

In the rapidly revolving cycle of time there are a number of residents of Emily Township who proudly trace their ancestry back through four generations.

Victor Callaghan is one of these gentlemen. He and his sister reside on the same one hundred acre farm on which his great-grandfather, his grandfather, and his father toiled and hewed and eked out a good living. The original log house, long ago covered with clap-board, on lot 7, concession 7, has withstood the test of time and is one of the fine comfortable homes in the old Township of Emily, located on a stretch of highway between Omemee and Downeyville.

The four generations of Callaghans were named Patrick, his son was called Michael, the latter's son was named Patrick, followed by Vincent.

Just a year ago, Mr. Vinc. Callaghan disposed of a fine old log barn to a cottager on the lake, who used the logs in the construction of a large dock or wharf.

Except for three years spent in the Canadian Army, with the 109th. Battalion in England and France, Vinc Callaghan has been a real home-bird. He came out of the first World War with a few scratches, but as he remarked, "They are nothing compared to the scratching I had to do after the war, when I bought stock at a high price and was forced to sell on a sliding down market. However, there is a lot of personal satisfaction

in knowing that I stuck to the farm and it is still in the hands of the Callaghans.”

Great grandfather Callaghan was one of several hundred sons of Ireland who embarked from Malone in the County of Cork, and sailed across the ocean in 1825 as part of the Peter Robinson Immigration when over 2,000 Irish people were practically driven from their native shore by deprivation and destitution. Several boat loads of immigrants spent thirty days on the ocean — a long and perilous trip which was accomplished after many hardships. It is reported that as many as 11 people on a boat, mostly children, died almost daily of dysentery, gout, and other ailments.

Great grandfather Callaghan arrived at the port of Quebec and finally, after many days, reached Kingston, and later reached Port Hope.

Mr. Callaghan recalled historical facts regarding the expedition. For instance, the Peter Robinson Immigration transported hundreds of Protestant Irish families to the north side of Emily Township, some ten miles from Cavan. Another few hundred Irish Catholic families settled in the northern part of Emily, north of Omeme and around Downeyville which place at the time was not called Downeyville.

The immigrants travelled up and down hill and dale from Port Hope to Emily. They had been granted Crown Lands free, but a certain amount of clearing and building had to be undertaken. The

British government gave the immigrants a start by furnishing an ox, some food, clothing, cooking vessels, an axe, a hammer, nails, and some flour. From there on the Callaghans and others had to work almost day and night to clear land for their cabins, barns and for tilling.

The death of great grandfather Patrick Callaghan was shocking and tragic. He is reported to have been seriously hurt when a huge boulder he was burying in a hole in the ground rolled, pinning this pioneer farmer. Patrick Callaghan never fully recovered from this accident.

"To-day we do not know what real hardships are," said Vinc Callaghan as he recalled the stories told by his grandfather and father. "To-day, farmers in Emily Township are almost plagued by deer.

"The deer roam all over the farm and I think it would be well to have a short open season for deer in Emily. In pioneer days however according to what I was told, farmers and their families had to contend with wolves and bears.

but the hardest task was in clearing the farm."

HUGE STONES

According to our narrator, the fields were literally covered with stones and rocks. The stones were too big to be hauled away to a fence corner, and a farmer had to dig large holes and tumble the large stones into these holes.

The name Downey was and still is one of the best known in the township, and this is one reason for the naming of

the village Downeyville, a name which has a delightful ring and can well be remembered. In this connection it is equally interesting to note that the first white child born in the settlement was Katherine Downey, grandmother of Vincent Callaghan.

Vinc Callaghan is quite proud of his ancestry. He is a bachelor, one who keeps abreast of the times and takes an interest in community affairs. He was a member of township council for a number of years and was happy in mentioning some of the enthusiastic municipal politicians of the township, his personal friends.

These included Wesley Wilson, William Patrick, Peter Perdue, Lloyd Ashmore, and the present reeve — Alvin Franks, and deputy-reeve — Edward Lowes.

As a boy Vinc. Callaghan attended the old Orange school, which is now vacant. "It is different today. As lads we had to tramp through snow up to our knees, and walk miles. - - - today the old school is closed and boys and girls hop into heated buses right at their gate."

Reviewing former school teachers, Mr. Callaghan remembered in particular the teaching days of Dr. Earle.

It is interesting to note that Maxine McSweyn of California who renews acquaintances in this area every summer is a relative of Mr. Callaghan.

He recalled that Miss Mc-Sweyn's mother was a Clunan, and that once the Clunans ran the Central Hotel on William Street South.

Before becoming an hotel-keeper, Clunan was a member of the Lindsay police force and was in some way connected with the early experiences of the Salvation Army in Lindsay, when the Army was not allowed to hold open air services and were at one time mobbed and stoned by irate

Lindsay people. It is also related by Mr. Callaghan that the City of Peterboro was named after Peter Robinson of the British immigration project.