

JOHN FENNELL.

John was born in Montague Township on March 24, 1850. He was listed in the 1851, 1861 and 1871 censuses of the township at ages 4, 10 and 19 respectively. He did not appear in the 1881 census but in the previous year his name was on the North Dakota census, a resident of Walshville Township, Walsh County. With him were Joseph and Thomas Henry.

In 1885 John's parents and his brother and sister, Hezekiah and Susanna, also were listed in the North Dakota census; by now all of them occupied farms in Pulaskie Township. John lived with Joseph and his wife in 1880 and in 1885. On May 16, 1889 he sold his interests (whatever they may have been) in Joseph's farm to Joseph. This may have been to allow him to support his parents on their farm; his father would die the following year.

Thomas' will provided that his widow, Ann, would have a life interest in the farm and that it would fall to John on her death. Ann died in 1894 but it was not until 1899 that his father's farm was assessed in his name for tax purposes; throughout the 1890's it was still assessed in his father's name. Still, there is no doubt that since 1894 John had been the beneficial owner.

On July 5, 1899 (June 28 perhaps) John married Emily Holbrook, the daughter of James and Elizabeth Holbrook of Montague Township. At page 414 of Montague: a Social History, Glenn J. Lockwood, there is a photo identified as their wedding photo. The caption indicates that she was Emily Wesley but this was in error; the reference to a "Wesley" is to another person in the Holbrook family. At the time of their marriage John was a resident of North Dakota.

The 1900 census of North Dakota lists John and Emily, married one year, living with Joseph and Lavina. His age was 50; she was recorded as having been born in November 1878 and was 27 years of age at the census date. John had entered the U.S.A. in 1879 and had been 21 years in the country. There were no children. That he was listed with Joseph causes a problem since he had inherited his father's farm after his mother's death but it may simply be an enumeration error.

John sold the Thomas Fennell farm on December 14, 1901 and he and Emily moved to Canada to farm close to Elm Creek, Manitoba. Their farm was on the SW and the S1/2 NW section 33, township 8, range 4W. By 1924 they were no longer assessed for that location but after 1918 they had moved to Vancouver.

The 1920 Vancouver Street Directory was the first to list John as a resident, at 2242 6th Ave.W; the 1931 Directory was the last. In 1932, 1933 and 1934 it was "Margaret E.A. Fennell, Wid. J.", at the same address. In 1935 the occupant of the house was Mrs. Eliza J. Holbrook. the widow of A. Holbrook.

The date of John's death is not known. His body was said to have been returned to the east and buried in Hillcrest cemetery at Smiths Falls. His grave has not yet been located but the cemetery has a plot which is owned by a "Mrs." Fennell. If he is buried there, there is no monument.

Emily died in Vancouver; the date of her death is unknown as is her place of burial.