

The Canadian Pioneer Denison Family

. of .

County York, England

. and .

County York, Ontario

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—A—

HISTORY · GENEALOGY

and

BIOGRAPHY



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RICHARD LONTON DENISON

191 Dawlish Avenue  
Toronto 12, Canada

TIMBER WOLVES IN WHAT IS NOW TRETHEWEY PARK  
TORONTO

Away off through the woods as the night was falling, came the long-drawn, heart-chilling cry of the timber wolf, quavering on the scented air. Mrs. Esther Borden Lippincott Denison heard it; and so did Jimmy, her fifteen year old helper, whom her husband, Colonel George Taylor Denison the First had procured with difficulty, when frontier duty called him away with his regiment to fight the invader in this War of 1812.

Jimmy looked up at her, wide-eyed, and remarked that he believed that the wolves would be bad again to-night. He then went over into the corner of the log-cabin, and fondled two ancient British muskets, which stood against the wall on their butts near an old wooden keg of gun-powder. "I like these muskets," he said. "Look, Ma'am, there is an inscription on this one. It reads, 'Captain Richard Lippincott, The Associated Loyalist Militia of New York, 1782'. I'll bet this is the one he killed all the damn rebels with."

"You shouldn't use a word like 'damn', Jimmy." "Well, that is the word your father uses to describe them," said Jimmy.

The cabin was a log-shanty of two rooms, with a roof that slanted from front to back. The walls were formed of round logs of pine, notched sufficiently at the corners to leave as little space as possible between the logs. Spaces were filled in with wedge-shaped pieces of wood, moss, bark and clay. There was a door near the high-side at one end; and along the high-side of the cabin were two windows, one very large one with twelve panes of bluish glass, and one very tiny one, set in a frame that opened on hinges for ventilation. The tiny window was in the smaller room inside; the large window in the larger room, which also had built into it a large stone fire-place, capable of taking six-foot logs which burned brightly.

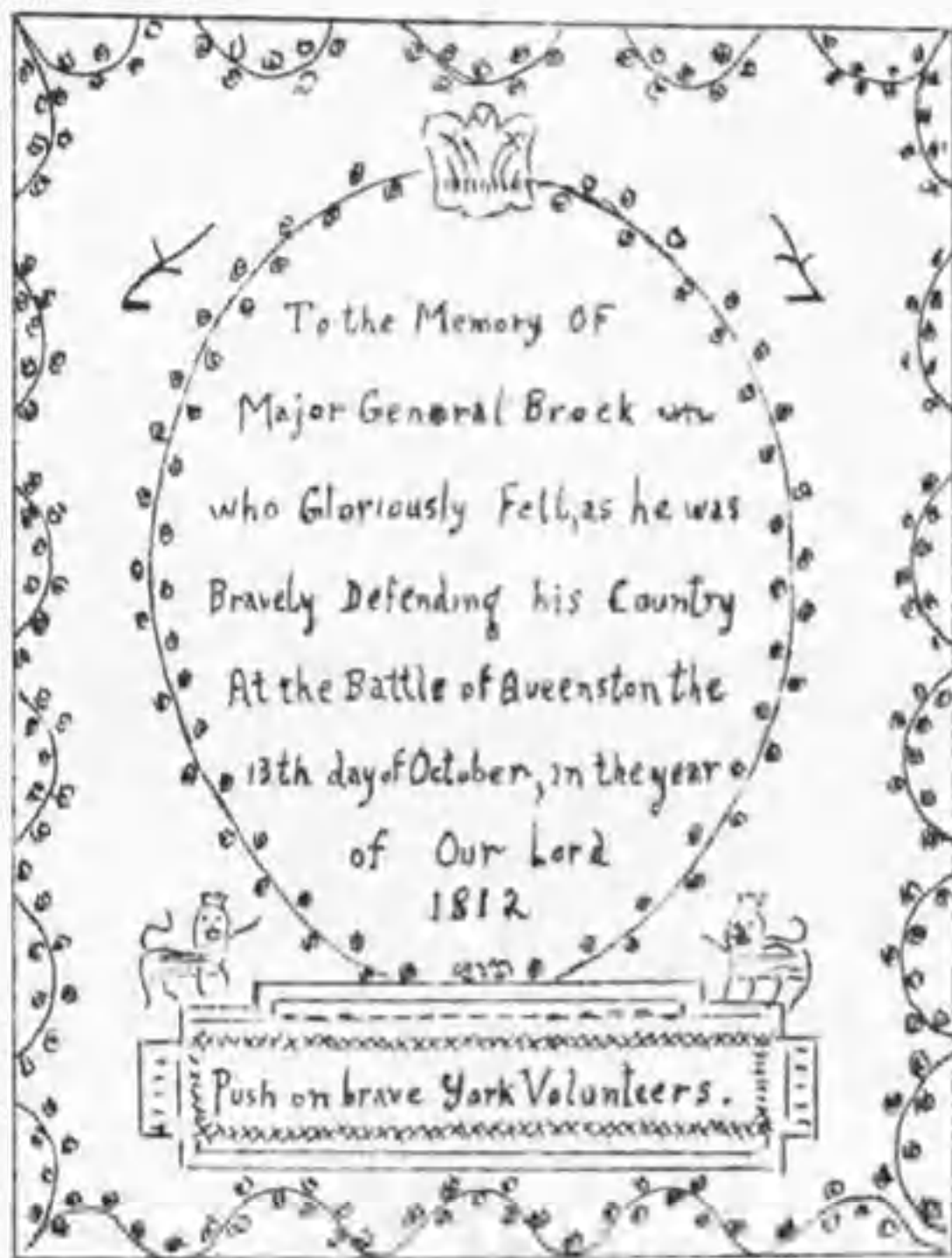
The howl of the wolves was heard again. "They cannot harm us, if we stay inside, can they, Ma'am?" asked Jimmy. "I do not imagine they can, except for the big window. Right outside it is the stump of a large maple-tree. I wanted George to remove it last year, but it is still there. The wolves love to get up on it, and quite often I wonder why they do not attempt to jump through the window, glass and all. Probably they are afraid of the fire. It is quite bright when it gets going; we scarcely need to use the oil-lamps sometimes."

As she was speaking, she was tucking her babies into two small pioneer cradles. She kissed them each 'Good Night', and called them by name, Sophia and Esther Margaret.

As the wolves jumped the rail-fence around the clearing where the cabin lay, and gathered in large numbers near the big window, scrambling over one another in an effort to mount the maple-stump, and peer hungrily through the big window, deterred only by the brightness of the fire which raged in the fire-place, Jimmy was calmly loading both the muskets. He had been well trained in this procedure since early boyhood. He knew exactly how much powder to drop down the smooth-bored barrels, taking it easily with his hand from the powder-keg, and letting it slide down the inside of the barrels without spilling even a speck. He worked the ram-rod too without difficulty, knew just how much packing to use, and how best to set the missile.

Esther Lippincott Denison took a musket, and sitting on the rough plank floor, opened the tiny window, and pointed the missile through it. From that point, she could see the ring of light cast by the fire through the big window. Whenever a black form neared the stump, she would let fire with the musket. Whenever a hit was made, the dead animal was set upon by its fellows, who tore its carcass limb from limb, and devoured it---such was their hunger. Jimmy was kept busy loading muskets, and Esther Denison firing them. The babies slept on, only slightly disturbed by the loud reports. It is said that in the morning Jimmy counted the remains of twenty-five timber-wolves.

On other more peaceful evenings, Esther Borden Lippincott Denison sat in her rocking-chair by the fire, and by its light worked at samplers---an art in those days--- It is said that she learned this art at the old convent school which she attended. The school is said to have been at Fannfield, New Brunswick, in the Maritimes, which were called in those days collectively Nova Scotia.



Esther Borden Lippincott Denison's Memorial Sampler which she worked sitting in a rocking chair by the light of a fire of great logs in a lonely cabin in the primeval forest near Toronto, in what is now Trethewey Park District. This is from an article which appeared in "Saturday Night" Dec. 10th, 1921, The Distaff Side of a Noted Line, Women of the Denison Family, by Gertrude E. S. Pringle. This and the picture of Esther Lippincott are in my scrap-book which I made up in my High School Days. I was studying Latin then, and the scrap-book is entitled "Newspaper Quintessences, Tabulae Memoriam Confirmant".

When news of the great Canadian Victory at Queenston, October 13, 1812, came through, to show her respect for the hero, Major-General Sir Isaac Brock, Esther Borden Lippincott Denison worked a memorial sampler to his memory, which is still in the possession of a member of the family. This piece of needlework is beautifully wrought on a piece of coarse linen, probably homespun, and shows considerable artistic design. The inscription is surrounded by an oval wreath, surmounted by a crown. Below are two heraldic lions statant guardant, and crowned. The inscription reads thus: To the memory of Major-General Brock, who gloriously fell (as he was bravely defending his country) at the Battle of Queenston, the 13th day of October, in the Year of Our Lord, 1812. Push on Brave York Volunteers.

Esther Borden Lippincott Denison was ushered into the world amid trying circumstances. Her parents, being United Empire Loyalists, had had all their goodly sized lands in Monmouth County, New Jersey, confiscated, and due to other reasons of which I will later tell, had had to flee to British soil, which led them eventually to Canada. Just prior to her birth, Esther's parents were shipwrecked somewhere along the Atlantic coast. Some records say off New Brunswick; others say off Connecticut. A strong swimmer with difficulty rescued Mrs. Lippincott, and carried her into a fisherman's hut on the shore. Here, in a few hours' time, her daughter was born. This daughter was only fifteen years and three months old, when she married Colonel George Taylor Denison the First. A pencil sketch exists showing her as she looked at the age of eleven, which is reproduced herein.

There is a book in the Toronto Reference Library, called "The Descendants of Peter White, United Empire Loyalist" by James E. White, Barnes and Co., Publishers, St. John, N.B., 1906. The Whites were relatives of the Lippincotts, being descended from Peter White and Abigail Lippincott, daughter of Remembrance Lippincott and his wife, Margaret Barbour. Here is a letter describing Esther Borden Lippincott's unusual birth.

July 20, 1791.

To Aaron White, Broad Street, New York.

My dear Aaron,

Being urged by friends who feared our remaining, as we would have had to do, in one place following the birth of our expected child, we boarded the good ship, Dolphin, bound for New Brunswick, with what worldly goods we still possessed. The voyage went well with a fair wind and quiet sea until the early hours of July 14th, when a great storm broke with the suddenness with which we are all familiar. Even passengers like myself assisted in furling and making fast the rigging, lest the might of the element turn us over. Without sail, we were a bobbing driftwood in an angry sea. All aboard were ordered upon deck---the more to be in readiness to abandon ship if need be. Almost at the outset of the storm my dear wife's travail began. We gave her what shelter there was, and covered all but her face in a great blanket.

As the storm increased in fury, the captain, a doughty Scot, of no less name than Stuart, and who, in the earlier part of our voyage, had delighted us with the reciting of lines written recently by a man he calls Rabble Burns, declaimed the stirring words of the 90th Psalm. His voice came free and clear, without the slightest suggestion of emotion. It was blotted out at times by the fury of the tempest and the pounding rain that drenched us to the skin. I shall never forget those words: "Lord, thou hast been our dwelling-place in all generations, Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God." With regret I say that the body of Stuart lies in the cold and damp of the bottom. (Note: He must have gone down with his ship.)

Just before dawn, the storm seemed to subside---but before we could hoist sail, there was a loud crash---the breaking of timbers.---A great shiver ran through the ship.  
We had



Esther Borden Lippincott  
from a pencil sketch in  
1802, aged 11 years.

From The Toronto "Saturday Night" of Dec. 10, 1921, The Distaff  
Side of a Noted Line, Women of the Denison Family, by Gertrude S.  
Pringle.



## THE DOLPHIN

struck, we all knew what that meant. My first thought was for my wife. We hastily seated her and two other women in a small boat which we let down to the sea by cables. Scarcely had the lines been withdrawn, when a shout went up "We are going over." I dived in at once, and after much time, I came up. Before me swam my wife, and there was a young man to whom we had talked during the voyage. She swam well, but being attacked again by travail, she would most assuredly have drowned, had we not with great difficulty kept her afloat. We were much relieved when we felt bottom under our feet, and scrambled with joy to the beach.

After much walking along the shore we came upon a hovel, a mere hut, the home of a fisherman and his fat wife. Here, at five minutes past seven of the clock, our daughter was born.

We have lost everything---our lands in Monmouth, and now, all but what we wear; but we are alive and safe from the perils of the deep---for which God be ever praised.

With every affection, Richard Lippincott.

This was evidently not the first time that Richard Lippincott had been in New Brunswick, as I have the following information about his United Empire Loyalist grants there several years earlier. Here they are.

Grant.	Date.	Acreage	Description.
132	9/11/1787	183	Pennfield, lot 114, 2nd tier E side LeTang River.
134	9/11/1787	3	Pennfield lot 6 NE side Beaver Harbour.
144	1/2/1788	town lot	Pennfield townplot lot 13 Division 2, Letter M.
144	1/2/1788	Town lot	Pennfield townplot lot 15, Division 2, Letter M.

It is uncertain just what Captain Richard Lippincott did between the years 1787 and 1793. In 1787, his name first appears in records at Pennfield, New Brunswick, and in 1793, he appears in York, Upper Canada. During this time, one record states that he visited England, probably with his wife. His daughter, Esther Borden Lippincott is said to have been educated in a convent school at Pennfield, but investigation reveals no convent school ever to have existed at Pennfield. Lippincott appears at York in 1793. Did he leave his daughter in Pennfield? She was then only two years old. Lippincott's story is a most interesting one, but first I would like to give what I know of the direct line of his descent from the Lippincott family of England. For the following, I am indebted to the Rev. Horace Mather Lippincott, who is a Quaker Minister living at East Lane, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia.

THE LIPPINCOTT ANCESTRY

It is thought that Richard Lippincott the Quaker (earliest American ancestor of our Captain Richard Lippincott) came from Plymouth. Church records there were once burned, and this gives uncertainty as to his origin and parentage, although there is circumstantial evidence and a statement by James Lippincott of Haddonfield, N.J., who probably saw the Plymouth records on his extensive tours of England and his investigation from 1840 to 1883 points to Anthony, son of Bartholomew Lippincott as Richard's father in Plymouth, England.

Richard's wife was named Abigail, but her origin and parentage is unknown. One genealogist said that they were married at Roxbury, Mass., but there is no record there to prove this. The most probable descent, constructed from all the evidence obtained by many searchers over the years, is:-

1. Lofe 2. Ruald Adobatus 3. Roger de Lovecote 4. Robertus de Lyvenscott
5. Jordamus de Loginggetot 6. John de Luskote. 7. Thomas de Lughencot. 8. John de Lughencot 9. Nicholas de Luffingcote.
10. John Lippincott who married Jane Wybbury.
11. John Lippincott who married Miss Wykes of Devon.
12. John Lippincott who married Jane Laplade.
13. Philip Lippincott who married Alice Cough.
14. John Lippincott who married Anne Elford.
15. Anthony Lippincott 16. Bartholomew Lippincott
17. Anthony Lippincott 18. Richard Lippincott the Quaker.

The Lippincott family traces its origin to the record of the Domesday Book, 1086, census taken by William the Conqueror to Lovecote between Hatherleigh and Holsworthy, Hundred of Black Torrington, Parish of Shebbear in the extreme northwest corner of Devonshire, England.

Lafa or Lofe, a Saxon thane, held the homestead, cottage and domain, and thus the place called Luffa's Cote, or Lovecote. It is now called Lovacote, near the village of Shebbear in the valley of the Torridge River. Family names quite often take their origin from a place. So appears "Roger de Lovecote", and through many variations through the centuries, the name emerges as Lippincott. The family spread to Luffincott between Launceston and Holsworthy, where there is a Saxon church 1000 years old with a Lippincott window in it. To Lovecote in Fremington parish between Barnstable, Bideford and Torrington. To Lippincott in Alverdiscott parish about six miles from Barnstable, and to Webbery in the Hundred of Fremington. These are all small villages within a radius of ten miles.

RICHARD LIPPINCOTT THE QUAKER.

Richard Lippincott was born circa 1620, and married his wife Abigail circa 1638, both events occurring somewhere in Devonshire, a county which had been the home of the Lippincotts since the days of the Domesday Book, 1086.

Richard and Abigail Lippincott emigrated to the New England Colony which had been founded on Massachusetts Bay. They became members of the Church at Dorchester, and on April 1, 1640, Lippincott was elected to a town office there. Within a month, on May 13, he became a freeman of the court of Boston, to which town he moved, becoming a member of the church there, but his religious views were so unorthodox that he was excommunicated July 6, 1651, whereupon he returned with wife and child to Devon, taking up his abode at Plymouth, England. Here he fell in with the Quakers, and became a passionate devotee of that sect, and with them suffered persecution, and indeed arrest and imprisonment, being torn from one of their meetings and confined in Plymouth Jail at the behest of the Mayor. His sole crime was one of blasphemy, as he publicly declared that "Christ was the Word of God, and the Scriptures a declaration of the Mind of God".

The Lippincotts lived at Stonchouse on the outskirts of Plymouth. Five years later he was again imprisoned, and upon release, evidently disgusted with his treatment, set

about arrangements for another voyage to America, this time to Rhode Island. He is recorded to have subscribed £16:10:0 to purchase land from the Indians near Shrewsbury N.J., which was his next residence. His house was on the Passequoniack Creek. It must have been fairly fine in appearance, for whenever anyone of prominence visited the settlement, they usually lodged at Richard Lippincott's.

In 1673, he again visited Devon, but returned to Shrewsbury, where he spent his old age.

On Aug. 9, 1676, he secured a patent for 1000 acres of land in West Jersey. None of the family ever lived there, although he divided it up, 200 acres to each of his five sons.

He died at Shrewsbury Nov. 25, 1683, two days after making his will which did not name an executor. His widow, Abigail, was appointed administratrix. The estate was valued at £428:2:0 and included negro servants valued at £60 which Abigail is recorded to have set free.

The eldest of their five sons was Remembrance Lippincott, who was baptised at Dorchester, Mass., Nov. 10, 1644, and who lived at Shrewsbury where he was well known in local affairs, and where he was Clerk of the Society of Friends (Quakers). He married Margaret Barber (or Barbour) of Boston. He died 1722.

Remembrance Lippincott's son, William Lippincott, married Hannah Wilbur, and they had a son Wilbur Lippincott, who was born at Shrewsbury Jan. 18, 1710, and who died Oct. 1775. He married Nov. 6, 1734 Frances Stout. Wilbur Lippincott and Frances Stout were the parents of our Captain Richard Lippincott.

Captain Richard Lippincott married firstly Sept. 5, 1769 Mary Scull, and he married secondly Mar. 4, 1770 Esther Borden, daughter of Jeremiah and Esther (Tilton) Borden. There were no children of the first marriage. Our ancestress, Esther Borden Lippincott Denison, was the only child of the second marriage.

#### CAPTAIN RICHARD LIPPINCOTT THE LOYALIST

To us, eye to all British minds, Captain Richard Lippincott was a hero of the first order, —but to the American rebels —well, that was a horse of another colour. To them, Lippincott was "a species of debatable wolf's meat", "another length of Monmouth homespun", and "Hangman Lippincott".

Captain Richard Lippincott was born at Shrewsbury, in the County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, Jan. 2, 1745. All his early days there were pleasant; he lived in harmony and peace with all his neighbours until that fateful year, 1776, when a great civil war or revolution swept his country, and brother began to fight brother, cousin, cousin, and father, son. What terrible thing was this that had come upon them.

Lippincott had always been nurtured in a profound love for Old England. There was never a moment's hesitation. He was British. His flag was the Union Jack. Those who rallied around the banners of the uprisers were rebels and enemies of his country, New England. His first act of loyalty was to try to conceal a King's messenger who had been sent from New York to New Jersey by Sir William Howe to distribute proclamations. For that act, Lippincott was taken prisoner and confined in a Burlington jail. From thence he escaped and fled with his wife to join the British army at Staten Island.

He and his wife escaped on horseback. On one occasion during this flight, they hid their mounts in a thicket, and concealed themselves under a huge log in the forest to watch their pursuers gallop past.

In the same month, Lippincott was given a commission of Ensign in the First Company of New Jersey Volunteers, which he resigned in April 1777. In 1780 he recruited a company of loyalists. All his goodly sized property in Shrewsbury was confiscated by the rebels. (Later he claimed £200 compensation and received only £15, but was given a military half-pay allowance of £40 for life from the British Government.)

In 1780, Sir Henry Clinton, commander-in-chief of the British Forces, created the Associated Loyalist Militia of New York. Lippincott became a captain in it, commission dated Feb. 17, 1781. In the same outfit were William, Aaron and Philip White, near relatives of Lippincott's. The Whites owned several ships, two of which were "The Hero's Revenge" and "The Waag". Philip White held command of "The Hero's Revenge",

a schooner of which he and Daniel Sickels were principal owners. In the event of the death of Philip White, the command of the vessel was to be taken in succession by William White, then by Vincent White, then by Aaron White, according to the wording of Philip's commission dated Mar. 27, 1777. This vessel carried three swivel guns and some musketry. Philip also held a commission as prize master of the schooner, "Wasp". The Whites were children of Peter White and Huldah Tabor, his wife. The family consisted of the following: Benjamin, Philip, William, Vincent, Aaron, John and Susan. William married June 7, 1779 Deborah Tilton, so we have the name of this family Tilton again repeated in the record. Aaron had joined the Whigs when the Revolutionary War broke out.

On the 30th of March, 1782, the Whites anchored their ship "The Wasp" off Long Branch. Philip went ashore during the night to visit his mother behind the enemy lines. On his return at daybreak, he encountered mounted men on the beach, under the command of a rebel captain, Joshua Huddy. For no other reason than that he was a loyalist, they threw him into a pig-pen bound hand and foot. On attempting to crawl away from the pigs, he was beaten and hacked, until through loss of blood he died. Thereupon they carried off his body, and strung it up by the neck in front of Monmouth Jail for public view. Records are not too clear about how Philip White died. The loyalists claimed murder, which is undoubtedly what did occur. The rebels tried to make out that he was shot while attempting to escape. The rebels would not let White's sister, Susan, claim the body, because they were afraid that the marks it showed would be incriminating evidence against them. In the Colonial Office in London, there is an affidavit, dated April 23, 1782, signed by White's relative, Captain Clayton Tilton, which declares that White's sister went to Monmouth Jail to recover the body, but that that was refused.

This was only one of the many horrors perpetrated by the rebels with impunity of war, all of which greatly angered The Board of Associated Loyalists of New York, who had a meeting, and who decided to institute a reprisal.

On March 23, 1782, the Board had captured a blockhouse at Toms River, near Dover, N.J., and with it, Joshua Huddy, the very rebel captain, who had previously been responsible for the murder of Philip White. He was confined in a New York goal. The Board of Associated Loyalists would have liked to have lynched Huddy on the spot, but could not do that. Accordingly they asked the authorities for Huddy in order "to exchange him for a loyalist in enemy hands". Lippincott of course knew nothing about this, when he was presented with Huddy in bonds and his orders.

Acting on the orders, on Apr. 12, 1782, Lippincott brought Huddy by ship, and anchored off Sandy Hook by night. Just before dawn, he and his men took Huddy to the heights at Middleton, and strung him up to a tree. A note was attached to the body carrying a rather lengthy explanation and ending with the words "Up Goes Huddy For Philip White".

In the daylight when the rebels discovered this body in their midst and read the note, they were furious, and one might add totally oblivious of their own evil deeds. Though Lippincott had acted merely on orders, the rebels blamed him for Huddy's murder, citing White's consanguinity to Lippincott as circumstantial evidence against Lippincott.

Later, one of the rebels, Captain Adam Kyler, a close friend of Huddy's, obtained information that Lippincott was residing at a certain house in Broad Street, New York. Kyler was a privateer, whose ship plundered British vessels for his own profit. Kyler anchored off Whitehall, and proceeded to Broad Street in disguise by night. He knocked at Lippincott's door, but Mrs. Lippincott, who answered it, suspected mischief, and reported that her husband had gone to a cock-pit, a recognized form of amusement in those days. Kyler, not to be entirely foiled in his purpose, went aboard a sloop at anchor off the Battery, cut her cables, hoisted her sails, and by daybreak had carried her to Elizabethtown, where he landed her cargo of forty hogheads of rum.

When news of Huddy's execution was raised abroad, it fell upon the ears of General Washington. Speaking in haste, Washington vowed that unless Lippincott was turned over to the rebels, a British soldier of like rank, taken from the prisoners at hand, should die a like death in retaliation. Washington had committed himself to a line of action, which he later regretted immensely, but which he then could not well with honour avoid.

The loyal refugees resolved to kill anyone who attempted to deliver Lippincott.



Map of the State of New Jersey in Pioneer Times  
 Illustrating the Story of Capt. Richard Lippincott.

SIGNATURES OF THE DEPARTED

*R L Denison*  
 Colonel Richard Lippincott Denison  
 the Second

*S M Denison*  
 Susan Maria Hepburne Denison

*Alfred Ernest Denison*  
 Alfred Ernest Denison

*Edwin Oliver Denison*  
 Edwin Oliver Denison

*Frederick Charles Denison*  
 Colonel Frederick Charles Denison

*E M Denison*  
 Esther Mary Denison  
 Mrs. William Geo.  
 Denison

Sir Henry Clinton, amazed at what had transpired almost under his very gaze but without his consent, ordered the immediate arrest of Lippincott, April 20; and a court-martial was summoned April 21, 1782. Lippincott was duly tried and acquitted, the court ruling that he had merely carried out orders, and that he had had no reason to believe that those orders should not have been given.

The rebels were infuriated when they heard that the court-martial had decided on acquittal; and Washington immediately ordered the choosing of a British officer of like rank to Lippincott's to die if Lippincott were not delivered into his hands by Sir Henry Clinton.

Accordingly, at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, on May 26, 1782, thirteen British captains who had been taken prisoner at the Fall of Yorktown were chosen by lot. Thirteen names were placed in one hat. In another hat were twelve blank pieces of paper, and a thirteenth piece marked "Unfortunate". A name was drawn from one hat, then a blank from the other. This happened again and again. Finally the name Asgill was drawn, and the slip marked "Unfortunate". The lot had fallen upon Captain Charles Asgill of the Guards, a lad of only nineteen years, protected by the treaty between Cornwallis and Washington at the Fall of Yorktown. Had one of the other twelve not counselled Asgill "For God's Sake, Don't Disgrace Your Colours", he would surely have wept, so great was his emotion. Here was a mere school-boy, an only son, condemned to an ignominious death for no reason he had the slightest connection with, a British soldier, protected by the treaty whereby Yorktown surrendered. Nevertheless, Asgill was led away to a prison in the Jerseys to await his cruel fate.

Among those thirteen captains was Sir Charles Gould, afterwards Sir Charles Morgan. His family soon effected an exchange of prisoners, and he was permitted to return to England. He carried the sad news to Asgill's mother. (Asgill was an only son of an alderman of the City of London who had been created a baronet by King George the Third. Asgill's mother was Theresa Pratviel, daughter of Daniel Pratviel, secretary of the Embassy at Madrid.) Asgill's mother was aghast at the news, and immediately she wrote a letter to a very good friend, Comte de Vergennes, who held a post of high authority in the Court of Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antoinette of France. Their Majesties were moved with compassion---they to whom later so little mercy was shown. They directed Vergennes to write to General Washington, enclosing Lady Asgill's letter.

Both letters were read before Congress, April 30, 1782. On Nov. 7 of that year, Congress voted that Asgill be spared, as a compliment to King Louis XVI, and his Queen.

Released, Asgill hurried to New York, only to find that his ship "The Swallow" had sailed---but he overtook her in a smaller craft, four leagues out to sea.

The Asgills attend the Royal Court at Versailles, then in the height of all its pomp and grandeur. A young officer, in the bright court uniform of the Guards, bows low before King Louis of France, and the charming Queen Marie Antoinette, and thanks them for his honour and his life.

As late as 1790, the Opéra Comique de Paris performed a musical drama, written by Marsollier concerning this Asgill-Lippincott theme. Monsieur de Sauvigny wrote a play called "Abdir" on this same subject.

As related earlier, Captain Richard Lippincott emigrated as a United Empire Loyalist to New Brunswick in Nova Scotia to a place called Pennfield. Subsequently he settled in 1793 at Richmond Hill in Ontario, where he received 3000 acres from the Crown. This land covered the greater part of the present Town of Richmond Hill, Ontario.

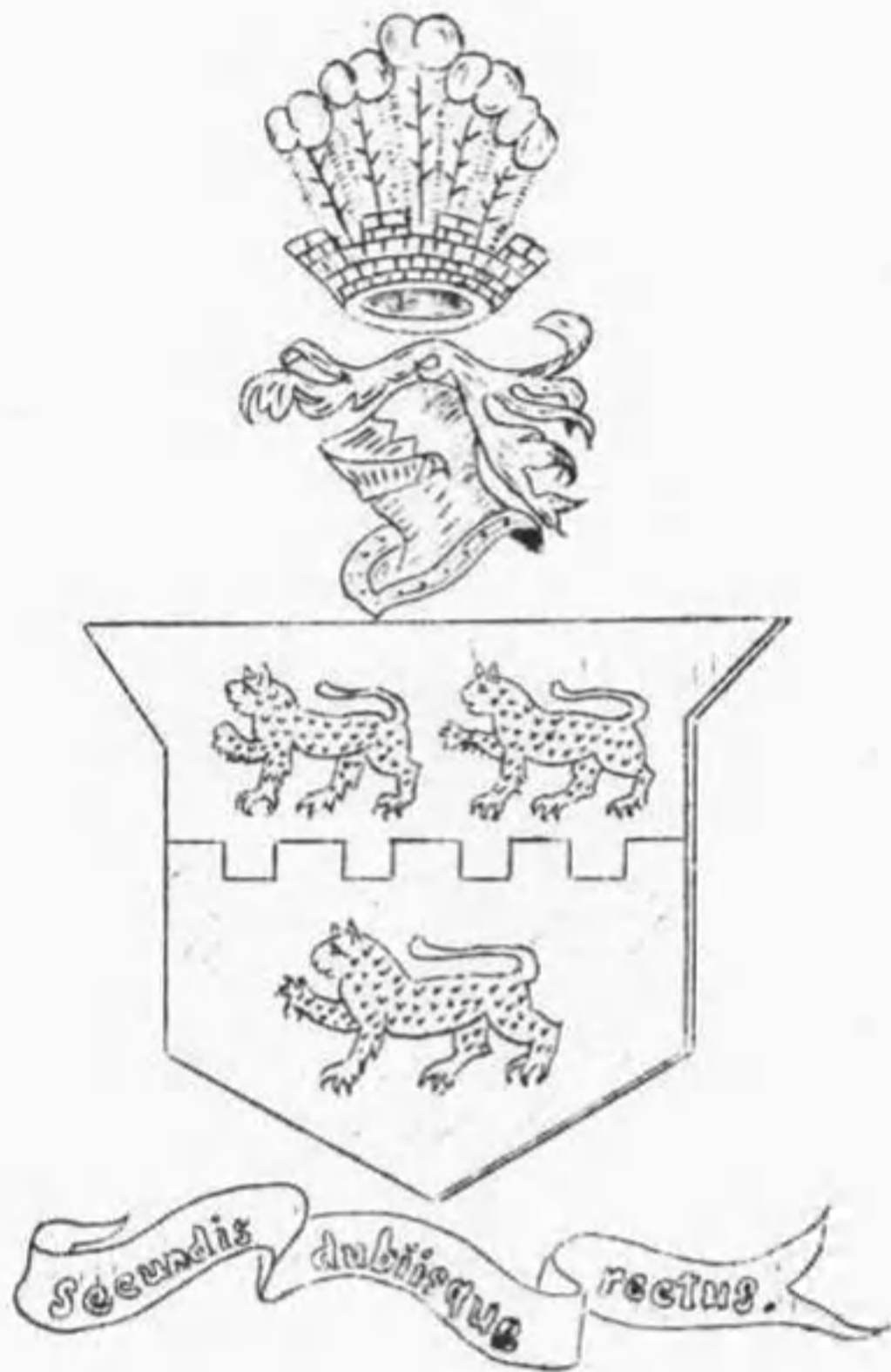
He also received his army half-pay up to the day he died at Old Bellevue, York, Upper Canada, in 1826. He lies buried at St. John's Cemetery on the Rumber, Weston, Ontario.

1. It is from Captain Richard Lippincott that the Dovercourt, Washolme and Bellevue branches of our Canadian Pioneer Denison Family are all entitled to write the letters "U.E." after their names, signifying the principle of the Unity of the Empire, for Lippincott, their ancestor, was a United Empire Loyalist.

Captain Lippincott was granted a lot on the northeast corner of King and Frederick Streets, Toronto, and was one of the very first settlers at York.

Lorenzo Sabine once wrote a book called "The American Loyalists" in which his treatment of the Lippincott story was very harsh. A goodly number of years later, Sabine published a second edition of the same book. In the second edition he refers to a letter written to him by Colonel George Taylor Denison the Second of Washolme, in which Denison defended Lippincott's character. The letter is dated Dec. 5, 1849. Sabine gives excerpts

1. Correction: and the Denison-Taylor the Younger Branch.



Armorial Bearings of the Lippincotts:--- Per Fess embattled gules and sable, three leopards passant or. Crest: Out of a mural coronet gules, five ostrich feathers, alternately argent and azure.

from this letter. These are the excerpts. "Captain Lippincott was by nature a person of the most harmless and quiet disposition. White was a relative of his. Lippincott was exasperated by the butchery of an innocent relative. White was found on a visit to his mother's house, and was treated by Huddy as a spy. The old man (Lippincott) was respected by all who know him here, and was well known to all the old Loyalists who settled here. Persons came uninvited thirty or forty miles to pay their last tribute to his memory. Hundreds still living would repudiate the character you give him as a man and a soldier. He was true to his Sovereign both in prosperity and peril, and nobly maintained the Lippincott family motto, *Secundis dubisque reclus* (Upright both in prosperity and in peril)."

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ANOTHER FAMOUS FAMILY-----THE BORDENS-----

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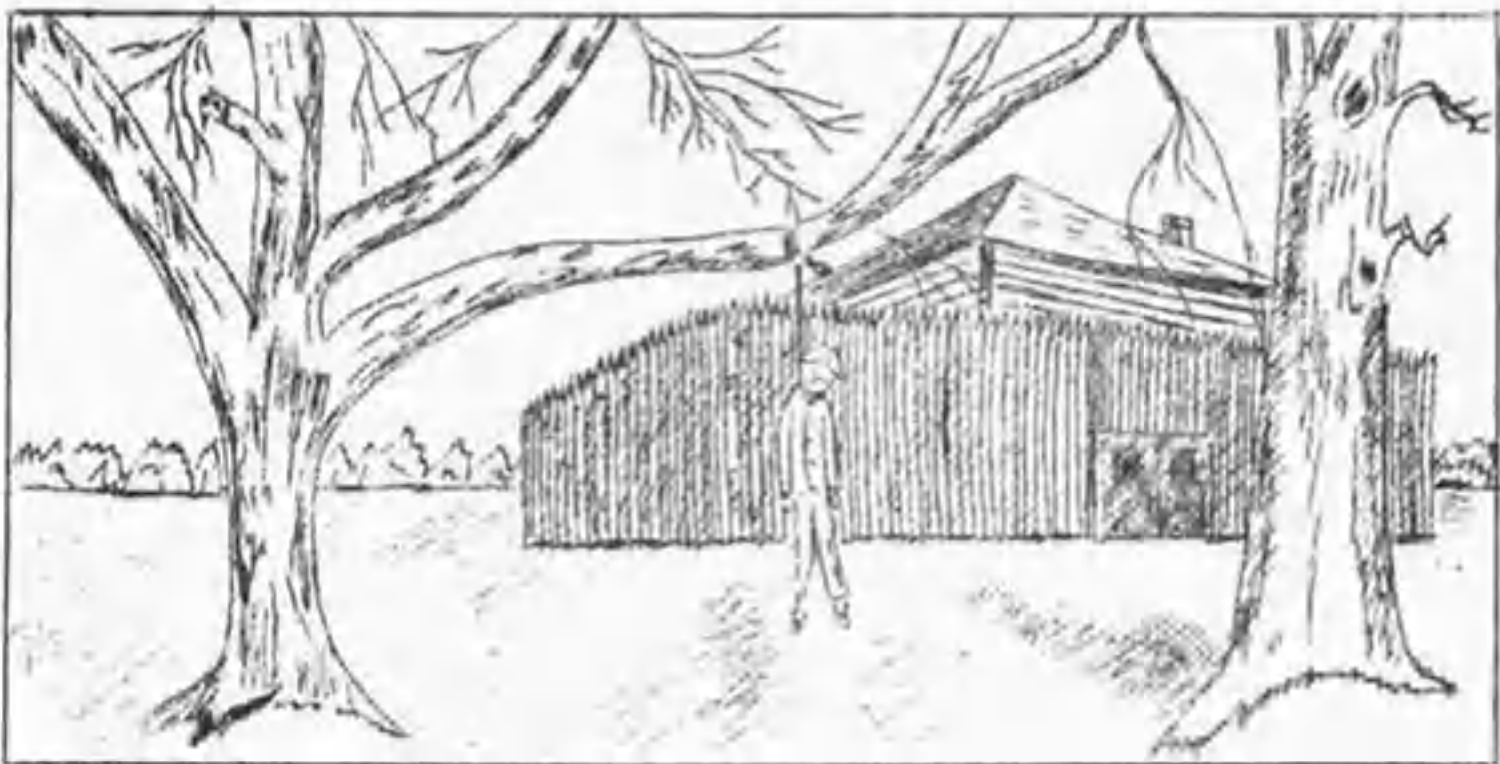
Lippincott's wife's name was Borden---the Bordens of Bordentown, New Jersey, and later the Borden family, United Empire Loyalist of the Maritimes, whose most famous member was Sir Robert Laird Borden, Canada's Wartime Prime Minister of the First Great War. (In my scrap-book, I have a letter from Sir Robert Laird Borden in which he acknowledges his kinship with the Toronto Denisons.)

I would like to take you now back to the very beginnings of the Borden name in Old England, and trace the direct male line of the family down to Esther Borden, wife of Captain Richard Lippincott.

1. HENRY BORDEN, Parish of Hedcorn, County of Kent, England, born circa 1375, held land both at Hedcorn and at Borden, and was a descendant of the Bordens of Borden. His wife's name was Robergia.
2. THOMAS BORDEN, mentioned in the will of his son, John Borden, who desires that a priest sing in the Church of Hedcorn, wherein he was buried, for his soul and that of his wife, Isabella. This Thomas Borden, yeoman, joined the Rebellion of Kentishmen under Jack Cade in the year 1450, and was subsequently pardoned therefor. Died 26 Apr. 1469 (Vol. III, Sec. 17, Wills, Archdeaconry of Canterbury, also Sec. 19. Pat.Rolls, 28, Henry VI, parts 2, and 3, Archaeologia Cantina Vol. VII.)
3. JOHN BORDEN, yeoman, will dated Apr. 25, 1469, buried in the Cemetery of the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul in Hedcorn. (Will Archaeologia Cantina, Vol. II folio 1, written in Latin) Married Benedict Torner. (She left her son William 40 shillings, her daughter Joan 40 s. Isabella 5 s. 8 d. Robergia 6 s. 8 d. John, a calf, Alice, 3 s. 4 d.) William, the eldest, not mentioned got the residue.
4. WILLIAM BORDEN, married first Joan, second Thomasin, third Rose, surnames not preserved. Buried within the Church of Our Lady. Will proved 25 Sept. 1531, Archaeologia Cantina, Vol. XIX, Section 10.
5. EDMUND BORDEN, died June 1539, Will Arch. Cant. Vol. XXI, Sect. 9., Married Margaret, surname not given.
6. William BORDEN, died about June 1557, married Joan----. Will June 8, 1557, Arch. Cant. Vol. XXX Section 3.
7. THOMAS BORDEN, died about Apr. 1592, buried in Hedcorn Churchyard, married second Margaret----. First wife's name unknown, Margaret was buried 25 Sept. 1589.
8. MATTHEW BORDEN, died about Oct. 1620, married Joan----, was churchwarden of Hedcorn, 1598. (Will proved 27, Oct. 1620, Arch. Cant. Book 63, Hall, folio 134)
9. RICHARD BORDEN, baptised 22 Feb. 1595, married at Hedcorn 28 Sept. 1625, Joan Fowle, moved to Parish of Cranbrooke, 1628, arrived in New England, America, 1637, settled at Portsmouth, Rhode Island. Was a surveyor, and acquired large tracts of land in Rhode Island and Monmouth County, New Jersey. Freeman of Portsmouth, Mar. 16, 1641, Member of a Committee to treat with the Dutch, May 18, 1653, Assistant, Town of Portsmouth 1653, 1655, Freeman, 1655, Deputy from Portsmouth to the General Assembly, 1667, 1670. Joan Fowle Borden died July 15, 1688.
10. FRANCIS BORDEN, born at Cranbrook, Kent, England, baptised there Dec. 23, 1638, died at County of Monmouth, East Jersey, New England, America, Jan. 19, 1705. He inherited from his father considerable tracts of land near Throcksbury, N.J., where he settled 1677. He married Apr. 12, 1677 Jane Vickere. Will filed at Trenton, N.J., was signed May 24, 1703.



The Borden Stage Coach Line-----1737.



The Rebels Hung White's Body up for Public View in Front of Monmouth Goal.

Francis Borden was born in England and was the youngest child of his parents when they arrived in America. His childhood and youth were spent in Rhode Island, where he acquired a knowledge of land surveying, in which operation he acted as an assistant to his father, until he was fully qualified to pursue the business as a profession.

About 1665, great efforts were made by the agents of Sir George Carteret to induce emigration from the New England states to East Jersey. Among others, Richard Borden of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, purchased two shares in the East Jersey lands, which, at his death, he gave to his son, Francis Borden, who had settled at Shrewsbury, East Jersey, when that settlement first began. Francis Borden was a highly respected member of the Society of Friends (Quakers), and all his associates were men of the highest rank. Francis Borden formed the acquaintance of a very distinguished man, William Penn, to whom Pennsylvania was granted by Charles II of England, March 4, 1681. Governor Penn spent some time in New Jersey and found Francis Borden fully posted on all things relating to that colony. Penn became very much attached to Francis Borden, and wished to avail himself of Borden's superior knowledge relating to the disposition of wild lands. Francis Borden entered into the service of the Governor of Pennsylvania.

Francis Borden's marriage Feb. 12, 1677 to Jane Vickers of Yorkshire, England, is the second marriage appearing in the Records of The Society of Friends.

11. THOMAS BORDEN, born Apr. 12, 1694, married Margaret, surname unknown.

12. JEREMIAH BORDEN, founder of Bordentown, New Jersey, July 1, 1711 to Aug. 5, 1754 married Esther Tilton. (Compare with page #2. The record from the old Lippincott Family Bible there, is incorrect in saying that #11 above, Thomas Borden was the son of Joseph Borden; on the contrary he was nephew of Joseph Borden.)

13. ESTHER BORDEN, who married Captain Richard Lippincott.

#### THE BORDEN STAGE COACH LINE, 1734.

The Borden family ran a stage coach line, which was founded by Joseph Borden in 1734, connecting New York with Philadelphia. Joseph Borden operated a packet or stage boat from Philadelphia to Bordentown. Here a change was made to stage coach to Perth Amboy, where another change to boat was necessary to reach New York. The following advertisement in the Philadelphia Gazette, 1751, reads:

"This is to give notice to all persons that shall have occasions of transporting themselves, goods, wares, or merchandise from Philadelphia to New York, or from the latter place to the former, that by Joseph Borden, there is a stage boat well fitted and kept for that purpose, and if wind and weather permit, will attend at the crooked billet wharf in Philadelphia every Tuesday in every week and proceed up to Bordentown on Wednesday, and on Thursday morning a stage waggon with a good arning kept by Joseph Richardson will be ready to receive them and proceed directly to John Clucks opposite the city of Perth Amboy who keeps a house of good entertainment and on Friday morning a stage boat well fitted and kept by Daniel O. Bryant will be ready to receive them and proceed directly to New York, and give her attendance near the White Hall Slip near the Half Moon Tavern.

"If people be ready at the stage days and places, 'tis believed they may pass the quickest 30 or 40 hours, the cheapest and fastest way that has yet been made use of. If any attendance be given by us the subscribers which we shall endeavour to do as near as possible. Also people living on or near the road may have business done by letter or otherwise. Due care will be taken in the delivery of letters, verbile messages, etc., by us. Joseph Borden. Joseph Richardson, Daniel O. Briant.

#### HOW PETTICOAT CREEK NEAR TORONTO GOT ITS NAME

There is a creek in the Rouge Hills District east of Toronto called Petticoat Creek. Mr. William F. Playter tells this story. Maria Priscilla Costes, later fourth wife of Col. G.T. Denison the First, was out riding with her brother. They attempted to cross a creek in spring flood. She, riding side-saddle, got her petticoats wet. Her brother named the creek, Petticoat Creek, to toast her, a name it bears to this day.

Captain Richard Lippincott's Land Petitions in York

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As pointed out earlier, Captain Lippincott built a house at King and Frederick Sts., Toronto. Here is a land petition about it.

York, October 14th, 1795.

Sir,

I am preparing timber to build me a house in this town, and, as I have no lot, will be much obliged to you if you will enter me for the corner lot in the Third Range, opposite Mr. McDougal's lot in the Second Range; the number, I do not know, having never seen the plan, and there are no stakings numbered. Mr. Colbey's house is in the same Range and same Block.

Your Assistance, sir, will greatly oblige,  
Your most obedient and very humble servant,  
RICHARD LIPPINCOTT

To David W. Smith,  
Surveyor General,  
Newark.

Concerning the same lot, here is a second petition:

York, Upper Canada, Aug. 6, 1796

Sir,

I shall esteem it a great favour if you will be pleased to let me know if His Honour the Administrator approves of my having the land I ask; for should any of the lot I have pointed out prove reserved, the next in the same Concession will be the same to me. I only want it as much in a body as the reserves will admit of, which is my reason for going so far back from the water.

I am with great respect your Honour's most obedient and very humble servant,  
RICHARD LIPPINCOTT

To the Honourable David:W: Smith,  
Newark.

Here is another petition to Smith:

York, Upper Canada, Mar. 6, 1797.

Sir,

I beg leave to acquaint you that I had but 200 acres of land in New Brunswick, and I petitioned for only 2800 acres if your Honour will please to leave out No. 6, 5th Concession, you will much oblige,

Your most obedient and very humble servant,  
RICHARD LIPPINCOTT

To the Honourable D:W:Smith, Newark.

The above three letters in Captain Richard Lippincott's own handwriting are on file in the Public Archives of Ontario, Toronto.

From the Public Archives of Canada at Ottawa, I also obtained photostats of two land petitions. One is to do with his land which he later received at Richmond Hill; the other is to do with the above lot in York. It seems that after Lippincott got his house built at King and Frederick Streets, he found that the lot was claimed by Sergeant McBride, and he requests either having the lot confirmed in his own name, or having McBride compensate him for the trouble and expense he has been put to, having made considerable progress in the building.

Here is the text of the one about the house.

To his Excellency, John Graves Simcoe, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor of his Majesty's Province of Upper Canada, and Major General Commanding the King's Forces therein, & & .  
In Council,

The Memorial of Richard Lippincott, late of the Province of New Brunswick in Nova Scotia.  
Respectfully Sheweth

To his Excellency John Graves Simcoe, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, and commander in Chief of the Province of Upper Canada, &c. &c. &c.

IN COUNCIL

The Petition of Richard Lippincott Esq  
Captain of Associated Loyalsists,

That your Petitioner has received two  
hundred acres in New Brunswick and

Respectfully shews,

THAT your petitioner is desirous to settle on the lands of the Crown in this Province, being in a condition to cultivate and improve the same. That he is ready to take the usual oaths, and to subscribe the declaration, that he professes the Christian Religion, and obedience to the laws, and has lived inoffensively in the country which he has left. Prays your Excellency, would be pleased to grant him *the residue - 2000 -* acres of land upon the terms and conditions expressed in your Excellency's proclamation bearing date the 7th day of February, 1792, or such other quantity of land as to your Excellency in your wisdom may think meet. And your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray.

York 5 April  
1796

Rich. Lippincott

To his Excellency John Graves Simcoe Esquire  
Lieutenant Governor of his Majesty's Province of Upper  
Canada and Major General, Commanding the  
Forces therein &c &c &c. -+-

For Councils &c

The Memorial of Richard Lippincott late  
of the Province of New Brunswick in Nova Scotia  
Respectfully sheweth.

[redacted] your Memorialist having faithfully served his  
Majesty in the late Rebellion and attached to his government,  
being desirous of becoming an Inhabitant of this Province  
and fixing a residence for his family in <sup>the</sup> town of York made  
(as he conceived) the necessary inquiry and was informed  
that Lot 16 in the third Range was vacant on which he has  
built a house and is ready and willing to comply with any  
Terms of settlement established that after your Memorialist  
had made a considerable progress in the building he was  
informed that Lot 16 was claimed by Sergeant M<sup>r</sup> Bode that  
if not incompatible your Memorialist humbly Prays that  
he may be confirmed in the possession of said Lot and said M<sup>r</sup>  
Bode Accomodated with another Lot or be Compelled to  
make compensation for the Trouble and Expence he has  
been put to in Building said house and other  
Expences and your Memorialist as in Duty Bound  
will ever [redacted]

York April 6<sup>th</sup> 1796  
Rich<sup>d</sup> Lippincott

That your Memorialist having faithfully served his Majesty in the late Rebellion and Attached to his government, being desirous of becoming an Inhabitant of this Province and fixing a residence for his family in the town of York, made (as he conceived) the Necessary Inquiry and was informed that No. 16 in the Third Range was vacant, on which he has built a house, and is ready and willing to comply with any Terms of Settlement Established; That after your Memorialist had made a considerable progress in the building, he was informed that Lott No. 16 was claimed by Sergeant McBride; that if not incompatible, your Memorialist humbly prays that he may be confirmed in the Possession of the said Lott and the said Mr. McBride Accommodated with another Lott, or be Compelled to make Compensation for the Trouble and Expense he has been put to in Building said house and other Improvement, and your Memorialist as in Duty Bound will  
 over Pray,  
 RICHARD LIPPINCOTT

York, April 6, 1796.

Here is the text of the land petition for 2000 acres at Richmond Hill:

To his Excellency John Graves Simcoe, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, and commander in Chief of the Province of Upper Canada, & c. &c. &c.

IN COUNCIL

THE PETITION OF Richard Lippincott, Esq., Captain of Associated Loyalists,  
 That your Petitioner has received two hundred acres in New Brunswick and---

RESPECTFULLY SHOWS,

THAT your petitioner is desirous to settle on the lands of the Crown in this Province, being in a condition to cultivate and improve the same. That he is ready to take the usual oaths, and to subscribe the declaration, that he professes the Christian Religion, and obedience to the laws, and has lived inoffensively in the country which he has left. Prays your Excellency, would be pleased to grant him the residue---2000--- acres of land upon the terms and conditions expressed in your Excellency's proclamation bearing date the 7th day of February, 1792, or such other quantity of land as to your Excellency in your wisdom may think meet. And your petitioner as in duty bound will over pray.

York, 5 April, 1796

Rich<sup>d</sup> Lippincott

#### A Certain Cut-Glass Finger-Bowl

Mr. Saunders Guarrant possesses a fine cut-glass finger-bowl bearing the royal insignia of the Prince of Wales (afterwards King Edward VII) who toured Canada in 1860. Quite a number of the Denisons attended a State Dinner given in his honour on Sept. 11, 1860 in Government House, corner of King and Simcoe Streets, Toronto. Many prominent Torontonians were present. The finger-bowl which Mr. Guarrant possesses was used on that occasion. In the evening a great Ball was held in honour of the Prince in the Crystal Palace, corner of King and Strachan Ave. On that occasion, the Prince waltzed with Miss Esther Mary Denison (later Mrs. Delamere) and also with Miss Esther Lippincott Denison, ancestress of Mr. Guarrant. Col. G.T. Denison commanded the guard of honour during the entire visit.

After the Prince had returned to England, the dinner service which was used all through the tour was placed on sale in Toronto. Col. R.L. Denison bought this finger-bowl and gave it to his daughter as a memento of their attendance at the State Dinner and Grand Ball and of his daughter's waltz with the Prince. The late Mrs. Eva Strange had a vegetable-dish with the same insignia on it. This was acquired in the same manner and as a memento of the Prince waltzing with Miss Esther Mary Denison (later Mrs. Delamere).



Our present coat-of-arms, differenced 1906 by the College of Heralds, London, at the direction of Admiral John Denison: Argent, a bend embattled sable between a unicorn's head erased in chief gules, and a cross-crosslet of the last in base. Crest: a cubit-arm in bend, vested per bend embattled or and azure, cuffed argent, hand proper, pointing with forefinger to a mullet of six points or.

JOHN FENNINGS TAYLOR THE ELDER

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John Fennings Taylor, the elder of that name, was born at Dovercourt near Harwich in Essex, England, Jan. 26, 1801. He arrived first at York, Upper Canada on St. Valentine's Day, 1821. In 1822, he entered the office of the Legislative Council of Upper Canada. On June 25, 1828, he married, at Brookfield House, York, U.C., his first cousin, Elizabeth Sophia Denison, familiarly known as Betsy.

On June 14, 1841, he was appointed Assistant Clerk of the Legislative Council by Governor Sydenham. On Oct. 31, 1843, he was appointed Master in Chancery by Metcalfe. On July 1, 1850, he was appointed Clerk by Lord Elgin. In 1853, he received the commission of Lieutenant-Colonel of Militia by Lord Elgin. He seldom used the title Lt.-Col., and history records him as plain Mr. Taylor. He was kept on in the same position in the Senate of the Dominion after Confederation, 1867. On Dec. 18, 1876, he died at his home, Relyat House (Taylor spelled backwards), Ottawa. He was interred at St. John's Cemetery on the Rumber, Weston.

Preserved in Aunt Maria Taylor's famous tin-box was John Fennings Taylor's historic love-letter to Betsy. A love-letter is a very difficult sort of letter to write. John Fennings Taylor's love letter is stately and dignified, and yet sincere and true, and shows the deep love which he had for Betsy, who later became his wife. This is the text of the letter.

John Fennings Taylor the Elder's Historic Love Letter  
to Betsy.

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Quebec, 9th October, 1825.

My Dear and ever-dearest Betsy,

It gives me much happiness after a very long separation to write you again from the quarter of the Globe in which I hope and trust I shall now end my days. Anxiety, my dear, is the most poignant sensation of any other, and God knows I have felt it to my heart's content ever since I left you, but by the Divine Will I thank the author of my being, that I have been preserved thus far, after a long and tedious voyage, and of sickness, and shall, I hope, meet you ere long in perfect health.

You no doubt have been expecting my arrival for a long time past--as when I parted with you -- and also when I last wrote, I had every prospect before me of seeing you in August last, but from the long sickness with which I was visited, prevented me, but I trust nevertheless that my being thus far upon the road to you will sufficiently prove that my sincerity is not to be doubted, and that my attachment for you, is as I have always professed it to be. Oh my dear, dear Betsy, I don't know how to repay you for your kind and affectionate letter which came to hand as a healing draft after a sickness of two months. I never read anything in my life with such joy--nor did I ever in my life read anything so often. The more I dwelt upon its contents and the affection that it breathed from beginning to end, the more happy in mind I became; but there was, notwithstanding, a degree of pain mingled with it. Because of our being at so great a distance from each, I was fearful you would think from my long absence from you, that I was totally undeserving of your esteem, and which I cannot prove to you is the same as when I took the parting kiss--until I again see you.

I dread to reveal to you the very heavy disappointment that I have met with since writing you last; but, my lovely girl, do not for a moment suppose I know of it at that time. I allude to my business transactions with my Brother's House. I omitted writing to you until I had seen George ( who was out of town when I arrived in London) lest I should be too sanguine in what I should write; and as soon as I saw him, I mentioned the subject of my visit, to him and his partners, and reminded them of their letter to me, who seemed much pleased with the idea of doing business, and obtained a list from me of all the articles I wanted to take out, got me samples of different goods to show me, requested me to engage a vessel, which I did, and ever kept me in

painful suspense for two months, when, to my great astonishment, and mortification, they told me that they had been weighing matters, and after mature consideration, they would wish for the present to decline doing business with me, as they did not like speculations so far out of their usual course of business, but at a future day they should be very happy in embracing my offer. This, you may be sure, was like a thunder clap upon me, and my letter to you was foremost in my mind. But when I meet you, I will explain their base conduct more fully.

My grandfather is still living, and my brother and brother-in-law have been fleecing him completely. My brother-in-law has all his affairs in his own hands; and in place of there being something like £2000 in one stock when I left, there is now only about £300 or £400--- and still he has been paying up the interest of the first sum regularly, and impoverishing the principle.

God knows what I shall do when I return, or how I shall bear to see you, after deceiving you so grossly in my expectations.

I have brought you a few presents, and have not forgotten the knives, forks and spoons; neither did I forget the ring. I have brought your Mama a pair of spectacles, prayer book, rosemary and lavender, and, not forgetting the locket.

This has been written in great haste to save the post, which please excuse. I take the boat to-night---therefore, my dear girl, adieu till I see you in York, when I hope you will grant me an interview at Miss Caldwell's, prior to my going to your Mama's.

I remain, your affectionate lover, and, I hope, husband,  
Z.F. Taylor.

The address is Miss Denison, care of Mr. E. Playter, to be delivered immediately. (Mr. E. Playter was Eli Playter, scion of a prominent family in early York.) (Miss Caldwell mentioned later married a Mr. Todd, and when he died, she became third wife of Col. G.T. Denison the First.)

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#### JOHN FENNINGS TAYLOR THE YOUNGER

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John Fennings Taylor the Younger was a nephew of the Elder of the name, being a son of a brother of the latter. He was born in London, England, Mar. 14, 1817. He is recorded to have been educated at Radley. I checked this, and found it was not Radley College, near Abington, Berkshire, which was not founded till later. Taylor came to Canada in 1836, and on the 6th of December of that year, he was appointed First Office Clerk of the Legislative Council of Upper Canada. In 1842, he was appointed First Office Clerk of the Legislative Council of Canada, and additional Clerk Assistant; in 1855, Clerk Assistant and Deputy Clerk; in 1856, under Great Seal, Master in Chancery. He was Lt.-Col. of Militia, a Commissioner under the Great Seal for administering the oath of allegiance to the members of the Senate, and a Commissioner of the Court of Queen's Bench in Ontario. On Dec. 5, 1838, he married his second cousin, Mary Elizabeth Denison, who died in 1851. He married secondly Georgina Rosalie, youngest daughter of John George Nanton of Lincoln's Inn, London, England, by Rosalie Labord, his wife, formerly of Genier, in the island of St. Vincent, and latterly of "The Pilgrims", in the County of York, Ontario. John Fennings Taylor the Younger was usually called just Fennings Taylor, to distinguish him from his famous uncle. He was the author of "Sketches of British Americans" with photographs by Notman (the well-known photographer of Montreal), "The Life and Death of Hon. Thomas D'Arcy McGee", "The Last Three Bishops appointed by the Crown for the Anglican Church in Canada", "The Legislatures Parliaments" "A Study and Review". He died at Old Point Comfort, Virginia, to which place he had gone for his health, May 4, 1882.

In the Genealogy Sections of this series, we were concerned chiefly with his first marriage to Mary Elizabeth Denison; however, by his second marriage to Georgina Rosalie Nanton, there were, amongst others, three sons--Roland Fennings Taylor of Victoria, B.C. Lawrence Fennings Taylor, an Architect of Ottawa, and H.F. Taylor of London, England. There were no descendants in the third generation by his second marriage, as far as I am aware. Of the above I have one biography, that of Roland Fennings Taylor. My wife

and I met Lawrence Fennings Taylor and his wife in Ottawa in 1944. They have since both died, and so has Roland Fennings Taylor.

ROLAND FENNINGS TAYLOR

Roland Fennings Taylor, died at Victoria, B.C., Aug. 6, 1944, aged 79. He went from Ottawa to Victoria in 1908 to open the Merchant's Bank there. He selected the site now occupied by the Main Office of The Bank of Montreal at Yates and Douglas Streets. He retired from the Merchant's Bank, and took over management of the Bankers' Trust Co., Victoria. He later became associated with the firm of Cathels and Sorenson, a logging company with large interests on the west coast of Vancouver Island. He was for many years President of the James Bay Athletic Association, and actively interested in the Citizens' Recreation Room during the depression years of 1930 to 1937, and in the Protestant Orphanage and aged Men's Home. He was a member of the Union Club, and one time its president. He lived at Waldron Apartments, Victoria, B.C.

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF COLONEL GEORGE TAYLOR DENISON THE FIRST OF BELLEVUE

As explained in Part Two of this series, the estate of the first Col. G.T. Denison was the largest probated in Ontario up to that time. Here is his will, which is filed at Osgoode Hall, Toronto.

IN THE NAME OF GOD, and in hope of happiness through the merits of a Blessed Redeemer, I, George Taylor Denison, of the City of Toronto and County of York in the Province of Canada, do make and declare this my last will and testament in manner following:

I give and devise to my dear wife, Maria Priscilla Denison, all my household goods and furniture, plate, linen and china, for the term of her natural life, or so long as she remains my widow, and no longer, and then to be divided equally between my two young children, Georgina and Charles, and with full power to my dear wife to reside in and occupy my dwelling house on my homestead farm called Bellevue, and to have the full use of all buildings and erections upon the said land during her natural life.

I also give and devise to my dear wife or widow all my stock, crop and farming utensils to be used for the bringing up of my two young children.

I further give to my said widow, my pew in Saint James' Cathedral.

I further give and devise to my said widow an annuity or clear yearly sum of £150 Halifax Currency in lieu of Dowry, £75 every six months in advance out of my estate.

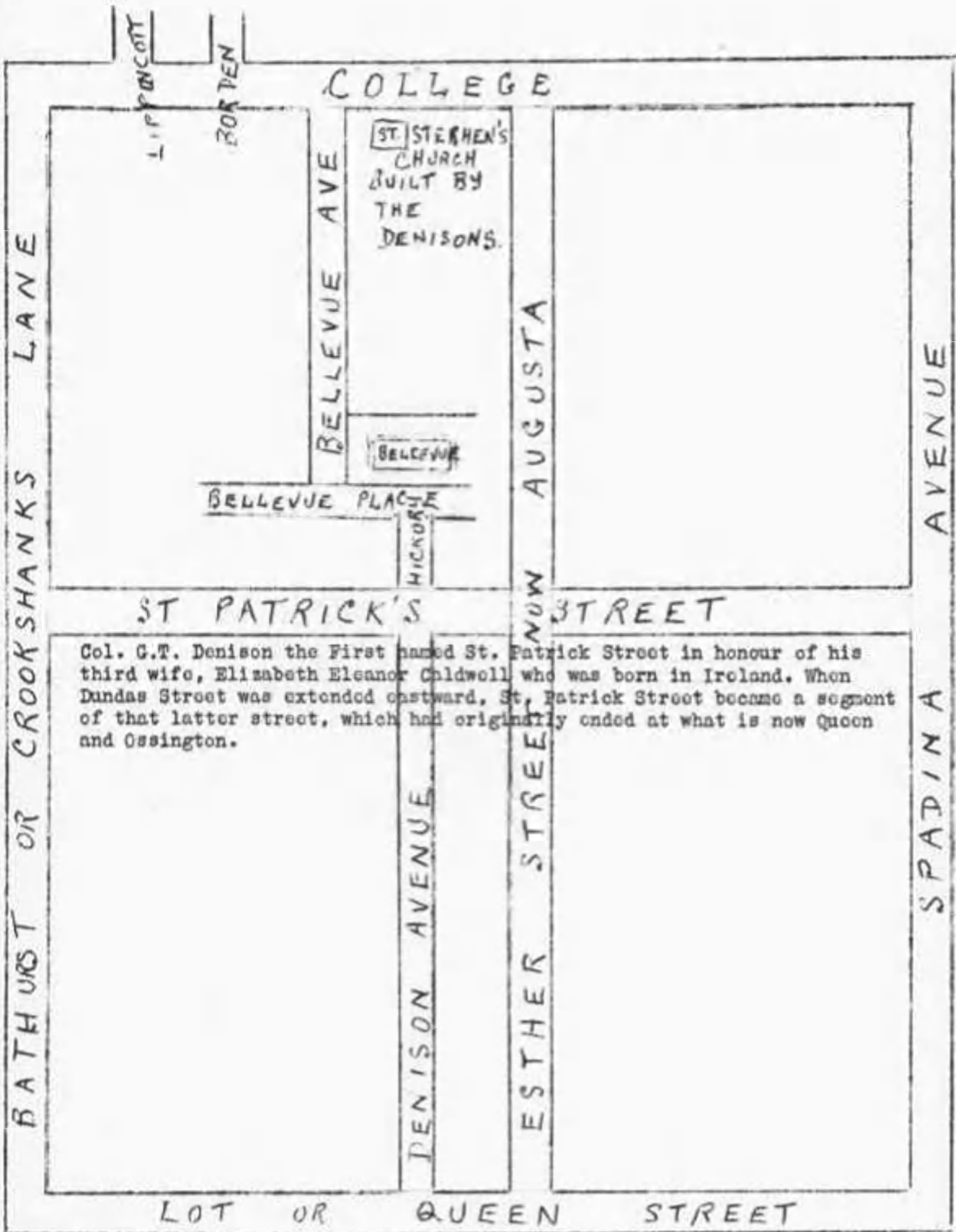
To my eldest child, Sophia Taylor Coates, deeds for a piece of land commencing on the east side of my Avenue and at the north side of Saint Patrick's Street, then to run northerly two hundred feet on the east side of my Avenue, then to cross to the right side of my Farm to the line between Park Lots Numbers 16 and 17, keeping a distance of 200 feet till it reaches the North side of St. Patrick's Street, then to run along the north side of St. Patrick's Street to the place of beginning.

Also to Sophia Taylor Coates, £ 35 Halifax Currency in two semiannual payments of £17:10:0 for life.

To Richard Lippincott Denison, in addition to lands I have given him deeds for, the east half of Park Lot 26 which lies north of Dundas Street and Denison Terrace, reserving at the same time a two rod road through the middle or centre of Park Lot 26, till it reaches the Concession at the North End of Park Lot 26--that is to say-- Richard is to give but one rod and his brother the other rod.

To Richard Lippincott Denison, my farm on the west side of Yonge Street being the east part of Lot #9, containing 110 acres for his life and to his children after his death.

To Richard Lippincott Denison, the old farm on the river Humber, being lot 3 in the 5th Concession west of Yonge Street--It is to go to the male heir of the Denison line forever--a small portion of this lot I have deeded to the Lord Bishop for church



Old Bellevue Estate of Col. George Taylor Denison the First and later of Colonel Robert Brittain Denison of Bellevue. This is only the southern half of the original land which extended north to Bloor Street. The northerly part was a large farm.

purposes, and to secure the Denison Burial Grounds according to my Father's wishes. I also give to my son, Richard Lippincott Denison, lot #4 in the 5th Concession, which I have not deeded to his cousins, or sold as building lots.

To George Taylor Denison, the west half of Park Lot 26 which lies north of Dundas Street or Denison Terrace, at the same time, he is to allow half the road being one rod between his land and his brother's, to the concession at the north of the said lot, which road between them will be 33 feet in width.

To George Taylor Denison, my old farm in the 4th Concession west of Yonge Street, for life and then to his children.

To George Taylor Denison, a piece of land to commence on the west side of my Avenue, and at the north side of St. Patrick's Street, then to run northerly up my Avenue, then to run across to the west side of my farm to the line between George Crookshanks and me, (Bathurst Street, earlier called Crookshank's Lane) then to run down the line between George Crookshank and me, 200 feet to the north side of St. Patrick's Street.

To Robert Brittain Denison, after my youngest child is 21, my homestead called Bellevue (which name is not to be changed) and the grounds are described as follows: on the south or front 200 feet from the north side of St. Patrick's Street to the limits of the lands given to my daughter Sophia and my son George, and on the west by the line between George Crookshanks and me, or the centre of Park Lot 18, and on the east by the line of Park Lots 16 and 17 or the line between Baldwin and me (Spadina Avenue) on the north by a line running east and west four chains to the south of the south side of College Street, with all buildings and improvements thereon, with power to my dear wife to occupy the house and buildings as aforesaid.

To Georgina Taylor Denison, my Cottage on Esther Street (Augusta Ave.) near Henry Laidley's and Lot (Lot Street was Queen Street) and also my cottage on the east side of my Avenue (My Avenue was Denison Ave., Hickory Street and Bellevue Ave., in one north and south line.) and Lot (Queen) now in the occupation of my son Robert.

To Georgina Taylor Denison, a piece of land to commence on the west side of my Avenue and at the south side of St. Patrick's Street, to run southerly on the west side of my Avenue 200 feet, then to run across to the west side of my farm to the center of Park Lot 18, then to run 200 feet to the south side of St. Patrick's Street on the line between George Crookshanks and me, then to run till it reaches the west side of my Avenue, for her natural life, and then to her children, if none then to any of her Brothers or their children.

To Georgina Taylor Denison, 200 acres of land in the Township of Innisfil, lot 7 in the 10th.

To Charles Leslie Denison, all that part of Park Lot 26 which lies south of Dundas Street or Denison Terrace, except the building lots which have been surveyed for sale.

To Charles Leslie Denison, my Brick House and Lot of Land at the east side of my Avenue with all improvements thereon.

To Charles Leslie Denison, all the part of Park Lot 29 which lies north of Dundas Street or Denison Terrace which I have not sold, to him for life and then to his children, and if not, then to any of his Brothers or Sisters or their children.

To Charles Leslie Denison, 200 acres in the Township of Innisfil, south and north halves of Lot 8 in the 9th Concession.

To Charles Leslie Denison, 300 acres in the Township of Medonte, lot 55 and the north half of lot 54 on the east of the Penetanguishene Road in the 1st Concession.

To Georgina Taylor Denison my cottage and lot at the east side, corner of Maria St., and Queen Street.

My young children are not to come into possession till they are 21, and in the case of my daughter (Georgina) upon her marriage, if married before she is 21---all rents and profits are for the education and bringing up of my two young children.

All rents, dividends, interest and profits of all my Bank Stock, Fire Insurance Stock, Railroad Stock, and Canal Stock, for the education and bringing up of my two young children.

Park Lot 18 which lies north of College Street and along the east side of Lippincott street, 5 chains in width to be laid out in lots and sold.

Lot 17 south of the Second Concession, 6 chains in width, to be laid out in lots and sold.

Lot 17, 4 chains wide, except Robert's, south of College St., similarly.

All lots laid out on 17 and half of 18, which are not sold are to be sold.

Park Lot 29 south of Dundas Street, which I have not sold to the Railway Co., with all building lots surveyed along Lot Street, all that part of 29 which lies on the west side of the said Concession, a strip 2 chains wide adjoining the land sold to the Railway Co., similarly.

Building lots along the south side of Denison Terrace, and unsold lots on Park Lot 25, similarly.

All my Book Debts, Mortgage Bonds etc., to be collected.

To Harriet and Mary Taylor, children of my daughter, Mary, each £500 Halifax Currency when they are 21.

And my will further is that after all my lands shall have been sold which I have left for sale, that a certain sum of money should be invested in some sure and safe fund so as to be prepared to pay the two annuities, one to my widow, and one to Sophia. My bonds at present in my possession are £8500 and more, those sums of money which are to be invested to pay those two annuities, and when those annuities shall cease, then the money to be divided equally among my children.

To Charles Leslie Denison, my farm on the Grand River, Township of Canboro, 100 acres, at present leased to William I. Coates.

Executors are to be George Percival Ridout, my son, George Taylor Denison, and Adam Wilson.

Dated Dec. 2, 1853 Geo. T. Denison,

Witnesses: Andrew Wilson, George Mulligan.

The above is largely written as an abstract, as the original is too long to copy here. The road mentioned between George's and Richard's is, of course, Dovercourt Road.

#### LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF THOMAS JOHN DENISON OF WESTON ONT.

IN THE NAME OF THE ALMIGHTY, AMEN, I, Thomas John Denison of the Township of York in the County of York in the Home District of Canada West, Gentleman, being weak in body, but of sound mind, memory, and understanding, do publish and declare this to be my last will and testament, hereby revoking and annulling all and every former will and testament heretofore by me made. First I assign my soul to the Almighty Creator in the hope of a joyful resurrection to Eternal Life. Of my worldly goods, I desire that all my just debts and funeral expenses be paid as soon as convenient and practicable after my decease out of the proceeds of all or any of my personal estate if sufficient, save and except my household furniture and the necessaries of my family, and if insufficient then by the disposal of such part of my real estate as to my executors and trustees hereinafter named shall seem most expedient.

Secondly, to my wife, Maria Denison, I give, devise, and bequeath the residue of all my property, real, personal, and mixed, in possession or expectation or to which I may be in any wise entitled, and all rents issued and profits derivable from the same, during her natural life, or so long only as she may remain a widow, for the maintenance, charge and care of bringing up our children.

And Thirdly, to my executors and trustees of this my will, viz., Peter Lawrence, of the Township and County of York, Esquire, Elisha Lawrence of the Gore of Toronto, in the said County of York, Gentleman, and Edward C. Scarlett of the Township and County of York, Gentleman, I hereby give and bequeath in trust for the following purposes all my property and estate of what nature soever to be by them disposed of by sale or division as to them shall seem most equitable and for the advantage of my dear Children, that is to say that as soon after the decease or second marriage of my said wife, (save and except her right of dower) as may be advisable that all my children then living or alive at the time of division and distribution shall and may share equally share and share alike in the proportions, values, profits, proceeds and emoluments of the same to themselves individually, their heirs and assigns, provided

also that nothing shall or may prevent the said executors and trustees from making an earlier division and distribution by sale or otherwise of my said property and estate if it be the wish of all the parties interested or by desire and with the consent of my said wife with a view to the settlement in life of our children, the same being done equally and impartially as before provided, my executors and trustees having full power to convey the same by legal title.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this fifteenth day of April in the year of Our Lord one thousand, eight hundred and forty-two.

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the Testator as his last Will and Testament in the presence of us---

Joseph Dennis, J. Scarlett

Thomas John Denison.

From the above, it may be seen that the Scarletts, after whom Scarlett Road in Weston is named, were good friends of the Denisons. Here is a letter by Elizabeth Scarlett, who was, I think, the wife of John Scarlett of Weston, written to Sophia Denison, whom she addresses as "Mother". Now Sophia Denison did not have either a daughter or a daughter-in-law of this name. Perhaps someone of the family can explain this to me; my supposition is that perhaps this Elizabeth Scarlett was engaged to either John Jr., or Charles Denison, who died earlier, and that she uses the term "Mother" to Sophia Denison, as a sort of courtesy title. However, in those days such careless use of terms like "Mother" or "Aunt" was much more unusual than it is to-day. Here is the letter from "Aunt Maria's" tin-box.

Runnymede, May 26, 1846.

My dear Mother,

As Mr. Thomson came in this morning and told us that he was going to Montreal this week, I thought I would send you a few lines. I was very sorry to hear by the letter, that your grandson Arthur was so kind as to write to me, that you and all the family have been so ill. You are far away, my dear Mother, and I am sorry that I cannot see you sometimes, and take a cup of old hyson together as we used to do. (Note: Hyson is Chinese green tea.) I think of you every day of my life, and look forward for the time to come that I shall see you again with great pleasure. I do not go out much, as Mr Scarlett is about to build another mill. He will be away every day all the summer, and I must stay at home to take care of the house. Edward has got his mill done, and is now living up there. (Edward C. Scarlett in the above will.) St. George is keeping a shop near "The Peacock", so there is only Samuel with us now. Mrs T.A. Scarlett has been very poorly all the spring, but she is much better now. Mrs. Harding and her little girl are very well. Mr. Harding was here last week. I have not much to tell you, my dear Mother. We are doing a little in the farming way. Mr. Scarlett is very busy planting corn, so that we may live on mush and milk the rest of our lives. There are some preparations making in our neighbourhood for a wedding between Mr. Ed. Fisher and Miss M. Thomson. I suppose it will take place soon. I was in the city a few days ago, and took tea with Mrs. Scadding. She was very well. She spent some days with me in the winter, and we were wishing you were here. I hope, my dear Mother, I shall hear from you soon, and let us know how you all are. I was very much pleased to receive a letter from Arthur. He is a good boy to think of his Aunt. I will send him a few lines one of these days. I hope you will excuse this scrawl. I am a bad letter-writer. I shall be very glad to see any of you when you can come. Give my kind love to Betsey and Elizabeth and Mr. Taylor and all the children, with kind love to yourself, hoping this letter will find you well.

Yours sincerely, ELIZABETH SCARLETT.

The above letter is addressed to Mrs. Denison, Montreal, care of E.W.Thomson, Esq., and there is a note on it in Sophia Denison's own handwriting which says: This letter I answered on June 19th, 1846, honoured by Robert Baldwin, Esq. Who was Elizabeth Scarlett, and why did she call Sophia Denison her mother? Does anyone know?

R



Colonel R. L. Denison the First



Colonel Richard Lippincott Denison the Second of  
Dovercourt and Inglenount.

69d



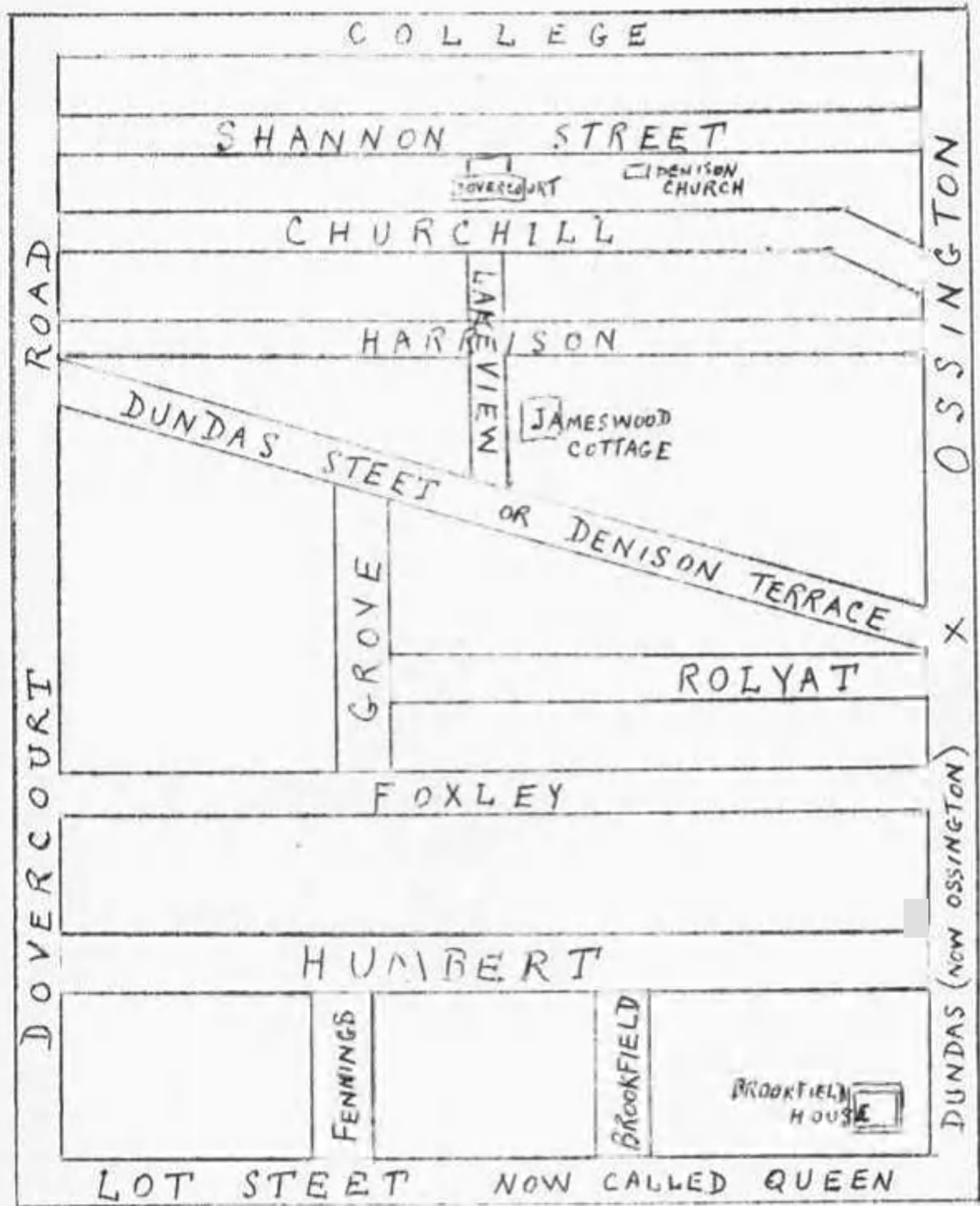
The first Dovercourt, built in 1838, and subsequent to 1853 used by the family as a private distillery.



Old Dovercourt, built in 1853. This is how it looked when it was first built. The last remains of it were removed about 1933. It stood on Churchill Ave., and from the front door, one could look down Lakoview Avenue.

## DOVERCOURT

FARM LANDS



The above is a map of the Dovercourt Lands of Colonel Richard Lippincott Denison the First of Dovercourt, showing their location in terms of modern as well as ancient streets in the City of Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Note how many family names occur. Shannon Street after the Shannons. Rolyat and Fenning's after the Taylors. This is only half, as north of College Street was farm land the same size as this, also owned by him.

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF COLONEL RICHARD LIPPINCOTT DENISON THE FIRST OF  
DOVERCOURT.

The last will and testament of Richard Lippincott Denison of Dovercourt in the City of Toronto-----.

I order that my remains be interred in St. John's Cemetery on the Humber, as hereinafter provided for, and the spot designated-----.

I further order that my funeral and testamentary expenses be paid for by my Executrix and Executors as soon as conveniently after my death-----.

I hereby appoint my dear wife, Susan Maria Denison, as my Executrix, and my three eldest sons, Richard, William and George as my executors.

After payment of my debts, I will and devise all the rest, residue and remainder of my estate both real and personal of every kind soever to my dear and ever beloved wife, Susan Maria Denison, for her use and maintenance and the support of my children during infancy and after her death to be disposed of as in this will directed. Dovercourt, my much loved home, or at least so much of it as will form a square looking down Lakovicw Avenue (which I had laid out for the beauty and benefit of this property) measuring 529 feet more or less from east to west, and from north to south the same number of feet. This square will cover and include all the home buildings with the trees, gardens and pleasure grounds attached thereto. This property I give to my dear wife during her life, and to be disposed of after her death in the following manner.

If any of my sons desire to occupy the Homestead, he is to have the privilege before any other Tenant, by paying the same rent as another would pay.

The rent to be paid quarterly to my executors, and after a fair deduction yearly for repairs, I order my executors to divide quarterly between my surviving Children until the year 1900. I further order that none of the trees now growing upon the place be cut down, unless a tree should happen to die and thus injure the growing ones.

I further order that in the matter of repairs the foundation and the roof be particularly looked to St. George's Chapel in the Grove to remain just as it is unless required by the tenant for God's service, that being the case it may be kept in decent repair.

I further order that the old name of Dovercourt be retained to this property.

In disposing of Dovercourt as above, I have the fond hope that one or other of my sons may so prosper in this world's goods as to enable him to purchase and retain the old happy home. And as a small favour, I order that an allowance of 10% be made in the purchase money in his favour, provided he buys it for his own use.

When Dovercourt is disposed of, I further direct that the money arising therefrom be divided equally between my surviving children.

Richard Lippincott, to this my eldest son, I give 264 feet 6 inches facing in the Dovercourt Road, commencing 264 feet 6 inches from the Lot sold to Capt. Shaw, No. 18, which is 250 feet north of the northern limit of Harrison Street (which Street I named in honour of my old friend and neighbour, the Hon. S.B. Harrison the Judge) leaving the lot for William---

William George, to him I give 264 feet 6 inches on Dovercourt Road between his brother Richard's lot and lot No. 18, 250 feet north of Harrison Street. These lots to have a depth of 210 feet to Dovercourt.

John George, to this son, I give the Lot where he now lives (year 1877) with the Cottage, etc., commencing 250 feet north of Harrison Street, and which will join Lot No. 7. And all my Denison Street 264 feet 6 inches, where it will join his brother Alfred's lot.

Alfred Ernest, to this son, I give the lot in the rear of his brother George's 264 feet 6 inches along Denison Street which will take it even the northern limit of Dovercourt, each of the above lots to have a depth of 210 feet to Dovercourt.

Edwin Oliver, to this son, I give a lot on Denison Street beginning 150 feet from the north side of College Street, 200 feet frontage with a depth of 150 feet.

Herbert Francis, to him I give a Lot on Denison Street 250 feet frontage adjoining his brother Edwin with a depth of 150 feet.

Arthur Richard, To this son I give a lot 200 feet frontage on Dovercourt Road, commencing 150 feet north of College Street with a depth of 150 feet.

Albert Edward, to this son I give a Lot on Dovercourt Road 200 foot frontage with a depth of 150 feet, this lot to adjoin his brother Arthur's on the North side.

Esther Lippincott--To my daughter Hetty I give a Lot 200 feet frontage on Dovercourt Road by 150 feet deep, this Lot to adjoin Albert's on the north side.

All the above named lots from Richard to Esther inclusive, I give to my Dear Children to dispose of as they think most to their interest, of course respecting the first gift to their Mother.

The remainder of my Dovercourt Estate, i.e. Park Lots 25 & 26, I order to be sold by my executors and executrix to the best advantage, and the proceeds to be placed to the General Fund which shall be disposed of hereafter and for that purpose, I give to my Executrix and Executors full power and authority to make all necessary Deeds and Investments.

Borden Farm Lot, lettered A, Etobicoke---This property which has been in the family since my Mother was a girl, I now order to be sold to the best advantage and the money received therefrom to be placed to the General Fund above mentioned and for this purpose I give all needful authority to my Executors.

Lippincott Farm Lot No. 9, 1st Concession, York, from Yonge Street---This property which came from my grandfather, Captain Lippincott, I also order to be sold when convenient. (In this property I have only a life interest with power to leave it to my Children as I may appoint) the money arising therefrom to go to the General Fund above referred to (and for the purpose I give all necessary authority). For the purpose of giving this lot in a Collateral Mortgage I executed a transfer to my son Alfred, and which he is bound to restore to my Estate--otherwise I cut him off with a single dollar in lieu of any bequest I have given him.

Brampton, County of Peel--two acres and a half with Cottage and out buildings I also order to be sold when convenient and the amount realized placed to the credit of the General Fund.

Seaton Village, Lots No. 120 and 121 Markham Street, the other end facing on a public square, I order to be sold and the money received placed to the credit of the General Fund.

York Township, head of Dovercourt Road, Lots 1580 limited (Bloor Street) 22 Northumberland Street, 16, 17, 18 Bloor Street 19, 20, 21 Northumberland Street--These lots are also to be sold and the money placed to the credit of the General Fund.

Lot No. Borden Street, now included in a mortgage made by M.C. Thurston to Mrs. Foster (as a collateral) this lot is also to be sold and the money placed in the General Fund.

Lot 4 in the 5th Concession of York West of Yonge Street on the 12th of May 1875 a Plan of Lots surveyed by Messrs Wadsworth Unwin and Brown and I believe filed by them a copy of plan will be found among my papers, I order to be sold.

Lower Canada--The mining property owned by the Hon. John Simpson, the Estate of James McKirdy and myself, I also order to be sold.

Lot No. 3 in the 5th Concession West of Yonge St., and known as The Graveyard Farm--Richard--to this son I give Lots 3 and 4 between Cemetery Street and the low water mark on the Humber River for life and then to go to the male heir.

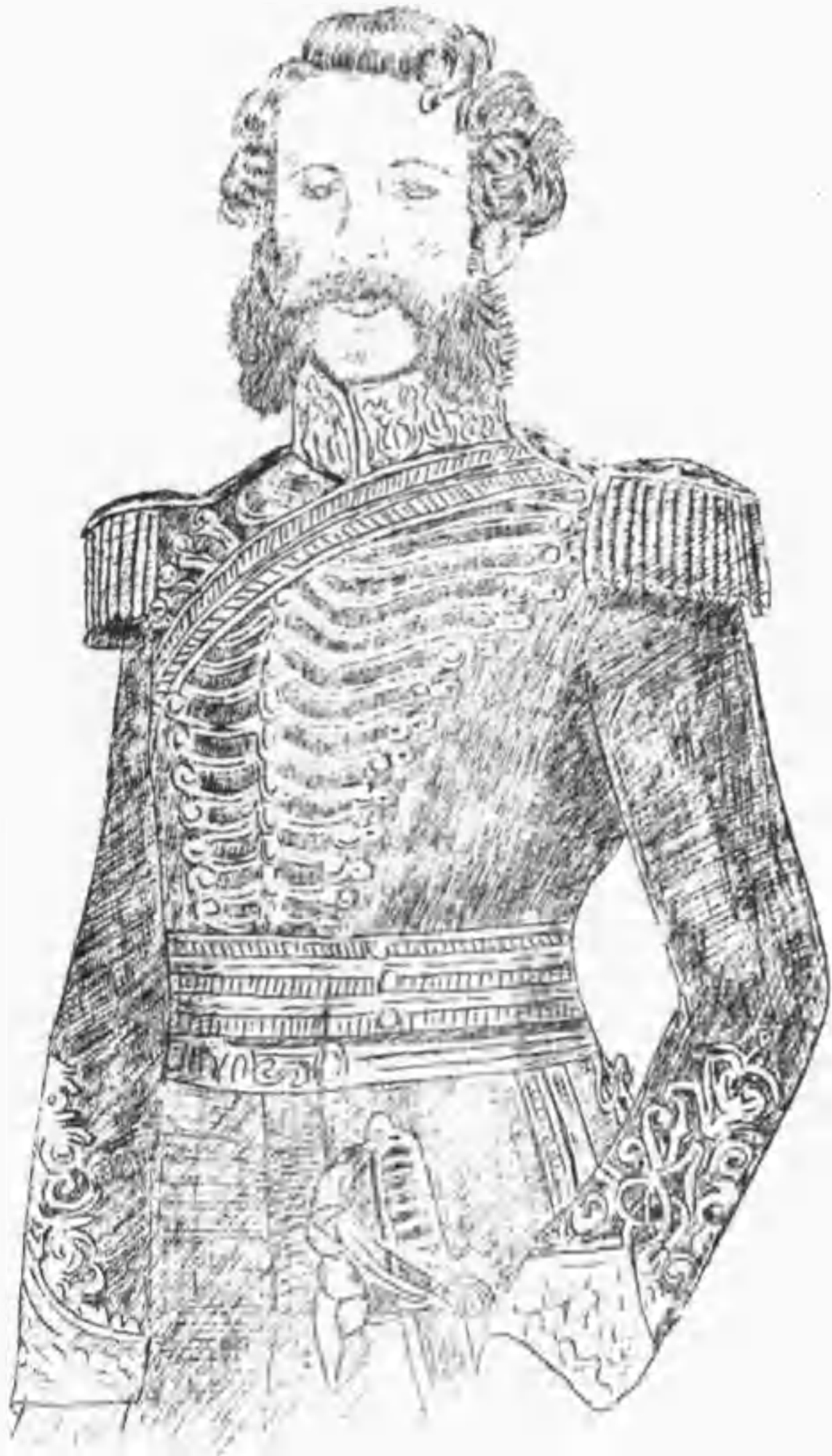
First that my funeral Expenses be paid and a decent stone erected to point out where I and my Dear wife repose after a long and happy married life. The spot for our graves is known to most of you, where I planted a tree and when large enough I cut my name upon it. It stands just south from my Father and Mother's grave and stop-mothers three.

Second that all my debts be paid to the last shilling as I always paid them during my lifetime, then whatever balance remains (and I hope it will not be less than \$70,000.00) to be divided equally between my children, and that my stop-daughter, Helen, shall have a half share, in consideration of the affection always existing between us. It must be remembered that I gave her a valuable Lot which she sold to purchase the lot where she now lives.

My old friend and servant, John Bready, who has been over 31 years in my employ, shall be provided for comfortably as long as he lives, and he shall be allowed to retain his Cottage in the Orchard.

To Albert, my gold watch and chain.

To Richard, my signet ring, my large family Bible together with all family Bibles now in my possession. Hereafter they shall go to the heir of the house.



COLONEL GEORGE TAYLOR DENISON THE SECOND OF RUSHOLME, in the Uniform of a Cavalry Colonel of his day. He was the founder of THE TORONTO GERRISON. He was also a lawyer. Note the curly hair, and the arrangement of mustache and side-whiskers, which were traditional with him, and which his oldest son, Colonel George Taylor Denison the Third of Heydon Villa used in his early life.



Civilian Portrait of Colonel George Taylor Denison the Second of Rusholme.



"Old Rushholme", built in 1839, the residence in succession of Colonel George Taylor Denison the Second, Colonel Frederick Charles Denison, Gordon Cyril Denison, and now Captain Harold Denison (retired naval officer). It stands at 1/4 Rushholme Dr., Toronto, Ontario.

SIGNATURES OF THE DEPARTED

*Robert B. Denison*  
Colonel Robert Brittain Denison

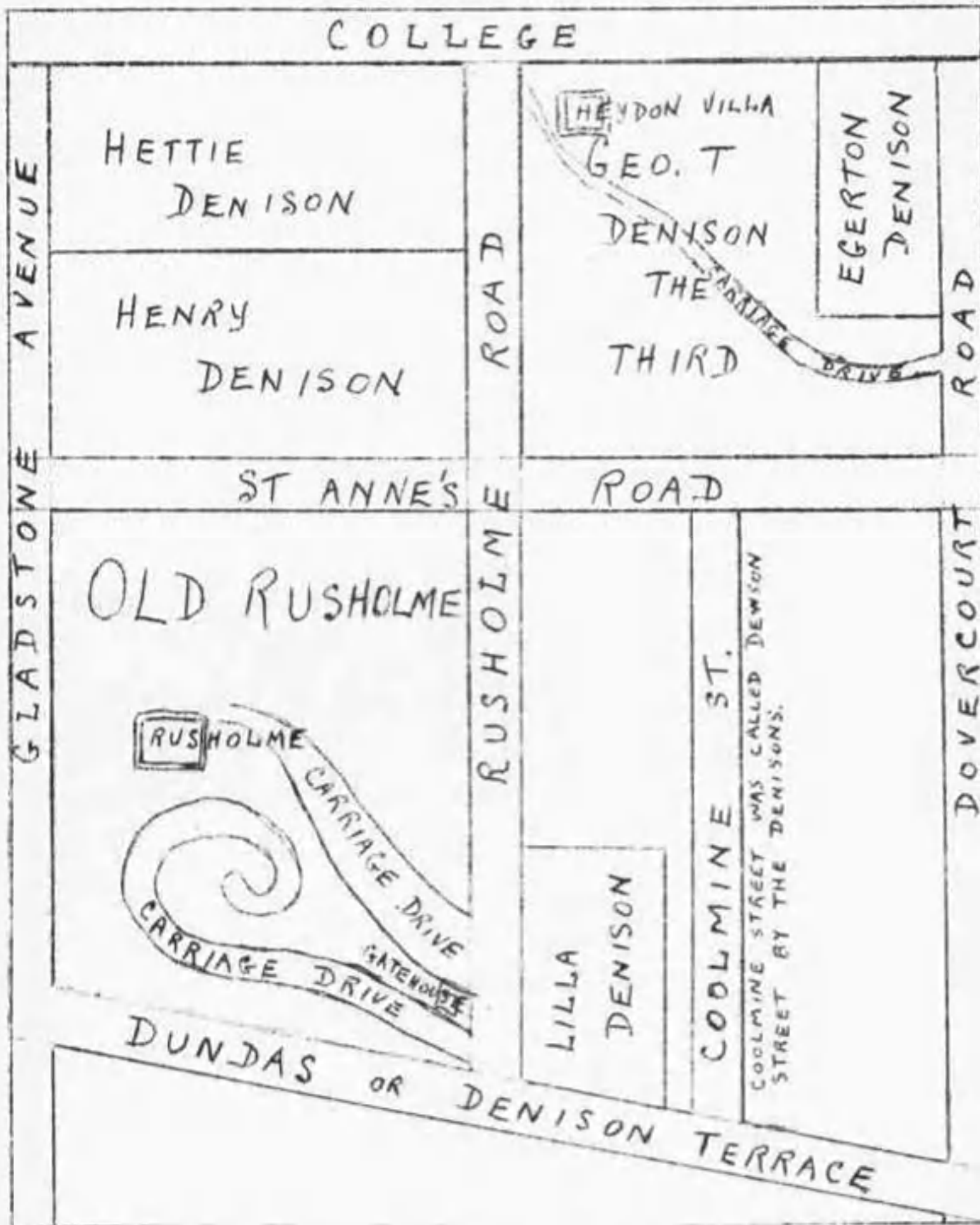
*Septimus Denison*  
General Septimus Denison

*R. E. Denison*  
Robert Evelyn Denison

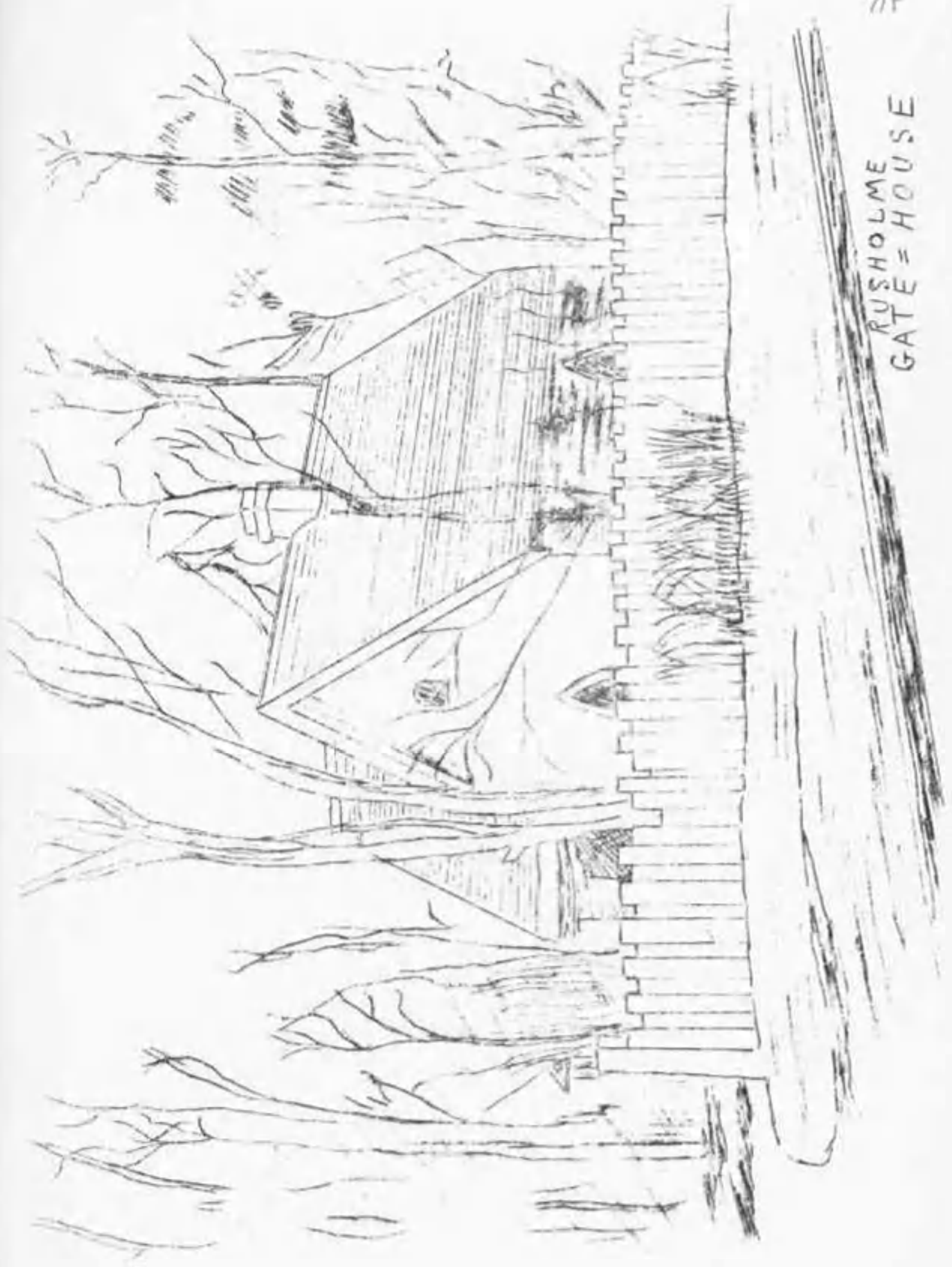
*John Denison*  
Lieutenant John Denison

*George Taylor Denison*  
Col. George Taylor Denison the Third

*G. T. Denison*  
Colonel George Taylor Denison the Second.



What was left of the old Rusholme Estate when Col. Geo. T. Denison the Second of Rusholme made his will. This is of course only a third of the original land which extended north to Bloor Street and south to Queen Street as did the lands of Old Dovercourt. The lands also extended west of Gladstone to beyond Dufferin Street, and included Dufferin Race Track, which was sold of recent time to the late Mr. Abe. Orpon for \$400,000.00 by the trustees of the estate of Charles Leslie Denison.



RUSHOLME  
GATE = HOUSE

This will was prepared without legal advice, and I hope no one will take steps to controvert it, as was done by my step brother-in-law, Charles Simms, in regard to my Father's will, thereby throwing away at least \$30,000.00 in useless law.

Dated Feb. 19th, 1877

R.L. Denison

Witnesses: R.L. Denison, Jr.  
 Esther L. Thomson.  
 J. Geo. Denison.

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INTERESTING CLAUSES IN THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF COLONEL GEORGE TAYLOR  
 DENISON THE SECOND OF RUSHOLME

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Not wishing to waste space giving every word of the above will, I will pick out just such items as interested me when I read it.

Rusholme went to Mary Anne Denison, his wife, for life and then to Frederick Charles Denison. Each one of the children received a block of land.

Black Creek Farm (now Trotheway Park) went to Col. Clarence Alfred Kinsey Denison., but the part of it north of the Old Bridge over the Creek went to General Septimus Denison.

His Pow in St. James' Cathedral is named as No. 189 in the West Aisle.

Col. G.T. Denison the Third received his family Bible, his Diary or Journal complete in several volumes, and his Register of Burials in St. John's Cemetery on the Humber.

Paintings: Portrait of his father to Hettie; portrait of his wife's father in plain clothes to Lilla; portrait of his wife's father (Major Dowson) in the Uniform of the 35th Regiment to Henry. Large portraits of himself and wife to Frederick. His signet ring to George. The ring his father gave him on his death to Clarence. His gold watch to John. His brass-scabbard sword to Septimus. His double-barrelled gun to Egerton.

Dated Oct. 7th 1867.

G.T. Denison.

Witnesses: A. Grant and T.W. Taylor.

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LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF SUSAN MARIA (HEPBURNE) DENISON, WIFE OF COL.  
 RICHARD LIPPINCOTT DENISON THE FIRST (DOVERCOURT).

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It would be too long to give all these wills in their entirety with all their legal verbiage, but the following was of interest to me when I read the above will. Besides real estate, she left a cash estate of \$13,903.05 which was divided amongst eight children and one grandchild at \$1368.08 each, with an extra share of \$43.08 to Mrs. William George Denison. Her personal effects are interesting.

To my daughter, Helen, the old bureau given me by my mother. To Richard, the portrait in oils of his father. To Hettie, the china-set given me by her father. To William, Grandmother Shannon's Bible. To George, the pioneer memorial sent me after his father's death. To Alfred, the memorial of his father from the City Council. To Edwin, the memorial from the County Magistrate to his father. To Herbert, six teaspoons that were my grandmother Shannon's, since marked with the Denison crest. To Arthur, 2 salt spoons with M on them, and 2 teaspoons with R.E.W. on them. To Albert, the piano.

Witnesses were Jos. McClintock and Fred C. Denison.

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A Short Little Story.

Colonel Robert Brittain Denison of Bellevue lost an eye in some war or by some chance of which I have not heard. He also had an Irish butler. The Irish are always witty, you know. Well, the Colonel always objected to having the name Denison misspelled with two "n's" in the middle. When the butler continued to leave letters thus addressed on the breakfast table, the Colonel remarked, "That is not my name; my name has only one "n". The butler looked at the colonel and then at the letter, and drew a real laugh when he said casually "Denison with the one eye, (I) isn't that you?"

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MORE STORIES

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The following story was told to me by my late friend and relative, Francis Napier Denison, the astronomer and inventor. Colonel Robert Brittain Denison's bedroom was near the head of the stairs at Old Bellevue. Hearing a noise during the night which sounded as if someone was trying to break into the house, he jumped out of bed, and grasped his sword which always hung at readiness in its scabbard at the head of the bed. On opening the bedroom-door, he heard someone coming up the stairs. As he raised his arm and sword to strike, the intruder (who had a gun) fired, plunged down the stairs, and out through the side window panel next the front door which he had broken to enter. In the morning, it was found that the bullet had gone right through the colonel's night-shirt under his raised arm, and had embedded itself in the old grand-father-clock, which afterwards became the property of Charles Leslie Denison.

Another story told to me by Francis Napier Denison about a prank at Upper Canada College when his father attended there. In those days, Upper Canada College was at the corner of King and Simcoe Streets, Toronto. This is the story which Napier said his father used to tell. --Upon arriving in the class-room every morning one of the masters had the habit of picking up the brass-poker which always stood in a brass container next to the open fire-place. The master always gave the embers a few stirs with the poker before starting the day's work. This morning, one of the boys, possibly Robert Brittain Denison, or another boy equally full of pranks, had, a few moments earlier, heated the poker-handle in the flames, and then placed the poker, right end up in its usual place. You can imagine what cry came from the lips of the master when he screeched his fingers. No one ever found out definitely who did it.

Here is a Feather-Story which is traditional in the R.L. Denison Branch of the Family. It is probably magnified a bit, but there may be some basis of truth in it. In any event, it is a good story, even if the joke is on an ancestor of mine. It seems that Col. R.L. Denison the Second was aroused from bed by the sound of an intruder in the cellar. He unsheathed his mighty cavalry-sword (the one which I possess) and marched in his night-shirt to the cellar-door, which he unlocked with his left hand. As he opened the door, a great white form hung ominously before him swaying, "Ghosts", he cried and let the spectre have it in the belly with all the force he could assay. The cavalry sword cut a long gash in the spirit, and the colonel found himself turning away gasping for air. The ghost was a bag of feathers. In those days, feathers from the various fowl killed and eaten were preserved and used for mattresses and pillow-cases. You can imagine the moss on the kitchen-floor and cellar-stairs. There was no burglar.

Here is a more serious story. St. Andrew's Church, Grimsby, Ontario, was lighted by acetylene-gas manufactured in a small "plant" near the church, about the year 1910. One Sunday evening, my father was shown around this "plant" by the sexton, a Mr. Barnes. My father remarked at the time that there was a decided odour of escaping gas. The following Sunday evening, Barnes entered the "plant" with a lighted lantern. A terrific explosion occurred which threw him up against the wall, and killed him. There is a memorial tablet in St. Andrew's Church in memory of Barnes' tragic death.

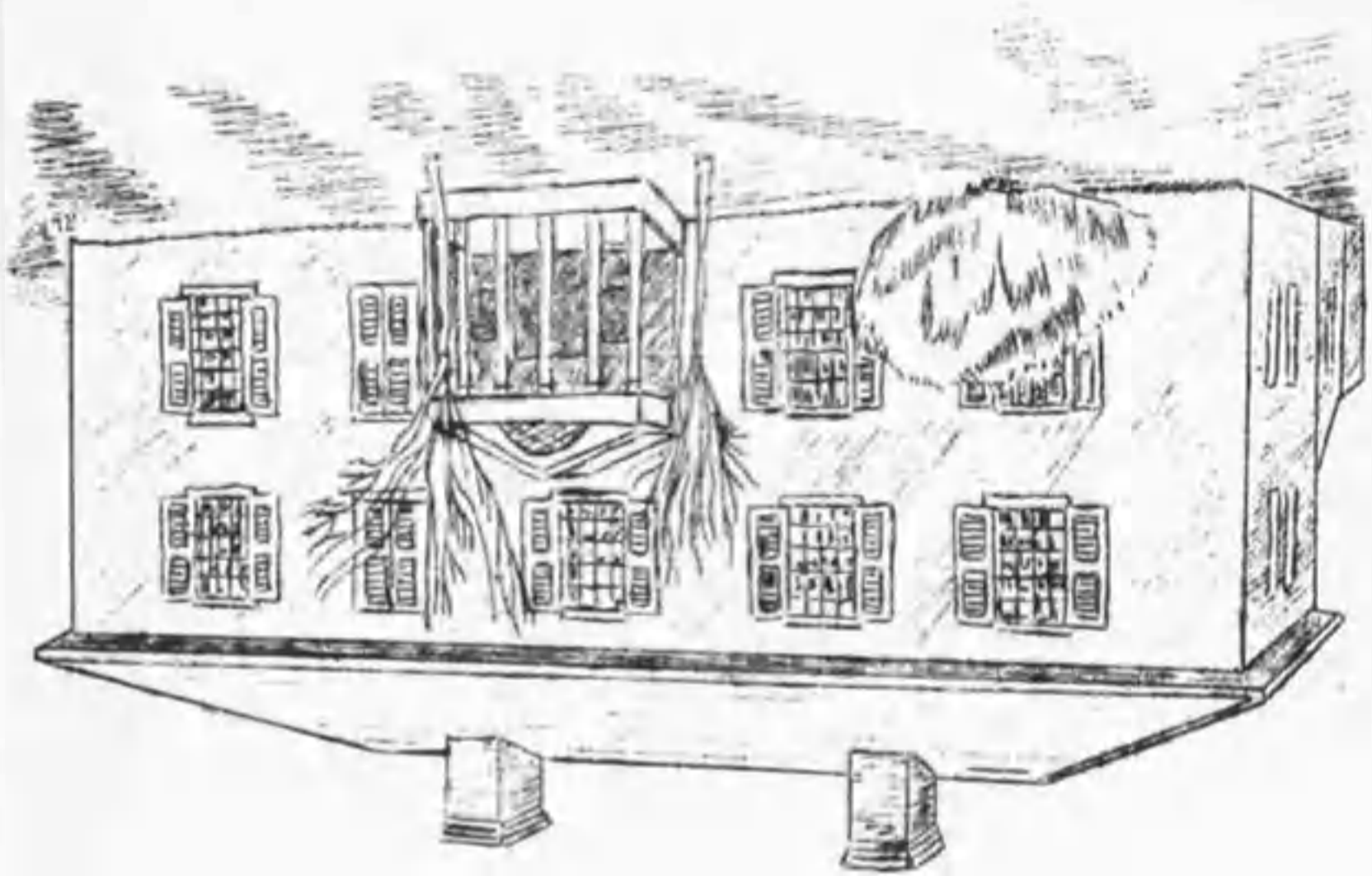
The Denisons were all noted for their great physical strength. Col. R.L. Denison the first was said to have been able to lift as much as any man on his farm and the man as well at the same time. Even as an old man, his strength had not deteriorated. One day, a young whipper-snapper argued with him, and ended by saying to him, "Your gray hairs save you." The colonel said, "But they won't save you." Thereupon he threw the young fellow out into the middle of the road.

In 1927, General Scythian Denison wrote a book of "Memoirs". Through the generosity of his daughter, Mrs. Bowman, I was able to secure an autographed copy, which is one of my prized possessions. I am sure that if the old general were alive to ask, I should have no difficulty in obtaining his permission to quote from it. Here is his Cow Story.



## St. Stephen's Church

St. Stephen's Anglican Church, situated at the south-east corner of College Street and Bellevue Avenue in Toronto, was erected, entirely at his own expense, by Colonel Robert Brittain Denison of Bellevue. The architect was Mr. T. Fuller.



COLONEL  
 ROBERT  
 BRILLIANT  
 DENISON  
 AND  
 OLD  
 BELLEVUE  
 WHICH  
 HE  
 INHERITED  
 FROM  
 HIS FATHER  
 COLONEL  
 GEORGE  
 TAYLOR  
 DENISON  
 THE  
 FISH



It seems that at Upper Canada College, the caterer of the boarding-school kept cows. Some of the boys, amongst them, Colonel Clarence Denison and Sir James Aikins, thought it would be fun to take one of these cows into the college building in the very early hours of the morning. They did this, taking it up to the second floor where they tied a ball between its horns. It is not difficult to make an animal climb stairs, but it is a difficult task indeed to succeed in making the animal descend. The janitor, hearing the ball at such an early hour was able to remove it, but could not, alone and unaided, force the cow to descend. It was there when school opened in the morning much to the amusement of all the pupils.

General Septimus Denison was a man of great physical strength. On page 17 of his book he tells of wrestling four fellow officers, throwing them all down upon a bed, and himself on top, whereupon the bed broke, bringing the fracas to a hasty conclusion. The officers names were Phillips, Capt. H.E. Taylor of the Berkshire Regiment, Col. Cecil Martindale, and Sir Walter Egerton.

In the early days at Dovercourt, the Denisons were a law unto themselves. A certain man in a lumber-wagon insisted on several occasions in driving the heavy wheels of his wagon along the carriage-drive as a short-cut. He was warned not to do this. When he persisted, Col. R.L. Denison the first, came out, pulled him from his vehicle, severely whipped him, started up the horses and let them return to their stables by themselves without a driver. The lumberman had to walk home. It is quite certain that he never again trespassed on the carriage-drive.

Here are some stories about Inglemount, Grimsby. My father's family were very good at imitating the Cockney accent. At one time, they made it a habit to talk in Cockney fashion whenever any stranger was walking by. Later, they heard a rumour that a family of Cockneys had moved into their home. The Cockneys were they themselves.

The neighbours about them had a brand of English all their own. One day my uncle was driving a herd of cattle up the mountain road. A neighbour was coming down the same road in a democrat. When she came abreast of the herd, her remark was, "Them there cows is mighty easy driv', ain't they?"

One day, my grandmother made some sweet-pickles. She gave a jar to a neighbour's wife. Later, she asked how they had liked the pickles. The neighbour's name was Ira. The wife said, "Ira says them there pickles would make mighty good cow feed." This seems to us as a terrible insult. In fact, it was a compliment. With those people, such things as cows were precious, and only the best fodder was given them. Good cow feed was the best there is.

Well, this is the end of my third "volume". I hope you will like it. The interest of the various members of the family for whom it is especially written is always pleasing to me to hear about, and may encourage me to write a fourth "volume". It is unfortunate that my present equipment allows me only 35 pages to a volume, which is all I can staple. My duplicator does not print satisfactorily on both sides of the sheet, either. The people in the drawings are much better looking than I have been able to succeed in making them.

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