

LETTERS:

(1) Nora Gray (a)

Gananoque, Ontario  
May 21, 1963

Dear Mr. Hollingsworth:

Please forgive the delay in returning the pictures, but so many people wanted to see them. The Fred Hollingsworth (Frederick - ancestor of your editor (1802-1869) in picture # 1 looks like the family of Thomas James Hollingsworth. Our grandfather, John Hollingsworth, we believe, was older than 8 years when his father died.

I have a story that my grandfather John and his brother Dan came over from Traverse City, Michigan, by horse, to Plum Hollow to buy horses and stopped off at the "Witch of Plum Hollow" a fortune teller and had their cups read. She told them of a death in their family which concerned the both of them. They returned home and found that their father Samuel Hollingsworth had taken ill of a hernia attack and his own good doctor couldn't be located and so died within 3 or 4 days.

Our great grandfather Samuel worked for a Perry Hannah in a logging camp during the Civil War days, around Traverse City, Michigan. Major Nale (Neil), who operated a hotel across from our old Homestead at Escott, married our grandfather's sister. I do not know her name. Another sister married Horace Burtch.

Another story has it that Thos. D'Arcy McGee, the Father of Confederation, on the eve of election shoved a \$50.00 bill in the pocket of my great uncle Sam Hollingsworth to treat the boys to a barrel of whiskey. These stories may not mean much to you but I thought they were quite interesting. My older brother Francis told them to me. He is about four years older than I. My dad had a great memory for stories told him by his grandparents. I myself do not remember my grandfather. I can just remember my great uncle Jim. My grandfather was known as Western John because of the big western hat he always wore. My Aunt Beatrice is the only living relative who can connect us with the past generations. I will try and get a picture of my dad and send it to you. I'm sorry I can't be of more help to you. I am 37 years old and was only 17 when my father died. Trusting I will hear from you again, I remain,

Sincerely,

Nora Gray

(2) Nora Gray (b)

Gananoque, Ontario  
R.R. # 2,  
June 4, 1963

Dear Mr. Hollingsworth:

I received your letter of May 27. I was down home on Sunday and found a lot of correspondence dated back to the 1900s. I have read it and found some information which I hope is helpful to you.

My grandfather, John, had a brother Thomas Hollingsworth who on

Nov. 21st, 1900 lived at 3751 Wallace Street, Chicago, Ill. Thos. had a daughter Hazel who was ten years old at that time. Thomas in writing to my grandfather said "I suppose you have heard of Mother's death. She has been dead about twelve years and is buried in the same lot as Father is." Thos. was a licensed engineer, but worked at any trade. Thos. had an uncle George Burtch if that means anything to you. He

nos. had an uncle George Dutton in that means anything to you. He mentions in his letter that Hannah Hollingsworth is married to a man named Dell Hartwick and living at Newberry, Michigan. Ed Hollingsworth is also married and owns a farm at Alpena, Mich. This letter was written on paper with the heading Delaware Cycling Club, Club House, 780 Thirty-Fifth St., Chicago.

My grandfather John apparently had a half sister Hanah Avery who had 4 children: Fred Avery 20 yrs. old Aug. 2, 1900 who lived at Fife Lake, Michigan, Mamie & May Avery 18, lived at Newberry, Michigan, and James Avery of Traverse City. My grandfather's half brothers - one lived in Chicago, and one left his first wife who was a widow when he married her. She had a boy John Hollingsworth 19 years old when this letter was written on August 2, 1900. This boy's mother is now Mrs. Clouse.

My grandfather had a sister Mary Hollingsworth. His half sister Hanah Avery goes by the name of Mrs. Dell Hasket (Hartwick? see above) of Newberry, Michigan. A letter addressed to my grandfather John from Perry Hannah - Traverse City, says that my great grandfather was buried in Traverse City, lot No. 131, Block 1, indexed to Mrs. S. Hollingsworth.

My grandfather had a niece Fannie J. Cain of Fife Lake, Mich. There is quite a bit of correspondence from her. She in turn had a cousin Mary, of Honor, Mich. This was written in 1901. Ellen Hollingsworth was the wife of John Neil. My grandfather borrowed money from Neil and so there are lots of legal documents with his signature and his wife's. Neither of them could write apparently because they have marked an X where someone has written their names. Another brother of my grandfather's was Edward Hollingsworth who was 6 ft. 2" and weighed 190 lbs. He lived at Alpena, Michigan, 200 miles from Traverse City. This letter was written in 1901. Jim Hollingsworth, another brother of Grandfather John's lived at Bliss, New York.

Ellen Hollingsworth's niece was Caty Warren, mentioned in her will. Another brother of grandfather's was Tom Hollingsworth. I guess I've already mentioned him. He writes to my grandfather in 1904 asking whether he had relatives by the names of Annie Gainford or Charlotte James or Lizzie Gorman. Apparently there was an estate in Ireland and they were looking for relatives.

My grandfather's first wife's name was Harriet Davis. She has her signature on one of the mortgages. My grandfather's brother Daniel's wife's name was Cora. Edward Hollingsworth, another brother of my grandfather, had a son Hannah, at Traverse City. Grandfather John's nephew, Frederick J. Cain of Fife Lake, Michigan speaks of Aunt Eliza, Aunt Mery (sic), Aunt Jane and Aunt Essa.

I've probably repeated myself. But I've taken this information from letters and documents. I think from the letters they've done well in their writing and spelling. My brother Francis showed me the letter

you wrote to him. He is so busy with studies right now that I doubt he will be of much help. I go home just about every Sunday and question him. He's not much for writing letters. I think he said our grandfather John Hollingsworth came out here right from Ireland during the time of the Irish Rebellion. Daniel Hollingsworth, a great uncle of mine had one son George who died about 2 years ago leaving his wife Violet who now resides at Colborne, Ontario. I remember my dad saying that when George looked us up and came to see us he knew he must be a Hollingsworth because of his height. He must have been close to 7 feet tall and about two hundred and some pounds. Did anyone give you John or Alice Greene's names as a possible source of information. They are my Aunt Hattie's children. They never married but live at Lyndhurst, Ontario. They would possibly have dates of birth and dates of deaths regarding their grandfather, mine and his

birth and dates of deaths regarding -----  
wife Harriet Davis. I do trust I have been of some help in your worth-  
while project and do write again. My great uncle Jim Hollingsworth  
had a nephew - James C. McAvoy, who lived at Mallorytown.

Apparently Thomas E. Hollingsworth and his daughter are buried in  
Traverse City because this Mrs. Fannie Covey (Cain) of Honor, Benzie  
County, Michigan says her little girl is buried beside them. She was  
first married to an Alexander Green when she was sixteen. Did I men-  
tion another great uncle, my grandfather's brother, Edward Hollings-  
worth, of Alpena, Michigan? He writes in his letter of Jan. 1901  
to see whether John Hollingsworth has the deed to his father's grave  
lot. If not he will have to buy it because they are trying to sell  
it. Well I'd better close for this time.

Sincerely, Nora Gray.

P.S. I did not get the name of the Birtch, but will try to; also the  
name Nale, which should read Neil.

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NOTES: These two very informative letters were sent to us long before  
HR was conceived, and tucked away in our own Canadian-Irish collection.  
There is no relationship to the Valentine Hollingsworth family here.  
Most of the County Wexford family who emigrated did so to "British  
North America," as they termed it. They did not like the Yankees;  
were staunch Loyalists and Protestant as could be. The above Samuel  
Hollingsworth, Nora's great-grandfather, was the emigrant ancestor of  
his branch of the Wexfords. See a sketch of what is known about him  
in HR 7:147-151. He was son of John Hollingsworth of Cronelusk, Arklow  
Parish, Co Wicklow, Ireland. John was the son (probably) of Daniel  
Hollinsworth (sic) of Coolookbeg, Co Wexford, Ireland, whose father  
was Samuel Hollinsworth (died 1799) of Coolookbeg. The last Samuel  
was a brother of John Hollinsworth of Ballinakill, Ballycanew Parish,  
Co Wexford (1714-1791) your editor's fourth-great-grandfather. The  
South Ireland Hollinsworth can as of now only be traced to this John,  
and brothers Sam and William Hollinsworth, wealthy Protestant farmers  
of the 18th century. Their supposed father was Thomas Hollinsworth,  
of Cronelusk, Co Wicklow, alive 1768. Thus the editor has done a  
lot better with Valentine's lineage than with his own, for which he  
started doing lineages in the first place. VERY FRUSTRATING!

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