and also for the beautiful flowers and the letters of condolence that were sent."

Ontario Volunteer Awards

Don Meyer received his 10-year pin at the Ontario Volunteer Service Awards in the Kincardine Legion on June 21 2024.

Unfortunately, **Helen Browning** was unable to attend. Glenys picked up Helen's 5-year pin.

Thank you for your contribution to the Bruce County Genealogical Society. We appreciate you both!



Don Myer between MPP Lisa Thomson and Deputy Mayor Andrea Clarke

The OGS Conference by Lolly Fullerton

A group of us from Bruce County Genealogical Society met up, sometimes for coffee or meals, sometimes at meetings. It was a very hectic 5 days for me, but I learned so much.

Personally, I went to many sessions on AI and also on DNA. I also met a few of our speakers and potential speakers.

I'd like to show you one thing I learned to do with AI. I think you can all do this for free with ChatGPT

<https://openai.com/index/hello-gpt-4o/> [Try on ChatGPT \(opens in a new window\)](#)

You need to sign up for a free account.

Then you can upload photos of gravestones, wills, etc or upload a document.

So I uploaded these two photos and asked it to “Decipher these”



Decipher these

The first gravestone appears to be an older stone, lying flat on the ground, with the inscription indicating it is in memory of Fred K. Wahbeezee Sr., who died on September 28, 1893, at the age of 75 years.

The second gravestone is a newer, upright stone with an inscription dedicated to Louisa May Mitchell, who lived from 1916 to 2006, and is remembered as a mom and grandma.

I then pasted a newspaper article from the Bruce County Museum Historic Newspaper Collection with my father-in-law’s name in it from [The Walkerton Herald-Times 1946-07-11](#)

...in the party included Jack Fullerton, Archie Ferguson, Mac Reid, Donald Cramm, Murray Lindsay and Jack Garland. They report a very fine camp with quarters and meals much improved over last year's camp. Accompanying the local boys was Capt. Dean Steadman, Cadet Instructor.

To Erect New House
Mr. W. H. Vanflorne, local building contractor, has purchased the vacant lot on Scott Street opposite the former arena site and next to the home of Mr. W. H. Kidd, from Mr. H. E. Treu, and purposes erecting a modern dwelling there this summer. Mr. Vanflorne is the Bruce Capital leading builder, many houses being the product of his handiwork. Besides this he has rebuilt a large number of structures and transformed them into apartments and if it had not been for his activities in the past decade the housing shortage in Walkerton would be a great deal more acute than it is at the present time. New building activities in Walkerton are practically unobtainable.

Please transcribe this newspaper article

Please transcribe this newspaper article

Here is the transcription of the newspaper article:

vbnet

Copy code

Wed Here Saturday

The marriage took place at the Pentecostal Tabernacle here at three o'clock on Saturday afternoon, July 6th, of Miss Jean Hazel Higgins, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. M.H. Higgins of Hanover, formerly of Walkerton, and Mr. Murray Lloyd Bell, son of Mrs. Bell and the late Reuben Bell of Chesley. The charming nuptial ceremony was witnessed by a large number of friends of the bride in Walkerton.

Attended Camp At Ipperwash

Six boys, members of the High School Cadet Corps returned last Friday night after a two weeks session at the District Cadet Camp at Ipperwash. Those in the party included Jack Fullerton, Archie Ferguson, Mac Reid, Donald Cramm, Murray Lindsay and Jack Garland. They report a very fine camp with quarters and meals much improved over last year's camp. Accompanying the local boys was Capt. Dean Steadman, Cadet Instructor.

I clicked on Copy code

And this is what I received!

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Everyone says just play with ChatGPT and see what happens. It really is fun and can be super useful.