

The story of the Baskins is intertwined with the story of the Derraughs and they must be told together. William Derraugh married Jane Baskin in County Tyrone, Ireland, near the town of Straban around the year 1840. A year or so later he decided to come to Canada to seek his fortune so leaving his wife and little daughter Mary, behind, he set out on the six weeks' crossing. He came to March Township and got employment with Thomas Read clearing land. Six years later he went back for his family. He must have brought them to Torbolton for in the 1851 Census he is listed as living in this township with his wife and five children, the youngest being twins. The shanty in which they lived was probably built on Lot 5, Concession 7 but he did not buy this property till three years later. In the same Census is shown Margaret Baskin, aged 60, living in a log shanty with her children: Frederick aged 36, John, aged 34, James, 24, Mary 23 and Thomas 21. They must have settled on Lot 5, Concession 6 for, according to the records, this was sold by the Crown to John Baskin in 1848. Evidently John had died in the intervening years.

Anyway in 1854 Frederick Baskin, who had married Ann Jordan, and his brother-in-law William Derraugh, bought between them the 500 acres comprising Lot 5, Lot 6, and the west half of Lot 7 in Concession 7. This had been granted by the Crown to a certain Lieutenant Grant but it is doubtful if he ever saw it. He left it to his widow who re-married and sold it to Edward Jones of St. Andrews, Lower Canada, for 100 pounds. Three years later Frederick Baskin and William Derraugh bought it for 150 pounds. They paid 40 pounds down and promised to pay 10 pounds a year for 11 years. By 1865 they had it paid off and in 1868 agreed to divide it. Frederick Baskin took the west half of Lot 7 and the east half of Lot 5 and William Derraugh the remaining 300 acres. His tax for 1858 (which seems to have been the first year the dollar system was used) was \$2.09.

Of the original Baskin family besides Jane, who was Mrs. William Derraugh, John married Eliza Armstrong and remained on the homestead; James married Alice Hall and bought a quarter of the homestead from his brother; Frederick, as before mentioned, married Ann Jordan and bought the farm across the road; Mary married James Downey of South March and Tom married Eliza O'Neil.

John's family consisted of three children, John, Mary Ann and Eliza, none of whom ever married. Mary Ann went to live with her uncle at South March and Eliza went to Ottawa and made her home with some of her cousins.

In James's family were: Johnnie, who married Lizzie McCann and went to Galetta to live; Maggie who never married; Eliza who married Fred Derraugh; Willie who married Letitia Derraugh; Fred who married Eliza McMullen; Mary who died in her youth; Alice who