

James (Jr.) was given a farm at Strathroy by his father. He married Jane Heard and six children were born to the union, Newman, Lizzie, Annie, Bert, Lily and Emma. Anne married Thomas Gadsby, bearing him one child, Frank. She died in 1855, aged only 20 years, and was the second one to be buried in the family plot in the St. Thomas cemetery. Little Maria, who had died of dysentery in 1844 at the age of 9 months, had been the first to be buried there. William married Mary Jane Axford, staying on the home farm. Three children were born to them, Anna, William and Lila. George received a 50 acre farm at West Lorne. He married Lucinda Hodge. They had no children. He became something of a local preacher, and his home, a gathering place for ministers. Jasper went to California, from where it was reported, he had died. Noah married Louisa Allen and went into the real estate business in West Lorne. Louisa died in 1886 at the age of only 22, and was buried in the St. Thomas cemetery. Noah married again, to Lila Chute, and one child was born to them, a girl, Georgina. Harriet married James Mc.Nally, a cooper of Aylmer. After the death of her husband, she married James Drake of Kincardine.

In the Summer of 1862, Elizabeth (Sr.), overheated from the exertion of a walk to St. Thomas and back, suffered a stroke. It was thought that a drink of very cold water she took on her return, might have brought it about. For fourteen years, until her death on October 18th, 1876, she continued in poor health. She was buried in the family plot in the St. Thomas cemetery.

Mary Jane, wife of William, succeeded to the management of the house. As he grew older, James became more and more the country squire. In immaculate white trousers, he tended the flowers in his garden, or chatted long hours over a mug of cider with his friend and neighbor, Silas Toles.

On the Sabbath he made an impressive figure. Carefully attired, and with a black leather cane, with his heavy mane of snow-white hair and face clean-shaven save for a jaw-line fringe, he drove the trim phaeton into St. Thomas. His clear, somewhat piercing eyes had witnessed a significant era of development. During his lifetime, in his adopted country, he had watched St. Thomas grow from village to town. He had seen the log buildings give way to frame and later, to imposing brick edifices. The roads had been changed and straightened, from the axle-deep mud of the 1830's, through the corduroy roads to the good gravel thoroughfares, bringing with them the toll-gates. The first railway engine had puffed into the little town, heralding an era which was to give it the name of the 'Railway City'.

In April, 1885, an old man and full of years, he was gathered to his fathers, and laid to rest beside his wife in the St. Thomas cemetery. The immediate cause of his death was an attack of pneumonia. To his third son William, he bequeathed the farm.

William was a man of serene and tranquil mind. He lived a lifetime of quiet contentment such as is no longer possible in the complex world of to-day. Save for one trip to the West, and the yearly deer-hunting trips north, which he continued till he was well on into his 80's, William was rarely, during his lifetime, long absent from the farm. It was there he was born, and there, 86 years later, he died.

A fifth generation, whose greatest pleasure is to visit their grandmother and grandfather at the farm, has now arisen. There is another James and Elizabeth, and in order of age, a William, Kenneth, John and Michael. Very often now, they can be seen at play along the creek where James Dodd took that first walk, or roaming the familiar hillsides. In season they gather fruit from the gnarled old trees, planted more than a century ago by the hand of a long-vanished ancestor.

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-Inscription on the flyleaf of the "Burkitt" Bible

The children of James and Elizabeth Dodd.

John Dodd	Born October 27th	1826.
Elizabeth Dodd	Born December 11th,	1829.
Mary Ann Dodd	Born August 9th,	1831.
James Dodd	Born May 8th,	1833.
Anna Dodd	Born October 9th,	1835.
William Dodd	Born April 26th,	1836.
George Dodd	Born February 28th,	1838.
Jasper Dodd	Born September 1st,	1839.
Noah Dodd	Born November 14th,	1841.
Maria Dodd	Born November 17th,	1843.
	And died August 24th,	1844.
Harriet Dodd	Born October 21st,	1846.

NOTE- It is obvious that 1835 is not the correct date for the birth of Anna Dodd: also that it should be 1834.

On close inspection, an erasure appears to have been made and the figure '5' superimposed upon it.

THE HISTORY OF THE WEINER FARM

The Inn situated about half-way between St. Thomas and Port Stanley and familiarly known as 'The Half-way House' or 'The Dutchman's Tavern' was built in the years 1843-44 by Henry Widdifield at the time the plank road was built from Port Stanley to London. For many years after the famous old road was in operation, (the only means of transportation between these two busy terminals), the rambling old tavern did a thriving business and many interesting tales were locked up in it's weather beaten walls. Charles Weiner became the owner of this famous old landmark when he bought the farm on which it was located on April 25th, 1870, and was it's genial proprietor for many years. At his death, his wife conducted the business and later their son, Charles . In the year 1918 the building was completely destroyed by fire, Mr. Charles Weiner and his family moving into the old stone house south of the hotel site, this quaint dwelling having been built by Henry Widdifield at the time the hotel was erected. Frank Weiner is the grand-son of Charles Weiner, Sr., he and his family now living in this house, he being the present owner of this fine farm.

The first log school house in S. S. No. 17, Yarmouth was built in the year 1849, a quarter of an acre of land being bought from Henry Widdifield for a school site, which was on the north west corner of Lot 4, Con. 5. (On the corner of Con.5 and the Gravel Road)- this now being the F. Weiner property. This school was replaced by a one-roomed brick structure built in 1881 which stood on the Todd farm, directly across the road from the fine new buff brick two roomed school on the west side of Highway No. 4. Mr. and Mrs. Sebastian Egner (Mrs. Egner being a sister of Mrs. C. Weiner, Sr.) lived in the cottage near the corner of the Weiner farm, Mr. Egner being a Shoemaker. They always grew quantities of

beautiful flowers in their garden, and more than one busy housewife of the district, recalls stopping at the Cobbler's shop on their way to and from school, to leave the family's shoes to be mended.

Francis Geo. Jones bought an acre of land in 1849 and another one-half acre in 1858, being part of the south-west portion of the Henry Widdifield farm and situated on the east side of the plank road. He and William Mandeville conducted a black-smith shop and wagon works on this site. The late Henry Oke of Union, recalled that Messrs. Jones and Mandeville built the first wagon his father bought when he started farming nearly 80 years ago.

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Extracts from some of the Instruments entered on Lot number 4 in the 5th Concession of the Township of Yarmouth, namely only from the Instruments entered thereon that appear to me to mention said Lot number 4. Excepting therefrom the Instruments that mention the following Fifty acres thereof in Memorial Registration No. 3427 in Book F. for Yarmouth described in said Memorial as follows:- Fifty acres and being composed of the south end of Lot number 4 in the 5th Concession of the said Township of Yarmouth.

Extract from letter received from Thos. C. Patteson, Deputy Registrar for the Province of Ontario (with return of Lands for which Patents have issued) dated Provincial Registrar's Office, Toronto, 1st October, 1869.

Patent to Jean Baptiste Baby- 200 acres all
Lot number 4 in the 5th Con. of Yarmouth
dated on the 24th day of July A.D. 1799.

Instrument No. 292)
Indenture of Bargain)
and Sale) Dated the 26th day of August A.D. 1820 between
Jean Baptiste Baby of Sandwich and Jonathon Doan of Yarmouth 750 pounds
being composed of Lots number 4,6,8,9 and II in the 5th Con. of

the Township of Yarmouth containing by admeasurement, one thousand acres be the same more or less, which said Indenture of Bargain and Sale is executed in the name of the said Jean Baptiste Baby the said Grantor by his attorney, the Honorable James Baby of the Town of York in the Home District of the said Province under and by virtue of a Power dated the 14th of August A.D. 1820.

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Instrument No. 611) Dated on the 21st day of 9th month A.D. 1824.
Indenture of Bargain)
and Sale)

between Jonathon Doan of Yarmouth and John Widdifield of the same place 75 pounds, being composed of Lot Number 4 in the 5th Con. of the said Township of Yarmouth containing by admeasurement 200 acres be the same more or less.

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Instrument No. 5429) Dated on the 1st day of June A.D. 1840
Indenture of Bargain)
and Sale)

between John Widdifield and wife of Yarmouth and Phebe Widdifield of the same place, 5 shillings, containing by admeasurement 6 acres and 120 rods, be the same more or less, being composed of a part of Lot No. 4 in the 5th Con. of the said Township of Yarmouth.

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Instrument No. 7270) Dated on the 7th of Dec. A.D. 1844
Indenture of Bargain)
and Sale)

between Henry Widdifield and wife of Yarmouth and Hugh Stephens of Southwold 3 pounds 15 shillings containing by admeasurement half an acre be the same more or less being composed of part of the west part of the north half of Lot No. 4 in the Township of Yarmouth.

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Instrument No. 243) Dated on the 2nd of Feb'y. A.D. 1849
an Indenture)

between Henry Widdifield and wife of Yarmouth and The Municipal Council
of the London District. 2 pounds 10 shillings containing by admeasure-
ment one quarter of an acre and being composed of part of the north
west corner of Lot No. 4 in the 5th Con. of the said Township of
Yarmouth, --- --- --- for the use and purpose of a school house and
school site.

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Instrument No. 435) Dated on the 14th of Nov. A.D. 1849
Indenture of Bargain)
and Sale)

between Henry Widdifield and wife of Yarmouth and James Begg of same
place 10 pounds, containing by admeasurement one half acre be the same
more or less composed of part of Lot No. 4 in the 5th Con. of Yarmouth.

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Instrument No. 898) Dated on the 31st day of March A.D. 1851
Indenture of Bargain)
and Sale)

between James Begg and wife of Yarmouth and William Penwarden of the
same place, 12 pounds 10 shillings containing by admeasurement one half
acre be the same more or less, being composed of part of Lot No. 4 in
the 5th Con. of Yarmouth.

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Instrument No. 1079) Dated on the 14th of November A. D. 1849
Indenture of Bargain)
and Sale)

between Henry Widdifield and wife of Yarmouth and George Jones of
Yarmouth 10 pounds containing by admeasurement one acre be the same
more or less, being composed of parts of Lot No. 4 in the 5th Con. of
Yarmouth.

Instrument No. 2528) Dated on the 19th of January A. D. 1858
an Indenture)

between Hugh Stephens and wife of Southwold and Isaac King Moore of
Yarmouth 40 dollars containing by admeasurement half an acre of land
be the same more or less, being composed of part of the west part of
the north half of Lot No. 4 in the 5th Con. of the Township of Yarmouth.

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Instrument No. 2785) Dated on the 22nd of Dec. A. D. 1858
an Indenture)

between Isaac King Moore and wife of Yarmouth and George Jones of
Yarmouth --- --- containing by admeasurement half an acre of land
be the same more or less, being composed of part of the west part
of the north half of Lot. No.4 in the 5th Con. of the Township of
Yarmouth.

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Instrument No. 3429) Dated on the 11th of Feb'y. A.D. 1861
Indenture of Lease)

between Mary Simons of Yarmouth of the 1st part and William L. Simons
and Charles Asa Simons of Yarmouth of the second part as therein, the
south west quarter of Lot No. 4 in the 5th Con. of the Township of
Yarmouth in the County of Elgin containing by admeasurement fifty
acres of land be the same more or less for and during the full term
of time of the natural life of her, the said party of the first part.

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Instrument No. 3642) Dated on the 15th day of Jan'y. A.D. 1845
Indenture of Bargain)
and Sale)

between Henry Widdifield and wife of Yarmouth and Enos Scott of
Yarmouth 5 pounds containing by admeasurement half an acre be the
same more or less, being composed of part of the west part of the north
half of Lot. No.4 in the 5th Con. of the said Township of Yarmouth.