

Descendents of Thomas Edwards & Mary Bradley

Thomas and Mary

Thomas Edwards was born ???, most likely in Swaby, Lincolnshire, England. Chances are that Thomas came from a farming background. Thomas was married May 17, 1784 in Swaby Parish to **Mary Bradley**. Mary was born ???. Thomas died and was buried February 9, 1802 in Swaby. Parish records indicate that Mary married again, January 9, 1805, to James Foster. Witnesses to that marriage were William Bradley, perhaps a brother (?) and Ann Stephenson. It is not known where Mary and James were buried, although Swaby, again would be likely. (*IGI batch C031971*) Mary's parents:

Children of Thomas and Mary:

- + i **Ruth Edwards** bap. Oct. 24, 1784
- + ii **William Edwards** bap. July 7, 1786
- iii **Samuel Edwards** bap. June 1, 1788
- + iv **Ann Edwards** bap. Aug. 30, 1790
- + v **John Edwards** bap. Mar. 31, 1793
- + vi **Nathaniel Edwards** bap. Oct. 18, 1795
- + vii **Mary Ann Edwards** bap. Sept. 9, 1798

Second Generation

Ruth Edwards (Thomas¹) was baptized October 24, 1784 in Swaby Parish, Lincolnshire, England. She was married November 5, 1805 to **Joseph Pearson**. Witnesses to the wedding in Swaby were new stepfather James Foster and Robert Pearson, perhaps a brother (?). Joseph was born ????. Ruth died ????. Joseph died ????. They are buried ????. Joseph's parents: Children: ???

William Edwards (Thomas¹) was baptized July 7, 1786 in Swaby Parish, Lincolnshire, England. It is unknown at this time if William married or had children. It is probable that unlike his brothers, he did stay in England, as he was present at at least two of his sister's weddings, the last one being in 1818, when he was 32 years old. William died ??? and was buried ???.

Ann Edwards (Thomas¹) was baptized August 30, 1790 in Swaby Parish, Lincolnshire, England. She was married May 29, 1815 to **Joshua Winn**. Witnesses to the wedding in Swaby, were brother William Edwards, and Mary Kemp. Joshua was born ????. Ann died ??? Joshua died ????. They are buried ????. Joshua's parents: Children:

John Edwards (Thomas¹) was baptized March 31, 1793 in Swaby Parish, Lincolnshire, England. Although not much is known of John's youth, at some point, he and his brother Nathaniel, decided to immigrate to Canada. They ended their journey in Hope Township, Durham County, probably in the late 1820's. John met and then married **Lovina Culver**. Lovina was born in December of 1808, probably in Hamilton Township, Northumberland County, but maybe in the United States. They probably married in 1830 or 1831. Lovina's younger sister Maria, married John's younger brother, Nathaniel. Hope Township records indicate John and Lovina were firmly settled on the 100-acre parcel of Lot 29 Concession 4 by the 1832 Census. John actually had purchased the land September 7, 1830 from John David Smith, for the significant sum of 75£. Mr. Smith had acquired the land from his father, Elias Smith. As an interest, Elias Smith was a founding father of Hope Township, who had been granted many parcels of Crown Land in 1799, in order to establish and promote settlement.

As their farm grew and prospered through the 1830's and 40's, so did their family. The first real detailed information that we know of John Edwards and his family are from the 1850 Hope Township Census. At that time, there were eight in the household plus the proprietor. As agriculture was quite significant during early pioneer times, the 1850 census also counted farm production. Taxation was also based upon farm wealth. It would appear that John had made a great deal of progress in developing his land and increasing his productivity. John's crops consisted of nine acres of oats yielding 90 bushels, 6 acres of peas with 128 bu., 1½ acres of potatoes at 140 bu., 100 bu. of turnips, 22 barrels of apples, and 20 acres of wheat giving 300 bushels. For some reason, there is no account of livestock, although he did have 13 acres of pasture. Over the previous 18 or so years, John had acquired additional acreage, which indicated his keen awareness for farming and business.

The 1851 Census indicates John 59, Lovina 43, Thomas 19, Elizabeth 16, William 15, John 13, Maria 11, Henry 9, "Jessey" 2, and Joseph 1. Near them on the same page in brother Nathaniel and his, growing family.

The 1871 Hope Township Census shows John 78, Lovina 62, and sons Joseph 19, and Jessie 20, still living and working on the farm. Jessie was described as being of unsound mind. He nevertheless

always had a warm spot in Lovina's heart, and was always provided for. John and Lovina's older children had left home by this time. About this time, or soon after, John had a falling out with his youngest son Joseph. Joseph left home and went to southwestern Ontario.

John died April 3, 1872 and was buried in Zion Bible Christian Cemetery, only a stone's throw west of the farm. Lovina soon sold, or gave the farm to son William, and his new wife Agnes, and moved to a newly purchased farm in Stephen Township, in Huron County. As daughter Maria Sheardown and her family had moved to Stephen Township several years earlier, Lovina would have been familiar with the area. She had bought 84 acres of Lot 5 Concession 7, on October 15, 1872. Although Lovina retained ownership of the farm until after her death in 1896, she "gave" it to Joseph for him to establish himself. The 1891 Stephen Township shows Lovina age 82 living with Maria, Henry and their family, in Stephen. Lovina later moved to East Wawanosh Township, Huron County, to live with another son Henry, and his wife, Evalina Best. Lovina died in their care, November 29, 1896 and is buried in Westfield Methodist Cemetery, East Wawanosh Township, near the far back right. Although the words on her monument are damaged by erosion, Lovina's tall gray obelisk was inscribed as indicated below right.

As an interest to those who may be researching the Culver family, Lovina and Maria's father was Roger Culver, born about 1767, at Oyster Bay, Long Island, Queens, New York, U.S.A Their mother was Sarah Wilcox, from Litchfield, Connecticut, U.S.A. Sarah was born March 20, 1772. She and Roger were married about 1803, at Oyster Bay and moved to Hamilton Township in Northumberland County, probably at the encouragement of Roger's uncle (?) Joel. Roger's family can be traced back through his grandfather Zebulon Colver (b. Nov. 29, 1717), great grandfather Samuel Colver (b. Feb. 11, 1690), great great grandfather Edward Colver jr. (b. 1653) and gr.gr.gr. grandfather Edward Colver, known as "the Puritan" (b. 1615 Dedham, Norfolk, England).

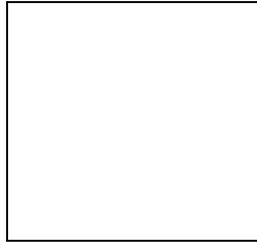
As a very early settler in Hamilton Township, Roger and Sarah homesteaded and raised their family. Annual census' show the growth of the family. During the War of 1812, Roger, as were most men in the area, served in the Northumberland Militia. In the 1851 Hope Township Census, Roger is shown living, or maybe merely visiting his son, Nathaniel and his family. Sarah died June 7, 1858 at age 86 and is buried at St. Mark's Cemetery in Port Hope, Ontario. Roger *may* be buried at Stone United Church, Eramosa Township, Wellington County, Ontario, however more research is required.

The search continues for an old photograph of John and/ or Lovina that may exist.

At Zion Cemetery, a more recent tombstone, and a lasting tribute to the memory of her family, was placed by John's granddaughter Lucy, prior to the time of her death in 1966. It is partially inscribed as shown below left-

**JOHN EDWARDS
GRANDFATHER
1793 – 1872
INFANT SON
1872 – 1872**

**EDWARDS
In memory of
Lovina Culver
Relict of
John Edwards
Died Nov 29, 1896
AE 87 ys 11 mos**



**Ann Bennett
Relict of
Abram Best
Died Aug. 11, 1887
AE 80 ys 9 mos**

*“Jesus called our mother home
This flesh lies mouldering in the tomb,
God grant their offspring may be blest
And meet them in eternal rest”*

-an added inscription now lost, but recorded in 1981

Children of John and Lovina:

- + i **Thomas Edwards** b. Nov. 26, 1832
- + ii **Elizabeth Edwards** b. 1835
- + iii **William Edwards** b. Nov. 19, 1837
- + iv **John Edwards** b. 1839
- + v **Maria Edwards** b. 1840
- + vi **Henry Edwards** b. July 1, 1842
- + vii **Jesse Edwards** b. May 1, 1849
- + viii **Joseph Potter Edwards** b. Dec. 9, 1852

Nathaniel Edwards (Thomas¹) was baptized October 18, 1795 in Swaby Parish, Lincolnshire, England. Like his older brother, John, not much is known of Nathaniel’s youth. At some point, he and John, decided to immigrate to Canada. They ended their journey in Hope Township, Durham County, probably in the late 1820’s. With his new wife **Maria Culver**, Lovina Culver’s sister, Nathaniel bought and settled a farm lot adjacent to John, on Lot 28 Concession 3 of Hope Township. There, Nathaniel and Maria raised their family. As he and John were, no doubt close, they would help each other with the business of farming. Maria was born in 1809 or 1810, in Hamilton Township, Northumberland County. Nathaniel and family are listed in the 1851 Hope Township Census. He was age 57, Maria was a younger 42. There was also Mary 20, Sarah 17, George 10, “Lovena” 8, and Ruth age 3. Also with them at that time was Roger Culver.

Nathaniel was also listed in the 1861 Hope Township Census, at age 66, as an English born farmer. He is not listed in the 1871 Census, and thus may have died by that time. It is not known when Nathaniel died or where he was buried, although there is a Nathaniel and Hannah Maria Edwards listed in Stone United Cemetery, Eramosa Township, Wellington County. Maria or Mariah, was listed in the 1881 Census for Sydenham Township, Grey County, as being 70 years of age, and a widow. She, along with “Eliza 28, and Emma 26” lived next door to George Edwards. Mariah died ??? and was buried ???. Maria’s parents: Roger Culver and Sarah Wilcox (*see paragraph above under John and Lovina Edwards*)

Children:

- + i **Mary Ann Edwards** b. 1832
- + ii **Sarah Edwards** b. May 24, 1835
- + iii **George Edwards** b. 1842
- + iv **Lovina M. Edwards** b. 1843

v **Ruth Edwards** b. 1848
vi **Emma Edwards** b. 1853

Mary Ann Edwards (Thomas¹) was baptized September 9, 1798 in Swaby Parish, Lincolnshire, England. She was married October 15, 1818 at the Swaby Parish church to **Charles Stephen Fidel**. Witnesses to the marriage were brother William Edwards, and Mary Ann Bradley, possibly a cousin from her mother's side. Charles was born ????. Charles died ??? and was buried ????. Mary Ann died ??? and was buried ????. Charles' parents: Children:

Third Generation –The Pioneer Grandchildren

Thomas Edwards (John², Thomas¹) was born November 26, 1832 in Hope Township, Durham County, Upper Canada. Thomas was married February 4, 1864 to **Maria Haskill** of neighbouring Darlington Township. Maria was born in 1846. Prior to the marriage, Thomas, in 1863, had settled on Lot 24 Concession 24 of Fullarton Township, in Perth County, just south of the town of Mitchell. The land was a prime 100 acres that backed onto the Thames River. There, Thomas and Maria raised grain, stock and their young family. Thomas and family are easily found in the Fullarton Census' of 1871, 1881, 1891 and 1901. He is also found on the 1877 Perth County Atlas. For many of those years, Maria's mother, Margaret Haskill also lived with them.

Maria died young at only age 38, on August 5, 1884, from "convulsions for 30 hours" (015055). Dr. Hodge from Mitchell, Ontario was in attendance. She was buried in Woodland Methodist Cemetery, Fullarton Township, Highway 23 just south of the town of Mitchell, near the family farm. Maria's mother, Margaret continued to live with Thomas and the family until she passed away at age 88, in 1899. She is buried near Maria. Margaret's inscription is carved into the north side of Thomas and Maria's stone, and simply reads- **Margaret Haskill 1811-1899**. Henry continued to live on and manage the farm with his elderly father Thomas, until he sadly passed away in 1927. Soon after, at age 95, on March 13, 1928, Thomas passed away at the Jackson farm, and was buried with Maria in Woodland Cemetery. Maria's father was Jorial Haskill of Darlington Township. Thomas and Maria's stone is inscribed-

EDWARDS
Thomas Edwards
1832 – 1928
His wife
Maria Haskill
1846 – 1884
Their son
Henry Edwards
1872 - 1927

Thomas and Maria's children:

- | | | | |
|---|-----|--------------------------------|------------------|
| + | i | Margaret Edwards | b. 1865 |
| + | ii | Thomas Edwards | b. Oct. 14, 1869 |
| + | iii | Henry Edwards | b. July 26, 1872 |
| + | iv | Sarah Elizabeth Edwards | b. Apr. 22, 1875 |
| + | v | Annie Lovina Edwards | b. Apr. 17, 1879 |

Elizabeth Edwards (John², Thomas¹) was born in 1835 in Hope Township, Durham County, Upper Canada. Elizabeth was married ??? to **Thomas Gillett**. Thomas was born in 1831 in England. Elizabeth and Thomas raised their small family in the village of Millbrook, Durham County. Thomas was a cabinet-maker by trade. The 1881 Ontario Census shows the family, including William age 16 and Maggie age 12. Elizabeth died ??? and was buried ??? Thomas died ??? and was buried ???

Thomas' parents:

Children:

- | | | | |
|---|----|------------------------|---------|
| + | i | William Gillett | b. 1865 |
| + | ii | Maggie Gillett | b. 1869 |

William Edwards (John², Thomas¹) was born November 19, 1837 in Hope Township, Durham County, Upper Canada. During 1865 and 1866, William and brother Henry, farmed next to father John at Lot 28. William was married April 11, 1870 to **Agnes McKinstry**. Agnes was born November 5, 1853 (*tombstone suggests 1851*) in Upper Canada of Irish origins. By the 1871 Census, William, age 34, had assumed the family farm of 100 acres, of Concession 4 Lot 29, in Hope Township, as his father John, was age 78, but still living there also. Agnes was only age 19 at the time. William was a good member of the Masonic Lodge. He and Agnes farmed, raised their family, and attended nearby Zion Bible Christian Church.

The 1891 Hope Township Census identifies William 54, Agnes 49 (39?), Jane 17, Lucy M. 12, and Gilbert 10. The 1901 Hope Township Census lists William 64, Agnes 49, Lucy M. 21, and Gilbert 20. William died at age 72 on December 30, 1908, from heart disease (021185) and is buried in Zion Cemetery, Hope Township, in the family plot. Agnes died later in 1931, and is also buried there, along with John Edwards, infant son, and young Frederick Edwards. There also is a footstone in the plot that is inscribed as simply "Jennie". Would this be Jane? Agnes' parents:

William and Agnes' children:

	i	male Edwards	b. 1872	d. 1872	died in infancy
+	ii	Elizabeth Jane Edwards	b. 1873		
	iii	Frederick A. N. Edwards	b. 1874	d. Feb. 15, 1878	scarlet fever
+	iv	Lucy May Edwards	b. Aug. 27, 1880		(tombstone suggests 1878)
+	v	Gilbert Edwards	b. Aug. 29, 1881		(enlistment suggests 1888)

John Edwards (John², Thomas¹) was born in 1839 in Hope Township, Durham County, Upper Canada. As a boy, in the Hope Township Census of 1851, John is listed as 13 and living at home with the family. He was married about 1869 or 1870 to **Sarah Foster**. Sarah was born in 1849 in Ontario. The 1871 Census lists John and Sarah farming near Bluevale, Ontario, in Morris Township, Huron County. (*Div. 1, pg. 39 film C-9932*). They had no children at the time. Although their daughter, Sarah Ann was born there, they did not stay in the area, as they're not found in subsequent census'. John, Sarah and young Annie moved west to Dauphin, Manitoba. Flynn family lore says that John had a second family in the Dauphin area out of wedlock, and that Sarah had half-siblings. At any rate, Sarah came back to Fullarton Township as a young woman, to make her own life. John died ??? and was buried, apparently in Manitoba, most likely Dauphin. Sarah died ??? and was buried ???. Sarah's parents:

Children:

+	i	George Edwards	b. 1871
+	ii	James Edwards	b. 1874
+	iii	Sarah Ann "Annie" Edwards	b. 1876
+	iv	Benjamin Edwards	b. Jan. ?, 1881

Maria (Meriah) Edwards (John², Thomas¹) was born in 1840 in Hope Township, Durham County. She was married about 1862 in Hope Township to **Charles "Henry" Sheardown**. Henry was born December 1, 1832, in the village of Huttoft, east Lincolnshire, England. His family emigrated to Upper Canada and settled in Hope Township, where Henry helped farm with his father, Samuel. After Maria's marriage to Henry, they also settled in Hope Township, farmed Concession 1 Lot 35, and began their large family. At some point, probably during the late 1860's Maria and Henry moved to Stephen Township, Huron County. Mid 1870's birth registrations identifies Henry's residence as Stephen Township with his occupation as farmer. Later, the 1881 Ontario Census lists the family living in McGillivray Township, Middlesex County North, with the occupation of farmer.

The 1891 Stephen Township Census shows Henry age 56, Maria age 50, Hattie age 21, Ada age 13, Renn age 10, George age 8, Elmer age 4, and Lovina Edwards age 82. Lovina of course, was Maria's widowed mother. In their later years, Maria and Henry lived in the Goderich area. Henry died December 10, 1907. (*Coffin plaque in possession of Brian Sheardown, is inscribed "died Dec. 10, 1907, 75 years, 10 days"*). Maria died in 1928. They were buried in Woodland Methodist Cemetery, Fullarton Township, Perth County.

For any researchers of the Sheardown family, Henry's parents were Samuel Chapman Sheardown (chr. Dec. 5, 1790 at Carlton Castle, Linc.) and Elizabeth ? (b. 1800 d. Sept. 20, 1866). They are buried in Zion Cemetery, Hope Township. Their tombstone reads as indicated below. Samuel's parents were John Sheardown and Ann ???

<p>In memory of Elizabeth Wife of Samuel C. Sheardown Who died Sep. 20, 1866 AE 67 yrs <i>"All you that come my grave to see</i> <i>As I am now so you must be</i> <i>Repent in time make no delay</i> <i>For I in a moment was snatched away"</i></p>

Children of Henry and Maria:

- | | | | |
|---|------|--|-------------------|
| + | i | Elizabeth A. Sheardown | b. 1863 |
| + | ii | Mary Sheardown | b. 1865 |
| + | iii | John C. Sheardown | b. 1867 |
| + | iv | Harriett "Hattie" Sheardown | b. 1870 |
| + | v | Lucy Sheardown | b. 1871 |
| + | vi | Georgina Sheardown | b. 1874 |
| + | vii | Samuel Sheardown | b. Sept. 20, 1875 |
| + | viii | Ada Jane Sheardown | b. Mar. 10, 1878 |
| + | ix | Wrendall "Wren" Henry Sheardown | b. June 10, 1880 |
| + | x | George Wilbur Sheardown | b. 1883 |
| + | xi | Elmer Sheardown | b. 1887 |

Henry Edwards (John², Thomas¹) was born July 1, 1842 in Hope Township, Durham County, Upper Canada. In 1865 and 1866, Henry and brother William farmed next to their father, at Concession 4 Lot 28. He was married about 1866 +/- in Northumberland or Durham Counties, Upper Canada to **Evalina Best**. Evalina was born in 1847 in Cornwall, England. As a baby, Evalina settled with her parents Abraham and Ann (Bennetts) Best and other family members in Durham County near Port Hope. After marrying, Evalina and Henry moved to western Ontario, settling on a 50- acre land parcel on the northeast part of Concession 6 Lot 36, East Wawanosh Township, Huron County. Henry and Evalina were adjacent neighbours to William Snell and his wife, Evalina's older sister, Ann. There, Henry had built a log cabin across the road from the log one-room school, SS #13. *"Henry (and Evalina) farmed the land, which was good bottom land, traversed by Belgrave Creek. A large hill in bush left only about 25 acres tillable"* (pg.94, *Wilderness to Wawanosh*; 1992). On December 2, 1870, Evalina age 23, was baptized into the Wesleyan Methodist Church, in East Wawanosh, most likely the old first church at Westfield.

The years between 1873 and 1880 were difficult for the family, as baby after baby struggled to survive, yet sadly died from common afflictions of the day. First, baby Joseph died after a brief bout of the “croup” (003699). Next, Maria survived, but George, in 1877, died as a two month old baby, that had suffered from “diarrhea” throughout his short life (005246). Joshua was stillborn in 1878. Another George came along in 1880, only to die after 15 months from a ten-week battle with “bilious fever” (006456). Hester was the next baby to be taken early, in 1881, with a three-week fight with the croup, again (007732). Fortunately, Annie and Laura came along and managed, however the Edwards’ family had certainly suffered their share of misery.

About 1877, around the time of Evalina’s father –Abraham Best’s death, Henry built a small brick house on the property to replace the log house, which had burned, and thereby only added to their misery of the time. To help the struggling family, mother-in-law, Ann Best, recently widowed, moved in with them. Henry’s mother Lovina, from Stephen Township, about 40 miles south of their home in East Wawanosh, also lived with them at some point. The 1881 Census clearly lists Henry, Evalina and children along with 74 year-old Ann Best, “widow”. There was no mention of Lovina however, but it is probable that Lovina may have been visiting or staying elsewhere. The 1901 Ontario Census lists Henry as owning the NE quarter of Concession 6 Lot 36, with 150 acres, 2 houses (1 vacant), 5 barns and outbuildings.

Photographs taken, perhaps by daughter Lizzie, from about 1911, show Henry as being rugged, patriarchal and somewhat stern, yet handsome, with whitish-gray beard and longer hair and dark clothing. Evalina was also somewhat stern looking, with gray tidy hair, and a “grandmotherly-look” about her.

In their “retirement years”, about 1911, Henry and Evalina sold the property to the John Scott family and moved to a small brick house, set back on the east side of the road between lots 36 and 37. The house today is in ruins, in a pasture. At that time, daughter Laura and husband Bob Moore lived in a house across the road. There is no trace of that house today. During this time, Henry was the “postmaster” for the area when the Marnoch Post Office closed December 1, 1913. Every day over the winter, Henry would gather the mail and distribute it from his and Evalina’s home, until rural delivery started from Belgrave in the spring of 1914.

Henry died at home August 26, 1914 and was buried in Westfield Cemetery. The death certificate (016360) stated that Henry “dropped dead instantaneously from heart failure”. Although the tombstone has disappeared, the burial records state “ EDWARDS – Henry B 07/ 1842, Hope Durham Co. Ont. Died 27/08/ 1914 Aged 72”. Evalina died (017464) November 14, 1926 and is most likely buried with Henry, near the Edward’s gray stone obelisk. She died at her daughter Maria Seguss’ family home in the Nile, from pneumonia, a complication that had developed from the broken leg that she had sustained ten days earlier. She had been living in Auburn at the time.

- Evalina and Henry’s children:
- + i **Elizabeth Edwards** b. Oct.18, 1866
 - + ii **John “Ken” Kenneth Edwards** b. May 23, 1868
 - + iii **Thomas Henry Edwards** b. Aug. 9 1871
 - + iv **Joseph Joshua Edwards** b. Nov.15, 1872 d. Feb. 26, 1873 in infancy
 - + v **Maria (pr. Mariah) Edwards** b. Dec23, 1875
 - + vi **George Edwards** b. July 1, 1877 d. Sept. 21, 1877 in infancy
 - + vii **Joshua Edwards** b. Aug.6, 1878 d.Aug.6, 1878 stillborn?

	viii	George Edwards	b. Aug. 15, 1879	d. Nov. 15 1880 in infancy
	ix	Hester Edwards	b. July 9, 1880	d. May 5, 1881 in infancy.
		<i>The 1881 Census was taken about late April and before May 5th as baby Hester, age 9 months, was alive at the time.</i>		
+	x	Annie Edwards	b. Sept 11, 1882	
+	xi	Laura May Edwards	b. Mar. 16, 1884	

Jesse Edwards (John², Thomas¹) was born May 1, 1849 in Hope Township, Durham County, Upper Canada. As mentioned previously, Jesse grew up with a mental handicap, being described in the 1871 Hope Township Census, as being of “unsound mind”. His mother Lovina was always worried about his well-being, and ensured that he would be provided for. Jesse would have helped on the farm until after his father John’s death in 1872. After younger brother Joseph acquired the Stephen Township farm and eventually married, with Lovina’s encouragement, Jesse went with him. There, Jesse lived and helped out until the time of his death at age 56, on February 16, 1907 (014459). He had contracted pneumonia one week earlier. He is buried in Fairfields Cemetery with Joseph. Jesse never married or had children.

Joseph Potter Edwards (John², Thomas¹) was born December 9, 1852 in Hope Township, Durham County, Upper Canada. Although not much is known of young Joseph, he would have no doubt taken a basic education and helped on the family farm. As mentioned earlier, nineteen-year old Joseph had a falling out with his father, John. Consequently, according to family lore, Joseph left home quickly with a horse, a light wagon, a bundle of hay for the horse, and a lunch made by Joseph’s older brother William’s wife, Agnes. Sadly though, father John, died shortly after Joseph’s leaving. Within a few months of John’s death in April of 1872, mother Lovina, sold or gave the family farm to William, and in October of 1872, bought an 84-acre farm in Stephen Township, Huron County and provided it to Joseph for him to establish himself.

Joseph, along with mother Lovina and brother Jesse, homesteaded on the property over the next few years. During this time, young Joseph settled into community life and met his future wife, **Mary Jane King**. He and Mary Jane were married April 14, 1876, at Bethel Church in Stephen Township. (*marriage reg. 004327*). The marriage was reportedly conducted by John Edwards (no relation), and witnessed by Isaac Read and Matilda King. Mary Jane was born December 1, 1849. Old photographs show Joseph as having lean, rugged features, much like his older brothers. During their lifetimes, the Edwards brothers all featured distinguished full beards. As time went on, Joseph replaced the small frame structure with a larger white brick house. They also added outbuildings such as barns and sheds. There, south of the village of Crediton, they farmed and raised their family. Although Lovina left and moved in with brother Henry in East Wawanosh Township, Joseph continued to care for his brother Jesse, whom he had been close to all of his life. Upon the death of Lovina in 1896, ownership of the farm was bequeathed to Joseph.

Mary Jane died March 4, 1915. Joseph died a few years later on September 5, 1919. They are both buried in the small Fairfields Cemetery, on the south edge of the village of Huron Park, in Stephen Township. Their pink granite tombstone is clustered among a grouping of relocated stones, in a haphazard past attempt to consolidate the cemetery. It reads as below. Mary Jane’s parents: Joseph and Elizabeth King of Stephen Township.

EDWARDS
Joseph P.
Died Sept 5, 1919
Aged 67 yrs 9ms
His wife Mary Jane King
Died Mar 4, 1915
Aged 60 yrs 2 ms
Jesse Edwards
Died Feb 16, 1907
Aged 56 yrs

Joseph and Mary Ann’s children:

- + i **John James Edwards** b. Mar. 18, 1877
- + ii **Thomas Henry Edwards** b. Feb. 11, 1880
- + iii **Joseph Wesley Edwards** b. Oct. 29, 1887
- + iv **Matilda Elizabeth Edwards** b. Aug. 31, 1894

Mary Ann Edwards (Nathaniel², Thomas¹) was the oldest of Nathaniel’s children and was born in 1832 in Port Hope, Durham County, Ontario. She was named after Nathaniel’s younger sister. Although nothing is now known of Mary Ann’s younger life, she made her way to Grey County as a young woman in her 20’s, probably along with others from her family. She finally was married at age 39, to **Matthew Gardner**. Their wedding took place in Meaford, Ontario, on June 17, 1872. Witnesses were Thomas Mackie and Elizabeth Reynolds, both from St. Vincent Township. (*Grey County marriages-1869 to 1874, pg. 106*). Matthew was 64, being born in 1808, in Scotland. He was a widower, farmer and Methodist. Because of their ages, it is not believed that they had children. It is not known when Mary Ann or Matthew died, or where they were buried, however Meaford or Sydenham Township would be likely. Matthew’s parents: James and Elizabeth Gardner.

Sarah Edwards (Nathaniel², Thomas¹) was born in May 24, 1835 in Hope Township. Sarah eventually met and married **John Bloomfield**. They were wed December 9, 1852, at St. John’s Church in Port Hope, Ontario, by the Rev. Jonathan Shortt. “Sarah was the second daughter of Nathaniel Edwards.” (*Wilson’s Marriage Notices-The Canadian Churchman, pg. 233*). John was born in 1821, in England. John was a veterinary surgeon. John was listed in the 1851 Hope Township Census, as age 31, English born and single. By 1871, John and Sarah were living in the Town of Owen Sound. John was age 50, Sarah was 36, son George was 16 and was a clerk, and daughter Elizabeth was 14 and attending school. In the 1881 Census, John age 63, was still a veterinary surgeon, practicing in the rural township of Glenelg, south of Owen Sound, Grey County. Sarah was 46. There was a female, “Halloe” age 24 living with them, perhaps Elizabeth.

John died ??? and was buried ???. Sarah died of “senility” and “arterial sclerosis”, at age 74, on August 12, 1909, while staying, as a widow with her son George in Oshawa, Ontario (021645). It is not known where Sarah was buried. John’s parents:

Sarah and John’s children:

- + i **George Bloomfield** b. Aug. 19, 1854
 - + ii **Elizabeth Bloomfield** b. 1857
- other children ?*

George Edwards (Nathaniel², Thomas¹) was born in 1842 in Hope Township. In 1865 and 1866, George farmed Concession 3 Lot 28, Hope Township. He was married about that time, to **Ann Maria Bye**. Ann was also born in 1842. George is listed for Sydenham Township, Grey County, in the 1871 Census. The 1881 Sydenham Township Census lists George and Mariah well established and farming, along with their large family. Dr. Sloan from the Township had attended all of the children's births. George died ??? and was buried ???. Ann died ??? and was buried ??? Ann's parents:

George and Ann's children:

- i **Thomas N. Edwards** b. 1867
- + ii **Lafontaine Edwards** b. 1868
- iii **Ann Mariah Edwards** b. 1870
- + iv **Margaret Lavina Edwards** b. July 21, 1873
- v **George J. Edwards** b. 1875
- + vi **Harry Edwards** b. Dec. 13, 1876
- + vii **Orvilla Edwards** b. Jan. 12, 1879
- + viii **Lafontaine Edwards** b. April 14, 1884
- + ix **Mary Elizabeth Edwards** b. Sept. 1, 1885

Lovina Margaret Edwards (Nathaniel², Thomas¹) was born in 1843 in Hope Township. At some point Lovina moved to Sydenham Township, Grey County. Most likely along with brother George, and his wife Maria. Lovina died at age 26, on September 25, 1871, from Nephritis. She is listed as a "farmer's wife", although this might have been an error. She most likely didn't marry or had children. She most likely was buried in Sydenham Township.

Fourth Generation – The Great Grandchildren

Margaret Edwards (Thomas³, John², Thomas¹) was born about 1865 in Fullarton Township, Perth County. Margaret was married ??? to ??? **Rozell**. They lived part of their lives in the New Lisgeard area of northern Ontario. Margaret died July 20, 1923 and is apparently buried in Hartman Cemetery, near Toronto, Ontario.

Children:

- i **Elsie Rozell** b. m. Oldham
- ii **Benjamin Rozell** b.
- iii **Nelson Rozell** b.
- iv **Myrtle Rozell** b.
- v **Stanley Rozell** b.

Thomas Edwards (Thomas³, John², Thomas¹) was born October 14, 1869. At some point Tom went to Indiana and settled there at a town called Windfall. Tom was married ??? to **Ellen Lawson**. Ellen was born ??? An old photo owned by Laverne Flynn shows a fourth grade class dated 1913/ 14 from a school in Windfall, Indiana. Tom died ??? and was buried ??? Ellen's parents:

Children:

- i **Irene Edwards** b. m. Hobbs
- ii **Isabelle Edwards** b. m. Legg
- iii **Leroy Edwards** b.
- iv **Lafreda Edwards** b.

Henry "Harry" Edwards (Thomas³, John², Thomas¹) was born July 26, 1872. Henry lived and worked at home on the family farm in Fullarton Township, Perth County, Ontario, with his father Thomas, all of his life. He suffered and died of throat cancer, October 25, 1927, and was buried in the family plot in Woodland Methodist Cemetery, near the farm on highway 23, just south of the town of Mitchell, Ontario. Henry never married or had children.

Sarah "Elizabeth" Edwards (Thomas³, John², Thomas¹) was born April 22, 1875. At age 25, Elizabeth still lived at home, on the Fullarton Township farm, with her parents, older brother Henry 28, and younger sister, Annie 21. She was married at age 27, March 25, 1903 to **John Stephen Sumner** (015279). Witnesses to the marriage were James Jackson and sister, Annie Edwards. John was born in 1877, in Hibbert Township. Elizabeth and John were farmers. John died at age 47, October 31, 1924 and is buried just right of the gate coming into Woodland Methodist Cemetery, Fullarton Township, Perth County. Elizabeth died later, October 2, 1947, in Detroit Michigan, and is buried with John, in Woodland Cemetery. Their small gray stone is inscribed as below. John's parents: George Sumner and Jane Robinson

<p>John S. Sumner 1877 – 1924 His wife Sarah E. Edwards 1875 - 1947</p>

Children:

- + i **Alvin Sumner** b. lived in the Detroit area

Annie Lovina Edwards (Thomas³, John², Thomas¹) was born April 17, 1879. At age 21, during the 1901 Census, she still lived at home, on the Fullarton Township farm, with her parents, older brother Henry 28 and older sister Elizabeth 25. She was married June 22, 1904 to **James “Jim” Thomas Jackson** (015186). Witnesses to the marriage were brother, Henry Edwards and sister Florence Jackson. Jim was born October 29, 1879. Jim was a farmer in Fullarton Township, Perth County. Jim died July 2, 1957 and is buried near Jim’s parents plot in Woodland Methodist Cemetery. Annie died July 27, 1961, and is buried with Jim. Their tombstone is inscribed as noted below. Jim’s parents: James Jackson sr. and Christina W. McClacherty. Their stone is shown below right.

<p>JACKSON James T. Jackson 1879 – 1957 His beloved wife Annie I. Edwards 1879 – 1951 Son Lawrence L. 1906 - 1906</p>

<p>JAMES JACKSON DIED OCT 10 1918 AGED 70 yrs 10 ms 10 dys CHRISTINA W. McCLACHERTY Beloved wife of JAMES JACKSON DIED DEC 6th 1916 AGED 65 yrs 6 mos 26 dys J A C K S O N</p>
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Children:

- i **Lawrence Lorraine Jackson** b. Sept. 25, 1906 d. Dec. 18, 1906 died in infancy
- + ii **Lorne James Jackson** b. July 7, 1910

William Gillett (Elizabeth³, John², Thomas¹) was born in 1865 in Durham County, Upper Canada. During his boyhood growing up in the village of Millbrook, he worked with his father and learned the trade of cabinet-making. William was married ??? William died ??? and was buried ??? Children: ???

Maggie Gillett (Elizabeth³, John², Thomas¹) was born in 1869 in Durham County, Upper Canada. As a girl she lived with her parents and older brother William, in the small village of Millbrook. Maggie was married ??? Maggie died ??? and was buried ??? Children: ???

Elizabeth Edwards (William³, John², Thomas¹) was born in 1873, in Hope Township, Durham County. In the 1881 Hope Township Census, Eliza was age 7 and attending school. Eliza was married about 1892 to **John D. Hamilton**. John was born ??? Sadly, Eliza died young at age 21, on February 7, 1895 (012506). She had apparently had heart decease for at least two years. She had been described as a “farmer’s wife”. She is buried in the family plot in Zion Cemetery, Hope Township. It is not known what happened to John, when he died or where he is buried. It is not believed that there were any children.

Lucy May Edwards (William³, John², Thomas¹) was born August 27, 1880 (*tombstone suggests 1878*) in Hope Township, Durham County. Lucy was married ??? to **Wilbert J. McCullough**. Wilbert was born in 1877. Lucy and Wilbert inherited the Edwards farm on Lot 29, after Lucy’s father William died in 1908. Wilbert continued farming until he passed away in 1956. Lucy lived there alone until 1964, when she was about 86 years old. At that time, she sold the farm to Lawrence and Lois Boyko, who live there today. Lucy lived in a local nursing home until her death in 1966. She is buried in the family plot in Zion Cemetery. Some time prior to her passing, Lucy had a large tombstone erected in the family plot, with all the names inscribed. This monument provides a tangible memory of the Edwards family in Hope Township, and should continue to be

preserved. It should be noted, that there was frequent contact between Lucy and her cousins in Fullarton and Stephen Townships, and that these families were well known to each other, a trend and custom more common to a bygone era.

As Lucy had no children, her inheritance went to the local hospital.

Note: With the passing of Lucy May in 1966, the William Edwards' line of descent, ended.

Gilbert Edwards (William³, John², Thomas¹) was born August 29, 1881. An article was written in the local press after Gilbert's death in 1917, that best describes his notable life, "*Gilbert Edwards was born at Zion, Hope Township, 29 August 1888. In early life he was an agriculturalist and later a very successful drover. For a short time, he conducted a butcher shop in Port Hope. He was a member of the Methodist Church and a devoted and staunch supporter of the Sunday school and Temperance work. He was a member of the S.O.E., B.S., L.O.L., and A.F. & A.M. In 1908 (about the time of his father's death) he entered Hope Township Council where he served as councilor for four years. In 1912, he was elected Deputy-Reeve and was a representative at the County Council. As this was a critical time, owing to the building of two railroads, his keen intellect and business qualifications won him the gratitude and respect of his supporters.*

Higher honours were in store for him, but he enlisted early in the war, as a lieutenant. (Gilbert had been a lieutenant in the 46th militia regiment). As he was not qualified, he attended military school in Peterborough, where he won the rank of captain. He enlisted with the 39th Battalion on December 26, 1914, spending some months in Port Hope as recruiting officer until removal of the battalion to Belleville. He took a course in the Canadian School of Musketry at Ottawa. On June 24, 1915, Captain Edwards sailed for England, arriving at July 3rd. He was stationed at West Sandling, Folkstone and Seaford. When the 39th was divided and sent to other units, he was detained in England and kept on the training staff. During this period he visited France, and took back useful information to the instruction camps in England. His military ability was recognized in England where he was gazetted Captain, and recommended for Major in the B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force).

Notwithstanding the honours conferred on him in England, he seized the first opportunity of going on active service in France by reverting to Lieutenant and sailed June 15, 1917. In August he won the Military Cross for bravery, driving the Germans out of a trench and holding same. On September 11th, he was out at Lens with a party of men when they were heavily shelled and gassed by Germans. Captain Edwards was instantly killed by the concussion of a shell. On September 12th he was buried at Nouex-les-Mines Communal Cemetery Extension, near Bethune, France, with military honours".

Sister Lucy May, remembered her brother Gilbert and his achievements, and is proudly mentioned on her family monument, at Zion. Gilbert never married or had children.

George Edwards (John³, John², Thomas¹) was born in 1871 near Bluevale, in Morris Township, Huron County. George would have grown up on the family farm near Dauphin, Manitoba.

James Edwards (John³, John², Thomas¹) was born in 1874 near Bluevale, in Morris Township, Huron County. James would have grown up on the family farm near Dauphin, Manitoba.

Sarah Ann “Annie” Edwards (John³, John², Thomas¹) was born in 1876 near Bluevale, in Morris Township, Huron County. Annie, as a young girl, moved with her parents to Dauphin, Manitoba. At some point perhaps in her teen years, Annie moved back to Ontario and probably stayed with her uncle Tom’s family in Fullarton Township, for a while. She was married October 24, 1901 to **Joseph William Flynn**. Joseph was born March 2, 1876, in Stephen Township, Huron County. The wedding was in Fullarton Township, conducted by Rev. R.W. Knowles, and witnessed by James Flynn and Annie’s cousin, Annie L. Edwards. At the time, Joseph was listed as a farmer in McGillivray Township, and Annie was a domestic living in Fullarton. (008973)

Over the years, Joseph worked as a labourer and did a number of jobs. By and by, after they started their small family, Annie and Joe separated. She lived in Crediton. He lived in Clandeboye. For many years, son Harry lived with Joe. Ann died in 1943 from cancer and was buried without a marker in Exeter Cemetery. Joe died September 2, 1957 and was buried without a headstone, in St. James Anglican Cemetery south of Clandeboye. Joseph’s parents: William Flynn (b. 1848 in Ireland) and Mary Jane Sims, of Stephen Township (*no doubt related to Isabelle and Emma?*)

Children:

- + i **Wilhelmina “Mina” Flynn** b. July 6, 1908
- + ii **William “Harry” Henry Flynn** b. Mar. 10, 1910

Benjamin Edwards (John³, John², Thomas¹) was born in January ?, 1881 on the family farm near Dauphin, Manitoba.

Elizabeth A. Sheardown (Maria³, John², Thomas¹) was born in 1863 in Hope Township, Durham County, Ontario. The 1881 Ontario Census shows her as being age 18, and living with her large family in McGillivray Township, Middlesex County, north. Elizabeth was married about 1882 to **Ira Bice**. Ira was born in 1859. She and Ira lived in Lucan, Ontario. Ira died in 1950. Elizabeth died in 1957. They were both buried Row 11, St. James Anglican Cemetery, Clandeboye, Biddulph Township, Middlesex County, Ontario. There are a number of Bice family members buried in this churchyard cemetery. Ira’s parents:

BICE Ira
1859 – 1950
Elizabeth A. Bice
1863 – 1957
Percy Bice
1884 – 1884
Ina Bice
1885 - 1922

Children:

- + i **Percy Bice** b. 1884 d. 1884 in infancy
- + ii **Ina Bice** b. 1885
- + iii **Lulu Bice** b. 1887
- + iv **Ernol Bice** b. 1889

Mary Sheardown (Maria³, John², Thomas¹) was born in 1865 in Hope Township, Durham County, Ontario. The 1881 Ontario Census shows her as being age 16, and living with her large family in McGillivray Township, Middlesex County, north. She was married ??? to **John Pickering**. John was born in 1863 in Ontario. John died in 1901 and was buried ??? Mary was married to 2nd husband ??? Mary died ??? John died ??? They are both buried in Grand Bend

Cemetery, Bosanquet Township, Lambton County, Ontario. John's parents: John Pickering, of McGillivray Township (b. 1833 England) and Sarah ??? (b. 1838 England)

Children: ???

John "Jack" "Chap" Chapman Sheardown (Maria³, John², Thomas¹) was born in 1867 in Hope Township, Durham County, Ontario. The 1881 Ontario Census shows him as being age 14, a "farmer's son" and living with his large family in McGillivray Township, Middlesex County, north. John was married about 1890 to **Edith Mayo** Edith was born in 1871. The 1891 Stephen Township Census shows John married to Edith age 20, and having a two-month old baby son, Bern. John was a wage earner working in an area blacksmith shop. Edith died in 1913 and was buried in Colborne Cemetery, Colborne Township, Huron County. Jack was married ??? to 2nd wife **Jessie ???** Jessie was born ??? Jack died in 1950 and was also buried in Colborne Cemetery Edith's parents: James Mayo, of Lucan (b. 1834 Quebec) and Anne ??? (b. 1830 Ireland)

Children:

- | | | | |
|---|-----|--------------------------------------|---------|
| + | i | Florence Sheardown | b. 1895 |
| + | ii | Madeline Sheardown | b. |
| + | iii | Vern Sheardown | b. 1891 |
| + | iv | Annie Sheardown | b. 1903 |
| + | v | James Henry "Harry" Sheardown | b. 1907 |
| + | vi | Earl Sheardown | b. 1912 |

Harriett "Hattie" Sheardown (Maria³, John², Thomas¹) was born in 1870 in Hope Township, Durham County, Ontario. The 1881 Ontario Census shows her as being age 11, and living with her large family in McGillivray Township, Middlesex County, north. The 1891 Stephen Township Census lists "Hattie" as being 21 and living at home. Hattie was married ??? to **??? Wolfe**. ??? was born ??? Hattie moved to New Jersey about 1877. Hattie died in 1929 and was buried ???

Children:

- | | | | |
|---|-----|-----------------------|----|
| + | i | Margaret Wolfe | b. |
| + | ii | Veleda Wolfe | b. |
| + | iii | Carl Wolfe | b. |

Lucy Sheardown (Maria³, John², Thomas¹) was born in 1871 in Hope Township, Durham County, Ontario. The 1881 Ontario Census shows her as being age 9, and living with her large family in McGillivray Township, Middlesex County, north. She was married ??? to **Charles Lockner**. Charlie was born in 1869. Lucy and Charlie lived at Shipka, Ontario. Lucy died in 1941 and was buried in Grand Bend Cemetery, Bosanquet Township, Lambton County. Charlie died ??? and was buried ??? Charles' parents:

Children:

- | | | | |
|---|-----|-------------------------------|---------|
| + | i | Laura Lockner | b. 1892 |
| + | ii | Harry Lockner | b. 1895 |
| + | iii | Hattie Lockner | b. 1899 |
| + | iv | Lucille Lockner | b. |
| + | v | Ernest Lockner | b. |
| + | vi | Charles Lockner jr. | b. 1907 |
| + | vii | William "Bill" Lockner | b. 1909 |

Georgina Sheardown (Maria³, John², Thomas¹) was born in 1874. The 1881 Ontario Census shows her as being age 7, and living with her large family in McGillivray Township, Middlesex County, north.

Samuel Sheardown (Maria³, John², Thomas¹) was born September 20, 1875 in Stephen Township. He was delivered by Dr. James A. Rollins (007481). The 1881 Ontario Census shows him as being age 6, and living with his large family in McGillivray Township, Middlesex County, north. Sam was married ??? to **Alice Maude Treble**. Alice was born in 1876. Alice died in 1916, at age 40 and was buried in Section F, Goderich Maitland Cemetery. Sam was a blacksmith and worked in Centralia with his brother John. Sam was married in 1917 to 2nd wife, **Flossie B. Dobbie**. Flossie was born in 1881. Sam died in 1947 and is buried with Alice, infant son Walter and Flossie, in Goderich Maitland. Flossie died in 1971, and was also buried near Sam. Alice's parents: Flossie's parents:

<p>SHEARDOWN Samuel Sheardown 1876 – 1947 Alice M Treble Beloved wife of S Sheardown 1876 – 1916 Walter B. Son 1914 -1915</p>
<p>His beloved wife Flossie B Dobbie 1881 – 1971</p>

Children of Samuel and Alice:

- + i **Carl Ashton Sheardown** b. 1913
- + ii **Charles Sheardown** b. 1915
- iii **Walter Bruce Sheardown** b. 1915 d. 1916 died in infancy

Children of Samuel and Flossie:

- + iv **Murray Sheardown** b. 1918
- + v **Walter Sheardown** b. 1920
- + vi **Ada Jean Sheardown** b. 1922
- + vii **Harold "Bud" Sheardown** b. 1926

Ada Jane Sheardown (Maria³, John², Thomas¹) was born March 10, 1878, in Stephen Township. She was delivered by Dr. James A. Rollins (211980). The 1881 Ontario Census shows her as being age 3, and living with her large family in McGillivray Township, Middlesex County, north. The 1891 Stephen Township Census lists Ada as being 13 and living at home. Ada was married ??? to **Thomas James Cave**. Thomas was born ??? Ada and Thomas moved west and settled near Hamiota, Manitoba. Thomas died in 1946 and was buried in Hamiota. Ada died in 1965 and was buried with Thomas. Thomas' parents:

Children:

- + i **Alvin Cave** b. 1896
- + ii **Verna May Cave** b. 1900
- + iii **Frederick Cave** b. 1909

Wrendall "Wren" Henry Sheardown (Maria³, John², Thomas¹) was born June 10, 1880. The 1881 Ontario Census shows him as being under age 1, and living with his large family in McGillivray Township, Middlesex County, north. The 1891 Stephen Township Census lists "Renn"

as being 10 and living at home. Wren was married ??? to **Edith F. Millian**. Edith was born in 1883. Wren also worked for a while in the blacksmith shop in Centralia. Wren died in 1945 and was buried in Section B, Goderich Maitland Cemetery. Edith also died in 1945 and is buried with Wren. Edith's parents:

SHEARDOWN	
Wren H. Sheardown	
1879 – 1945	
Edith F. Millian	
His wife	
1883 – 1945	
Donald their son	
1922 – 1940	
“Until the Day break and the shadows fly away”	

Children:

+	i	Percy E. Sheardown	b. 1911
+	ii	James “Jim” Sheardown	b. 1913
+	iii	Leonard “Ben” Sheardown	b. 1918
+	iv	Merle Sheardown	b. 1920
+	v	Donald Sheardown	b. 1922

George Wilbur Sheardown (Maria³, John², Thomas¹) was born in 1883. The 1891 Stephen Township Census lists George as being age 8 and living at home. George was married ??? to **Catherine Wilson White**. Catherine was born ??? George died in 1951 and is buried ??? Catherine died in 1960 and is buried in Baird's Presbyterian Cemetery, Stanley Township, Huron County. Catherine's parents:

Children:

+	i	Tina Mabel Sheardown	b. 1913
+	ii	Margaret Nettie Sheardown	b. 1914
+	iii	Marie Catherine Sheardown	b. 1916
+	iv	Eleanor Matilda Sheardown	b. 1918
+	v	Doreen May Sheardown	b. 1920
+	vi	George Edmund Sheardown	b. 1922
+	vii	John Fraser Sheardown	b. 1924

Elmer Sheardown (Maria³, John², Thomas¹) was born June 10, 1886. The 1891 Stephen Township Census lists Elmer as being age 4 and living at home. The 1901 Fullarton Township Census shows Elmer age 14, working on his uncle Thomas Edwards' farm, south of Mitchell, and earning a wage. Elmer was married ??? to **Sara Frances Watson**. Sara was born in 1889. Elmer was a farmer. He and Sra lived south of Bayfield. During the 1940's, Elmer worked for the Canadian Pacific Railway in Windsor, Ontario. In 1952 he was transferred to Goderich, where he retired the next year. Elmer died in 1962 and is buried in Section H, Goderich Maitland Cemetery. Sara died in 1970, and is buried with Elmer. Sara's parents:

SHEARDOWN	
Elmer	Sara
Sheardown	Watson
1886 – 1962	1889 - 1970

Children:

+	i	Meta Sheardown	b. 1915
+	ii	Watson Elmer Sheardown	b. 1916
+	iii	Olive Sheardown	b. 1918
+	iv	Helen P. Sheardown	b. 1922
+	v	Yvonne Sheardown	b. 1927

Elizabeth “Lizzie” Edwards (Henry³, John², Thomas¹) was born October 18, 1866 in Hope Township, Durham County. Lizzie as a toddler, along with her parents Evalina and Henry, and Baby brother Kenneth moved to East Wawanosh Township. She was raised in Henry’s new log cabin on Concession 6 and went to school across the road at S.S. #13. As a young woman, Lizzie would have helped in the household with chores. Elizabeth charted new ground for a woman in Huron County and learned to be a photographer and worked at a studio in Wingham. At age 36, Lizzie married a much younger **Arthur Kingsbury**, on December 4, 1902, in Wingham. Arthur was born in 1877 in Camberwell, Surrey, England (*1881 British Census*) and emigrated to Canada in 1894. He came here with friends, Ernest Seguss and Charles Keating. At some point however, Lizzie lost most of her eyesight and was unable to continue with her career. Arthur was a painter/paperhanger by trade. Lizzie and Arthur apparently liked to camp, and spent time camping and fishing in riverside areas of Huron County. They first lived in “the Nile”, near sister Maria and Ernest, and then moved to Goderich, Blyth and then London. Lizzie died July 26, 1953. He lived in a room over a store at the time. Arthur died May 4, 1961 in Wingham. They are buried ??? They had no children. Arthur’s parents: Elizabeth Kingsbury (cab driver) and father ?

John “Ken” Kenneth Edwards (Henry³, John², Thomas¹) was born May 23, 1868, in Hope Township, Durham County. As a baby he would have moved with his family to East Wawanosh. It is not known when nor why Ken decided to move west, nor when he met Lillie. He was married ??? to **Margaret “Lillie” Edmeston**. Family lore suggests that Marg (Lillie) was born in 1887 in the west, and spent her life there. Ken and Marg were farmers outside of Maple Creek Saskatchewan. Ken would have known relatives from Aunt Myra Tabb’s family who also settled near him. Upon retirement from the farm, Ken had their house moved to the edge of town, where they lived out their days. They had had no children. Ken died April 13, 1957. Marg died several years later in 1963. They are buried in Maple Creek, Saskatchewan.

Thomas “Tom” Henry Edwards (Henry³, John², Thomas¹) was born August 9, 1871, in Dungannon, Huron County, Ontario. During his younger years, Tom was a streetcar operator in London and lived on Adelaide St. south. He was apparently quite good looking. This, along with a certain amount of charm, blessed Tom with a way with the ladies. He married 1st wife **Lynetta “Violet” Ashton**, June 1, 1898 in London, Ontario. Violet was born April 13, 1882. Tom also learned carpentry skills and worked for the Canadian National Railway, repairing cars. Violet died in 1915 and was buried in Colborne Cemetery, Huron County. At some point he married 2nd wife **Ida (Grace?) May**. Ida was born October 7, 1869. He lived in Blyth with Ida during his early retirement years. They lived in a little house, second from the right end, on North Street. According to some memories, they were always fun to visit. Tom was a very religious Presbyterian and always observed the Sabbath. He didn’t even attend his only daughter Velma’s wedding, because she married an Anglican. Ida died September 14, 1939 and was buried in Sec. 18, a narrow strip west of Gesthsemane Gardens, row 2, at Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens, in London, Ontario.

After Ida died, Tom met an old childhood friend, whom he went to school with in East Wawanosh, **Alberta “Bertie” (Amy?) Mason**. Tom and Alberta were married ??? Alberta was born ??? (d.

1948? Buried ? Blyth?). In his later years, Thomas lived with daughter Velma and her family, on Ashland Ave. in London. He suffered from colon cancer that required a colostomy. Thomas died October 6, 1953 and was buried with Ida at Forest Lawn, in London, Ontario. Their memorial plaque reads – **EDWARDS, Thomas H. Aug 9 1871- Oct 6 1953 EDWARDS, Ida/ wife of Thomas H. Edwards Oct 7 1869- Sept 14 1939 Asleep in Jesus**

Child by 1st wife:

+ i **Velma Lynetta Edwards** b. Aug. 3, 1902

(Ashton/ Mirehouse family research is being carried out by Bob Admans, 85 Windemere Cres., Stratford Ontario, N5A 6A9 or radmans@orc.ca)

Maria “Mariah” Edwards (Henry³, John², Thomas¹) was born December 23, 1877, in East Wawanosh Twp., Huron County, Ontario. She was married September 10, 1902 at Londesborough, Ontario to **Ernest Seguss**. Ernest, one of thirteen children, was born April 7, 1878 in Woolwich, Kent, England. Ernest emigrated to Canada, as a teenager in 1894, with his friends, Charles Keating and Arthur Kingsbury. The 1901 Ontario Census lists Ernest as working on the farm of William Scott, Concession 14 Lot 41 of Hullet Township, Huron County. Ernest and Maria married and lived in the village of Dungannon, Huron County. Dungannon was a thriving rural community at the turn of the century. Ernest was a blacksmith by trade and ran his own shop there. During WW1, Ernest enlisted in 1915 at age 36, and eventually became a sergeant in the Engineer’s corp. and saw action in France and Belgium. At some point after the war, Ernest and Maria moved to the hamlet of Nile (known as “the” Nile). Ernest, with an easy-going personality, had a keen interest in music, and was a composer of music and verse. He played an assortment of instruments including the organ, flute and guitar. He played in the local brass band. Maria, although not being able to read music, also had a musical ability with the organ.

In his later years, Ernest suffered from breathing difficulties resultant from being gassed on the front during the war. Ernest would often require “rest in the parlour”. Maria was reportedly not shy about expressing opinions. She would sit on the porch of their small house, and keep an eye on village activities. Maria and Ernest were quite active in local activities. He was an Orangeman. They both were involved in the church. Maria was a Sunday school teacher and Ernest was a caretaker. Ernest read the Bible aloud each day, usually before breakfast. Maria was an avid quilter. He eventually died of pneumonia, November 24, 1940, and is buried in Dungannon Cemetery, Sec. B-54, with a military headstone # 166189. Maria died several years later, August 11, 1944 and is also buried there. Ernest’s parents: Richard Seguss (gas stoker) and Sarah Evans

Children:

+ i **Lionel Seguss** b. Jan. 25, 1904
+ ii **Gladys Seguss** b. Oct. 15, 1905
iii **Roy (Raymond?) Seguss** b. twin of Mabel, died in infancy
iv **Mabel Seguss** b. twin of Roy, died in infancy
v **Carl Seguss** b. died in infancy of typhoid.
+ vi **Florence May Seguss** b. Feb. 28, 1907
+ vii **Sylvia Seguss** b. July 22, 1908

Annie Edwards (Henry³, John², Thomas¹) was born September 11, 1882, in East Wawanosh Township, Huron County, Ontario, Canada. She was married September 22, 1904 to **Charles John Keating (009867)**. Witnesses to the marriage were Bob Moore of Dungannon and

sister, Laura Edwards. Charles was born February 20, 1878 in London, England. Charles emigrated from England in 1894, at the young age of 16, with his two friends, Arthur Kingsbury and Ernest Seguss, on the S.S. Labrador. The boys left Liverpool April 12th and arrived at Halifax April 21st. They then took the CPR to Toronto. (*Charles and Ernest are listed in Canada Archives documents microfilm C-4516, as "home children". It is probable that Charles and siblings were orphaned after 1887, or this status may have been merely for the purpose of passage*). The friends also ended up marrying two of Annie's sisters, Elizabeth and Maria, respectively. Early photographs, again probably taken by sister, Lizzie, shows the sisters, in their early twenties, as being quite attractive. Annie had large, most likely blue eyes, and long brown hair. Charles also, in early photos was quite handsome with a good physique, dark hair and groomed mustache.

Charles and future brother-in-law Ernest, for the first number of years in Canada, worked as hired hands on farms in Huron County. Even after marrying Annie in 1904, Charles worked for William Hill at Concession 2 Lot 9 of Colborne Township, in 1908. Charles and Annie moved around frequently, and lived in Benmiller, Auburn and Westfield. Charles was a hired farmhand for years, primarily in East Wawanosh, prior to him and Annie settling on a 100-acre farm in Morris Township, east of the village of Belgrave, in 1928. Charles, like his friend and brother-in-law Ernest, was an avid Orangeman. He always celebrated the traditional defeat of the Irish Catholics at the "Battle of the Boyne", annually July 12th. He played the flute, wore ribbons and marched in their parades. Charles took life somewhat casually, and was certainly able to enjoy himself. Charles was also somewhat of an actor and had a sense of humour. With this sense of showmanship he was able to do such things as link his fingers and jump through his own arms, like a hoop. Charles passed this attitude toward life down to his sons Norman and Mel.

Annie apparently didn't appreciate Charles' abilities and was frequently at odds with Charles. Perhaps because of domestic problems, Charles was also remembered as being somewhat moody, and even cross with the younger children and grandchildren. Annie was raised as a Methodist and saw life more seriously than Charles did. As an indication of her upbringing, there was a framed pledge with 80 names, that once hung in the main vestibule of Westfield Methodist church, that stated "*We, the undersigned, do solemnly promise, by the Help of God, to abstain from the use of all intoxicating liquors, tobacco and profanity.*" Annie's name, along with her sister Lizzie's, among many others, were all proudly displayed.

Charles died on April 8, 1939. He had gotten sick with a bad cough. He was sent to the hospital in Wingham and eventually ended up in the sanitarium in London, where he died of tuberculosis, better known to the Huron County rural folk, as "galloping consumption", because the sickness had claimed him so quickly. Annie continued to live and work on the farm with her youngest son Harold, after Charles' death. Annie, like many folk of her day was mindful of her and Harold's spending. She maintained a detailed record of every penny, along with significant daily events. Annie enjoyed cooking and baking. She took pride in maintaining a wonderful garden. It was always stocked with many varieties of fruit and vegetables including raspberries, red/ black currants, rhubarb, and herbs. They also had a small apple orchard, which yielded several types of delicious apples.

Annie died many years later, January 11, 1958 at Wingham General Hospital. Annie and Charles are buried at Brandon Cemetery, Belgrave, Ontario. As an interest to note, also buried with them is Charles' younger sister, Isabella "Bella" Frances Keating. Bella was born October 30, 1887 in London, England and followed Charles to Canada in 1903, prior to Charles' marriage to Annie.

Bella was a very tiny, quiet and demure woman, being only about four foot tall. She was much loved by the several families where she had worked as a domestic. The family of a “Mr. Robinson”, from Toronto, even cared and provided for Bella when she was destitute and ill, living in Blyth, probably in the early 1950’s. It is not known why the family didn’t care for her at this critical time. She was moved to the Brookhaven Nursing Home, in Wingham, where she lived and prospered with her many friends for about 32 years. Bella eventually passed away April 17, 1983, in her 96th year. Charles’ parents were John Keating and Mary Mitchell, of London England.

Children:

- + i **Hazel Laura Keating** b. Apr. 30, 1905
- + ii **Norman Keating** b. June 27, 1908
- + iii **Melborne “Mel” Emerson Keating** b. Sept. 18, 1911
- + iv **Harold Leslie Keating** b. Apr. 5, 1924

Laura May Edwards (Henry³, John², Thomas¹) was born March 16, 1884 in East Wawanosh Township, Huron County, Ontario. She married **Robert “Bob” Albert Moore**, November 21, 1905, in Auburn, Ontario, by Rev. Fallis. The marriage was witnessed by Mrs. Fallis, and her daughter, Irene (010514). In early photographs from this time, Laura was quite attractive and no doubt had caught Bob’s eye. Bob was somewhat slight of build and had a serious look to him. Bob was born in 1878 in Belfast Ireland. He had emigrated from Ireland as a young man, presumably in 1894, at the same time as Charles, Arthur and Ernest. Bob worked on farms in the Dungannon area, near where he and Laura lived. For a while prior to the war, they lived in East Wwawanosh, across the road from father Henry and mother Evalina. Like other men in this area of Huron County, Bob enlisted in the 161st Battalion during WW1 and spent his time in France. After his return, Bob and Laura maintained a small house on the east edge of Dungannon. Bob had several cows in the small barn and sold milk to his neighbours. Their house still stands, however the white picket fence, large tidy garden and fruit trees are all gone.

Laura, in later years, has been described as being “somewhat loud”, however as Bob was hard of hearing, it may have been justified. Bob died in 1955. Laura died shortly after, April 14, 1957, within several days of her brother Ken’s death, out in Maple Creek. Bob and Laura are buried in Dungannon Cemetery, behind the chapel in the front of the cemetery. Bob’s parents: James and Annie Moore.

Children:

- + i **George Moore** b. 1906 d. 1963 m. Alberta M. Currie
- + ii **Mildred Moore** b. May 27, 1908

John James Edwards (Joseph³, John², Thomas¹) was born March 18, 1877 in Stephen Township, Huron County. (010614) John can be found on the 1891 and 1901 Census’. In 1901, he was age 24, single and still living at home and working his father, Joseph’s farm, in Stephen Township. John was married June 24, 1903 to **Isabella Sims**. Isabella was born in 1884. She would have been a young bride. Old photos show John as tall, slim and dark with thick wavy dark hair. John inherited his father’s farm on the 4th Concession, which he and his family operated all his life. Part of the farm was taken over during WWII, as part of Centralia airbase. John died in 1945 and is buried in Exeter Cemetery Sec. 46 Row 6. There is a pink granite stone, which is inscribed as below. Isabella died in 1959 and is interred with John. Isabella’s parents: Job Sims and Rebecca Rollins

EDWARDS John J. Edwards
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<p style="text-align: center;">1877 – 1945 his wife Isabella Sims 1884 - 1959</p>

Children:

- + i **Melinda Isabella Edwards** b. Oct. 24, 1903
- + ii **Melvin “Bob” John Edwards** b. Sept. 21, 1905
- + iii **Cora Rebecca Edwards** b. May 14, 1908
- + iv **Lillian Merle Edwards** b. July 4, 1918
- + v **Harold James “Jim” Edwards** b. Feb. 14, 1921
- + vi **Wilbert Harvey “Chubb” Edwards** b. May 2, 1926

Thomas Henry Edwards (Joseph³, John², Thomas¹) was born February 11, 1880 in Stephen Township, Huron County. (011942) Like his older brother John, Thomas can be found on the 1891 and 1901 Census', still working father Joseph's farm and single. Thomas was married November 3, 1904 to **Emma Sims** (015188). They were married in Fullarton Township by Rev. Knowles. Emma was born in 1886. Emma was the younger sister of John Edward's wife, Isabella. For a brief time Tom and Emma lived in Crediton. He was a butcher by trade. They, at some point moved to Ingersoll where they lived in an apartment over a store. Thomas worked in a butcher shop there. Thomas died in 1940 and was buried in Exeter Cemetery, next to his brother John. After Tom died, Emma, Vera and Herb moved back to Crediton for a year or two, before returning to Ingersoll. Emma died March 23, 1960 and is also buried in Exeter Cemetery. Thomas and Emma have a pink granite stone, that reads-

<p style="text-align: center;">EDWARDS 1880 Thomas H. 1940 his wife 1886 Emma Sims 1960 their son 1910 Herbert T. 1970</p>

Children:

- + i **Vera Edwards** b. 1905
- + ii **Herbert T. Edwards** b. 1910

Joseph Wesley Edwards (Joseph³, John², Thomas¹) was born October 29, 1887, in Stephen Township, Huron County (014147). Joe was married about 1916 to **Pauline ???** Pauline was born ??? Pauline had apparently been a housekeeper working for Joseph Potter Edwards, on the farm in Stephen Township, after Mary Jane had died in 1915. There is a family story that suggests that Pauline became pregnant out of wedlock, and that Joseph Wesley married her to save an impending scandal. It is believed that the child was not his. At any rate, the marriage didn't work out. Pauline moved to London, and left the picture, while Joseph had a falling out with Joseph sr. and went west to Alberta, and cut family ties for many years. In Alberta, Joseph was married again to **Margaret “Maggie” Livingston**. Maggie was born February 12, 1901 in County Tyrone, Ireland. Joseph and Maggie were farmers and retired to Edmonton in their later years. Joe died ??? and was buried ??? Maggie died March 7, 1995 and was buried in Edmonton. Maggie's parents:

Children:

- + i **Alveeda Edwards** b. Dec. 16, 1932
- + ii **Thomas Edwards** b. Aug. 10, 1937
- + iii **James “Jim” Edwards** b. Nov. 16, 1938

Matilda “Tilly” Elizabeth Edwards (Joseph³, John², Thomas¹) was born August 31, 1894, in Stephen Township, Huron County (012730). She was married ??? to **Fred Smith**. Fred was born ??? Fred worked in a hotel in Edmonton, Alberta. Matilda died ??? and was buried ??? Fred died and was buried ??? Fred’s parents:

Children:

- + i **Veleda Smith** b. Feb. 6, 1914
- + ii **Leroy Smith** b. Feb. 13, 1922
- + iii **Myrna Smith** b. June 6, 1930

George Bloomfield (Sarah³, Nathaniel², Thomas¹) was born August 19, 1854. In the 1871 Census for the Town of Owen Sound, the 16-year old George was listed with his family, as a clerk. George was married in 188? to **Ida ???**. Ida was born January 27, 1865 in Ontario. Her parents were both born in England. During the 1891 and 1891 Census’, George and Ida lived in Oshawa, Ontario. George was employed as a grocer/ baker. At the time of his mother, Sarah’s death in 1909, Sarah was staying with George in Oshawa. George died ??? and was buried ??? Ida died ??? and was buried ??? Ida’s parents:

Children:

- + i **Margaret M. Bloomfield** b. Mar. 5, 1893
- other children ?*

Elizabeth Bloomfield (Sarah³, Nathaniel², Thomas¹) was born in 1857.

LaFontaine Edwards (George³, Nathaniel², Thomas¹) was born in 1868, about the time his father George moved from Hope Township to Sydenham Township, Grey County. Certainly George and family along with toddler LaFontaine, were farming in Sydenham at the time of the 1871 Census. Although he no doubt went to school and helped on the farm, fate dealt young LaFontaine a mortal blow. On November 15, 1882, at age 15, he died after getting a fractured skull, after being kicked by a horse five days earlier (005732). Dr. Sloan had been in attendance. It is not known where Lafontaine is buried although Sydenham Township would be likely.

Margaret Lavina Edwards (George³, Nathaniel², Thomas¹) was born July 21, 1873 in Sydenham Township. (004824) Margaret was no doubt named after her father’s sister, who had died less than a year earlier.

Harry Edwards (George³, Nathaniel², Thomas¹) was born December 13, 1876 in Sydenham Township, Grey County. (007361)

Orvilla Edwards(George³, Nathaniel², Thomas¹) was born January 12, 1879 in Sydenham Township, Grey County. (006855)

Lafontaine Edwards (George³, Nathaniel², Thomas¹) was born April 15, 1884 in Sydenham Township. (010125) He was named after an older brother of the same name who died a year and a half previously.

Mary Elizabeth Edwards (George³, Nathaniel², Thomas¹) was born September 1, 1885 in Sydenham Township. (011286)