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William (Paddy) Burns and Elizabeth Gelston Burns



The Retirement Home of Paddy and Elizabeth Burns
162 Main Street, Campbellville



Elizabeth (Gelston) and Paddy Burns with youngest daughters l to r Agnes and Elizabeth



William (Billie) Burns, James (Jim) Burns, and John Alexander (Jack) Burns



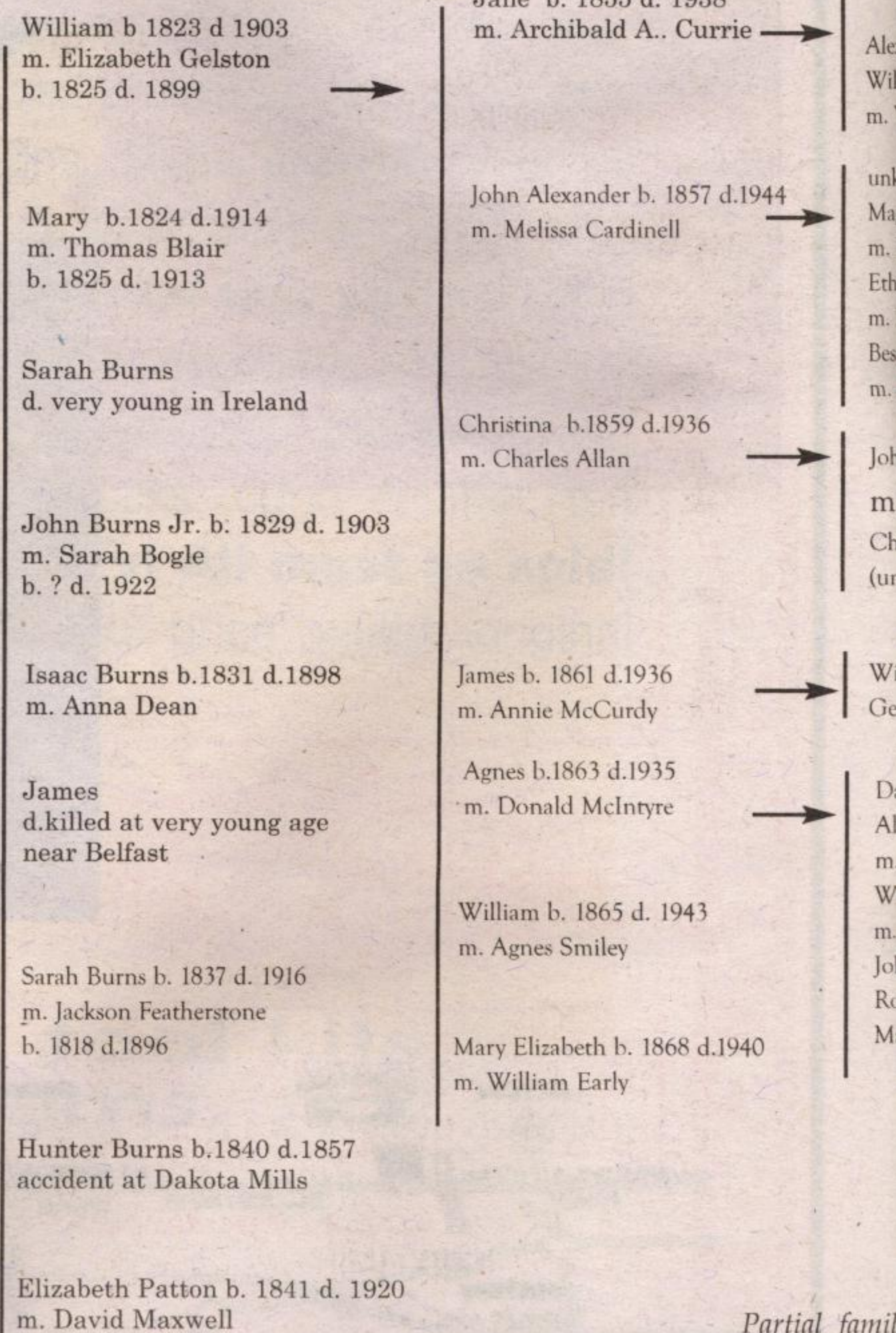
John Burns was 84 when he died December 22nd, 1879 and his wife the former Christiana Nelson was 74 when she died September 20th, 1874. They were natives from the vicinity of Belfast, County Down, Northern Ireland. They had 9 children born in Ireland between 1823 and 1841. Their 3rd child (Sarah) died very young and their 5th child was killed in Ireland at an early age. In late 1852 John and Christiana and the remaining 7 children, three girls and four boys and their eldest child William's wife, Elizabeth Gelston immigrated to Canada. William left his trade as a weaver. The Burns family came directly to Nelson Township, Halton County, settling at Cumminsville, a busy little village on the west half of Lot 8 Con. 2. To the south, on the west half of Lot 7, Concession 2, was the village of Dakota Mills, later known as Willbrook and also as Cedar Springs. In 1854 the Canada Powder Company was established here. Attached to the gun powder mills was a cooperage where Hunter Burns, the 8th child of John and Christiana worked. On April 22nd, 1857 Hunter, 17 years of age, was seriously injured when his clothing got entangled in the gearing of a pulley. He died within 3 hours of being injured. According to the 1861 Census John and Christiana Burns were living with their eldest child, Mary and her husband, Thomas Blair, a carpenter at Dakota Mills. Shortly after the Powder Mills were bought out by the Hamilton Powder Co. in 1862, the four moved about a mile and half to the Village of Kilbride. By 1871 census John and Christiana were living with their 2nd eldest son, John Burns Jr., (unmarried but believed to have been a widower) a farmer in Kilbride area. Also living with them was their 9th (youngest) child Elizabeth who later became the 2nd wife to David Maxwell. Information states that David Maxwell along with the Smiley family was on the same ship as the Burns were when they immigrated. The Smiley's settled in Aldershot and David Maxwell settled at Zimmerman. It would seem that William and Elizabeth and 3 children and Isaac and maybe John Jr. moved farther north to the south 6

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THE BURNS FAMILY



Family of William (Paddy) Burns
Standing: John Alexander(Jack) Burns, Christiana
Seated: Jane Currie, William "Billie" Burns



BURNS Family Tree

m.
Christiana Nelson
b.1800 d.1874

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