

John Matthews, her other grandfather was born in Charlottetown Township, Norfolk County on a farm which was given to her grandfather by the Crown, after the war of 1812. They were of United Loyalists descent. He married Margaret Tisdale, also of United Empire Loyalists and they had two children, Sadie and Wesley. They moved from their farm in 1913 to Brownsville. They stopped for directions at the Whaley farm and that is the first acquaintance of the two families. John Matthews later moved to the Aylmer area and farmed until his retirement. At the age of 81, he built his own home, hiring only a mason to build the chimney.

On July 20, 1938, a happy event took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. Whaley when their daughter Margaret Emma was united in marriage with Stuart Mason Kinsey, son of Owen Kinsey by the Rev. E. Butcher. The attendants were her sister Hazel and his brother Orland. Freda Baxter was the organist. On the morning of the wedding, Margaret broke her glasses, upsetting the well-laid plans for the noon ceremony, but Frank Mott, a neighbour volunteered to drive to Tillsonburg and was able to get them repaired and home again in time for her to be able to see coming down the stairs.

Her brother Russel and friend Chas. Phillips had been asked to make ice cream, of course then you made it--the old freezer, even could you have purchased it at the corner store, you had no refrigerator as of today, to keep it frozen and being young and ambitious, they were so busy cultivating tobacco, they hardly gave themselves enough time and the ice cream almost had to be served as a beverage.

After a wedding trip to Muskoka, the bride and groom returned to the Kinsey farm where they resided for several years, moving to Calton, residing on the Camiel Lycke farm then owned by Fred James. During the early part of the war, they moved to Aylmer where he was employed at the Carnation Co.

He then joined the Canadian Armed Forces and saw service on the Canadian East Coast and in Western Europe with the Royal Highland Light Infantry. He returned to Canada in Dec. of 1945, received his discharge from the army, resided for a short time in the home recently owned by Mrs. E. Garner, and they then moved back to the Kinsey farm where they have resided for close to 20 years. The family includes 4 children and 3 grandchildren. One son has now moved to the family farm, making the fourth generation to call it home.

Written by Mrs. Chas. Phillips.

Deeds of land.

VAN VELZER

A SHORT SKETCH OF THE LIFE AND DOINGS
OF JACOB VANVELZER, SON OF DANIEL VANVELZER

Jacob VanVelzer was born in 1773 on his father's farm near Brooklyn, New York State. Being U. E. Loyalists, they were compelled to leave and settled near Digby, Nova Scotia. On June 22nd, 1800, he married Sarah Raymond in Nova Scotia, where six of their family of eight children were born. In 1818, they emigrated to Ontario, then Canada West. In the first part of their journey from Digby to Boston, they encountered a severe storm, driving them out of their course till they were three days getting back to Boston.

In their company were two of Jacob's brothers, James and John; also the Silcoxes and Hamiltons. They came from Boston with horses and wagons crossing the Border at Niagara. The others were west and settled near Iona, West Elgin, and Jacob finding Nova Scotians on the First Concession spent the year 1818 there, locating his Homestead and securing it from the Government. It consisted of the South half of Lot 34, in the fourth concession of Malahide, containing one hundred acres. It was heavily timbered with beech, maple, hickory, black and white ash, walnut, birch, pine; upwards of thirty different kinds of wood. Though it would be valuable today it was a great obstacle in the way of making a living at that time.

A few of the names of the early pioneers were Chute, McConnell, Weaver, Timpany, Arnold, Corporon, Chalk, Herries, Cohoon, Stratton, Bartlette, Soper, Marr, Wilson, Truman and many others from Pennsylvania, Vermont, New York, England and Europe. Some before 1818 and many at a later date.

Jacob spent the winters of 1818 and 1819 clearing a few acres and building a log house and stable; blazed a trail from the First Concession; got a pair of steers and carried feed for them that winter. He spent the first few years in getting a bit of land cleared and getting some stock around him, hindered in many ways too. One dark stormy night two wolves got in the sheep yard and but for the steers would have finished the flock. There was a pond in the field frozen over to bear the wolves, but not the steers, which would slide a rod or more in trying to stop when the wolves would take to the pond. All this showed plainly in the morning. Hearing the racket Jacob prepared to go out, probably with no better weapon than his axe. His wife wouldn't hear of it and finally won out. The steers, too, won the day, or more properly the night.

They sowed a little nursery of apple seeds to start an orchard, among them came up a walnut tree just inside the road fence which grew to be a landmark, the limbs spreading over one hundred feet and reaching two-thirds across the road. That tree stood there over one hundred years and was finally bought by Harry McConnell, grandson of Benjamin McConnell, an early pioneer of Elgin County. It was grubbed out, the butt measuring one thousand feet board measure. It is said that Jacob VanVelzer and a Scotchman, one Thomas Marshall, tossed a chip (wet or dry) to decide which should have first choice of two lots. Both proved to be good ones.

One bear story. A sailor named Stanton, coming through the woods to VanVelzer's, scared two bear cubs. They squalled and he knowing what to expect, ran. He soon found the old bear after him, so throwing his overcoat, he shinned up a tree. She watched awhile, then rolling up his overcoat, made off with it.

Another time, three men caught a cub and wanted to keep it. One took it by the hind legs, the other two on either side of him with their axes kept the old bear at bay. She made a big fuss but did not tackle them.

The first grist mill was at Port Rowan; the first Church at Port Burwell, and the schools were taught by some one who could read, write and cipher. The cobbler went around from house to house fixing the shoes. Oxen were used mostly among the stumps. Cooking was done in the big fireplaces. Some of the first were built of sticks and mudded over with clay and were apt to catch fire.

FARM AND FAMILY HISTORY

THE VANVELZER FAMILY

On September 17, in the year of 1833, 100 acres consisting of the south half of lot 34 in the fourth concession of Bayham was given as a soldiers settlement land grant to William Hatch, a Private in Flank Co. 1st Regiment of the Norfolk Militia. On June 24, 1834, Jacob VanVelzer purchased the property for £50's.

Jacob and his wife, Sarah Raymond, of U. E. L. had travelled from Brooklyn, U. S. A. to Digby, Nova Scotia thence to this are where they settled with their family of eight:

- Asenath who was later married to Elijah Phelps
- Phoebe who married Silas Pritchard
- John who married Ann Koyle and later Mary Jane Saxton
- Raymond who married Susannah Weaver
- Nancy who married Benjamin Corporon
- Sarah who married John Weaver
- Elizabeth Ann who married John Griffin
- Emily who married John Arnold

On August 18, 1835, Raymond VanVelzer purchased from the Crown 100 acres, south half of lot 33, the price being £75's.

In the following years, parts of lot 35 were also purchased by descendants of Jacob VanVelzer. Sons of John, Layfayett and Americus and sons of Raymond, William, Ercelius, James and George all had a part in the years past of tilling the soil and raising their families in the community.

This land remained in the VanVelzer name until the year 1929 when it was purchased by Russell McKibbon whose wife Bessie Kennedy was a descendent of Bradford Wilson.

In the year 1954, the property was sold to Camiel Lycke, his sone Gerard and wife Mary resided there until the year 1962 when it was purchased by the Walcarius family.

The property has been divided into a number of small residential lost adjoining the townline between Malahide and Bayham and the 3rd concession, since the early years when it was predominally agricultural land excepting the lot on which the school was build in the year

Family names residing on the original VanVelzer property at the time of writing beginning at the west are as follows: M. Landon, A. McGee, W. Graves, M. Learn, C. Nyssen, C. Graves, A. Kennedy, R. Kennedy, L. Bartlett, R. Whaley, A. Pardon, M. Wolfe, L. Tormasy. *April 1967*

THE WESLEY MATTHEWS FAMILY

Wesley Alonzo Matthews married Mildred Hall Oct. 23, 1924.

They had 3 sons and 3 daughters.

Harold Clarence, born Oct. 7, 1925, died June 8, 1926.

Marilyn Ann, born July 3, 1930; Aleta Margaret, born Apr. 25, 1933;

John Wesley, born Dec. 12, 1935; Gerald Alvin, born Mar. 16, 1937;

Richard Fred, born Aug. 31, 1941; Patricia Mildred, born May 19, 1944.

Marilyn Ann Matthews married Anthony Kleitch, 1949.

They had 3 sons and one daughter - Steven John, born Oct. 12, 1950;

Paul Allen, born Oct. 31, 1952; Cheryll Ann, born Mar. 13, 1957;

David Anthony, born Sept. 30, 1959.

Paul Allen died Sept. 26, 1972 in a car accident.

Aleta Margaret Matthews married Bob Britt, Oct. 23, 1954.

They had 2 daughters and one son.

Toni Lynn, born Dec. 19, 1955; Laura Robin, born Aug. 6, 1957.

Geoffrey Allen, born Dec. 4, 1958.

John Wesley Matthews married Judy Green, Sept. 7, 1957.

They had one daughter, Janet Lee, born Jan. 1, 1959.

They were divorced, and on Sept. 2, 1970 he married Elise Williams.

They have one daughter, Kimberly Ann, born Apr. 28, 1971.

Gerald Alvin Matthews married Judy Andrew Oct. 15, 1960.

They have one daughter, Gabrele Lynn, born Jan. 19, 1966.

Richard Fred Matthews married Patricia Jean Lange Aug. 21, 1963.

They have 2 daughters; Jill Evette, born Sept. 8, 1966 and Jane

Elizabeth, born June 25, 1969.

Patricia Mildred Matthews married Glen F. Garry, July 23, 1966.

They had 2 daughters and one son, Holly Michele, born Mar. 11, 1967;

Patricia Ann, born June 30, 1969. She died July 25, 1969.

Laurence Thomas, born Dec. 16, 1970.

THE LORNE MATTHEWS FAMILY

Lorne Edward Matthews married Hughena Duncan May 27, 1938.

They had one son, Donald William, born Apr. 3, 1939 and one daughter, Alice Marie, born Aug. 25, 1944.

Donald William Matthews married Joanne Ruth Zehr Aug. 15, 1970.

They have one son, Jeffrey Donald, born Nov. 2, 1972.

THE CLARKE MATTHEWS FAMILY

Clarke Whitfield Matthews married Lorna Somerville Sept. 24, 1938.

He passed away Dec. 3, 1969.

They had 3 daughters: Shirley Arlyne, born Mar. 3, 1939; Barbara Jean, born Jan. 9, 1945; Lynda Dianne, born Jan. 1, 1947.

Shirley Arlyne Matthews married Robert Bruce Brown June 27, 1959. They have

2 sons and one daughter: Kevin Matthew, born Nov. 15, 1962. Jeffrey Scott, born Oct. 23, 1964. Shelley Lynn, born Jan. 9, 1968.

Barbara Jean Matthews married Larry Ray Sloat Sept. 28, 1963.

They have 2 daughters: Kamla Lynn born Apr. 19, 1969 and Jodi Kristine, born May 29, 1971

Lynda Dianne Matthews married Allan William Bradley July 29, 1966.

They had one daughter, Theresa Anne, born Jan. 25, 1967. They were divorced Oct. 7, 1971. Lynda remarried to Evan Solyk, Oct. 6, 1972.

THE JOHN N. MATTHEWS FAMILY

John Nelson Matthews was born June 1, 1865. He married Margaret Tisdale, daughter of Alonzo and Electa Tisdale in 1894. They had one daughter, Sadie, born June 15, 1896, and one son Wesley Alonzo, born Jan. 6, 1900. Margaret died May 26, 1901. John married Catharine Louise Staib Jan. 1, 1907. They had 2 sons, Lorne Edward, born Aug. 14, 1908, and Clarke Whitfield, born July 2, 1913.

THE WHALEY CLAN

Sadie Matthews married Robert Charles Whaley Feb. 23, 1916. He was the son of William Jabez and Emma Fewster Whaley, and was born Nov. 27, 1893. They had 2 sons and 2 daughters, Charles Russell, born at Kingsmill Mar. 29, 1917, Margaret Emma, born at Brownsville, July 8, 1919, Hazel May, born at Brownsville Dec. 15, 1921, Robert Max born at Amasa Wood (now Memorial Hospital) St. Thomas, Aug. 9, 1924. Robert Charles Whaley died Feb. 23, 1973 at age of 79.

Charles Russell Whaley married Freda Margaret Baxter Feb. 22, 1939.

Freda was born Jan. 20, 1920. They had 4 sons, Anthony Russell, born May 17, 1942, Patrick Lon, born Mar. 7, 1947, Douglas Miles, born July 30, 1950, and William David, born June 5, 1955.

Anthony Russell Whaley married Elaine Evelyn Chilcott Nov. 19, 1959. They had one daughter, Marie Louise, born Sept. 25, 1960. They were divorced May 21, 1970. He married again to Frances Elaine Hayman Stanat Feb. 9, 1972. They have one son, Darrin John, born Feb. 28, 1967, and one daughter, Victoria Lynn, born May 18, 1970.

Patrick Lon Whaley married Ruth Ann Moore, May 14, 1966. They have 2 daughters, Patricia Ann, born Nov. 12, 1966, and Tracey Lynn, born Mar. 1, 1968.

Margaret Whaley married Stuart Mason Kinsey July 20, 1938. Stuart was born Jan. 16, 1918. They had 3 sons and one daughter.

William Barry, born Feb. 1, 1940; Richard Stuart, born Feb. 24, 1942; Max Wayne, born Oct. 30, 1944 and Kathryn Audrey, born Nov. 2, 1946.

William Barry Kinsey married Wanda June McQuiggan June 30, 1962. They have 2 sons, Michael William, born Jan. 2, 1967 and Stephen Barry, born Feb. 22, 1966.

Richard Stuart Kinsey married Karen Gail Green, Apr. 4, 1964.

They have 2 sons, Richard Stuart John, born Apr. 3, 1965 and Scott Wayne, born Mar. 20, 1967.

Max Wayne Kinsey married Frances Edna Glover May 26 1967.

They have one son, Derek Sydney Wayne, born Jan. 24, 1968, and one daughter, Tammy Lynn, born Sept. 24, 1969.

Kathryn Audrey Kinsey married John Charles Crowe, June 21, 1969.

Hazel May Whaley married Graham Frederick Hunter Phillips Dec. 31, 1938.

His birthdate is Sept. 16, 1921. They had 4 sons and 2 daughters. Robert Graham, born June 10, 1939, Harold George, born July 22, 1940 Donald Keith, born Aug. 5, 1942, John Lyle (Jack) born July 16, 1946, Joanne Marlene, born Oct. 24, 1947, Marilyn Linda, born Mar. 29, 1949.

Robert Graham Phillips married Mary Joanne VanDyke Sept. 24 1966.

They had one daughter, Nancy Lynn, born May 3, 1968. They separated in Sept. 1972.

Harold George Phillips married Patricia Graham Horton June 23, 1962.

They have one son, Graham Charles, born Jan. 5, 1964, and one daughter, Ann Michele, born Mar. 7, 1968.

Donald Keith Phillips married Norma Jean Vance Feb. 11, 1961.

They had 2 sons and 3 daughters, David Graham, born Aug. 11, 1961; Deborah Elaine, born Nov. 22, 1962; Darlene May, born Jan. 22, 1964; Dianna Lynn, born Aug. 17, 1971; Daniel Clifford, born July 17, 1972. Dianna Lynn died Aug. 19, 1971.

John Lyle (Jack) Phillips died as the result of a car accident, July 5, 1972.

Joanne Marlene Phillips married John Andrew Moosberger Sept. 23, 1967.

They have one daughter, Lisa Marlene, born Mar. 4, 1972.

Marilyn Linda Phillips married Samuel William Pettit, Sept. 10, 1971.

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Robert Max Whaley married June Marie Danbrook, July 20, 1946.

June's birthdate is April 9, 1927. They had 3 sons and one daughter: Daniel Gregory, born Oct. 6, 1947, Wendy Blaire, born July 10, 1950; David Neil, born Aug. 25, 1951, Eric Edward, born Nov. 13, 1954.

Wendy Blaire Whaley married Peter Bachner Feb. 15, 1969.

They have one son, David Peter, born Oct. 12, 1970, and one daughter, Susan Angela, born Sept. 21, 1972.

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*submitted by
Marilyn Pettit
1973.*

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Calton Couple Wed 65 Years



—T.J. Photo

MR. AND MRS. RUSSELL McDOWELL

AYLMER—A well-known Calton area couple, Mr. and Mrs. Russell McDowell, R. R. 6, Aylmer, observed the 65th anniversary of their marriage last weekend at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Fred Bowes and Mr. Bowes of Sand Lake, near Huntsville, where they are spending a holiday.

The event was marked quietly, for while the couple are in excellent health no formal celebration had been planned. They were the recipients of a host of congratulatory messages and cards, including one from Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, James A. McBain, MP for Elgin, and John Diefenbaker, Prime Minister of Canada.

Wed in the parsonage of the Methodist Church, in Brownsville on Sept. 8, 1897, by the late Rev. George Buggins, Mr. and Mrs. McDowell have spent all their married life in the district.

Mrs. McDowell is the former Hilda Hannah Craven, a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Lazenby Craven who resided in York Township. She will be 85 years old on Sept. 23. Mr. McDowell, who was born in 1874, in Straffordville, is the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Albert McDowell. He retired from farming nine years ago. He has always maintained an active interest in community affairs and served for many years as school trustee in Richmond and in Eden.

Both are members of the Calton Baptist Church. They are the parents of three children, Mrs. Vilo Andrews of Woodstock; Mrs. Fred (Ermina)

Bowes, and Arnold McDowell, R. R. 6, Aylmer, with whom they make their home.

There are six grandchildren, James Andrews, Vienna; Ross Andrews, Straffordville; Mrs. Allan (Greta) Walsh, Straffordville, and Brian, Alan and Carl, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold McDowell. There are also 14 great-grandchildren.



CALTON COUPLE WED 55 YEARS — Mr. and Mrs. Norman Johnson, R. R. 6, Aylmer, will observe their fifty-fifth wedding anniversary tomorrow, Friday, Jan. 5, in the farm home where they have lived all their married life and where Mrs. Johnson was born. Wed in the farmhouse, they spent their honeymoon in Buffalo, N. Y. Their life has been a happy and busy one, with Mrs. Johnson finding pleasure in her hobbies of music, painting and needlework, coupled with the duties of a farmer's wife. Mr. Johnson has followed agricultural pursuits all his life, and specialized in dairy farming. Their many friends and neighbors will be among those offering congratulations, and wishes for many more happy years.

1962