

THE HISTORY OF OUR FARM AND FAMILY

by

Lorne Hambly, December, 1963

My ancestors that first settled in Canada were my eight great-grandparents. They were as follows: Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Hambly from Devonshire and Yorkshire, England, respectively; Mr. & Mrs. Hector Cameron from Dobbins, Inverness-shire, Scotland; Mr. & Mrs. David Crawford from County Fermanagh, Ireland, and Pennsylvania, U.S.A., respectively (she was the daughter of an immigrant to Pennsylvania from Northern Ireland); and Mr. & Mrs. John Turner from County Fermanagh, Ireland.

My four grandparents were William Henry Hambly, Martha Cameron, Josiah Crawford and Matilda Turner.

My father, William Cameron Hambly, was the only son of William Henry Hambly and the former Martha Cameron. My mother, whose maiden name was Mary Ellen Crawford, was the only daughter of Josiah Crawford and the former Matilda Turner.

My father and mother were married at Wiarton on April 4, 1906. To this union were born four children, Wilda, later Mrs. Angus Crawford, deceased; Alvin, Dundas; Raymond, Wiarton; and I, Lorne, on the family farm at Purple Valley.

My grandfather, William Henry Hambly was the first of my ancestors to come to this community. As a young man only twenty years of age he purchased, on December 24, 1877, at a land sale at Wiarton, Lot 26 Concession 13, the 94-acre lot on which I now reside, for the sum of \$510.00. He paid \$210.00 in cash, and gave a mortgage for the remainder.

However, Lot 26 had been purchased from the Crown about two years previous to this by a young man, David Sidmon Crawford (an uncle of my mother's). But he met untimely death in a logging accident in February, 1877, and his lot was later put up for sale, at which time my Grandfather Hambly purchased it.

Why my grandfather chose this tract of land I cannot say with certainty. It is probable that land was cheaper in this district than in older settled parts. It is possible, too, that he was interested in the timber, of which there was an abundance. My grandfather's saw-mill activities in later years supports the belief that he was interested in the timber.