

OPP. N. Y. C. & L. S. DEPOT.

The Arlington

Estate of JAMES W. McKAY.

Edward Hawkins. Buffalo, N. Y. Sept 1 1917
Fort Erie. Ont.

Dear Sir, I was more amused than disappointed a short time ago, when I was over in your burg, and thought it would be pleasant to call on old acquaintance like you and your wife. I had an idea that you were running the Victoria Hotel, so I called there. Before the outside ^{screen} door was opened I heard a voice inside, calling out in a not very wellcome voice,—"Well: what is it," "what is it." I stepped inside the hall. when the lady again said, "what is it, I said I was calling on Ed. Hawkins or Mrs Hawkins. The young good looking lady said. Well: I am Mrs Hawkins. I said No: not the Mrs Hawkins I am looking for. I said I wanted to see Ned Hawkins

told by Bella Laux :

Mr. Ed. Hawkins came to Canada from England in 1870. He landed at Niagara Falls, and proceeded to Brantford where he had a brother living. On July 3rd, 1871 he married Issabelle Warden. They moved to what was then called Victoria; and Ed. had a two story frame hotel built at the top of Jarvis St. by the Round House. They brought with them their three oldest children who were born in Brantford Ted, Harry and Bertie. The hotel was used mostly as an overnight stop for railroad men, and the cost of a room and breakfast was 15¢. As well as several rooms upstairs, the place had a large kitchen and a bar on the ground floor. Ed. kept a cow pigs and ducks to feed his growing family. In 1888 Ed and his family moved to the Village of Fort Erie where he had set up his brother Fred Hawkins in the Bakery business; located in the building now occupied by Merv. Camm. Fred left for Buffalo and Ed. took over the Bakery business.

He had a large home, that stood on the south corner of Princess and the Niagara Blvd. moved back to the corner of Waterloo. The house then faced on to Prices St., and Ed had a large verandah built across it and running along the east side. The home had 14 rooms. There were four bedrooms upstairs, on the ground floor two parlors, a dining room, sitting room, den, kitchen two pantries and he had added also a bathroom. When Ted married he took over the Hotel from Ed. then later moved to the Half-way House in Bertie Township. When this met with fire Ted took over the Hotel

1912 *was 1914 owned by Charles*
in Stevensville. In the early 1920's the old Victoria Hotel was rented from Ed., and ran by Mr. Lamb, and his wife Patty, then on the death of Mr. Lamb, his widow took over. The Old Victoria Cr Flat top as it was nick named stood vacant for some time and was finally taken down in the thirties.

Charlie Hawkins ran the Half Way House for about two years, when it caught on fire, and he moved to the U.S.A.