

being drunk all the time he was gone. Returning from one of these annuals, he brought Nancy a very fancy hat, and spoke to her ending the long speechless quarrel. A hotel in the village owned by my father becoming tenantless, Philander, Paul and Nancy took charge. Beer was usually in wooden kegs. A hole had to be bored in the end and a wooden faucet inserted from which to draw it. In the process the beer would foam very much running the mugs over with considerable noise. Paul was in the habit of helping himself whenever he wished to do so. On tapping a keg on one occasion, Phi did not get it just right and the faucet did not fit very well, so Phi warned Paul, and added "You had better let me draw it for you." but Paul did not heed the warning; so drew or attempted to draw for himself with the result that the faucet came out and the part full keg having got "a head on" sputtered out on the floor and Paul seized the keg, set it up on end; but it continued to send foam and beer to the ceiling. And in its mad career drenched Paul's fur cap. Paul began to call for help and as Phi came in Paul exclaimed, "Phi, Phi, she bus; she bus!"

When a tenant or purchaser was secured for the hotel, they returned to the farm home with us. Potatoes were kept in the cellar under the drive barn. Paul decided in the spring-time he had better sprout the potatoes, that is, go over every potato breaking off the sprouts that had begun to grow. A heavy trap door made from inch lumber doubled came down, hitting him on the head, knocking him unconscious and catching the ends of his fingers smashing the ends and taking flesh and nails off. He was taken to a doctor in Tillsonburg and I continued afterward driving the horse and buggy every other day taking him to the doctor to have his hand dressed. He never fully recovered being under the doctor's care all summer, and died in September of that year. I sat with him alone while the other members of the family were eating the midday when the end came. The first death I had ever witnessed. Phi also continued a member of the family until his death. A gold dollar tie pin in my possession had been his prized possession.

Two other incidents in Paul's life or possibly more than two come to present themselves. There was no granulated sugar; in those days a dark, sticky muscavada sugar was put up in large hogsheads. One of these had been emptied and rolled out on the corner lot in the village of Eden, and Paul used to hide in this and watch to see which young men accompanied the girls home from church, etc., and then have fun at the expense of the young man or woman. One occasion some of the young men turned the hogshead over him and held him prisoner until he was released. Another occasion was a township election. My father had been Deputy Reeve while Captain McBride of Pt. Burwell was Reeve. Father decided to retire. McBride was opposed by R. P. Scidmore, a strong Tory. McBride won. Father sent Paul with crape to tie on Scidmore's door. Scidmore expected something of the kind and hired two men to guard him. They caught Paul and tied his hands behind his back, with the crape. He could not get loose so returned to Father who untied him. The next night, the guards being off duty Paul was successful and when the morning appeared

crape hung from the door of the defeated Tory candidate for the reeveship of Bayham. Another incident occurred when Paul announced at the breakfast table, "Ed, I make a dream last night." Father enquired what the dream was. "I dream you give me that pair of buckskin mitts you got the other day."

All right, Paul, I give you the mitts. " Next morning father had made a dream. Paul enquired what was his dream. A nice colt had been foaled on the farm which Paul had claimed as his. Father's reply was, "I dream you give me that colt." Paul replied, All right, Ed. I give you that colt but I not dream with you any more."

Paul always grew a nice patch of melons and the boys liked to steal Paul's melons. One night he hid near the patch with his dog, Ring. When the boys got in the patch, Paul released the dog and set him on the boys. Catching one of the boys, he was told by the boy that "his mother was sick and he had to go home." Paul released him and next night meeting him before quite a number of the village with the result that for sometime after everybody enquired of the young man "how his mother was?"

Paul had a daughter who married a prosperous farmer by the name of Collings. During Paul's time in our house my father bought a jackass. He and Court made a two-wheeled cart and drove the Jack causing a good deal of amusement. One fall they used the Jack and cart to gather twenty bushels of butternuts. Paul seemed to know where to go to get them. During the winter these butternuts gave all members of the large family many an evening's pleasure. He also gathered quite a quantity of hickory nuts and hazelnuts, chestnuts and apples. (Note: they had a lovely apple orchard just south of the house. Uncle Abram used to ship barrels of apples to England and Toronto.)

Edwin Hall Gray's father, Nathan Gray, and his mother, Eunice Hall Gray, had ten sons and one daughter. The daughter married Wilson Phelps and became the mother of Herbert and Adelbert, twins, Clara, Almeda (Note: visited us) George, and Ernest. They went to Michigan after selling the little 50 acre farm. The boys connected with railroads, Adelbert becoming station master at Petoska, a northern Michigan summer resort, married the daughter of a doctor there and raised a family. Herbert and Ernest were railroad men running out of GrandRapids. Clara was buyer for a dry goods house in Petoska, often making trips to New York and other wholesale centres and, on the death of the proprietor's wife, married him. Among my father's brothers were several who did not come to Canada with other members of the family and I never saw them. Elijah, Absalom, Franklin, and Friend came to Canada; Friend met an accidental death, a pitch fork entering his body and killing him. Elijah married three times. His first family being Asa and Julia. Julia married a Mr. Foster and had some family whom I never met. Asa also had some family whom I never met. Elijah's second wife was a Miss Dance, whose brother, John Charles Dance, became an M.P.P. for East Elgin. By this union he had two daughters Lottie and Annie. Their mother died when they were young and they were cared for by their grandmother Dance.

Annie talked at three years of age as well as children usually do at that age but after an attack of scarlet fever, she became deaf and ceased to talk. Both girls married. Annie married a mute, Mr. Ellis, and they were both students at Belleville school for deaf, and they raised a family who talked without any impediment. They lived in Toronto and he worked in the Methodist Publishing house, a specialist in book binding. Elijah's third wife was the mother of two girls and one boy. They lived mostly in Michigan. Elijah, being rather unsuccessful in lumbering, one of the girls married a Mr. McDonald, a coal dealer and they were in comfortable circumstances.

Absalom married Maggie Craig, Paris, Ontario, and raised a family of four boys and three girls: James, Edwin, William and Nathan, Mary, Carrie and Nellie.

Franklin married twice, Jane Havens, my mother's sister and mother of Nellie, and a Miss Burger, who had another daughter. Another brother, Alphonso, lived in Michigan and was a farmer and came to visit my father twice that I remember. The first time father noticing that he did not have a watch, made him a present of a silver watch and silver chain. When he came the second time, father missed the watch and chain and, enquiring about it, was told he traded it for three calves. Another brother, George, lived near Chicago and his son and daughter came to visit us on different occasions, Charles and Rose, the latter being near Abram's age, Charles a little older. Rose visited some weeks with us. Charlie was a drover and shipped cattle and hogs and sheep to Chicago, Buffalo and New York. On some of these trips he dropped off for a visit. One of my father's brothers married an Ostrander and another married a Roloson so I have been told.

Mother's only brother married Cornelia Robinson. The fathers of both these young people were Deacons in the Baptist Church, John R. Havens being only son of Deacon Abram Havens and Cornelia Robinson being only daughter of Deacon Robinson. To John and Cornelia Havens were born four sons, Charles, Harvey, Edwin, and Franklin. I don't know anything of the next generation except Harvey married a Miss Smart and had four daughters, Pearl and Ida being two of their names.

Mother's sisters married as follows: Phoebe to Henry B. Howey. Rhuamy to his brother Robert Howey; Mary to Mahlon Westover; Huldah to Sidney Dean and Jane to my father's brother, Franklin. (Huldah made wonderful feather, wool and hair wreaths.)

All had comparatively large families. Some of these families remained in Canada and are in the old home neighbourhood, some went to Michigan and are to be found in Detroit. Some went to South Dakota, these latter, the Deans and Westovers. The Deans crossed the border again to Webb, Saskatchewan.

The Leaches, who were related through Grandma Havens, being a Leach, have left few heirs. Hiram Leach has descendants living near Brownsville, Ontario, and Daniel Leach lives near Griffin in the Canadian west.

A sister to Grandma Havens married Mathew Caswell and became the mother of Nehemiah, Philander and Elizabeth and Fanny. Nehemiah had a son who became a cheesemaker and

settled near Simcoe. Phi never married. (Lived with Edwin and Hannah Gray.) Elizabeth Caswell was married twice and her second husband's family ^(PHELPS) were quite numerous. (Wm. Carty 1st)
The oldest daughter married Charlie Crossett of North Bayham, a very well-to-do farmer but had no children. Laura married Archie Kennedy and raised a large family. Fannie married Alford French and also had a large family. John and Lew, her two boys, each raised families. It will be noted that Elizabeth Caswell, mother of these married Clinton Phelps, a brother of Wilson Phelps, who married Lucy Gray, my father's only sister. (Almeda Phelps visited us.) If any younger Grays wish to trace up these relatives, they will find a big connection with respectable people, not particularly clever, but honest, upright, thrifty, good workers, people who make good citizens in any country. (In these pioneer days much more heavy hand work was done than today.)

My school days were interesting, happy days. The first day was at the old school house, now the village hall in the village of Eden. The school teacher was Isaiah Daugherty, who in a short time, in partnership with Haus J. Caulfield purchased the village general store from my father, who had purchased it from Israel Stilwell.* The agreements, in connection with both of these deals are in my possession. While mentioning these, I would like to also call attention to the will of the Father of Grandfather, Abram Havens, also in my possession as well as the deed from the Hubbards to my father of the old original home farm. (Note added: I was named for Vera Daugherty, a childhood and girlhood bosom friend to my mother, Lenny Becker.)

As teacher of the school, Mr. Daugherty was succeeded by Nicholas Stilwell, who was a particularly fine penman who after teaching here for some years went to London as teacher of penmanship at the Westervelt Business College. After a few years he came back to Eden and, again, went to Hamilton to teach in a business college and died there.

During his term here a contract was let by the trustees to my father to build a new school house. This building still stands today more than sixty years a monument to his memory. In those days the public school could do the work done by High schools of today, viz. fit a pupil for Model school and after three months at Model, the pupil was qualified to teach in a public school for three years, after which they had to take a Normal school course to acquire a permanent teacher's certificate. It was Mr. Stilwell's proud boast, after the exams one summer, that more pupils passed teachers' exams and could enter Model School from Eden public school than had passed that year from Vienna High school and Tillsonburg Public school put together. At that time Tillsonburg had no High school. At that time Vienna was much more of a town than Tillsonburg.

During these early school days the visit of the County Inspector was a treat. Mr. Butler, the Inspector was a fine elocutionist, and to hear him read the lessons from our school readers was a treat for all to look forward to. Mr. Stilwell had the parents come and bring their baskets for dinner the closing day for summer holidays. These days were

* copies precede this page.

picnic days. I well remember when in the Junior class in his room, he used to give questions in mental arithmetic, just before closing at four o'clock, and the first to answer could be first to retire. On one of these occasions I came second, beating all but one of his senior class preparing for teachers, and to prove I had not made a lucky guess, I was asked to work it out which I did orally to his satisfaction.

My favourite subjects were arithmetic, history, geography, chemistry and botany. Spelling and grammar were difficult and uninteresting. Other teachers who were considered very fair were Miss Chute and Miss Mary Smith, the latter became brother's (Abram) second wife. (Note: Beloved by us all. Pearl Gray Morris as a little girl was at their wedding.) Two other teachers, Miss Abbott of Tillsonburg and Miss Matheson of Montreal, who was secured through an advertisement in the Globe, were rather eccentric in some ways.

I remember being punished with a strap on two occasions. Mr. Stilwell told us not to slide on the ice as there was a nice big pond at the old school but not yet frozen enough to be safe. There was also a small piece about 6 feet across which held O.K. and we thought his restriction was limited to the larger pond. When he came back from his dinner a lot of us were sliding on the little pond. He saw us and immediately after calling school, (which was done by coming to the door a small bell in hand, he would ring it and the pupils would run for their seats.), he asked all who had been sliding to stand up. Twenty-two boys and girls stood up. We were then called to line up and we did so reaching from one side to the other in front of his desk. He spoke to us about disobedience. One of the older ones explained to him that we had interpreted his request to apply to the larger pond and we did not think the little pond was included and, in addition, the ice had not broken and no harm was done. But he insisted we had been disobedient and punished everyone big and little alike, two strokes on each hand with a strap.

The other whipping was administered by Johnnie Clark, a newcomer. The first few days some of us thought we would try him out and see about how far we could go. One evening I was telling brother Court how we were talking, eating apples, etc., things we had not done under the former teacher. Next day I was caught eating an apple, called to the desk and given three strokes on each hand with a very heavy, leather strap about 2 inches wide and the part coming in contact with my hand cut in three thongs. These wrapped around my hand and left very big ridges on both back and palms of my hands. As I refused to cry each succeeding stroke was made harder. It burned as bad as fire and my hands were sore for days, but the grit with which I took it without a tear has stood me in good stead on other occasions. I learned brother Court had a talk with Mr. Clark and put him wise as to what we were doing and my severe shipping was the result.

An incident of my first day at school was a statement of the daughter of the Baptist pastor, a girl I thought nice looking at that time and still think of her as a very nice