



By ELIZABETH BLACK

### THE BLACKS' CENTURY FARM

The earliest history of the Blacks was recorded in the book HISTORY OF TORONTO AND COUNTY OF YORK, ONTARIO, published in 1885 by C. Blackett Robinson in Toronto. The following was written by the author of that book:

"John Black, lot 14, concession 1. His parents came to Canada in 1800 and settled in the province of Quebec, where the subject of this notice was born in 1818. His father was accidentally killed in Quebec, and his mother afterwards removed to York County. In early life John was employed variously, and in 1840 he commenced farming. He bought the farm on which he now resides in 1843, and also purchased lot 2, concession 3. By thrift and constant attention he has been moderately successful, and has been enabled to divide a share of his accumulation among his children. He married in 1840 to Amynta Hilyer, by whom he had nine children; seven are still living, viz., Jerad, Joel, Zemas, John, Mary, Margaret, and Maria. Mr. Black took an active part during the Mackenzie Rebellion, and for the sympathy and assistance he gave that movement was imprisoned for a time by the government."

John Black as all of the first settlers built and lived in a log cabin for the first few years. In 1856 John employed Amos Lloyd to build a ten room farm house with a back kitchen. This structure was similar to others which Mr. Lloyd built in this area ; examples are Aubrey Doan's home on the Third concession of King, Franc Joubin's home on the Fifth concession of King, and the old Timothy Hilborn home on the Hilborn sideroad.

The earth was removed for the foundation of Mr. Black's new home, and was used for making the bricks which were baked in a kiln on the east side of the site. In 1858 the house was completed and the Black family moved in.

In 1896 John Black Sr. died and left the farm to his youngest son John Jr. John married Martha Jane Stephenson in 1875, and had nine children; three are still living in the year 1967, viz., Gertrude, Len, and Howard.

In 1945 John Black Jr. died, and left the farm to his youngest son Howard, who at present owns the Black Century Farm. Howard married Joyce Reynolds and had twin daughters Elizabeth and Margaret, who are the fourth generation on this Crown land.

The rest of the Black history may be seen more clearly from the family tree centred around the owners of the farm.

THE BLACKS' FAMILY TREE 1818 - 1967

John Black and his wife came to Canada in 1800. John, one of his four sons started the Black Century Farm, lot 14, concession 1.

John Black 1818

&  
Amynta Hilyer 1817

Begat Jared Black 1838

&

Matilda Billings

Re-married: Phoebe Stephenson

Begat Tillie

Joel Black 1842

&  
Catherine Gleason

Begat Marshall  
Morley  
Mabel

Zemas Black 1844

&  
Fanny Rielly

Begat Minnie  
William  
Frank  
Bertha  
Addision  
Ross  
Mabel

Margaret Black 1847

&  
John Curtis

Begat William  
Elizabeth  
Norman  
Frank

Mary Ann Black 1849

&  
Henry Curtis

Begat Wellington

Maria Black 1852

&  
Thomas Kirk

Begat Herman  
Margaret

Joseph Black

Twin of Maria, Died soon after birth.

John Black 1858

&  
Martha Stephenson

Begat Laura Black 1880

&

Luke Lyons

Begat

Aubrey  
Marshall  
Marjorie  
Eva  
Orma  
Mildred

John Black 1858

& (Continued)

Martha Stephenson

Chalmer Black 1882

&

Alzetta May Ramsden

Begat

Carl Black

&

Marjorie Ingram

Begat

Carol Black

&

Donald Cober

Donald Black

Laura Black

&

Robert Carson

Begat

Warren

Brenda

Bruce Black

&

Joyce Porter

Begat

Sharon Black

Marvin Black

Clarence Black

Garnet Black

Frank Black 1884

&

Katherine Sutherland

Edgar Black 1886

&

Gladys Beaton

Begat

Bethel Black

&

Ross Marchant

Begat

Lois

Kenneth

Bruce

Kathleen Black

&

Norman Greensides

Begat

Sylvia

Nancy

Gertrude Black

&

Harry Dales

Mary Black 1888

&

Alfred Nicholls

Begat

Norman

Walter

Ralph

Gertrude Black

&

George Anning

Begat

Shirley

Geraldine Black 1896

Leonard Black

&

Pearl Gardner

Begat

John Black

Howard Black

&

Joyce Reynolds

Begat

Elizabeth Black }

Margaret Black } Twins

DOAN FAMILY FARM - LOT 2, CONCESSION 3,

(OLD SURVEY) - KING TOWNSHIP

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Ebenezer Doan was born in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. After moving to Canada with his parents in 1808 they settled on Lot 96, Concession 1, King Township.

The first lombardy poplar tree, now so numerous in this region was said to be a branch cut from a tree in Bucks County, which was used as a cane by John Doan on his journey to Canada. He planted it on his farm on Yonge Street and to the surprise of everyone it budded and grew into a large tree. From that cane, so the story goes, grew all the lombardy poplars on this area.

During the war of 1812, John Doan adhered strictly to the Quaker principle of peace. At that time farm produce rose to an extravagant price so that it was above the means of the poor. It is told that John Doan was never known to sell a bushel of grain at the high prices occasioned by the war, but always at the price rate before the war. An English officer, hearing that he had a quantity of flour for sale, offered him the highest market price. The answer was "Has thee got the money to pay for it?" "Why certainly, said the officer, or I would not have the face to make you the offer." "Well, rejoined Mr. Doan, if thee has the money to pay for it, thee may go somewhere else to buy. I keep my flour to sell to them as cannot afford to pay the war prices."

The Crown Deed for Lot 2, Concession 3, was granted in 1847 to Ebenezer Doan who was a regular worshiper at the Yonge Street Quaker Meeting House. He and his wife are buried in the cemetery beside the Meeting House. It is reported that he was a very serious, hard working and determined person. A story is told that he always wore a stove pipe hat. Once he was ordered to remove it when he entered a court room but he insisted that there were very few occasions that required its removal and a court room, so far as he was concerned, was not one of them. The hat remained on his head - there was some speculation on the fact that he carried his personal papers in his hat.

The York Historical Society has this hat in its possession and it was on display at the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto during the summer of 1966.

DOAN FAMILY FARM - CONT'D.

Ebenezer had four sons and six daughters. He divided the farm to start one son, Timothy, in farming. After Ebenezer retired another son, Joseph, farmed the other half. The farm became one again when Joseph moved to Aurora and Timothy continued to live there. He had two sons - Calvin and Myron. Calvin farmed there for a short time before purchasing adjoining Lot 3.

Myron continued to farm on Lot 2 and when he retired it was taken over by his son Norval. In 1953 Norval sold the farm to his cousin, Aubrey, who is Calvin's son. Then, in 1958 Aubrey sold Lot 2 to his son, Calvin Doan. Calvin and his family still reside there and are the fifth and sixth generations to live on this farm.

Item of interest: In looking for references to write this history, a tax bill dated 1868 was found for Lot 8, Concession 2, King Township, the total taxes for that year being \$3.92.

"Calvin Doan"

The history of this farm can perhaps best be told through an article appearing in the Aurora Banner in July 1952. This was written by Irvine B. Whale, Associate Editor of "The Farmers' Advocate" of London, Ontario, the husband of a granddaughter of Clarkson Hambleton, the founder of "Clifton Farm" and written on the occasion of a family reunion marking the 100th anniversary of settling on the farm.

#### HAMBLETON FAMILY

"One of Kettleby's historical features is Clifton Farm in the occupancy of the Hambleton family. It is just one hundred years ago since Mr. and Mrs. Clarkson Hambleton purchased the farm on what was then known as the Lloydtown Road and established themselves there. They had five sons and four daughters, and besides this large family two nieces joined them. It is interesting to note that the name "Clifton Farm" was chosen by their younger daughter, who died at the age of 15, and the name has survived unchanged through the years.

During the one hundred years the farm has been in three ownerships only. On the death of Mrs. Clarkson Hambleton, widow of the original owner, her youngest son, Alfred, took possession. Since his death in 1936 the property has been held by his daughter, Ruth Hambleton Maginn, whose mother was Sara Elma Lemon, the daughter of another pioneer family.

On Sunday, July 13th, 1952, the descendants of the late Clarkson and Martha Lount Watson Hambleton gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Maginn. Letters of regret for unavoidable absence from the centenary celebration as well as floral tributes to be placed in Kettleby United Church together with telegrams were received from grandchildren throughout the world, and from the eighty-five year old niece, who once called it home, but now living in Galt, Ontario.

The geneological record of the family dating from 1751 was signed by each member of the family. Signatories were from Toronto, Barrie, St. Marys, London, Leamington and Regina."

Clarkson Hambleton was the son of Charles Hambleton of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, who settled in the township of King on the fifth concession on Lot 32. Clifton Farm, Lots 27 and 28, was purchased in the year 1850 but it took two years to clear the land and build a home, which still stands after 115 years. For generations the family in the United States and part of those settling in Canada were members of the Society of Friends.

Township of King, County of York,		
December 5 <sup>th</sup> 1868		
Mr. Clarkson Hambleton		
589 CON.	LOT 27 & 28	
Amount of Assessment on Real Property ....	\$ 136 <sup>66</sup> 100	
Amount of Assessment on Personal do ....		
Total, as confirmed by Court of Revision ....	1630	
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TAXES.		
County rate,..... 21c in the \$100	347	
Township rate,..... 5c in the \$100 <i>See 6 75</i>	83	
School rate,..... <del>25</del> c in the \$100	1738	
Dog Tax,..... at \$1 each		
Bitch ..... at \$2 00 each		
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TOTAL TAXES, \$ 1678		
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RECEIVED PAYMENT.	<i>J. A. H.</i>	Collector

JESSE WALTON was born in New Brunswick, being the son of a United Empire Loyalist who settled in that province after the war of 1812.

He moved west to York County, Upper Canada, in 1824 and bought a farm near Newmarket, subsequently going to Tecumseh Township, Simcoe County, which was then completely bush. During the first few years the section was so sparsely populated that they were months without beholding a strange face. In 1840 he came to King Township and bought lot 30, Concession 4, where he remained until his death in 1872.

JACOB WALTON, merchant, son of the above, was born near Newmarket in 1826, and after leaving school was apprenticed to the trade of blacksmith at which he worked for about ten years.

He was appointed Postmaster at Kettleby in 1853 and began the business of general merchant with a small stock of goods. He also bought his father's farm on lot 30, Concession 4, and built his present handsome residence in Kettleby in 1876, and also erected other property at various times. He was married in 1876 to Mary, daughter of Thomas Lloyd of King Township. They had seven children: Ellen, Frederick, Jane, Elizabeth, Jesse, Clara and Gertie.

WALTON FARM HISTORY

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The home of Jacob Walton (1826-1909) built by him in Kettleby adjoining the homestead of his father, Jesse Walton, built in 1873, known as Brunswick Hall, taken from the name of the ancestral province of New Brunswick where his father, Jesse, settled and named their settlement "Pennfield". They had come as Loyalists refugees from Pennsylvania in 1793-94 under the Quaker Settlement Agreement.



Kettleby General store owned and operated by Jacob Walton; later taken over by his son, Jesse M. Walton. Jacob Walton had telegraphy installed which was operated by his eldest daughter, Ella. The house adjoining the store was their residence where the family of Jacob and Mary Lloyd Walton were raised. Later the house was moved 20 or more feet to the west of the store. Jacob Walton had a tailor shop above the store where his wife, who was a tailoress, helped. His son, Jesse, continued with this shop.



The original farm house on Lot 30, Concession 4, King Township, built in 1840 by Jesse Walton (1801-1873) husband of Eliza Buck - married at St. Andrews Parish, N.B. 1825.



This shows house stripped of its rough cast face and ready to be resurfaced with red pressed brick in 1929.

It is owned and occupied by Charles Ubert Walton, son of Frederick Charles Walton, and grandson of Jacob - son of Jesse



The farm has been in the continuous, unencumbered ownership and occupancy of the family. Jesse Ross Alexander, son of Charles Ubert, is the fifth of the line living in the house.