

# The Lanning History

Paragraph 1 ✓ Pg 29

Paragraph 2 ✓

Paragraph 3 Richard married Eva Johnson in 1806. She was the daughter of Lawrence + Margaret (Montross) Johnson. She died in 1822. After her death, Richard came to South Yarmouth and settled on 200 acres of land acquired from Colonel Talbot, 3 miles east of Port Stanley, leaving his younger son with his grandparents.

→ In 1829 Richard purchased the south half of Lot 10 concession 2 Yarmouth Township from George Salmon for 100 pounds. He built a log hut, lived in it until 1836 when he built a frame house that still stands to-day.

→ Richard married a second time on 7th July 1833 to Mary Giffie of Malibede. She died 11 Jan. 1868 and was buried in Bayham.

Paragraph 4 ✓

" 5 ✓

" 6 ✓

→ Richard + Eva had two sons. John was born in 1808 + Covil was born in 1819.

→ John was a school teacher in Vittoria in 1830. <sup>He came to Yarmouth soon after.</sup> He married first Elizabeth S <sup>Lanning</sup>. From that marriage two children were born. Maria Lanning born about 1835 and was living at home in 1861 (Census Records). An infant died on 25th June 1843 and was buried in the Richard Lanning plot in Seminary Cemetery. Harriet B <sup>Lanning</sup>, a native of Nova Scotia, was John's second wife. She died 3 May 1879. A daughter, Mary A. Lanning was born in 1861. John was an educated man and served as a recording secretary at both the Plains Baptist Church and the Dexter School. John ~~had~~ was killed by a train in 1873 at White's Station. His records remain to give an accurate account of past history of the area. <sup>omit dyn marriage.</sup> He also kept a <sup>Pres</sup> General Store in the Dexter area. I have to have this statement affirmed

Covill Lanning b 24 Sept 1819 d 16 May 1898.

He married 22 Dec 1841 to Catherine Jane Dedrick d/o James + Elizabeth (Edwards) Dedrick and gr d/o Lucas Lucretia Dedrick. Covil + Catherine had 11 children



This family grew up on the family farm -

- 1 James R. Lanning b 29 Oct 1842 d 15 Jan 1843
- 2 Elizabeth J. Lanning b 20 Nov 1843 d 8 July 1934 never married
- 3 John Lemuel Lanning b 4 May 1846 d 6 May 1937 m Sarah Elizabeth Ward
- 4 Jeremiah J. Lanning b 7 Aug 1848 d 16 May 1905 m Lillian Mann
- 5 Solomon Lanning b 5 Feb 1851 d at Welwyn Saskatchewan
- 6 Lendley C " b 12 May 1853 d 31 May 1929 m Mary Adelaide Mann
- 7 Theresa E " b 7 Sept 1856 d 22 June 1952 m William T Armstrong
- 8 Judson S " b } 3 May 1858 d 7 Mar 1917 never married
- 9 Sarah Ann " b } d 29 June 1926 never married
- 10 Eluid " b 19 Dec 1861 d 24 July 1938 " "
- 11 Eunice S " b 29 Oct 1863 d 22 Nov 1951 m James Riddle

~~Covil died in 1898 (page 30) - - - Stuart who now lives~~

~~Picture - The frame home built by Richard Lanning 1836  
in a new ~~Carl + Nancy Lanning daughters of Stuart + Isobel~~ (Hardy)~~

Paragraph 7 - starting at

Covil died in 1898 (pg 30 - - - Stuart. Stuart and Isobel (Hardy) Lanning now live in a new home on the farm (1984)

Their son Richard who is the <sup>third</sup> great-great-grandson of the first Richard, lives in the old frame house. Richard married Morene Agnes Marshman. They have two children, Thomas Stuart Lanning + Catherine Jane Lanning. ~~Mary~~

Many Lannings have lived in the old home. Once again there is a Richard and Catherine Jane living there but this time the Catherine Jane is the daughter rather than daughter-in-law of Richard.

Picture - The FRAME HOME BUILT 1836

STUART + ISOBEL'S DAUGHTERS

CAROL + NANCY LANNING

THE SOMERVILLE FAMILY FARM

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Somerville with their small son, Hugh, came to Canada from Edinburgh, Scotland and purchased the farm known as Lot 16 in the township of Yarmouth on the 29th of October, 1861, for the sum of \$500.00 for 83 acres. After the death of the parents in 1882, their son, Hugh, inherited the farm and in 1909 purchased a further sixty-two acres.

Hugh left the farm in 1917 and moved to St. Thomas to live; he died there in 1923. His son, Ernest remained on the farm and on his death in 1932, it came to his son, Leslie, who was only six years old at the time. Leslie with his wife and family are living on this farm to-day.

signed, Agnes Hubert

95 Manitoba St.

St. Thomas



## HISTORY OF THE KIPP FARM

This is the history of the farm which has been the home of the Kipp family for many generations, and is now owned by the grandson of Floyd and Ada Kipp, namely, Floyd Axford.

Floyd Axford is the sixth generation of his family to live and work on this farm and is a descendant of the first owner, Benjamin Doan.

Jonathan Doan, brother of Benjamin, left his home in the city of Philadelphia, Penn., and staked his claim in the Sparta district, with Isaac Swayse, Justice of the Peace, the 13th day of June, 1796. Two years later he returned bringing with him his three brothers, Benjamin, Isaac, Joshua and one sister, Matilda. Benjamin lost no time in staking his claim to Lot 11, Concession 5, Yarmouth, 200 acres part of which is now known as the Kipp Farm. Eighteen other persons accompanied them on this hazardous journey, bringing their belongings and stock through the wilderness and by scow from Buffalo to Port Stanley, a journey of several weeks.

Benjamin built a log cabin directly north of where the farmhouse now stands and sometime later married Susan Jones, whose home was on Talbot Road, East of St Thomas. Ten children were born of this marriage, 5 boys, Joel, George, Henry, Harvey and John, and 5 girls, Ann, Helen, Maria, Marie and Melissa. Over a period of many years the boys married and left home; Joel to Michigan, George, a doctor, to Rochester, New York. He died there in a typhoid fever epidemic, leaving a son and a daughter, the son also a doctor. His name was William and was still practising his profession there in 1918.



Henry farmed in Montana, Harvey, a bachelor, died of smallpox, and John married Amelia Fick. Ann married an Eckler and lived in Rochester, Helen married Harrison Kipp and they went to Michigan to avoid taking an active part in the Rebellion of 1837, as Mr. Kipp was of the Quaker faith and did not believe in violence and making war.

In 1845 the log cabin was put to use as a summer house and a new house was built on the west hundred acres. A year later a new house was built on the east hundred acres for the son John and his bride and this property was later sold to Robert MacKenzie and resold to Friend Boyd and family in the year 1908. Sometime during this lapse of time Helen and Harrison Kipp with their son, Harry, returned to the Doan Farm to take care of their aged parents, who were left alone after the death of the son Harvey. Harry Kipp married Miss Zella Hannon of Union and inherited the west hundred acres, which he farmed until his death in 1913, and was in turn inherited by his son Floyd. Floyd married Ada Boyd whose father had purchased and lived on the east hundred. Two children were born to Floyd and Ada Kipp, a son, Earl, and a daughter, Shirley. Shirley married George Axford and it is their son, Floyd and his wife <sup>Sharon</sup> who now own and work this fine property.

Mrs. Floyd Kipp has in her possession a Day Book recorded by the first owner, Benjamin Doan, in which there are some interesting records. Stories were written of his wife, Susan, keeping sheep, carding the wool, spinning and weaving it into wool and cloth. She must have been a very expert knitter as it is recorded that she made as many as three mittens in one night for the children to wear in the cold weather. The material was woven into lengths and dyed and records are included which show when a tailor would come and



make clothes from her material. Nothing was wasted in those days, as it was told of the old clothes being cut into lengths and woven into carpets, to be used on the floors of the new house.

All money transactions were recorded in pounds, shillings and pence as that was the monetary system of that time. The men tanned the cow hides and a shoemaker came to make shoes for the family. A Mr. Joseph M. Moore received on the 26th day of the 12th month, 1819, for making 5 pairs of new shoes, 1 pound and 10 shillings, and for mending 5 pairs, 17 shillings. A weaver was hired for the fine work, Isaac Moore received 1£,4 shillings for weaving 16 yds. of "flaning"; 13 shillings for a piece of table linen; 1£,10 shillings and 9 pence for 20½ yards of "wooling". Six days work as a joiner on the new house brought the carpenter 2£,8 pence. An entry of the 5th day of the 8th month, 1820. shows 3£,12 shillings paid to William Walker, carpenter, for work done at our meeting house.

Also in the possession of the Kipp family is a letter written by Joshua Doan to his wife prior to his execution at the London jail on a charge of treason. He had been captured at the Detroit border as he returned from a year's forced visit to the United States and bringing with him the son of his old school chum. The former friend, also a Quaker, had been killed by the rebels. Many years later, guns and ammunition were found in the barn of Benjamin Doan, these had been hidden there by the rebels under Joshua Doan's leadership.

These are only a few of the many events that could be told to show how the history of this pioneer farm is rich in the memories of Canada's past.



(This article was written in the year 1937.)

Historical background of the Todd farm on No. 4 Highway,  
the site of the new Ontario Hospital.

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First bought by John Todd, who became an official of the Hudson's Bay Company and who figured prominently in the early history of the Pacific Coast. The site, just two miles south of the City, off the Port Stanley Highway, which has been selected by the Ontario Government for the new Mental Hospital, has a most interesting historic background. For more than a century, the farm on which the huge administration building will be erected, has been in the Todd family. Three Todds have owned that farm during the last hundred years- John Todd, a pioneer in the service of the Hudson's Bay Company on Vancouver Island, Sym Todd, his youngest brother and James Todd, son of Sym Todd, the man who is selling the property to the province.

The Times-Journal is indebted to Daniel Ferguson, Esq., former Collector of Customs of St. Thomas, and now living retired at Oak Bay, British Columbia, for much of the historical data connected with this fine old South Yarmouth farm which is soon to be graced by one of the most modern mental institutions on the North American continent. Mr. Ferguson furnishes the information in a letter recently received by D. M. Stirling, Esq. of this city. Supplementary information was obtained from James Todd.

A friendship, formed with Frank Ermatinger, another pioneer in the service of the Hudson's Bay Company, and an uncle of the late Judge C. O. Ermatinger of this city, caused John Todd to acquire this property two miles south of St. Thomas. John Todd ( or Tod, which was the way the family name was spelled in Scotland) was a native of Edinburgh. He came to Canada about the year 1815 to enter the service



of the Hudson's Bay Company in an official capacity. He helped establish the first post of the Company on Vancouver Island and remained in charge there for many years. It was there he met Frank Ermatinger, who subsequently retired from the Company's service and came to St. Thomas with his wife and daughter to live, buying a farm about a mile south of St. Thomas and building a fine residence. There he lived the life of a country gentleman. Frank Ermatinger's brother, Edward, had also been in the service of the Hudson's Bay Company but had settled in St. Thomas some years previously. In the early thirties of the last century, John Todd returned to Scotland to visit his relatives. On his way back to the Pacific Coast, he stopped off in St. Thomas to visit the Ermatinger's evidently became enamoured of the district and purchased two hundred acres of land between the 5th and 6th Concessions of Yarmouth township along the London and Port Stanley Highway- then a rough corduroy Post Road that wound through the virgin forest. He bought this two hundred acres which extended from one Concession to the other, from Edward Ermatinger, the father of the late Judge Ermatinger, and grand-father of Major Percy Ermatinger, Governor of the Elgin County jail. Mr. Ermatinger, a pioneer settler in this district, had acquired the land from the Crown. Just how long John Todd remained here, is not definitely known- apparently he acquired the farm property in South Yarmouth for his brothers and sisters. Five of them came to this part of Old Ontario, two brothers and three sisters, and settled on John Todd's two hundred acres. To Sym Todd, the youngest brother, the south area of the farm was deeded, while the older brother and the three sisters acquired the north section of about one hundred and ten acres. There Sym Todd (or Tod, as he spelled it) remained until his death about forty years ago and there his son James has remained to acquire the reputation of being one of the most progressive farmers in Elgin County. For only five years has James Todd