

Letters:

From Mrs. Nora Hollingsworth Gray, Gananoque, Ontario, Canada.

April 25, 1968

Dear Henry:

Sorry for not having answered your interesting letter of a couple of months ago. I don't know whether I mentioned that my grandfather came down here from Lion's Head, Ontario. You mentioned not having heard from the Hollingsworth's at Mallorytown (Ont.). My three brothers live there as well as two older Hollingsworth brothers (in their late 70s). Whatever information I am able to give you comes from old letters or from my brothers. I'm sorry that the Mrs. Hollingsworth in Brockville does not see fit to give you any help. Older people are funny, they figure there's some ulterior motive behind what you're trying to do.

I'm going to type out an old letter which I found down home and you can maybe gain some information from it. It's so old it's brown and torn. It must be written to my grandfather Western John Hollingsworth.

W. J. Hollingsworth.

Newberry, Luce County, Michigan
April 4th. 1901

Dear Brother:

I received your letter and was surprised and pleased to hear from you, as I thought you were dead, as we saw an account onee in a paper where a man of your name was lost off a boat. I am glad to hear you are thinking of coming to see us all and hope you will come soon. I will be pleased to get your picture. I can hardly remember what you look like. I just have a very dim recollection of how you look as I was quite small when you saw me last. I have some bad news for you. I received a letter yesterday from Traverse City telling me that Uncle George (Dutton - Editor) was dead, he died on April 1st. and was to be buried on Ma's lot in the cemetary (sic) without asking our permission. Auntie is not expected to live and I suppose they will just put her there too. Now John I don't like that, as I always intended to be laid beside my mother myself and I was always intending to have the lot fixed up but as my brothers promised to do that I had neglected it but I

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want you to let me know if you come back and I am willing to pay my share and if they will not help I will pay what I can, as I intend having it fixed up just as soon as possible and I will tell you I don't like the idea of them being buried there. There is no need of it, as they are wealthy and own a house a lot worth over fifteen hundred dollars besides a farm and Janey is married and owns a home in Grand Rapids with some thousands of dollars and to think of them sliding them in there it does not seem right. I wish you would see about it or else let me know and I will see about it. Ma's been dead twelve years the 25th of this month (died 25 Apr 1889 - Ed.). The same minister that preached my father's funeral, Pernci, preached my mother's funeral sermon, also and now has preached Uncle George's too. There was a long piece in the Traverse City paper about my mother at the time of her death she having seen Traverse City built up from that (?) houses. There will likely be a piece about Uncle George and I will be sure to send you the paper. I have been married twice and had five children by my first husband, four are living two boys and two girls and one boy dead. I have one little boy by my second husband two years old. Now their names. This little Boy's name is Emmett, (Hartwick - Ed.) and I have Fred, Mamie, Della and Georgie Avery. Fred is 21, Mamie is 19, Della is 14 and Georgie is 10 years old. I am just about my mother's height. Fred and Mamie are quite a bit taller than I am. I will have out pictures taken as I would like you to see what pretty children I have. I will send my picture in the next letter and I know you will be pleased to know we always had the name of being regular Hollings-

so pleased to know he always had the name of being regular holdings-worths. My brother Ed had one boy and he's named after you and people always said he was just like you in actions and all. My oldest boy and girl have been with me quite a while, but as Mr. Asery's (Avery? Ed.) wife just died, Mamie went down to keep house for a while and it was through her writing I happened to hear all about Uncle George's death. Now I must tell you about your letter. There is another family by the name of Hartwick here (not any relation) they got your letter as you did not put my first name on it they kept it two weeks, before returning it to the post office so you see that is why I did not answer sooner. I think I have told you all for this time. I hope you will write soon and I will tell you more the next time. You did not tell me if you had any children, or if you are married again, as I heard your wife had died. I am sure Traverse City will surprise you when you see it. I have not been there myself in seven years. I think it has grown quite a lot since I saw it. Mr. Hartwick is a brick mason by trade and came up here to work at the hospital for insane. I will close now with my love and be sure and write right away and address your letter to Mrs. D. E. Hartwick, box 262, Newbury, Mich.

Your loving sister

Hannah

Did you forget I was named after my mother.

I trust this may be of some help to you. I am truly interested in your letters and if you thought you could get more information by talking to some of the people you have written to personally, feel free to come over to Canada and I'm sure we could make room for you here and perhaps take you around to some of the places. I must close for now and hope to hear from you in the future.

Sincerely, Nora Gray.