

wooden boxes, oranges in crates as now. Spices were weighed out on special scales. Table and dairy salt came in small cotton bags but coarse salt, which many people used in their cooking, came in 100 lb. bags.

On the shelves behind were the canned goods and packages (much the same as at present but in less variety); school supplies in the form of slates and slate-pencils, scribes, lead pencils, pens (with separate nibs); foolscap, ink, leather satchels; laundry supplies consisting of wrapped soap bars, lye, bluing and starch; lamps and lanterns with their separate burners, wicks and chimneys; kitchen dishes, pots and pans, waterpails and milk pails. In the drygoods section were prints and gingham with lace and other trimmings, cheesecloth, buttons, thread and needles; sock yarn as well as ready-made socks and stockings; shirts, pants, overalls; oilcloth, towelling, sheets and blankets. The store carried quite a variety of paints and hardware such as nails and spikes, files,



Emeline John James

hammers, axe handles and heads. In the back store were the barrels: salt pork, vinegar, molasses, apples, herrings and (at a respectable distance), coal-oil. There were minor tragedies as when coal-oil got put into somebody's vinegar jar and when the molasses spout was left running and forgotten. Shot came in 46 lb. bags and it was a feat of strength to see how high you could raise a bag with one hand. Shells were saved and re-loaded. Near the front of the store was a ring suspended from the ceiling on which buggy whips hung.

Every year ice was cut at the River, the Creek or Casey's Lake. The blocks were packed around a small room in the ice-house which served as a refrigerator. Here were kept milk, butter, eggs, bacon, sausages and anything that needed to be kept cool. A large cheese was always in the process of being cut into wedges.

Of course the store bought as well as sold and butter, eggs, chickens and vegetables were turned in on many orders, with an occasional cow-hide or sheepskin. This farmers' produce, if not sold out again over the counter, was taken to Ottawa and sold to a dealer on the Market when John James made his weekly trip with express or sleigh and picked up supplies from the Wholesale to replenish his store. Mixed farming was also carried on and in the early days a brother, Robert, who had lost his own store at South March by fire came in and worked at the store while John James attended to the farm. The present barn was built in 1914.

Emeline and John James had ten children: Maud, Nellie, Bernice, Banfield, Beatty, George, Stewart, Myrtle, Ernest Travers and Muriel. The eldest children attended Number 5 March Public School but the younger half went to Number 4, Torbolton. Most of them