



Ontario



1979 International Year of the Child

Archives of Ontario

Ministry of Culture and Recreation

77 Grenville Street
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2R9

February 20, 1979

Mr. Louis McDermott
108 High Street
Fort Erie, Ontario

Dear Mr. McDermott:

Re: William Alexander Thomson

1817-1878

The 1871 Personal Census of Niagara Township, p. 36 lists:

William A. Thomson, 54, born Scotland, Church of England, Scotch origin, Railway President.

Lavinia D., 42, born U.S.A.

Jessie M., 18, born Ontario *May 25*

Mary Eleanor, 17, ditto

Annie F., 15, ditto

Maude Stewart, 13, ditto

Thomas Kenard, 6, born U.S.A.

Kate Lanor, 2 (scratched out)

*LAVINIA born
7. Dec 15
1849
Eleanor Murray
Jan 2 - 1851.*

According to the records of the Surrogate Clerk of Ontario (RG 26-6-2, Register for 1879, entry #1425), and the Lincoln County Surrogate Court Records, Register #8, pp. 308-310 and Will #774, William died a resident of "Glencairn", Niagara Township, on October 1, 1878. His widow, Lavinia Day, was the only heir named in his Will, and she swore to the value of his personal property as being \$1000. (June 7, 1879).

*stones of
Parents are
not found
at St Paul's*

Our Cemetery Records Collection (stone inscriptions recorded for the Ontario Genealogical Society), Welland County, Bertie Township, Fort Erie, St. Paul's Anglican Church, indicate that William and Lavinia are buried there, but the data is unclear. The material also records what appears to be birth, death, and place of birth information for children of theirs who did not live beyond childhood. Place of birth information indicates that the family was living in Fort Erie through the 1850's, and in Buffalo in the 1860's.

The 1879 Directory of Lincoln and Welland lists William A. Thomson residing on Lot 9, and farming Lot 7, Niagara Township. The Abstract Index to Deeds in Niagara Township, Lot 9, indicates that Lavinia bought Lot 9 - 8 acres - from Nichol Kingsmill on June 7, 1867. The lot is just north of Queenston.

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I hope this will be of some help to you.

Sincerely,

R. Nickerson

Roger Nickerson
Archivist
Private Manuscripts Section

RN/pe