

THE ATKINSON GENEALOGY

In 1833, Thomas Atkinson who was born May 28, 1808, came to Canada with his parents John Atkinson and Elizabeth Hodgson. They came from the north of England very close to the Scotland border. In 1837, he married Bethia Kidd, who was born April 25, 1815 and came with her parents from Scarboro, Yorkshire, England. He bought 50 acres of lot 37, con. 3, Etobicoke which is near Thistletown, in 1852. He also did considerable carpenter work. He helped build the 'Old Mill' on the Humber River near High Park, also, the old Rowntree's Mill on the Humber north of Thistletown. He erected the first fence around St. Philip's Anglican Cemetary, Weston where quite a number of the Atkinsons are buried. They had thirteen children; Robert, William, Thomas, Jane, John, Elizabeth, Mary Jane, Martha, Hannah, Bethia, Richard, Alice and Solomon; some of whom did remain in this district. Thomas died January 24, 1892, and Bethia August 26, 1904.

Robert, who was a thresher by trade lived in Thistletown.

Thomas farmed at Coleraine and Nashville.

Martha, who married James Johnston farmed at Coleraine and their grandson Alex and family are still there.

The others went farther abroad except Solomon.

Solomon, born January 22, 1859, married Isabella Sheardown, daughter of the late John Sheardown and Mary Burrell of Bolton. In 1905 after farming on the home farm he moved to Vaughan Township and later to King Township first on the 10th con. then on the 11th. In 1911, he bought the farm at lot 14, con. 4, King Township where about six years previously an apple orchard of 10 acres had been planted, mainly northern spies and when judged was awarded 2nd prize for being the best planted orchard in Ontario. He was also very interested in Clydesdale horses. Their family consisted of five girls and four boys; Lillian, Ethel,

Eri, Annie, Lauretta, Leonard, Wesley, Cecil and Hazel. Solomon was deceased February 23, 1944 and Isabella March 1933. Many of the group are buried in Bolton. Lillian married Edgar Sampson and had five children of which Melville is living in Nobleton. Ethel married Wellington Maw who farmed in King Township. Eri married Sarah Sturgeon and farmed on the 11th con. until his death in 1940. Annie married James Cherry. Lauretta married and moved away as did Hazel. Wesley was drowned in Bell's Lake in July 1916 in his 18th year. John Leonard, better known as Leonard, was born May 7, 1896 in King Township and in 1914 he joined the armed services serving until 1918 with the Artillery in France where he suffered the loss of a lung. In 1922 he married Hazel Armstrong of Mono Township near Rosemont. They moved to Simcoe County for two years, then back to King Township lot 17, con. 11, then in 1944 lot 17, con. 10. He carried on mixed farming until his death in 1956. Hazel passed away September 1971. They had seven children; Phyllis, Wesley, Evelyn, Harvey, Violet, Risdon and Roy. Wesley passed away in 1948 and along with his parents is buried in Bolton. Only Risdon and Roy remained in this area. Risdon married Mildred Reid of R.R. #3, Tottenham in 1959 and they farm lot 17, con. 10, King Township. He raises holstein cattle and in centennial year 1967 won first in a draw for a trip to Expo in Montreal that the Federation of Agriculture sponsored for all of York County. They have four children; Leonard, Nancy, Melanie and Paula. Roy farms lot 17, con. 11, King Township and raises guernsey cattle. In 1954 he married Serena Wos of this area and they have five children: Donald, Ricky, Paul, Wesley and Linda.

Cecil born May 10, 1901, married Hazel Cumming of Meadonte Township,

Simcoe County in 1923 and farmed with his father until in the 30's when he bought the farm and his interest being cattle went into the dairy business joining the Holstein Friesian Association with an accredited herd which won him honors and finally in 1968 was presented with the Master Breeder Shield. As an outside interest he enjoyed hockey. The moved to Nobleton in 1956 but still kept his interests and helped Glen until his health broke in 1962. He passed away in June 1969 and is buried in Bolton. They had two sons, Ross who married and moved away and Glenn who remained on his father's farm lot 14, con. 9. Glenn continued in the holstein cattle since being a junior farm member he had a number of cattle of his own which he raised, and in 1972 he too was awarded the Master Breeder Shield. He has an outside interest of Hockey. He married Velma Hawman in 1951 and they have seven children; Carol, Lois, Barbara, Glenna, Kenneth, Wendy and Sandra.