

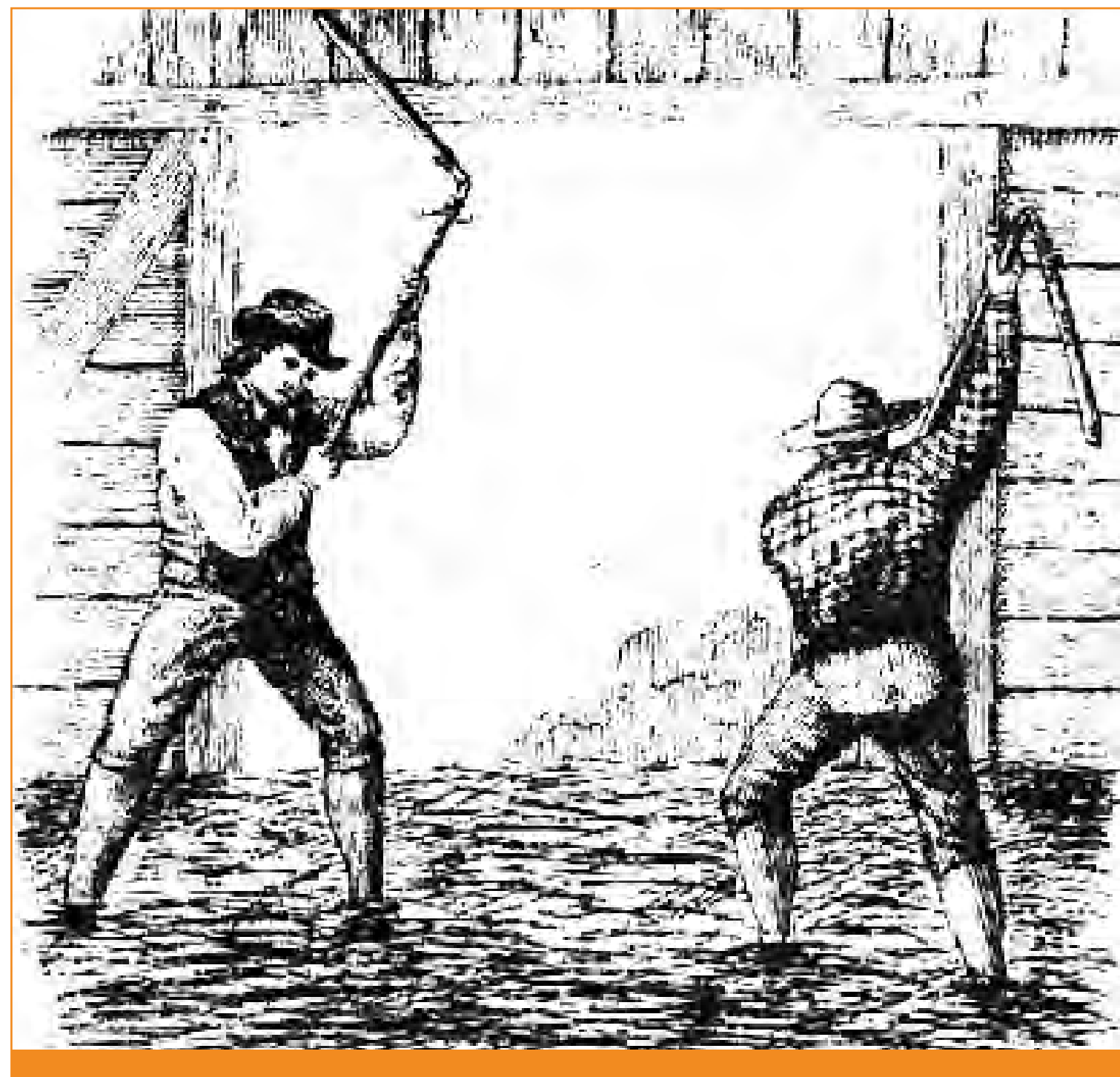
THE MASSEY FAMILY OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT FAME

WORLD DOMINANCE BEGINNING IN GRAFTON

Daniel Massey Jr was four years old when his father, Daniel, and mother, Rebecca (Kelly) moved from Vermont to Grafton, Ontario in 1802. He was just fourteen when the war of 1812 began, his father and two older brothers left home to join the Upper Canadian militia, and Daniel was left in charge of the family farm.

In this new role Daniel honed his skills, learned blacksmithing and would often repair the farm machinery. In 1820, he married his childhood sweetheart, Lucina Bradley, and began their family of ten.

In 1830, while visiting relatives in Watertown, New York, Daniel was thrilled by a mechanical thresher. He had it disassembled and shipped to his farm in Haldimand Township. Now eleven men could accomplish what had previously taken twenty farm hands with flails! Daniel studied this machine and made its replacement parts. He was making other tools and implements for neighbouring farmers as well.



In 1844, he turned over the farm operation to his son Hart (1823-1896) so he could devote more time to working on machinery. A small foundry and blacksmithing shop, just south of Newcastle, at the harbour called Bond Head, had closed. Convinced of his ability to manufacture agricultural machinery, Daniel moved the younger members of his family to this location in 1847. Two years later he was employing 10 people at his Newcastle Foundry and Manufactory.

One of Daniel's early products was a stump remover that used torque to twist stumps out of the ground.

