

Our Heritage

"What a pity if the coming generations do not know something definite about the hardships and sufferings (mental as well as physical) of their ancestors who had the courage to say good-bye forever to their relatives, friends, and homeland; and to dare face the uncertainties and dangers of bringing their family to a strange, undeveloped land. Is there one of their descendants who is not much better off because of this decision? Many have not given much thought to this matter, simply taking their heritage for granted. Only those who have lived in the villages and rural areas of Europe, or who have visited there, can appreciate the difference it has made in their lives. One genealogist has made this remark, 'One may be excused for not caring to know who his ancestors were, but no one can be said to hold faith with his ancestors who does not hold in the highest regard the sacrifices which they made in order that the present generations may enjoy certain blessings and comforts.'"

---- from THE ANKENMANN FAMILY
125 YEARS IN NORTH AMERICA

by Wesley Jacob Ankenman
Richmond Hill, Ontario

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