

## HOLLINGSWORTHS OF YONGE TOWNSHIP, LEEDS COUNTY, ONTARIO, CANADA

by

Mrs. Marion L. Young of Toronto

**THOMAS HOLLINGSWORTH** was born in 1803 in County Wexford, Ireland. He married, at Ballycanew, Wexford County, in 1824, Alice Robinson. He came to Canada with his wife and family in 1845 or 1846 and established a pioneer home in Leeds County about two miles north and west of Athens, Ontario (formerly Farmersville). He died there on Feb. 8, 1858. **Alice Robinson** was born in 1798 in Wexford, the daughter of a wine merchant. She died in Ontario on July 17, 1860. Nothing is known by members of this family about the parents of either of these persons except this: Thomas' parents were Henry Hollingsworth and a Miss Rathwell whom he married. This is what we have been told.

The only children who arrived in Leeds County in this family were **Nicholas James**, born 1835; Samuel, born March, 1837; and Frederick James, born late in 1843 or early in 1844. There were other children in the family, believed to be boys. There was much sickness aboard ship, and one child (an infant) was left in hospital in Montreal, Quebec Province, I believe, who died later. Another brother was left in the care of other passengers on the ship, and when the family disembarked at Montreal he could not be found! Other than this, nothing is known for sure. From the Census of the Township of Yonge, Leeds County, Canada, in 1861, (it doesn't say what time of year; none of these ages is correct according to family records): "Ellin<sup>x</sup> Hollingsworth, age 60, widow, Church of England, born in Ireland. Samuel Hollingsworth, 22, owner, born Ireland; Nicholas, 24, born Ireland; Frederick, 16, born Ireland; Mary Ann Hollingsworth, 12, born Upper Canada; (as this area was then known). House: Logs, built 1846; 1 story, one family."

This would indicate there was a daughter born to them after their arrival in Canada. What her age was at this time is a question, since, Nick was 26, Sam was 24 and Fred was past 17. (In actuality from family records.) At the time of Thomas' death, the farm was divided between Nicholas and Samuel, Nicholas getting the east half and Samuel the west half.

**Nicholas** married **Jane Berney**, born in Ontario of Irish origin. Their children were: (according to the 1871 Census) "Henry Thomas, 3; Eliza Jane, 2; and Jane." The mother died when this third child was born so they named her Jane and (according to R. T. Hollingsworth, 1963) she was raised by Berneys. **As his second wife, Nicholas married Mary Hollingsworth** of Escott township in the same county. She was believed to be unrelated. Six children were born to this union - **Nicholas James** (who married **Florence Miller**, daughter of Joseph Miller of Greenbush, Ontario) lived in Edmonton, Alberta; Daniel and John who went to Winnipeg, Manitoba, and were married there; Annie (married a Mr. Church), and Alice, who went to the United States; Frederick, who married Muriel Wilson, daughter of Levi Wilson of Athens and lived on the home farm for many years; and Eliza Jane Hollingsworth who married Frank Mott of Frankville, Ontario.

Mary Hollingsworth, (2nd wife to Nicholas) was the only daughter of Daniel Hollingsworth, of Escott, and his wife (who also had been married before) Anne Eleanor Hyde, nee Manning, both of Ireland. Mrs. Hyde had two daughters during her first marriage, Annie Eleanor (Honore) and Margaret, both born in Canada. The children she bore to Daniel were David John, Daniel, Edward, Mary and William.

Frederick James Hollingsworth, brother of Nicholas (and Samuel) married Margaret Hyde of this family. They moved to Carleton Place, Ont. where he was a merchant. They had two children who died in infancy as well as Annie, Marguerite, (X) Obviously should be "Alice." (174)

and Thomas - none of whom married. For a number of years, the aforementioned Fred owned a general store in Carleton Place, Ontario, which he sold in 1910. He had purchased a store in Winnipeg, Manitoba, on Portage Avenue, paying down sever-

al thousand dollars. Mr. Hollingsworth, leaving his wife and three young adult children to follow at a later date, packed all his worldly goods into a freight car and headed west by railroad. Because a pony, a special pet, was travelling in the car, Mr. Hollingsworth had to ride there also, instead of as a passenger in the other part of the train. From causes unknown, the car caught fire en route and by the time it was discovered, the man and horse were dead and everything else completely destroyed. In those days, insurance was rare. The family was left destitute, and the man from whom they bought the store refused to refund any of the money already paid! Because the deal was not completed on schedule, he kept the store and furnishings as well. Mrs. Hollingsworth and the two daughters remained for a time with relatives near Athens, Ontario, while young Thomas, the youngest of the three living children, went to Toronto to find work to support the family. He was successful in his search and his mother and sisters joined him in Toronto where they established a home. Mrs. Hollingsworth passed away in 1916, but the three young people remained unmarried and together. Annie, the eldest, died in September, 1953, and Marguerite on Jan. 8, 1961. Thomas retired in 1962 and still (July 25, 1965) resides in Toronto.

Perhaps this is how some of the variations in the Hollingsworth name came about. In the 1871 Census this family name was spelled "Hollensworth" for one family group. The ages were mixed up also. Listed as Hollensworth was Samuel, born in Ireland in 1837 (Church of England) married Hannah Emline Yates (born Nov. 12, 1837, daughter of Philip Yates and his wife Ann Tackaberry) on March 23, 1864. Their family:

<u>Thomas</u> , born Feb. 6, 1865	Died Aug. 15, 1866.
<u>Ann Maria</u> , born Nov. 7, 1866.	Died Apr. 3, 1953.
<u>William Robinson</u> , born July 22, 1868;	Died Jan. 29, 1949. Unmarried.
<u>Philip Yates</u> , born Feb. 16, 1870;	Died Sept. 16, 1961.
<u>Samuel</u> , born June 29, 1872;	Died July 1, 1933.
<u>Alice Maude</u> , born Aug. 19, 1874;	Died 1915.
<u>Arlette May</u> , born April 3, 1876;	Died March 26, 1951.
<u>Robert Tackaberry</u> , born Mar. 15, 1878;	Died July 11, 1963.
<u>Charles Wesley</u> , born Nov. 13, 1880;	Died 1953.

Ann Maria Hollingsworth married, June 29, 1896, J. Harry Elvidge and lived in Neumarket, Ontario. They had one daughter. Harry died in June, 1951. Philip Yates Hollingsworth married, Feb. 24, 1897, Alveretta Hayes and lived in various places in or near Athens, Ont. They had six children. Alveretta was the daughter of William Chaucey Hayes. She died Sept. 7, 1953. Samuel Hollingsworth married, Oct. 5, 1897, Elizabeth Shaw, daughter of John Shaw of Newboro, Ont. They had twelve children, one of whom died in infancy. Elizabeth spent her later years with their eldest daughter near Athens where she died in June, 1948. Alice Maude Hollingsworth married, Aug. 6, 1895, Ford B. Wiltse and had three sons and one daughter. After Alice died, Ford married again and had one son. Ford died July 28, 1925 when the son was two months old. Robert Tackaberry Hollingsworth remained single until 1937 when he married Margaret McLean, daughter of Justice McLean in Aberdeen, South Dakota, U.S.A. Margaret had a heart attack in March, 1948, but recovered. She still lives at Aberdeen. Charles Wesley Hollingsworth married, Dec. 22, 1909, Mary E. Meldrum and they had three sons. Wayne (Mary) lived with her eldest son for a time after her husband's death but after a stroke affected her right side, arm and leg, she went to St. Mary's of the Lake (nursing home) in Kingston, Ontario. She died there in 1964.

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Since there was no national registry of births in Ireland as early as 1800, the only record found lists Baptisms in Ballycanew Church in County Wexford. These took place sometimes as much as a year later than the birth. This leads me to believe that Thomas, bapt. May 18, 1804, (see page 71, Bapt. No. 5) may be the patriarch of this Canadian family. He is listed as son of "Nicholas and Mary," but it could be "Nicholas Henry." There is "Harriett, bapt. Nov. 2, 1799," and "Samuel, bapt. Dec. 21, 1801", also of this family. The only marriage record is a copied index in the Dublin Public Record Office which lists the (Licence) of Thomas Hollingsworth and Alice Robinson as 1827. (See page 70, M.L. # 20.) The first child baptised for "Thomas and Alice" was Nicholas James, Dec. 22, 1827, then Henry Samuel, July 20, 1829; Joan, Feb. 3, 1833; There is a burial listed of a Nicholas Hollingsworth, aged 8, on Feb. 27, 1835 which might be the above mentioned Nicholas. At any rate, the son Christened May 10, 1835, was Nicholas (see page 72, Baptisms Nos. 35-43.) Omitted from the Baptismal record

James. (pages 71, 72, baptisms nos. 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000)

To the emigrant, Thomas Hollingsworth, there have been born in Canada, many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great, great-grandchildren, and great, great, great-grandchildren, all of whom will be listed eventually.

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(Editor's Note: When this editor first began to look into Canada for records, he was overjoyed to find that Mrs. Young had already collected a very great amount of data. We are, therefore, pleased to present this first installment of her work)

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