LIFE IN CORNWALL

In a village called Herland Cross, Cornwall, England, lived John Hampton (born about 1814), who married Elizabeth Curtis (Born about 1818). John rented or leased land which was near Godolphin Cross where the owner of the Estate lived, which contained a house and shed and land enough to keep a few cows and chickens. Over the years they had three sons and three daughters, John, Grace, William, Annie, James and Elizabeth. William known as Billy, who eventually came to Maple Ridge in the year 1879, was born February 19, 1854, and it is his story that will be related.

For centuries Cornwall has been famous for its copper, tin and lead, and ships came from afar to obtain them. In those times work was provided for women and children at the surface which they called "the Bal a Celtic name for "mine place". Ore was brought up and placed on tables and was then broken into small pieces with hammers. At an early age, Billy did this work, until he was old enough to go down into a mine to work. At this time it was tin that was mined. The men went down the mine shaft in a bucket to a great depth. Sometimes they were given a fast ride for a prank, which was rather scary. Here he learned how to hammer in the iron drill, which they called a needle, to make a hole for the gunpowder for blasting. In the early days they used a goose quill for the fuse. Billy's father was a purser for a mine where he kept records of the workers and handed out the payments.

Like the Welsh**,** the Cornish miners were very good singers. The mines had their male choirs who sang with great energy. Billy sang high alto, an unusual tone and lovely to hear. He also played a bass horn in a brass band. He did a great deal of walking and was an energetic runner. Some people had two wheel carts called a "trap", and a donkey, and there are still a few to be seen on the narrow roads or lanes. Of course the rich, the gentry as they are called there, had carriages.

Billy attended the May Festival in Helston and saw the Furry Dance which takes place there each year, and is described so well by H.V. Morton in his book "In Search of England". It starts early in the morning when servant couples dance through the streets, stores, and homes to the tune of the Furry Dance. Then in the afternoon the home and business people join in, and in the evening the gentry add their presence to the throng attired in dress suits and gowns.

A rock eight miles off Land's End, is called "the Wolf", because at one time it had a cave through which the wind howled like a wolf. In stormy weather this sound warned ships to steer clear, and it is said wreckers took a shipload of stones and blocked the hole. After this, there were many wrecks there until a lighthouse was built. The men working on it often had to cling to life-lines while waves swept over them. The task took seven years and the light first shone New Years Day 1870. While some people worked hard to prevent shipwrecks, others deliberately tried to cause them. Wrecking was a profitable source of plunder, and for hundreds of years, wreckers lured ships to the rocks by showing false lights.

The Celtic Cross dating from the sixth century, which is a cross within a circle on a tall pillar, is still seen in many places. The first language in Cornwall was the Celtic. This died out near the end of the eighteenth century but it was retained by fishermen and many miners who did not have "schooling", their expression for education. The Hampton family did not speak in this way. Many there still have a rhythmic way of speaking, which is quite pleasing to hear, raising the sound at the end of sentences and speaking very quickly so some words sound differently. For instance, a place by the sea named Mousehole, is pronounced "Muzzle". Sometimes the 'H" is dropped at the beginning of a word, and sometimes it is added where there is none.

Besides mine work when he was older, Billy had the opportunity to take care of horses owned by a doctor. This he enjoyed and here he got the feeling of working on a farm and in the fresh air. The mines were cold) damp and dusty from the blasting. Since the mines had gotten so deep, and passages were made for a long distance under the sea, the water was seeping in and their pumps were not powerful enough to handle this condition. Later, when steam was developed for pumping, they were able to carry on again, but at this time miners were leaving to go elsewhere. Some went to South Africa to work in the diamond mines, others to America and Canada.

A friend of Billy's, Tommy Stratton, had gone to Colorado after hearing of productive gold mines there at Black Hawk. He wrote to Billy, saying how good it was, with good pay and urging him to come along. Most of Billy’s friends were gone, so he felt he might as well pack up and go also. This was in 1873 and he was nineteen years of age.

After saying good-bye to his family and friends, early one morning he was off by train for Southampton to board a steamship, with a steerage passage to New York. This would be quite a new adventure for him.

LIFE IN COLORADO

Billy arrived at New York after a long and no doubt tedious sea voyage. There he boarded a train for Denver City Colorado, known as the Mile High City and the Gateway to the Rocky Mountains. In 1870 a train track was extended from Denver to Golden which had been the first capitol, and was a staging and rest stop for travelers. From there the way was by stage-coach to Black Hawk. The road followed a stream in a ravine and later cliffs appeared showing they were in mountain territory. This would be quite a new environment for him because in Cornwall there were no mountains, just some hills and a rolling countryside. He would be very impressed with the Red Rock section,

When he arrived in Black Hawk, his friend would be there to greet him and take him to a lodging place. There were fifty gold mines in the Black Hawk region, the biggest one being named the "Bobtail", as names were given to the mines. Billy was accepted at one of them.

He would find this a very active and noisy place. One mine had a Caliope which in the morning played "Work for the Night is Coming" and at closing "Home Sweet Home". The smelters were established here. The furnaces of these smelters were fed with wood, and it took many cords daily to keep them going. By this time the hills were bare and there were no trees left at Black Hawk.

Here also were hundreds of automatic stamp mills where the ore was crushed with a pestle which moved up and down with great force, thumping and crushing the ore ready to be fed into the smelter to liquidize the gold. The mines had been in operation for fifteen years since gold was first discovered there in the year 1858. By this time the surface mining was exhausted so the mines were deeper and into hard rock, but there was still lots of gold there and now also silver.

Beyond Black Hawk a distance of one and a half miles was the town of Central City. The first diggings were here and were owned by the discoverer John Gregory, and the ravine was known as Gregory Gulch. By the time all the gold had been obtained, this town, Central City, was established with stores, public buildings, and of course a saloon and a gambling place.

There was a narrow gauge train line, just two feet between light rails, from Central City to Black Hawk, built on the side of the cliff, a great feat at that time since there was so little room to build it. There were many curves, and steep grades had to be overcome. The trains were taking the ore to the smelters. Later ore was brought from higher levels to be smelted and the train line was extended to Golden, and an open passenger car added for tourists.

There were hundreds of Cornish miners there since from the start of the gold rush they came from eastern mines of Georgia and Michigan where mines were petering out, The Cornish were known as the best hard rock miners in the world. They loved this work and did it with great energy. Their talent of singing was enjoyed and again Billy was playing his bass horn in a band.

Billy had a younger brothers Jimmie, who had married the daughter of a well-to-do family called Brea. They had a daughter, Ada, and when she was quite young, his wife died. Billy sent word to him encouraging him to come to Colorado. As the little girl was already with her grandparents, the Breats, Jimmie decided to go to America also. No record was kept of the time this took place.

LIFE IN DEVONSHIRE

In a village north of Devonport and Plymouth in Devonshire, England, William Olver, 1826 - 1883, married Eliza Lamertine, 1832 - 1911. The name of the village was Quethiock, pronounced "Quithic".

William Olver was a dairy farmer and delivered the milk from his cows in the neighbourhood. Eliza made butter, Devonshire cream and Devon biscuits. In time they had four daughters, Amanda, Emma, Mary (called Polly), and Annie. A son died at the age of

twelve, as well as several other children. Amanda was born February 13, 1860, and it is her experiences that will be recounted.

The father would take produce to the towns mentioned and usually some of the family would go with him, the mother to shop and likely the girls in turn. One of Amanda's early memories was seeing at Plymouth fishing harbour women sitting on a bench knitting and smoking clay pipes, while the men were out at sea.

From Plymouth they would see a tall lighthouse fourteen miles away. This was built on the dangerous Eddystone rock, and was called by that name. This was the fourth one built there, and it had wide red bands painted around it to make it more visible by day. It was there one hundred and twenty years until 1876, when it had to be replaced because the sea was undermining the rock. It was dismantled and rebuilt on Plymouth Hoe, and is still there. The one that is on the rock now, was not finished until 1882 and has a special protective base. It is very tall and has a more powerful light. In early days, people helped by keeping lights burning in dangerous places.

THE OLVERS IN COLORADO

William Olver also heard about the rich gold mines at Black Hawk, Colorado and he got the urge to migrate there with his family. He disposed of his farm, packed the belongings they could take with them, and were on their way to Plymouth Harbour to board a ship, the same harbour as the Pilgrims had sailed from in 1620 for America. The Olvers also traveled in the steerage section. Amanda did not enjoy this trip, there were so many people that were strange to her and no doubt the boat was quite rocky at times. They were able to get up on deck which they found refreshing, and at last after a long tedious time, they reached New York. This was also in 1873, and Amanda was thirteen years old.

They would travel the same route as Billy Hampton had done, by train to Denver and Golden, then by stage-coach to Black Hawk. This would be their first view of mountain scenery so different to their familiar farm landscape.

William and Eliza were able to obtain a house on the side of a hill where many houses were built. Since William did not have the experience of the work in the mines, he would have to do surface jobs, and there would be a variety of those. It was soon necessary to establish a boarding service in their home to serve meals to the miners as many were not married. This seemed to work out very well.

I was told by a cousin that Grandpa Olver had a tea and coffee route from Black Hawk to Central City, Russell Gulch, south to Idaho Springs, Georgetown, and Silver Plume. Sometimes he drove a horse and buggy and other times he went by train. He would board a train at Central City and sometimes would need to transfer. Once when Grandma Olver was with him, there was a collision and they had to be taken out through a window. When he

drove, at times one of the daughters would go with him. This must have been after Amanda left for B.C.

The year before they arrived in Colorado, an expensive hotel, lavishly furnished, was built named "Teller House" after its owner. The President of the United States was Ulysses Grant, a former General, and in the year 1873 he and his party arrived in Central City. Solid silver ingots were laid in front of the Teller House t o serve as a walk from the stage-coach to the hotel steps. The President doubted their reality. He was told "That's twelve thousand dollars you just walked on." After that event visitors came pouring in to Central City by the hundreds.

In Central City a Methodist Church had been built and named St. James. The miners from Cornwall were mostly followers of John Wesley who started Methodism in 1738. The Cornish stone masons were very adept in their building of stone walls, using no mortar, which would withstand the roughest type of weather. They built this church of stone in that way. It was started in 1864, but was not completed until July 1872. '

The Olvers and the Hamptons were Methodist so they had a lovely church to attend. It was a mile and a half from Black Hawk but they did not mind walking that distance. Visitors were very impressed with the quality of singing by the choirs and congregation. No doubt Billy Hampton was there singing in his high alto voice, along with William Olver's good soprano. William Olver had been a lay minister in Quethiock and so he was able to assist in St. James Church in this way.

Amanda soon had a friend named Bessie and they enjoyed a trip to Pike's Peak one day. It is sixty-five miles from Denver, so it was quite a journey from Black Hawk. She was quite proud of the fact they had done some climbing there. The mountain is named after an explorer Z.M. Pike who saw it in 1806, and it is fourteen thousand one hundred and ten feet above sea level.

The Olver's next move was to Russell Gulch in another direction on a high elevation. Gold had been discovered by Wm. Green Russell and a party, south of Denver City in Dry Creek. This turned out to be a good find in 1858.

The Olvers lived in a log house there and carried on with the boarding house service. Billy Hampton also went to Russell Gulch with friends, the three Stevens boys, also from Cornwall, two of whom were twins, and also William Jones from Wales. Later Amanda's sisters, Emma and Polly, were married to the twin brothers, and Annie to William Jones.

BILLY AND AMANDA

By this time, Billy had "taken a fancy", a Cornish expression, to Amanda. Soon she was wearing a plain gold ring, which was called a "keeper", on her left hand finger. Their wedding took place November 111,1876, in the Olver home at Russell Gulch. Amanda was fond of blue so that was the colour of her dress. When she was sixteen, she had her ears pierced with a darning needle, so she was wearing gold earrings with an engraved oval drop. Billy

would look handsome in a suit with a cutaway coat. There was a reception at the home and the brass band was on hand for music. In this year, 1876, Colorado became a State of the United States.

Later, Amanda's friend, Bessie, married Billy's brother, Jimmie, and they had two daughters, Rose and Evelyn.

Before their wedding, Billy had moved to Silver Plume, where they were mining gold and silver, He had obtained a small house there and this is where he took his bride* There was a stream nearby where they got their water. One morning when Amanda was dipping in a bucket, the bank gave way and she found herself in the stream. She could not swim, but just at that time a Collie dog came along and jumped in the stream to save her. She was able to hold on to his long hair until this dog got her to a place where she could get out.

At the mine, Billy met John Henry Laity who with his wife, Mary, had come from Penzance, Cornwall. Mary had been a governess there. They were living in Georgetown, about a mile down the hill. Mary and Amanda became good friends and they visited back and forth.

John Laity's mother and father came out from Cornwall, and also lived in Georgetown. When Amanda had her first child, Honour Laity was the midwife. It was a son, born August 17, 1878, and they named him William John after the two grandfathers.

A NEW LIFE

The day came when Billy and John felt they wanted to move again. They had heard of a gold rush to Nevada. Then John Laity's parents heard from their friends, Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert of Penzance, about their son, T.H. Gilbert, who had gone as a missionary to British Columbia, Canada. He was stationed at an Anglican Church at Derby, a district south of Langley on the south side of the Fraser River. He told
them about the good fertile land in that part of the country. This sounded good to John and Billy, and they decided to pack up and investigate. They were tired of the mining,
longtime miners were bothered with a cough caused by too much dust getting in their lungs, so they thought it was wise to try farming where they would be in the fresh air. They would go to Denver, by the narrow gauge railway from Silver Plume, to arrange for this trip and to find out the cost. Since they were going to buy land, Billy found it necessary to sell his precious bass horn.

One day in late March, they were on their way. Amanda and Mary stayed in Colorado to await the results of their trip. At this time there was a continuous line of railway from New York to Denver and San Francisco which was completed in 1869. They were very impressed at the sight of the Golden Gate Bridge over San Francisco Bay. At this city they boarded a steamboat, probably a side-wheeler, which took them to New Westminster. When they arrived there they found a hotel in which to stay and enquired where land would be available.

They were told about Ladner where there was farming land near the mouth of the Fraser

River.. They were taken there by rowboat but found that all good locations had been taken, and only a peat bog section was left. At certain seasons this flooded very badly since there were no dykes and the farmers were having a difficult time because of this condition.

Another place that was specified was Granville, later to be named Vancouver. There was a trail or narrow road of twelve miles leading to this place. They could buy land there for one dollar an acre. When examined, it proved to be too stoney and the soil was not good enough for farming. They decided that was not the place for them.

The next venture was to board a boat for Maple Ridge.

STEAMBOATS ON THE FRASER RIVER

Early pioneers traveled on stern-wheelers owned by William Irving called the "Onward" and "Reliance". At his death in 1872, his eighteen year old son, John, inherited the steamboats. In 1879, John was captain of Reliance II, and had two others the "Royal City" and the 'William Irving". It took two days to make the return trip, one day up to Hope and Yale, and one day down to New Westminster. Since Father had to make the trip to the city quite often, he came to know Captain John Irving very well. There was another owner of steamboats, Captain Moore, who had two boats on the Fraser called the "Western Slope and the "Gladys".

Through the years there were many more boats known to the family. The "Beaver" stern-wheeler appeared on the Fraser in 1898, and we had many trips on it. Another one was the "Ramona", and later the "Skeena" owned in 1914, by Captain Seymour.

The Fraser was a very treacherous river with sand bars, and snags of debris that would drift and fasten in shallow parts. There was a boat named the “Samson" that plied the river to remove these snags and to dredge the sand bars to keep an open channel for the boats. The boats had to be replaced during the years, but kept the same name with a number added; SamsonI, Samson II, and so on,

In the pioneer years it also was colder, since the river would freeze very solid, sometimes to several feet deep. It was known that a horse-drawn wagon with a load of hay made the crossing on the ice. Some people skated on the river, but they had to watch for air holes in the ice. There was a disaster when a man and a boy drowned by striking one of these. Sometimes the steamboats were frozen in but there was a cutter that would get them out by making a channel.

A SEARCH FOR LAND

Billy and John boarded one of the river steamboats and after many calls along the way they arrived at Nelson’s Landing in the section known as Maple Ridge. This was half way between Port Hammond and Port Haney on the north side of the Fraser. There was a long steep hill to walk up since there had been a slide that took away a large portion of bank on one side. On the west side there was a bluff on which a pioneer, Mr. Nelson and his wife, a

Kanaka, a native from the South Seas, had their home. The short length of road leading to the River Road is now Fir Street.

On the east side of the slide hill there was a boarding house owned by a former Sapper named McKenney and his wife. This is where Billy and John found lodging.

Sappers were Royal Engineers from the British Isles headed by Colonel Moody, who came to survey the land and to plan and build bridges and roadways. They were given a portion of land adjoining New Westminster city on the north side of the Fraser, for their homes, which was named Sapperton. When they were no longer needed, most of them preferred to stay in this lovely country, while others went back to their homeland.

Billy and John were directed to the Lillooet where the lovely, clear Lillooet River flowed, now named the Alouette. The farmers in that part were bothered with this river flooding the land, so they knew it would not be wise to locate there.

Next, they went east of Port Haney to Thorne Mountain,
but found the soil too sandy. Finally they were able to buy land from John Hammond.

There were a great many pioneers already settled in Maple Ridge, and each had a section of land along the Fraser River. Starting from the west, John and William
Hammond owned the Hammond part, then McIver, Irving, Nelson, Hassan and Carr. Thomas Haney owned the Haney section. Billy's section of one hundred and sixty acres was to the west of John Laity's section. To the west of the Hampton
section was a pioneer called Keary. To the east of Laity's section was property owned by a pioneer named Trembath who lived there many years.

The property had a gradual slope from the south to the prairie. There was a narrow creeks or "crick", on the Hampton's parts and two creeks on the Laity's, one quite large near the eastern border. At this time they could not see the prairie as on the higher slope it was mostly forest with very large trees of Fir, Cedar, Hemlock, Pine and Balsam. On the border of the prairie, the trees were smaller consisting of Alder, Willow and Spruce. On the flat prairie there were areas of a bush called Hardhack. Beyond this rose the mountains one with two sharp peaks. When the setting sun shone on its cap of snow, the colour changed from blue to gold, thus its name the Golden Ears.

A narrow, woodsy road, which led to Maple Ridge, was at the eastern border of the Laity property. There was a small house near this road that John Laity could use. Later, the senior Laitys lived in this place. A trail led from this road west through the Laity land to a clearing on the Hampton land. In this clearing was a small house with a kitchen and living quarters and a bedroom, where Billy could live.

Ahead was the task of developing their properties. As soon as they could obtain their tools, an axe, a long crosscut saw, shovel and crow bar, they each were ready to start chopping and sawing the trees. The sounds of this work would be echoing through the woods for many years.

GETTING SETTLED

In May, when Johnny was nine months old Amanda with Mary and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Laity, came from Colorado, following the same route as Billy and John had taken. No doubt Billy and John met them at New Westminister and they were welcomed at the McKenney's.

At first they would obtain only the necessary things for living in their temporary home. There were a few stores, one down the hill in Haney, owned by John Carr, and one by George Hassan, who also had the Post Office on his property.

Eventually they moved into their homes. Later it was found that the Hampton house was partly on the Laity property, so it was moved farther west. Near this there were wild crabapple trees, and grouse would roost in them at night. These game birds could be shot and were one supply of meat. Another was salmon, as there was an abundance of these in the Lillooet and the Fraser. At the time of the salmon runs, they were packed by the thousands from shore to shore, These could be bought from Indian fishermen for about ten or fifteen cents apiece.

When Amanda and Mary arrived, it was Spring, and they would find the woods full of wild flowers, trilliums, addertongue lilies, violets of yellow, blue and purple, the pink wild rose, and yellow Oregon grape. There were also many kinds of berries, huckleberry salmonberry, wild red raspberry or thimbleberry, and black cap, and the delicious wild blackberry that was so good in pies.

During the first summer the young couple walked on a trail through the woods to the Methodist Church near the bank of the Fraser, a distance of a mile and a half.

Soon it was necessary to have a cow, and Billy went to a farm on Langley Prairie owned by a Mr. Jolly. In order to pay for this first cows Billy made another sacrifice, by selling his Colorado gold watch, He kept one article though, a stickpin with a gold nugget.

It was also necessary to raise chickens. A setting hen was procured and with some eggs it wasn't long before some chicks were running around. Most of the pioneers owned pigs, so in time these were added. They were free to roam around in the stump areas, rooting around for the Bracken Fern roots which grew after the trees were cuts and making hollows in and around the stumps in which to rest. Pork was a very staple food, and was preserved for the winter by putting cut up pieces in wooden barrels of brine. When it was needed it was soaked in cold water to get rid of the salt, and then well cooked.

Of course the Hamptons would need to have a dog and it would be a Collie. All through the years there was a dog of this breed on the farm, as they were good for herding cattle.

At that time the only animals available for work and transportation were the oxen. As soon as possible Billy had a pair of these. A double yoke was made out of wood to fit over their necks. An iron staple and a ring were fixed on the yoke to enable a heavy chain to be fastened which would be connected to the object that needed to be pulled or drawn. Oxen were very strong animals so could draw very heavy loads. No reins were used they were guided by words; "Yip" for go, "Whoa" for stop, "Gee" for left, "Haw" for right. For the winter a

sleigh was made with runners to slide over the snow. At times going around a curve or a rough spot, the passengers would be dumped out. With a laugh they would get up, brush themselves off) and get back into the sleigh. To keep the feet warm, bricks were heated in the oven then wrapped in a potato sack.

As the clearing progressed, the rich soil was cultivated and crops were sawn, starting with potatoes which grew to an immense size. As one Old Timer put it, "After the chickens had pecked and eaten the inside of one, the space was large enough for a hen to build her nest and lay her eggs."

Father knew how to find water with a bent Willow branch or stick. There was quite a knack to this. The stick was held at each end with the hands and as it passed over the ground would turn downwards when over a spot where there was a spring underground.

The spot was found and a deep well dug until they came to water flowing in. At first they had an open well with a cover, and a bucket was let down with a rope attached. Some wells had a rack with a roller over the well on which the rope was wound. Later a pump with a long handle was placed over the well, and connected to a long pipe through which the water was drawn. A wooden tub was placed under the spout to catch the water spilled.

The first winter was a very cold one. Since the house was not built for cold weather, the wind would blow through the cracks making it very drafty. They were advised to paper it with newspapers, so this they did and it worked very well. "The Weekly Columbian" became very useful.

In October of 1879, the Laity's had their first child, a daughter named Mabel. Then on February l0, 1880, the Hampton's second child was born, and was named Edith. Mrs. Honour Laity was the mid-wife. When she and her husband Thomas Laity had first arrived in Maple Ridge, she was overcome at the sight of so many trees, she-felt she was in a wilderness and so closed in. In a short time they went back to Georgetown, but soon found they were not content there on their own. It wasntt long before they returned to Maple Ridget this time to stay, and Honour continued to be mid-wife in the community, and as far away as Langley, for many years.

THE HOUSE, GARDENS, AND FIRST BARN

The clearing proceeded for places to build a barn and a new house. The house was built by a carpenter, Sam Edge, west of the first temporary one. When completed it had a large sitting room or parlor, with the front door facing south and opening onto a large verandah two bedrooms at the west sides a dining room north of these, and another bedroom beyond that. A cellar was underneath the house. Material from the first house was used for the kitchen which was on the east side of the dining room It was a long narrow room on a lower level with two steps up to the dining room, and contained the kitchen table for every day use.

The first stove was a black iron one and-was kept shiny with an application of black lead

rubbed well with a brush. There was a black iron kettle and an iron fry pan. A container for heating water was on the firebox side of this stove. A woodbox was near at hand and kept well filled with split pieces of wood cut in lengths to fit into the firebox. Underneath was an oblong metal box to catch the ashes, which were emptied periodically to a spot in the garden. The stove kept the kitchen warm as well as being used for cooking.

For lights kerosene lamps were used and each room had one. They came in different shapes and sizes, some had clear glass and some coloured, others were china and porcelain. Sometimes the wicks would smoke and blacken the glass chimneys so they would need to be washed and polished. Periodically the wicks were trimmed with scissors and the bowls of the lamps refilled with kerosene.

In the sitting room there was a lamp hanging from the centre of the ceiling. It had a hand painted china globe with clear crystal dangles around the rim. There was also a table lamp, the bowl and globe of which had a floral design, and was quite elegant. The room had several rocking chairs and a sofa with lots of cushions for comfort. In the centre of the room was a table with a draped cloth and a display of photographs and nick-nacks. On the walls were enlarged photographs of the grandparents. One wall had the Hampton grandparents and on the opposite wall hung the Olver grandparents. Later, an enlarged picture of Edith and also some of her paintings were hung. The one picture that fascinated us was one of Father when younger with his bass horn. This was in an oval frame of dark wood with a narrow gold inside rim. (I recently found out that this particular horn is now obsolete, but was related to the tuba.)

The windows always had white lace curtains with side drapes, and throughout the whole house the walls were papered, At the two bedroom doors hung wine chenille curtains with a border design and a fringe at the bottom. These hung on wooden rings from slender wooden curtain rods with fancy cut ends. Between the bedroom doors was a tall heater to warm the rooms. The parents' bedroom had an antique set of furniture which came from San Francisco and was originally owned by a doctor from England. The bed had four slender posts with vase style tops. The dresser had a tall mirror and the top had a well in the middle with drawers at each side. The toilet cabinet, or commode, had a large white and blue porcelain water jug with a large basin and covered soap dish to match. Underneath was the enclosed space for the matching chamber; every bedroom had one of these.

A garden west and north of the house was enclosed by a picket fence. By the house was a peach tree which had delicious fruit, and a Bartlett pear. Along the west fence were two plum trees that grew fruit twice as large as an ordinary plum. One was the Yellow Egg plum and the other was a Ponseedling which had a rosy tint. There was a large Mulberry tree that had a small fruit like a blackberry but horizontally oblong; mother used them in pies with apples. At the north fence were the Lombard plums, good for preserving, and a very large green gage plum was near the wood shed. There was also a royal blue one that was delicious to eat, and three prune trees. Beside the small porch by the dining room was a yellow gage plum. In the garden were strawberries, red and black currant bushes, a gooseberry and

raspberries. Early potatoes were grown here as well as broad beans and peas. By the wood shed was a large hop vine. The hops were used to make yeast for bread making. Beyond this garden a half acre orchard was planted with fruit trees of many varieties.

The front garden had a border on three sides, with many bushes the Mock Orange, Snowball, Lilacs light purple and white, and roses. There was a lawn space and flower beds for plants given by friends and grown from seed, such as Lily of the Valley, pansies, poppies and primroses. There were also dark red Peonies, gladiolus, white Bridal Wreath, pink flowering Almond and sweet scented Honeysuckle, Pinks and Sweet Rocket. Many hummingbirds came as well as swallowtail butterflies for the nectar.

The first barn was built using some of the felled trees for main supports. These were good sized poles, not quite as large as telephone poles, cut to the height of the side walls. It was customary to have a barn-raising Bee, and the neighbours would come and assist in the work. This barn would be used for the oxen and cows and for hay storage

East of this was a closed in shed for the pigs. There was also a log house built as the first dairy and for storing preserved fruit which kept very cool during hot weather. Here is where the butter was made. At first Mother made it by shaking some cream in a bottle. Then a small hand churn was used.

The cows and pigs had to be butchered in order to have meat. Father learned the right method to do this. At first neighbours helped each other but later the three older boys assisted. When the work was finished and the meat was hung in the wood shed, it was the same as seen in the first butcher shops. The hides were sold for leather.

EARLY DAYS

It was not very long before they found that bears roamed through the woods. The mountains were not far away, and the north and south Lillooet Rivers were in between. The bears would be attracted to the rivers for the fish. When the farmers had pigs, the bears found the young ones to be a good morsel. When Hampton and Laity (men were called by their surnames in Maple Ridge) found they were losing some piglets they went out one morning to find the culprits. As they were going through the woods on the southern higher ground, they disturbed a bear on the other side of a log. They didn't know which was the most startled, they or the bear. They threw up their arms and gave a loud yell, and the bear took off at a fast rate. People with families were concerned when the bears were seen at times,

One day, Johnny was missing and with the help of the neighbours, they searched both sides of the trail through the woods. At last they came back to the front gate, unsuccessful and not knowing where to look next. At the opposite side there was a gate into the Laity private road, and all at once Johnny came walking out. He had fallen asleep under some bushes in a cool spot and was awakened by the men talking. This was indeed a happy ending to that day.

One night before retiring they heard the sound of wolves howling across the prairie at the

north. Father thought it wise to have his axe near the kitchen door, in case they came that way.

The cows were milked by hand and Mother learned to do this, since there were times Father had to go to New Westminster with produce and could not get back until the next day. In payment for the produce he would obtain supplies of flour, rice and sugar. The flour came in one hundred pound sacks of cotton with coloured printing, the sugar in a different kind of cotton, and the rice in fifty pound woven straw bags. The sacks were kept and used in various ways in the household.

One time Mrs. Nelson took him by a large dugout canoe with a half ton of potatoes in sacks of one hundred pounds each. On the way a steamboat passed them and he was very impressed with the way she handled the boat, pointing the bow towards the waves so that the boat went up and down over the waves smoothly.

Another way he went to town was through the narrow road to McKenney's. Near there was a slough by that name, and they would go together in a row boat that took them near Port Hammond to the Fraser where they could flag a steamboat. This was the system in that time, when a white flag signal was put up the boat would answer the call. This meant that the steamboat was making a zigzag course as it traveled up and down the river.

A year after their arrival in B.C. there was a terrific slide near Port Haney in front of the Carr property. The whole bank gave way and slid out into the Fraser taking trees with it, some standing upright until they reached the other side. The next day Hampton and Laity went to view the damage, and were astounded at the amount of land that had disappeared. After this, the road down into Haney was steep and winding and was called the Slide Hill.

The Anglican Church which had been stationed at Derby and at which T.H. Gilbert was the clergyman, was to be moved to Maple Ridge. It was dismantled and brought across the frozen river on skids. There Hampton and Laity were waiting each with their yoke of oxen, to take it to its new location at the corner of River Road and Nelson Avenues later known as Laity Road.

When a roadway was being cleared in Stanley Parks oxen were needed. Father had raised an extra pair for sale, and he took them by steamer to New Westminster and then drove them through the woods on a narrow road to Stanley Park, a distance of twelve miles. He received payment for same and returned home the next day.

The oxen served well for pulling stumps and logs, and for transportation but he bought a horse as soon as one was available. Now he could ride horseback to Maple Ridge and to visit friends, and it would not be long before he had a cart or buggy.

In 1885, Hampton and Laity went to Nelson's Landing to see the first C.P.R. train go through. When the first passenger train came, Mother and Mrs. Laity boarded it at Port Hammond for Vancouver. The engine, #374, is now at Kitsilano Beach in Vancouver, and children enjoy exploring it. A C.P.R. Station was built at Hammond, which started a boom for this village. A building was built for the Post Office and Arthur Lazenby served there for fifty-eight years. He collected the mail from the train in a large sack which he

carried on his back, and as the mail increased, he used a wheel-barrow.

The Hudson Bay Company sailing ships brought the first laborers to Fort Langley from Hawaii. These people were called "Kanakas". The first white settler of Maple Ridge, Samuel Robertson$ who had been working for this Company, in 1858 brought some of the Kanakas to work on his land. They lived by a creek on one side of his property and it was given the name "Kanaka Creek".

When the C.P.R. was being constructed in the 1800's, many Chinese were imported. After the railroad was completed they were available for hire. One lived and worked on the Hampton farm for many years in a shack built for him on an upper field. For payment he was given rice and produce. The Chinese had long hair braided into a queue, and added black braid to make it longer down to knee length.

Next came the Hindus, who wore turbans and were British subjects. One was employed at the farm and a sleeping place made for him above the buggy shed in the loft.

Then the Japanese arrived who found places of their own to live and were hired by the day for certain jobs such as potato digging or hoeing. The Japanese women also worked in the fields.

A large wood shed was built near the house. It had a large work bench and a deep bin with a lift up lid for the tools. The sharp axes were kept there, one with a double blade. In this shed there was lots of room to store wood, and a swing was there for the children. Behind it was the outdoor toilet or "backhouse".

In the yard was a grindstone, a large sandstone wheel set on a stands used for sharpening the tools, knives and axes. The young boys or girls turned the wheel and kept water flowing on it while Father held the knife at the right angle for sharpening.

For the first cutting of grass, a hand scythe was used. There was also a cradle scythe that had a large curved and slatted fixture at the side for catching the cut grass or grain, and with the right movement it would lay the grain flat on the ground. There was a black man that came to do this for a short time. A group of negroes who were descendants of slaves had come from across the border and settled on Salt Spring Island. We only saw this one in our neighbourhood.

To help Mother with the work was a young girl from the Dawson family, who then lived on the border of the Lillooet. The father before this had property in the Maple Ridge section which later was owned by Mr. Irving.

Cows were increasing in number and were of many kinds, and colours, black, red brindle, black and white, red and white, and all were given names usually of flowers such as Pansy, Lily Violet, Rose, Daisy, etc. Then a Jersey cow was procured and it gave such rich milk with more butterfat than the other breeds, that the decision was made to have more of these. A Jersey bull was obtained to start the Jersey herd. Through the years the pure breds were registered until they had a full herd of this kind,

THE FAMILY

Through the years, the family had increased. There were three more boys**,** Albert, Ernest (Ernie), and Phillip Henry, and two more daughters, Amanda and Clara. The first disaster came when Amanda, aged ten months succombed to an illness December 21, 1886. Two years later there was an epidemic of diptheria. The nearest doctor was at New Westminster and one was sent from there to organize care. Nearly every family was affected. Workers went to the homes, and in the yards, swabbed throats with iodine. Two of the Hampton children did not survive, Phillip aged four years, on December 28, 1888, and Clara, aged one year seven months, on January 9, 1889. John and Mother were also ill, but they came through the ordeal alright. It was a very tragic experience and many families lost children, some more than two. The four older ones never forgot their little brother Phillip. Mother went periodically to care for the graves and place fresh flowers, and Edith would go with her. In later years the other girls went in turns.

After this there were three more girls, Annie, Vina, and Alma; next two boys, James Henry (Jimmie), and Oliver Cromwell. After the year 1900 dame Myrtle May and Charles Wilburn. The midwife, Honour Laity, was on hand for all the births except the last one, as she had passed on. Wilburn was born in the New Westminster Hospital.

Thus by 1903 there were fourteen children born to Amanda and William Hampton, eleven of whom grew up to adulthood. A very large family, but all had their jobs to do. The boys were in the barn milking at six years old, having to get up at 5:30 A.M. Father and sons went at once to the barn for two hours work and after that they had their breakfast, prepared by Mother and Edith and through the years the other girls helped too.

There was never another epidemic, except the Flu in 1919, but once there was a scare of smallpox. An out of town company of entertainers, including children, came to Port Hammond, and were billeted in homes that kindly accepted them. In one home a son developed smallpox, carried by one that stayed in their home. Everyone was vaccinated and there were no other cases. There were a few cases of scarlet fever, and the lighter cases called scarletina. One year quite a few children had whooping cough, and of course there were chicken pox, mumps and measles at different times. Dr. Drew of New Westminster was the doctor that called at our home$ but was only needed a few times. In 1907 there was a local doctor, Dr. Stanzby, who lived in Hammond. About 1909, Dr. McEwen was a resident doctor in Maple Ridge, who with his parents and sister Jean, lived in a home formerly owned by a Mr. White, opposite the Methodist Church on the south side of River Road. He visited the homes when vaccination had to be done, and he did several in the Hampton home. Jean McEwen taught for a few years in the junior division of the Maple Ridge School which was nearby.

There was no dental attention in those early times, so many lost their teeth while quite young. A dentist named Dr. Mason came to our home to pull Mother's teeth. There was no anaesthetic given and she did not make a sound. A neighbor from half a mile west of our

home who was younger than Mother, came to have some teeth pulled, but wasn't so quiet. Albert came to have his done also, after he had been tracking down cows on the prairie. He was given ether, and the dentist and his attendant had a scare when his pulse did not reacts but to their relief he soon recovered. Before Father left Cornwall, he had a toothache, and a blacksmith pulled the tooth. It was such a painful ordeal that he never had another one done and never had any dental attention. His teeth, which he retained throughout the years, were so strong that he was able to crack nuts without any damage.

ANOTHER BARN

In time a new, larger barn had to be built. Trees were cut and stripped of bark and piled in the yard. The three older boys were young men now and were busy chopping and sawing the trees with a two handled cross cut saw, a man at each end. They had to be careful how to f ell these large trees so they would land in the right direction. The carpenters were on hand again, and in time there was a barn raising bee. When completed, this barn had lots of room for cows, horses, calves, and large storage areas for hay. In the centre of the barn was a wide open space in which to bring in a wagon load of hay. A steel track was placed on a beam above the storage mow, on which a large hay fork traveled. The strong fork consisted of two hinged prongs which were pushed into the hay in the wagon and locked so that the hay could be held and lifted. There was a strong rope fastened to the top of the fork that led up to the track, and down to the ground through pulleys where it was fastened to a whipple tree behind a horse, since a horse was used to pull the forkload of hay up to the track. When it reached the top, the fork fitted into a fixture on the track so that it traveled over the mow. On a signal from the man on the mow, the man on the wagonload would give a quick jerk on the rope he was holding, and the fork would unlock and drop the hay. Then he would pull the fork.back again with the rope, and the horse which was led or driven by someone would return to the barn. This would be repeated until the wagon was emptied. When the fork was tripped to release the hay, the pulling rope would loosen and fall, so that the one driving the horse had to hold this rope to keep the whipple tree from banging the heels of the horse.

Once. when quite young, I wanted to go to the barn during the evening milking time. A white horse was tethered near the door feeding on the grass. I was nervous about passing this horse but thought it would be alright if I went quietly. Suddenly the horse made for me and caught me by the hair and I felt the teeth hit the top of my head. I fell to my knees and screamed. The horse backed off and one of the boys came rushing out of the barn. The horse must have been startled to have made this attack. I was very badly shaken but no harm was done.

At first cows were tied with a rope, then a chain was used. In the second barn there were iron stanchions. These fitted over the head of the cow and locked, but the animal was quite free to feed in its stall. At first the food for the cows were large sized white carrots and turnips. Fields of them had to be grown in order to feed thirty or more cows. This was a task for the

boys to weed and hoe as the rows had to be thinned. The cows were also fed lots of hay, some bran and shorts. Through the years the food changed, corn crops were grown and they ate the stocks as well as the cobs. The milking was done by hand for many years until milking machines were invented when electricity was available in 1912.

The cows had horns and at times they were dangerous to people as well as to themselves. A rule was established that cows must be dehorned. This was done by cutting off the horns close to the head with a sharp dehorner, then an application of salve put on. Someone came to the farm and performed this operation. After that when the young calves showed signs of horn, an application of lye was put on to stop the growth.

Since the young cattle and steers were allowed to pasture on the prairie, they had to have a brand mark for identification. A branding iron was made with a long handle and a large "WI' for the Hampton herd. A bonfire was made and the iron heated in the fire then placed on the hip of the young cow. Cooling salve was applied to the burn. After the prairie land was being settled, this method was no longer used, as the cattle were kept on the private prairie lots.

The bull had to have its nose pierced and a large ring inserted. A long staff was clipped onto this ring to keep the animal under control when led, as they were sometimes very dangerous. Those who did not do this sometimes had a serious accident.

Another addition to the farm in the 1900's was a flock of sheep in the field south of the home. They were inexpensive to keep as they just nibbled on the grass. They were quite tame and would come to have their heads rubbed and anointed with oil. In the spring at lambing time there were many little lambs that scampered about near their mothers. In early July the heavy wool coats of the sheep were cut off with a pair of large shears, after which they looked quite naked, lean and thin. Father and the older boys did this job. The wool was used to fill mattresses, quilts and cushions, and the rest was sold. In time it was found that the sheep were not doing so well because of the dampness, which caused them to develop a liver disease, so a decision was made to sell them.

As the cows increased and more cream produced, a large churn was bought. This was a butter barrel set in a frame. It had a handle to turn the barrel round and round to agitate the cream which would congeal into butter. John did this job. There was a tap near the bottom of the barrel to drain off the excess liquid which was called Buttermilk, and which made a refreshing drink. When done, the butter substance was removed to a butter table which was V shaped with a round hole in the far end in which the end of the pressure pin was put. This was shaped like a rolling pin with a flat bottom. The butter had to be pressed to squeeze out the excess liquid, and this pin moved up and down and to and fro to accomplish this. The butter was then put in a pound block butter mold, ours had a design for the top, and was pressed out on the piece of butter paper in which it was wrapped by hand by Mother or Edith.

As fields were cleared they would be enclosed with cedar rail fences. The rails were split from a log, lengthwise, using wedges which were hammered in by the axe head. A straight fence had two posts with slats in between to hold the end of the rails, and the snake fence was

made in a zig zag, pattern, the rails placed alternately on top of one another. These fences being cedar, lasted for years and in fact there are still some in use from that time,

In the area south of the house, drainage ditches were dug by the three older boys, John, Albert and Ernie. They dug quite deep and wide enough in which to stand and spade, using a spade and shovel. After a certain depth, blue clay appeared and the children made marbles with this clay. In the centre of the trench, a narrow section was dug deeper for the water to run along then slabs of cedar cut wider than the trench, were placed on a slant, higher on one side so that the water flowed underneath. Than all was covered over and filled in.

In the early cultivation of the ground, Indian arrow heads were found made of grey stone and one quite rare one of amber. Also found was a stone pestle or grain pounder, which was used for a door stop in the home for many years.

The oxen days were over when horses were obtainable. A large shed was built near the road for the wagon, sleigh, and buggies. Through the years there was a Democrate, a high seated buggy with a large open space at the back for loading cans of milk, produce, etc.; a classy one was called the Phaeton, which had two seats and room for six people; a one seated covered buggy which had a hood that was a protection when it rained and a black oilcloth cover for over the knees and feet, when clear the hood could be released and folded down accordion style.

At the north west corner of River Road and Fir St. was a Blacksmith shop where horses were shod. This was near the school and we watched how this was done. There was always a fireplace burning in which the iron shoe would be heated so it could be curved to fit. The blacksmith turned his back to the horse and holding the foot between his knees would place the hot shoe which would smoke when it touched the cold hoof. It was nailed with special shaped horseshoe nails, and the hoof was trimmed around the rim of the shoe.

MUSICAL ACHIEVEMENTS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

Father was soon sorry that he had sold his bass horn since others had instruments and he could have joined in with them. His sons John, Jimmie and Wilburn would have been interested in learning to play the horn also. John had an autoharp that he played quite well, Jimmie did well with the mouth organ and harmonica, tin whistle and finally the violin. Wilburn said he would have liked to have had a trumpet.

Father, besides singing high alto could take the other parts, baritone, tenor and soprano. He was able to train the family for Christmas carol singing. Mother was included in this and she had a soft but clear soprano voice. We all enjoyed this chorus of singing.

When Edith was ready for music lessons an organ was purchased and placed in the sitting room. She walked through a woodsy trail for her lessons with Mrs.Henry who lived west of Port Hammond near the Fraser River, a distance of one and a half miles. She also did some oil painting, and had several teachers; a Mrs. Miller who did many fine paintings in oil, and later Mrs. Knotts.

Edith became an excellent dressmaker, and made lovely dresses for us all, as are shown in photographs. She also made and trimmed beautiful hats. For some time she did this work in Mrs. Dale's Millinery Shop in Port Hammond. As well, she did crochet and silk embroidery, several with pansy designs. She also had a "green thumb" for growing plants, especially geraniums.

It was a most exciting day when a piano was delivered to our home, a "Mendelssohn". All the girls had music lessons on the piano, but Alma dropped it in order to take singing. Mrs. Knotts had a lovely soprano voice, and since Alma also had a high soprano she was pleased to have lessons from her. Annie and Vina had their piano lessons from her also. Annie, at the age of eighty-eight, still plays the piano at the Extended Care Centre in Maple Ridge.

Myrtle, the youngest girl, like Edith had to walk through the woods to Hammond to have her music lessons. A teacher came from Vancouver on week ends and gave lessons in a home there. It was a long lonesome walk for both of them but they were keen on having these lessons. All the girls learned to make their own clothes, to do embroidery crochet and knit. Vina was the only one to take up tattingt and later taught Myrtle who was interested in learning this skill.

Edith remembered when the Methodist Church was near Howison's home on the bank of the Fraser River. Then it was moved to the other side of River Road, the land given by Mr. Howison, and a new church was constructed. The pews and pulpit were made by the Hicks brothers, who carved attractive designs on the front of the pulpit and on the ends of the seats. A bell tower was built on this church and a bell was rung for the services.

Edith, Annie, and Vina played the church organ for the services in the Methodist Church for many years. The second organ had a very stiff action and was hard to pump with the feet. We also sang in the small choir there. For a number of years, between 1914 and 1918, Alma conducted the choir and sang solos. Edith and Vina sang soprano, Annie and Myrtle sang contralto Annie took part in quartettes, and at times Alma and Myrtle sang duets. Wilburn, the youngest son, had a good baritone voice. He and Myrtle sang with the Hammond Glee Club, and when Mr. J.C. Welch was the conductor for the Gilbert and Sullivan Operettas in the 1920's, they sang in The Pirates of Penzance.

At Christmas time there was always a good concert put on by the Methodist Church and held in the Maple Ridge School. The pupils were trained by several teachers, and there was chorus singing, short plays called Dialogues, and drills. There were drill patterns to follow and the costumes were very attractive and colourful representing flowers such as daisy, daffodil and rose, and butterflies. Beforehand, a high platform was built the full width of the school, on which there was an organ or a piano at one side, and on the other side a very large community Christmas Tree. There was a present for everyone, and the families could add their own presents too, so it was a long session for Santa Claus to give these out. Every pupil would also be given candy in a cheesecloth bag tied with a ribbon. It was years before we had a Christmas Tree in our home. The first one was in 1916, when Bill Ward, later Alma’s

husband, cut one and put it up in the dining room.

In the summer, usually on the first of July, there was always a Methodist picnic held at the Upper Lillooet Rivers now called Maple Ridge Park. This was a beautiful spot with the clear, fast flowing river and the cool refreshing woods. The young people were picked up at the church by a wagon pulled by a team of horses, and other.%,would go in their own buggies. Everyone brought a basket of delicious food and all had good appetites. After lunch there were all kinds of races for the young people as well as for the older ones, ending with a men's "Rope Pull" to test their strength, and this was quite exciting.

There was a young peoples meeting held on Sunday evenings named "The Epworth League", called so as John Wesley came from Epworth in Lincolnshire, England. They held socials on the grounds of the Methodist Church. For one of these occasions the girls each made a decorated basket filled with food for two. The baskets were auctioned and the one boy who bid the highest won the basket, and the couple would then share the contents, For a concert one evening, a shed on the grounds was used. A platform was built and benches placed for those attending. The highlight of the evening was a "Darkie Skit" put on by two fellows like an Amos and Andy show. They blacked their faces and wore trousers made from bright patterned gingham, dark jackets and very large bow ties. They told jokes, played the banjo and sang. The concert was quite unique and was enjoyed by all.

Once there was a trip by steamboat to Pitt Lake for a picnic. The boat traveled down the Fraser to it's tributary the Pitt Rivers then turned north towards the mountains to the lake. There was a beach with plenty of space for us to have our lunch and a trail through the woods to a waterfall. It was a most enjoyable day's outing. **At** another time we had an excursion trip on the "Skeena".

We had several picnics at Kanaka Falls in the Webster Corner area. There was a large log across the Creek at the top of the Falls, with a railing and a steep trail down to the lower rocky level. It was always very enjoyable to visit and to see the water flowing over this embankment.

A group of us went by boat to have a picnic at a farm in Coquitlam owned by the Maclean family, friends of the Hamptons. It was near the Pitt River bridge and while there we were taken by sailboat to see a diver in his diving suit and equipment. He was doing some work on the pillars under water and could stay only a short time in the cold water and then would come to the surface to rest. On returning, the sailboat jammed into the sand bar and tipped sideways. Annie got frightened and jumped out into the water and made for shore fully clothed. It was fortunate that the water was shallow and that she was wearing high boots.

Another trip we had was to Harrison Hot Springs about 1908. We went by train to Agassiz and then by horse and buggy to the Springs. The first hotel was there then, and the Springs were not yet enclosed. They were bubbling and sending off steam, and we thought they smelled terrible, a quick taste was enough. In a privatet open air enclosed section, guests were bathing in the water for their health.

In the winter, there were parties given at different homes, and popular card games were

played. Some were quite noisy and exciting. A quieter game was Crokinole, which was played on a round board with sides and in the centre a circle of pegs. Different coloured discs were flipped into the centre within the pegs. Most of the flipping was done at the opponents discs to get them out of the way.

Some winters we had outdoor skating. There was a large pond on the other side of the dyke by the Lillooet that made an excellent skating rink. In the evenings lanterns were set in different places, although on moonlit nights it was clear enough to see quite well, and a bon fire was made.

When roller skating came into vogue, a hall in Haney was used for a rink and we learned to do that. We skated in couples with crossed hands, and it was quite exhilarating especially turning the corners at each end of the hall.

We played Croquet in the summer on the front lawn, and for indoor fun we had table tennis using the dining room table.

One day there was someone visiting who showed us how to make Taffy. Sugar and water and peppermint were boiled until the mixture would string from a spoon. This was left to cool until it could be handled with the hands. A large nail was hammered in the wall on which the substance was pulled. The hands were buttered and a handful thrown over the nail, pulled and thrown continuously until it started to stiffen and turn white. It was then thinned into a rope shape and put in a pan to cool. When cold it was broken in pieces. It was fun to do this and was very good to eat.

MORE ABOUT THE FAMILY

Father was a very congenial man, with a hearty laugh, and enjoyed talking with people. He made everyone welcome who visited at our home and we had many guests through the years. He kept in touch with the people in the community south of the Lillooet from beyond Haney to the Katzie Indian Reserve west of Port Hammond. The reserve had been allotted to the Katzie Indians in 1879, and father visited them also, and bought a horse from an Indian. He rode horseback for his visiting and the family got to know all the names of the pioneers although many they never saw or met.

Although in his early years he was in contact with rough characters who chewed tobacco, drank to excess, and gambled, he did not take part in these vices. He did take a moderate drink, but when he settled on the land he stopped and no liquor was kept in our house. Through the years he did smoke and enjoyed his pipe and an occasional cigar, but in his seventies when he found it was not good for his health he stopped smoking. Through his life he made his own way without help, but with strenuous hard work.

Father became a member of a Lodge, the A.O.U.W., Ancient Order of United Workmen; with a growing family he felt more secure in having this benefit. He was also a member of the Agricultural Association which was formed in 1901, and through it the Fall Fair came into being, the first one held in September of that year. In 1921, this local Fall Fair was estimated

"the finest and largest fair in history", and a very successful district exhibit was placed in the New Westminster Fair. At a special banquet, six surviving members, one being William Hampton, were given life membership in tile Association.

The Fall Fair was the great event of the year. Every year at our farm there was much preparation for entries. The best produce was selected and prepared by Albert and later by Oliver. Horses, cows and chickens went to the Fair and always they came home with prizes. Cakes, pies and cookies were taken and Mother had a prize for butter, bread and preserves.

Edith rode horseback with Mabel and friends and a group of them rode in the Fair at Haney. Ladies used a side saddle which had a prong over which the right leg was placed, and the left foot was put in a stirrup. They wore long full skirts and looked quite regal on their horses.

John was not keen about working on the farm. After the C.P.R. had been completed, poles were being erected for the telegraph system. He went to Spuzzum to take part in this work and had to do some pole climbing. When Nelson Avenue was being rebuilt as well as some other roads, he was supervisor for these projects. Roads were being made west of Hammond which he also supervised. A short road was named Hampton Road in his honour and also a small park. A creamery was built in Port Hammond near the wharf, and there he had employment. He also did carpentry for some years.

Ernie, Jimmie, and Wilburn preferred to work with horses. Ernie had a fine team and in time had them equipped with elegant harness. When clearing started in the Albion district he went with his team to haul logs along skid roads. These were built along the trails with medium size logs laid at intervals with spaces in between. They were greased with axle grease so that the logs would slip along easily. A group of us went to see where he was working. The trees were cut by hand crosscut saws, a Donkey engine was used to pull logs into a pile, and logs were lying every which way in masses. What a terrible sight, for we were used to walking through the lovely quiet woods with its trees, moss and ferns undisturbed. But these were being cut for the lumber mills in that area, a new source of production and income. He also hauled
gravel from the Lillooet for the roads being made. He had a lovely black horse named Dan for driving that had been a race horse and was very lively.

One very cold day, Ernie was driving his team through a forest road, sitting high on a loaded wagon, when a branch struck him on his left eye. He was not concerned about it at first but after a time it became very painful and he had to have medical attention. The eye had been injured and became infected, and although he was having special attention in the Columbian Hospital in New Westminster, a specialist had to be called on the case. The news came to the farm that it would be necessary to remove the eye. He was twenty-five years of age when this was done, and it necessitated a stay of weeks in the hospital. From that time he had an artificial glass eye, but was able to carry on efficiently through the years, including the driving of a car.

Father drove the team and wagon for haying and operated the hay fork for many years. Then Ernie, Jimmie, and Wilburn in turn, drove the teams for haying and stayed on the wagon while it was being filled to build the load. Albert and Oliver did most of the pitching from the haycocks.

Albert was the one who tramped all over the prairie by foot to find lost cows. The Hardhack bushes were thick and high, so at times the cows were hard to find. The ones which were inclined to stray usually had a bell hung on a strap around their necks. There were large crops of mushrooms which grew in the rich soil of the prairie, and Albert harvested and shipped them in crates to New Westminster and Vancouver.

On the upper field rows of blackberries were planted and these belonged to Albert, who picked the berries and shipped them in crates. Adjoining were rows of raspberry canes and these were given to the three girls, Annie, Vina and Alma, who picked and packed the berries in small boxes that fitted into a crate. Annie would take them by horse and buggy to the C.P.R. Station in Hammond and have them shipped to the city.

Albert would accompany the girls when they went out at night, sometimes by buggy and sometimes walking. On dark nights he would have a lantern to light the way.

Oliver also did a lot of foot work or would ride a bicycle wherever possible. He was the humorous one who could always make a good laughable joke for all ages, and still can. He followed in his father's footsteps becoming an experienced farmer, and eventually living with his family on part of the original farm.

Father enjoyed plowing and liked to do this himself, so the boys did not have much opportunity to do this until they had their own farms. When they were to be married, Father set them up so that they could buy property. Property for Albert and Ernie was on the Townline Road, and had been owned by William Hassan. They each built a house and barn and cleared the land for dairy farming. Albert’s was the southern part, and Ernie’s was north to what is now 128th Avenue. John’s was on the McKenney Road just below the River Road where it joined near Hammond. He developed a chicken ranch, and also had a few cows and made butter, so he was given the butter churn and table, also the Phaeton and Kate, the horse.

Kate was a bay horse with lively qualities that Father was able to buy. She was a good driving horse, and had a couple of colts, one named King, and another called Queenie. King grew to a large size and made a good team horse. Queenie was lively, arched her neck, and was as they would say "full of pep". She was everyone’s favorite. She did service on the farm for almost thirty-five years, an unusual age for a horse. Once, when Father was riding on Kate, she stumbled and fell so that he had a badly sprained ankle and leg. He was laid up for many weeks with that mishap. He was such an active man that this was quite a hardship.

Wilburn had a team of handsome Clydesdale horses on his farm, and when they were in the field were admired by those who passed by.

Father and the older boys each had a mustache and shaved with a long handled blade

razor. The handle would fold over the blade, which was also long, when the shaving was finished. It was quite an art to use one of these.

Mother had a quiet, gentle nature. She never got flustered and had great faith that things would turn out alright. She always saw the good side in people. Her hands were always busy, cooking, mending and knitting. She especially enjoyed working in her garden and had a great variety of flowers. In the house, the window sills were filled with plants, geraniums, begonias, and Impatiens. Every child was important and in speaking of babies, she said, "Each one brings its love." The babies' cradle was wooden, including the hood, and painted a wine shade. All the Hampton children were rocked and slept in this cradle.

Babies were dressed in an elegant Victorian style. First there was a wide flannel band wrapped around the stomach and pinned with a safety pin. Then a short woolly shirt and a baricoat made of flannel with wide band and long skirt opened in the front to wrap around the babe and to fold up over the feet then pinned. Over this was a long white linen or cotton petti-coat plain or with a ruffle. Then the long white dress, which was sometimes as long as the mother's long skirt as she sat and held her baby. These were trimmed with tucks, ruffles, edgings and insertions of embroidery or lace, but were plainer for every day wear. When washed they were starched and ironed to. keep them full and neat. The babies wore these for three months and then were put into short dresses. For outside wear they were dressed in lovely coats and bonnets, in the winter woollen, and in the summer cotton or silk.

ADDITION TO THE HOUSE

By the 1900's a new addition to the house was necessary to accommodate the growing family. The builders were Mr. Kernighan and Mr. Menzies. This was a two storey addition, with a basement which had a cement floor, and the upper floor having four bedrooms. The outside of the house was finished in tongue and groove siding, as was the first part, and it was painted white with blue trim. Then it was done in ivory with a tan trim called Tuscan Drab, and finally it was painted yellow with white trim. The new main floor had a dining room with the front door facing south, and a very large kitchen with pantry. The pantry was a long narrow room with dish shelves at one end, and on the west side lots of shelves for supplies and everything necessary for cooking. At the north end was a window and in front of this was the baking board table. Devon biscuits, which the boys enjoyed so much, Cornish Pasties, rolled cockies, and pies were all made here. This is where the homemade bread was kneaded and placed in pans. When a bread mixer was invented, there was one in the Hampton kitchen. It consisted of a deep metal pail to hold the ingredients, and a fixture fitted inside with a handle at the top which turned by hand to mix the ingredients into a dough. One of the boys did this in the evening. Then it was left in the pail, wrapped and left over night to rise.

In the kitchen was the new Home Comfort Range. A traveling man came one day to demonstrate this superb stove. He stood on it and jumped on it, to show how strong it was. Two frying pans came with it that he banged together and they rang like a bell. These pans

were used at times to call the boys for dinner, as the sound could be heard a long distance away. A new fixture was a round hot water tank with pipes connected to the new stove for heating the water. By the large window was a long kitchen table for the daily meals.

In the new dining room was a set of furniture, a table and high back chairs, the wood finished in a golden shade. Against the west wall near the kitchen stood a large china cabinet for the best dishes, with glass doors, and a lower closed in cupboard for other storage. The kitchen door opened into the dining room and to the right a door led into the sitting room.

At this time it was the custom to have pictures of the Royal Family displayed. In the dining room there was one of Queen Victoria, and in the sitting room pictures of Prince Edward and Princess Alexandria. The lower part of the sitting room wall had wainscoting four feet high, composed of narrow upright boards fitted together and painted wine.

About 1910, a painter came to the district who had learned the art of grained painting on wood. He was hired to redo the wainscoting in the sitting room and in the new dining room in this way. This was done by first painting on a light shade of paint, then when it was dry a coat of brown stain was applied in narrow sections. While this was wet, different types of combs were used to make the wood graining designs. This was quite attractive when finished.

Father bought four bedroom sets from a family who were moving elsewhere and these furnished the upstairs bedrooms. There was a tan leather trunk with a curved top which Father brought from England, in the girls' bedroom. This was used for many years in the home as a storage place for blankets and woollens. It was finally put on the front verandah of the original part of the house to hold surplus things.

The rooms were papered and Mother always made a pleasing choice for each room. In the kitchen, above the grey painted wainscoting the paper was always a rosy red shade, but in the other rooms it was lighter, all with attractive designs. Edith and the boys did the papering with paste made from flour and
water.

There was a new front verandah which connected with the one on the original part of the house. The old kitchen was dismantled and a full length verandah extended from the new kitchen door to the original dining room door. This room was not needed and was used for storage.

Just inside the kitchen door were the stairs leading to the bedrooms. Behind this door was the boot Jack for the boys to pull off their leather and gum boots. In the entrance was a braided mat and another one was at the dining room door. The kitchen and dining room had a covering of Linoleum. Evenings ere spent braiding strips of cloth from old clothes and under-wear dyed red to add colour. These were stitched together by hand to make a circular mat, and this kind of mat would be seen in every home.

In England the mattresses were filled with feathers and these had to be fluffed every morning, and head pieces called bolsters were used. In Colorado the mattresses were filled with straw and only the pillows had feathers. It was the same in Maple Ridge. Every summer

the mattresses would be refilled with fresh hay, and the younger children would do this. On top of these another mattress was put using sheep's wool, which made a softer and warmer bed. The wool had to be washed and spread on the grass to dry, then pulled apart with the fingers or a teaser to make it fluffy. Pillows were filled with duck or chicken feathers. The beds were made neatly with white spreads and pillow shams to cover the pillows. The girls embroidered a design with red outline stitch on white cotton. A favorite was on one "Good Morning" and on another "Good Night"* The pioneers used a large wooden or zinc tub for washing clothes. In it was placed a wash board with zinc ribbing on which the clothes were rubbed by hand using lots of strong soap. The clothes were then put in a boiler of hot water with more soap and some lye, and put on the stove to boil for twenty minutes or more. A strong stick was used to punch out the air which formed in the clothes from the boiling, so that the water would not boil over the top of the boiler. At first the clothes were wrung by hand, then a hand ringer was obtained. The first washer was open and oblong with a wooden slatted rocker with a bar over the top, Annie and Vina together would grasp the bar and rock this by hand, and sometimes Albert did this work.

In the back yard were long rope lines on which to hang the clothes to dry. After they were fastened by two prong wooden clothes pins, the ropes were lifted by long props. The front verandah had long ropes for hanging clothes on rainy days.

There was a lot of ironing to do, and heavy irons with handles were heated on the stove. All cotton petticoats and dresses were starched with Silver Gloss starch, and the men's dress shirts had cuffs and separate collars stiffened with celluloid starch. Washing was always done on Monday, ironing on Tuesday, cleaning on Friday, and cooking on Saturday for that day and Sunday.

Sunday was the day of rest, only the necessary farm work was done. The cows had to be milked and fed mornings and evenings and meals served. Mother always sat and read the Bible on Sunday mornings, and all was quiet in the household. Dinner was served at twelve noon. Edith and the young ones would change into their best clothes and walk to church for the one thirty Sunday School. The older ones went in a buggy for the two thirty church service. Father felt that someone should stay at the farm to keep an eye on things, so did not attend regularly. When he did he would usually walk one way. When the hymns were sung, his high alto voice rang out loud and clear, adding to the sound of the music.

There were three papers coming to the home, which kept them informed of events, the weekly "Columbian" from New Westminsterg and from the East, "The FbLmily Herald" and "Weekly Star". A fashion magazine named "The Delineator" was very attractive with coloured pictures of ladies dressed in the latest stylesl and the costumes were very beautiful. Timothy Eaton and Robert Simpson of Toronto sent their catalogues of merchandise and many things were purchased through their stores.

THE ORCHARD

The orchard was west of the front garden and the path in front of the house led to the gate into it. The first trees came from Victoria and there were many delicious apples and plums, the names of which are not known in the market. The most delicious apple was the Gravenstein, so honey sweet that when it fell on the ground, the juice would seep from it and attract the bees. Another was the Wolfe River, which grew to an immense size measuring five and a half to six inches across; these were not an eating apple but when baked the pulp would be white and fluffy. An early one was the Astrakhan, the Ontario was lovely for pies, and there was a sweet crabapple. The winter ones were the Kings, Northern Spy and Russet.

There were a couple of peach trees but they seemed to peter out. Bradshaw plums, prunes and pears were also planted. A Frogback pear was very hard but good for pickling. The favorite was the Bartlett and there were two near the gate. A winter pear had a darker skin and was firmer.

There were also cherry trees, a Bing and Royal Anne. We all climbed these trees and feasted on the fruit. The Royal Anne was very tall, and at the top was a forked branch where it was nice to sit and view the countryside. A large Bing cherry was on the east side of the new addition to the house, but this gave out and was cut down.

There was also a Damson Plum, the fruit marble sized, which made delicious jam. This was a favorite in Cornwall, and Father was so pleased to be able to grow one.

The orchard was a great attraction for the birds and they made such a pleasant sound with their chirping and singing, In the spring the robins and wood thrush would sing their brilliant and cheerful songs, and the wrens were busy in the bushes, In the summer the Larks were heard on the meadow pouring out their lovely notes. Every spring a flock of Bluebirds would come and rest in the trees by the roadside on their migration journey, Many hummingbirds were busy in the garden each year along with the swallowtail butterflies Magpies with their long tails and black and white feathers would appear in the barn area, The barn swallows were sure to come and make nests in the barn and they would be flying to and fro. In the spring and again in the fall, it was thrilling to hear the sound of the Canada Geese honking as they passed overhead in migration time.

At night there was the sound of the screech owl as well as barn owls, and bats would fly around in the evening. Great Horned Owls came at night to the orchard, and sometimes the racoons came from the woods,

In the summer, Jimmie slept in a tent in the orchard and shared it with a friend, Alma had one also and encouraged Vina to share it sometimes,

To work the gardens more tools were needed. A spade, hoe, hand rake and digger were obtained. As clearing proceeded and more land made available for agriculture, extra machinery was needed; a plough to turn the sod, a disc to cut up the sod, a harrow to clean up the debris and to even the soil, and a large heavy roller to be used after the hay seed was sown to press it in firmly. Then when the grass or grain was grown and ready to cut, a mower

drawn by a team of horses was used. Then a wide hay rake pulled by one horse, raked and released the hay in sections, ready to be made into haycocks.

one day when I was with Mother on the back verandah, Father came from the fields with Jimmie in his arms, and he looked very shaken. Jimmie had gotten out of the back yard and gone down to the hay field where Father was mowing. There were some peas amongst the hay and he was picking these. Father was not aware of him being there, but suddenly he saw him, just in time. He was very disturbed by the thought of what could have happened, as the blade of the mower was very long and cuts close to the ground.

When the first oats and wheat was grown it was threshed by hand. The grain stalks were strewn on the barn floor and beaten with a flails which consisted of two elongated pieces of wood connected by a leather thong. The three older boys, John, Albert and Ernie, took turns doing this. They held one piece of the flail in one hand, and with a circular motion swung the other above the head and down with a bang on top of the grain. This action threshed out the grain, and they made a sort of competitive game of it which they enjoyed.

When there were large fields of grain it was necessary to have a threshing machine to do the job. One came to the farm one night when it was dark. This heavy machine, drawn by six horses came by the lower road and what a commotion it made; men shouting, dogs barking, the machine rattling, it was very exciting. The grain had been cut and stacked by the barn and the next day it was fed into the thresher, and it was very interesting to see the golden grain flowing out of a spout into a sack, and how quickly it could be filled.

STORY OF THE RED BRIDGE, RUSKIN, B.C.

At the time this bridge was built, Mr. Robert Bonson (Bob), son of the pioneer Louis Bonson, was the Government Supervisor for roads and bridges. He was a friend of William Hampton's who visited and stayed at our home when in the vicinity.

In the book "Maple Ridge, A History of Settlement", page 54, it says, "it was popularly known as the Red Bridge, from the bright colour of it's paint, and it was opened by no less a personage than the Governor General, Earl Grey in front-of an unimpressive scattering of local people."

This bridge was built in 1909, in the wilderness miles from Ruskin or any other locality. The "local people" who attended the opening were eight young ladies from Port Haney and Maple Ridge some of them school teachers. The picture taken at the time shows them to be dressed in their best summer dresses; three Hampton girls were there, Annie, Vina, and Alma, and from Haney; May and Esther Best. Our brother, Ernie, was working in the area hauling logs with his team of horses, and it was from him and Mr. Bob Bonson that we-learned of the opening ceremony. Behind us on the hill, there were two men in dress attire with high crowned silk hats. They were Earl Grey, the Governor General of Canada, and an aide or B.C. Government official. They arrived in a very nice carriage with a team of horses from the Livery Stable at Port Haney. After the ceremony, on our behalf we presented Earl Grey with a

basket of Maple Ridge apples, and he was quite pleased with the gift.

FATHER'S TRIP TO ENGLAND

In the year 1910, Mr. Lazenby, the Post Master at Hammond, was planning a trip to England. Father made the decision to accompany him. Mother did not want to go since she had no relatives to visit there, and she preferred a trip to Colorado to see her mother and sisters. It was arranged that when he returned this would be done.

When Mr. Laity heard of the plans, he arranged for his eldest son, Algernon, to go with them. Soon the three were on their way by train to St. Johns in eastern Canada. Here they boarded a boat smaller than a Liner. They had not gone far when the engines broke down and they were at a standstill for some time. This was very exasperating for the passengers, but finally the repairs were made and they were on their way.

It had been thirty-seven years since Father left Cornwall. The companions of his years there had gone and settled in other arts of the world. He had gotten accustomed to the large open spaces in Canada, and was surprised when he returned how much smaller the places looked. While there he stayed with his youngest sisters Elizabeth (Aunt Lizzie), who married Josiah James. She and her daughters, Lillie, Julia, Jessie, and Ada, lived in the small village of Townshend near Hayle; the son, Josiah, was living and working at the Hampton farm in Maple Ridge. His oldest sister; Grace, who married William Lemin, was living some distance away and they had a family of six, Sam, Ed, Maude, Alma, Emma and Honour'. Alma had gone with her husband to live in South Africa, and Sam later lived in Pasadena, California.

Father and Aunt Lizzie went by train to London to visit their sister Annie, who had married William McCreath. This was their first trip there, so they visited some of the noted places.

McCreath was a Roman Catholic, and they went with Annie to visit "A their church. They had a family of four, Winnifred, Wilfred, Dorothy and Jimmie. Wilfred was also living at Maple Ridge at this time, working an Jim Chatwin's farm.

Algernon Laity visited relatives in Penzance, and also had a visit with the James family, where he met Jessie, whom he later married. Jessie's sister Julia, later came to Maple Ridge and married Frank Reddecliff, who had a farm near the Lillooet. Ada also visited Maple Ridge several times, staying with Jessie.

They made the return journey meeting Lazenby at the boat. Father was really happy to be back on the farm and with his family again.

TRIP TO COLORADO

in a month's time he and Mother and Wilburn, aged six and a half, were on their way from Hammond to Vancouver, then by Great Northern Railway from Vancouver to Seattle, transferring to another train at Portland for Denver, Colorado. They stayed with Annie and William Jones and her mother, Grandma Olver, who lived with them. Grandpa Olver had passed away in 1883, four years after Amanda and Billy left for B.C. Annie and William Jones

had a family of one girl, Flora, and five boys, Alva, William, Clyde, Edwin and Harold.

Wilburn remembers this trip very clearly, seeing his Grandmother and the relatives. He said they went by stagecoach to visit the mining towns in the mountains. They went to Russell Gulch to visit the two sisters there, Emma and Polly Stevens. Emma had a family of five boys and four girls, and Polly did not have any children. At this time, she was ill and Emma was looking after her. It must have been interesting for Father and Mother to visit this part of the country again,

Father's brother Jim Hampton and his wife Bessie, and children Rose and Evelyn, had gone to Salt Lake, Utah, attracted by the large Choanocyte Copper Mine there. On the homeward trip the three went that way to visit them. Uncle Jim took them to this mine and they saw a smelter in action. Wilburn remembers seeing the copper liquid flowing into a vat after the processing of the ore.

A few years later Rose Hampton, then age nineteen, was the first relative from Colorado to visit at the farm. She was a lovely looking girl and we were thrilled to see a c from so far away. Mother's sister Emma, also visited us . with her daughter Mae and son Harry, as did Father's sister, Elizabeth, from England. Al, William, Clyde and Harold Jones all visited the farm in the early years, and Emma's daughter Lila, came with her husband George Sheiffer sometime later.

MORE ABOUT MAPLE RIDGE

The McKenneys had sold their Boarding House to the Murgatroyds and moved to their property west of our farm. There was a trail road through the woods to this home and Mother and Mrs. Laity often visited there. One day when they were planning to visit Mrs. McKenney, a friend dropped in and said, '"You better not go today because I saw a bear as I came through." They went anyway no bear was to be seen, way

There were Honey Locust trees on the McKenney property and the ones near the Hampton house came from there, transplanted when young. These grew to an immense size and shaded a large area of the garden.

The upper road leading from Nelson Avenue to our private road was between the Laity and Tindle properties. This was a forest road since the upper Laity and Hampton properties still had large trees. The road ended at our private road which had a wide gate. Beyond that there was just a narrow trail to other properties. About 1910, a road was opened up along the Hampton property and farther to connect with McKenney Road, it was named Hampton Road, and Nelson Avenue was changed to Laity Road. While the trees remained there were red headed woodpeckers the road into the underbrush and grouse would be seen crossing.

The thumping sound of the grouse would be heard coming from the woods for many years. Later Pheasants were imported for the benefit of the sportsmen. The colorful cock added beauty to the landscape and its unusual call was often heard. When the eggs were found in

the hay fields the younger boys would rescue them and have a setting hen hatch them out. When the birds were full grown they were set free.

One thing the whole family enjoyed so much in the springtime was to go to the woods west of the farm and gather the trilliums and adder tongue lilies. It was very exciting and we would come home with large bunches. Even after the clearing was done, the orchard would be covered with the trilliums, but finally with cultivation they disappeared. Still by the snake fences where the ground was not disturbed they flourished for many years, After the clearing, the cerise fireweed grew and gave a bright colour to the landscape. On the prairie the blue bottle gentian grew. Other flowers were the wild Rose and sweet Briars, flowering Red Currant, and in damp places the yellow Monkeyflower, similar to a snapdragons

In the rainy season the prairie would be flooded by the Lillooet River. Boat rides would be taken in the McKenney's row boat over this large area. In time a dyke was made and there was a pump house far north of the farm at Neaves Bridge, to regulate the flow of water. At times we could hear the pumping sound. In this area was Sturgeon Sloughs called so because the sturgeon fish which were in the Fraser River at that time would swim via the Pitt River to spawn in this slough. The land in this vicinity had rich soil but vas at a low level and was difficult to drain. Several people tried to do something about it but failed. Then someone from Holland came and inspected this land and saw possibilities of developing this part the way it was done in Holland. More Hollanders came and obtained land, and together they had large deep canals dredged out so that the water would be contained. This was a success and the area was called Pitt Polder. Large farms were cultivated. and it became a thriving community.

The land west of the Hampton farm was being flooded by the overflow from McKenney Creek, and to rectify this condition the Provincial Government made the decision to have a canal dug eastward so that the water could drain into the Lillooet River. This meant it would cut through the lower part of the Hampton and Laity farms, dividing the fields. When this was done by dredging in 1917, bridges had to be built to enter the fields and for the roadway crossing. The slicing of the fields in this way was not so good, but it was helpful for drainage.

NEW DAIRIES

When there was a greater production of milk, a new dairy was built in front of the Locust trees, with the door facing the house. The DeLaval separator was placed in this dairy. DeLaval was a Swedish inventor born in 1845, who invented a machine to separate the cream from the milk. The cream would come out one spout and skim milk out of another. This made it easier to obtain the cream for butter making. Before this the milk was poured into deep square cans and left to rest until the cream came to the surface and was then skimmed off. In those days the skim milk was fed to the calves and the pigs. For our own use we had the rich milk as it came from the cow.

Devonshire Cream, in Cornwall called clotted cream, was made and this is delicious on

bread with syrup or jam, or on fruit or pudding. The milk is poured into a pan and set aside until the cream forms on top, then placed on the side of the stove which had moderate heat enough to simmer it but never to boil. When the cream wrinkles, the pan is put aside to cool and then the thickened cream is skimmed off with a flat skimmer made of metal with pierced round holes to drain the excess milk away from the cream.

Some years later, Father built a larger dairy east of the Locust trees with the door facing north. The milk was taken to Hammond in large milk cans in the Democrate, and was shipped to the city by a local. train. Later, a milk truck from the Fraser Valley Milk Association came and collected the cans, and later still the milk was siphoned off from a large tank in the dairy directly into a tank truck,

Most of the year the cows, after the evening milking were driven with the aid of the Collie, to spend the night in a field. The next morning at 5:30 A.M. there was heard the barking of the dog and the high toned call of Father, or one of the boys, ringing out loud and clear. This call to the cows echoed through the woods and was heard by John's family one and a half miles away "as the crow flies".

ANXIOUS MOMENTS

Father always had great concern for each one in the family, especially when they were away from home. One evening, Albert and the three girls, Annie, Vina and Alma, were visiting Bob Bonson at his farm on Pitt Meadows. It was a long drive by horse and buggy, and the road west of Hammond was a high, dyke road with a deep ditch on each side. We were rather late in returning, but it was a bright moonlit night, and we could see the road clearly. We arrived home after ten P.M. and when Father heard us in the yard, he came out to make sure we were alright. He had been worried for fear we might have had an accident on the dyke road, and could not go to bed until he was reassured.

One evening, when Albert was on his way to Hammond by horse and the covered buggy, a terrific thunder storm took place, the worst we ever had. I was in my bed and the room was continually lit up with the lightning flashes of sheet, chain, and fork. The rain came down in torrents, but Albert was well covered in the buggy and just kept driving; the metal on the buggy would spark at times because of the lightning. It was a great relief to us all when he arrived home safely.

Albert cleared all of his land, but left one very tall Fir tree standing some distance from the house. It was struck by lightning and the force of it cracked several window panes which had to be replaced.

One very large cedar tree was left in a field in line with the house on our farm , and it was struck by lightning. Father, who was sitting on the back verandah, felt the force of that one.

The news was quite startling when we heard of a train robbery by Bill Miner near Mission, B.C. in the early 1900's. We had heard of his activities in the United States, but when it was

revealed that he had been living in B.C. for sometime and also near Haney, it was very disturbing. People who had contact with him had thought him to be nicely mannered. Later the news came that he had been captured in the U.S. and was imprisoned for the rest of his days.

In later years, Oliver had an anxious moment when hauling a wagonload of turnips. He was standing in front driving the team of horses when the front board of the wagon fell off, and the turnips began rolling out striking the horses. They became frightened and began running at a great speed; by this time Oliver was down on the pole and it was difficult to hang on. He then remembered a story of a man who was walking across a train trestle when a train appeared; quickly he slipped underneath at the side of the track and hung on while the train passed overhead. So Oliver slipped underneath the pole and dropped to the ground beneath; the wagon passed over him and he was not touched by the wheels. The horses continued on their way to the
end of the road where there was an opening into a fields quite a distance away. Oliver was rather shaken by this ordeal, so he phoned Wilburn who went down and rescued the horses which, after reaching the field, felt safe and quietly waited there. There were many turnips strewn along the way during this event.

SCHOOL DAYS

At Maple Ridge there was a one room school facing south on River Road, and the yard extended to Nelson Avenue. It was usual to paint the schools red, and all the Hampton children attended this red school. Mother remembered the morning in 1884, when Johnny started on his way with his lunch pail, for his first day of school, a walk of one and a half miles.

The first teacher was James Sinclair, in 1875, and he taught all grades from the beginners to the senior classes, later including high school subjects. He boarded at the Irving's home and in 1882, married one of the daughters and they went to live in New Westminster. When the Fairs started in Maple Ridge, he usually attended, and Father would enjoy a chat with him.

The next teacher was Paul Murray, who had a home on Nelson Avenue, and he continued teaching the high school subjects. John, Edith **,** Albert and Ernie were taught by him.

As pupils increased, an addition of another room was built at the north side with the door facing east, for the junior pupils. The first teacher there was Jennie Trembath, a friend of Edith's who had been tutored by Paul Murray for this position. Later, she moved to Vancouver and taught in the public school there. Eventually she was appointed a supervisor of schools in that district.

The next teacher was Annie Murgatroyd, and she taught many years. She was Annie's and Vina's first teacher, and then they had Paul Murray. She was my teacher from the beginning, and when ready to go into the senior room, she went with us to teach there, since Paul Murray was retiring. She conducted the first May Day Festival about 1905, on the Maple Ridge School grounds. Annie, Vina, and Alma were Maids of Honour, with others, and Lola

Henry was the May Queen. There was a Maypole, and the Dance around it was a success, as the ribbons were wound around in-the right order. This was a thrilling experience *

Paul and Mrs. Murray had a son named after the British politician, William Ewert Gladstone, and called Gladdy. He was a clever boy and finished his education in Vancouver, and he became a Rhodes Scholar. Mr. Murray sold his house on Nelson Avenue, and built a new home on the corner of McKenney Road and Maple Crescent St. at Hammond, and they lived there many years,

The next junior teacher was Esther Best from Haney, who also had her training from Paul Murray. Then Jean McEwen taught and after that a local girl, Eva Ray was teacher.

In the senior room, Miss Murgatroyd taught only a short time and then was married. After that there were many teachers. There was one good teacher for the high school subjects named Rupert Neelands, but after that the tuition was not sufficient.

Listed in the first class when the first High School was opened in January, 1914, was James Hampton. The teacher was Colin Chisholm, and it was held in the Baptist Church on Dewdney Trunk Road. The second teacher was Margaret Robertson, who was from Scotland, and Myrtle Hampton attended at@that time.

I wanted to be a teacher and had a little experience when at -times I filled in for the junior teacher. When I needed another year of High School, Jim and Edith with young Stanley, were moving to Vancouver, so I was able to go with them and live there for two years attending King Edward High School, and the Provincial Normal School for the training of teachers. After I returned to the farm in 1914, I applied for the junior teaching position in the Maple Ridge School and was accepted. For the first two years I taught in the original junior room. In the fall of the second year, I was given the whole school to teach for a term, and Oliver, and Alice Davison were among the pupils.

Then a new two room school was built on Laity Road. The first teachers were Evelyn Robinson for the senior, and Alma Hampton for the junior. Then the high school classes were moved from the Baptist Church into the first original school room, the teacher being Margaret Robertson. The previous junior room was then used for Manual Training, and Wilburn had tuition in this. lie was also in my regular class.

When I was in Vancouver attending Normal School, I played tennis whenever possible and enjoyed it immensely. On sunny mornings a friend and I would play on a court very early before we went to our classes. So on returning home, I prevailed on Father to have a tennis court made in the area east of the front garden. leading to the front gate. This was done and others in the family soon learned the game, and friends came and joined in the sport. It was a very busy place in the summertime with tennis parties. Father would sit on the front verandah and watch; he liked to see the young people having a good time. Mother would join him on occasion, and enjoyed watching the games while knitting or mending. Later, wedding receptions were held on this spot.

In my high school days I heard of other farms having names, so I thought ours should be

named also. Talking with others in the family, the decision was made to call our farm "Meadowview", This was used for many years in the address, Meadowview Farm, Hammond, B.C.

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE HOME

In 1910, the first telephone was installed, a very large oblong one, attached to the wall in the dining room by the kitchen door. It had a mouthpiece on a hinge to adjust according to the height of the speaker. On the left side was the receiver and when this was taken off the hook, a handle on the right side was turned to contact the Hammond exchange. Then a voice would say t'Number Please", and when the number was given, the operator completed the call.

When electricity was available in 1912, the whole house was wired by an electrician, and electric globes took the place of lamps. The hanging lamp was taken down from the sitting room, and a fixture containing three drop lamps with frosted glass shades was installed. In the dining room a large amber shade with a fringe of amber beads hung low over the table.

Eventually it was decided to have indoor plumbing. The old dining room was made use of for the toilet and a very large bathtub. This was in use for many years. Installed in the basement was a water tank with automatic pump connected to the well.

In 1926, when Oliver married Alice Davison, they were given the new addition for their homes Father and Mother retaining the older part. The plumbing was taken out and the room became a dining room again. The kitchen range was placed where the heater had been on the north wall. The room at the north end was divided to have a bathroom on the west side, and the kitchen on the east. Wilburn was still with them and had the second bed-room. This worked out very well as long as they needed it.

FLIGHT-LIEUTENANT J.H. HAMPTON, The First World War,1914 - 1918

In 1915 at Maple Ridge, special recruiting assemblies were organized to encourage the young men to enlist and join the forces; many friends were enlisting which encouraged others to do the same. James Henry Hampton enlisted and joined the 47th Battalion at New Westminster where they were in training and in barracks for some time. In November, 1915, they were sent over-seas. I was staying with Edith and Jim Chatwin at this time, and we went by their motorcar to the train station to see them off. The young fellows were very gay, but we did not feel so gay to see them go.

On reaching England by steamship, they were stationed at Bramshott, Hampshire, for extensive training. When they were given leave, Jimmie went to Cornwall to visit with Aunt Lizzie and cousins. (I was told by the cousins, when visiting there in 1968, how they enjoyed his visits and what a fine young man he was.)

In August, 1916, they were sent to France, where they were engaged in the fighting around Ypres, and were in the charge on Regina Trench. In a letter, Jimmie wrote that he was the

only one that survived and he brought back eight prisoners, young boys about sixteen years old, to the base, but there wasn't an officer there to record it. He said that he felt sorry for these young follows, they were very scared, and one gave him his watch. Later, Jimmie was wounded by shrapnel at Vimy Ridge, and was invalided to England.

On recovering, he applied and was transferred to the Royal Air Force (R.A.F.), and received training. He became a Flight Lieutenant and returned to France in September, 1918, at the age of twenty-one. One day he was the leader of several planes to reconnoitre near the enemy line,, when suddenly enemy planes descended from a cloudy sky. His plane, being the leader, was their target, with the result it was brought down in flames, and no trace was ever found. This happened October 29, 1918, just previous to Armistice Day, but the sad news to our home arrived after that day. To quote from a newspaper write up, "Flight-Lieutenant J.H. Hampton fought courageously although outnumbered three to one. A life of energy and honour-was-his and his name will be remembered in Maple Ridge as one who died fighting like a true Canadian." His name is on the Cenotaph on the Municipal grounds at Haney. There were only a few who returned from that war.

When in Ottawa in 1944, my husband Bill, and I visited the Victory Memorial Chamber in the Parliament Buildings, and there saw the "Book of Remembrance". In it is the name "2nd Lieutenant James Henry Hampton, R.A.F." A page is turned each day and in the record book his name would appear on December 20th.

WEDDINGS

There were seven wedding receptions given at Meadowview Farm. These were for the five daughters, and for Albert who married Nettie Anderson who had come from Eastern Ontario to visit her uncle living on Laity Road, and for a nieces Jessie James who married Algernon Laity.

Edith's was first and she married James Chatwin who came from a family of nine boys and-three girls. His father and mother had sold their wheat farm in Neepewa, Manitoba, and had come to settle in Maple Ridge. Edith and Jim were married on September 26 1906, in the Methodist Church at Maple Ridge. He and his brother, Sam, owned a store in Hammond at the corner of McKenney Road and Maple Crescent Street. When Sam decided to move to Vancouver with his family, Jim became owner of the store. The upper part was an apartment where he and Edith lived. Their first child was born there and was named William James Stanley. A few years later Jim sold the store to Allison and Cross, who carried on the business. Paul Murray's house was just across the road from this store, and they were able to rent it until they found a new location. They bought property on the north lower road, now 128th Avenue, and there built a house and a large barn, and set up farming. In 19 2, they moved to Vancouver.

In October, 1906, John married Nellie Ray in the Ray home, in Burnaby, B.C. Her father, S.S. Ray, had previously bought the J.M. Dale store at Port Hammond and the family had moved from Kelowna to reside there. Later the store was sold back to J.M. Dale, and the

Rays moved to Burnaby. John and Nellie rented the Paul Murray house, before the Chatwin's who were still living above the store across the street. Here a son was born and was named William Arthur. After this, John built his house on the McKenney Road.

In 1908, Ernie married May Best, a school teacher, in the Best home at Haney, B.C.

On December 19 1914, Annie and Arthur Batterham were married in the Methodist Church, with the reception held at the farm.

Then in March, 1918, Albert and Nettie were married at the Methodist Church, with the reception at our farm.

In July, 1918, Alma married William G. Ward, and the wedding was to be held in the garden, but it suddenly stormed with rain, and it had to be moved inside. I met Bill while living in Vancouver. The Ward's home was on lst Avenue, directly south of the Chatwin's home on Point Grey Road, and we all attended the Kitsilano Methodist Church.

In July, 1920, Vina and Ernest W. Daykin were married, and in September, 1924, Myrtle and J. Frederick Downs. Both of these weddings were held in tile garden. Fred Downs and Bill Ward were cousins, and Myrtle and Fred met for the first time at our wedding.

In June, 1926, Oliver married Alice Davison in the Methodist Church, with the reception at the Davison home, and in September, 1932, Wilburn married Muriel Stanley in the Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church, Vancouver, and the reception was at the Stanley home there. They had met at a gathering of the United Church Young People's Association, when the Stanleys had lived at Haney for a short time, after coming from Trail, B.C.

On November 11, 1926, Father and Mother celebrated their Fiftieth Anniversary, the Golden Wedding Day. The reception was in the large sitting room and the family and the grandchildren, and many friends came to honour this occasion. A centre of golden chrysanthemums was on the dining room table under the large amber lights where tea was served. It was indeed a golden day.

Father was a strong and healthy man all his life, but in his later years was bothered with bronchitis, although it did not stop him from milking and doing his chores. Finally, he did have to give up and was ill for some time, and had good nursing care in the home. A month before his seventy-ninth birthday, with Mother by his side, and also his nieces Jessie, who happened to drop in, he passed away January 21, 1933,

It was arranged for Mother to remain in her part of the home, and she was kindly cared for by Oliver and Alice, for sixteen and a half years, and she continued to look after her flower garden.

The time came when it was necessary for her to have nursing care) and she was well cared for in Melrose Hospital. She peacefully passed away on August 17, 1949, at the age of eighty-nine and a half years.

By this time there were twenty-five grandchildren, and twelve great-grandchildren. In this centennial year, there are more, and also great-great-grandchildren. They both have left a very fine heritage.

When Wilburn was married in 1932, the farm was divided for the two younger sons, Oliver and Wilburn, as well as the livestock, cows and horses. Wilburn's was the upper southern part, where a new house and barn was built. Oliver's was the original home, buildings and fields, and they each had prairie land. Twenty acres of prairie had been sold before this time. .

After many years, Wilburn had to give up farming because of a physical difficulty) and in time most of his farmland was sold, and at this time there are many homes built on this property.

Oliver also retired, and his part of the land is now owned and operated by his son, Bill, who has proved to be another capable and active farmer. And so there is another William Hampton cultivating the land which his Grandfather cleared so many years ago, still preferring to use horses for the work, to preserve the peace and quiet of the country, and because he likes it that way,

A short time after I was married, while staying at the farm, I was talking with Mother of her life in England. They lived on a small farm and she would talk of the towns of Devonport and Plymouth in Devon. For the first time I asked, "What was the name of the village you lived in?" She said, “It was an odd sounding name, called Quethic.11 I thought it was a very nice name and was pleased to have found this out, On a visit to England in 1968, I was able to find this place, and found that it was spelled "Quethiock".

I was pleased to have this trip with my daughter, Dorothy, and her husband, Frank McKee, driving by car to Devon and Cornwall to visit cousins and the familiar places spoken of by Mother and Father, especially Plymouth, Quethiock, Townshend, Copperhouse, Penzance and Land’s End.

I also had two trips by airplane to Denver, Colorado. The first, in 1950, was with Bill on our way back from the east to Los Angeles. We were taken by car to Silver Plume by my cousin Lila (Stevens) and her husband, George Sheiffer. It was a beautiful drive up the mountain road and it was a joy for me to visit the place where our parents had their first home. The second tripl in 1973, was in a 747 plane from Los Angeles. My cousin Mae (Stevens) and her husband, George Spomer, met me at the Denver Airport, and from there we went to their home in Lakewood. During my stay, they drove me to Black Hawk, Central City, and Russell Gulch, which was a most interesting and rewarding experience.