

To  
Audrey Miller Laurie  
From Willoughby Palmer Gonder May 1950

Copy to  
K. M. C. Dermot

RE - SOME OF OUR PALMER ANCESTORS AND OTHERS  
Willoughby Palmer Gonder - 1950

While it is increasingly evident that much family history is lost to generations to come, simply because it is not recorded when rehearsed by them who made it and their immediate relatives, Yet we do seem to have a few items worth remembering by some interested offspring with a wholesome desire to know these things.

In the 1780's or even earlier and just after the American Colonies had secured their independence, there were many British soldiers and others called United Empire Loyalists, who having hewn comfortable "Colonial Homes" out of the wilderness, felt themselves obliged to leave them, and after a very hazardous journey, to do so over again in what was then, a new wilderness, here in Canada in order to remain British, and also to get away from the hates and jealousies and be at peace with next-door neighbours, all bent on helping each other, for the good of the new homeland. To be loved and enjoyed by their posterity, though they may not have dreamed how exceedingly important, vast and potentially powerful it would be in or by 1950, in spite of 'shooting wars', 'cold wars' and economic disasters. Nor did they know what brotherly kindness would be exemplified by these two great North American Nations.

Among these new settlers, we are told, were four PALMER brothers, British Soldiers and Loyalists. One of these was JOHN and he married (Hellen) or ELLEN RAY, an Irish girl. ~~JOHN~~ JOHN married MARY MAYBEE. This JOHN PALMER And MARY MAYBEE, had a son named JOHN ALEXANDER LEIGH PALMER and a daughter named, ELEANOR PALMER, sometimes called Ellen, which could easily be even though her name were as above. My at hand information is not sufficient to make me able to name all the sons and daughters of these above mentioned people of this old PALMER CLAN and this is regrettable, but not so bad as having nothing.

However, since John A.L. Palmer was my Gr-father and his sister Eleanor was Gr-mother of Cousin EDGAR MILLER and others still living it is not so far back into the dim distant past that we are looking now. It was this way:

ELEANOR PALMER married ANDREW MILLER and JOHN PALMER MILLER (Edgar's father) was one of their sons, so he has his line properly set down from that point. I hope to get some information from him as to that, but now back to my Gr-father:

JOHN A.L. PALMER married ELIZABETH GLOVER and to them were born Mary Jane, Sally Ann, Nellie Catharines, and Lewis Andrew Palmer. Mary Jane married George Arthur Gonder, their son William born 1862 and Mary J. died, William died of small pox while young-Arizona. Later Geo A. Gonder married "Maggie" Price, four children born- Myron D; Jennie, Nellie or Hellen and Solon who died under 20 years. This family homesteaded in Kansas early and were reared there. Myron D. married and had one son; owned much land and was Real Estate operator; Jennie married Frank Updegrove; Frankie Updegrove, a daughter visited us twice. Nellie or Hellen married Fred W. Ayers, their sons and daughters well placed.

SALLY ANN PALMER married RUEBEN MICHAEL JOSEPH GONDER, three sons and one daughter were born, namely WILLOUGHBY PALMER GONDER, ROY KEPHEART GONDER, MAURICE JOHN GONDER, PEARL ELIZABETH GONDER.

WILLOUGHBY PALMER GONDER, born February 4, 1876, married MAUD ELIZABETH DAINTY on Jan. 10, 1912.

ROY KEPHEART GONDER born July 4, 1876, married RUBY \*-DODDS Australia, China Inland Missionary in China, where they met, Born unto them were DOUGLAS VIVIAN, HAROLD BERTRAND, IVY---, ELEANOR and WILLOUGHBY MAURICE. This much traveled and fast growing family is doing exceedingly well and is strung along the line all the way from New Brunswick to Vancouver Island. To detail their history would take more space then can be spared on this page; However,

D.V. GONDER was just (1950) made Superintendent, C.N.R. Western division, with office at Winnipeg, Man. and is I believe, the youngest man to have occupied that office. He has diligently worked his way upward ever since he entered the C.N.R. Shops at Stratford, Ontario, as an apprentice November 1925.

"Great-Aunt Ellen's Strawberry Pie" - It happened that one afternoon in warm weather, Father was driving from our old home at Palmer's Point to Fort Erie and left Mother and us boys to visit with our old Aunt, where she lived at the old homestead, with her son "Creek Ed" and his wife at Miller's Creek. We were sitting in the shade on the porch when the lunch was served and that strawberry pie lingers with me yet, as a very pleasant memory, and a reminder of an important occasion in the life of a boy, for that Gr-Aunt's generation was passing. Mother's has since passed and ours has almost "run out". That was near seventy years ago, very little less or more. This is 1950.

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 \* Willoughby Gonder's Gr-Aunt Ellen" was EDGAR Miller's grandmother and "Creek Ed" his uncle Henry Edward Miller b. April 20, 1830 who married Mary Augusta Haun.  
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ANDREW MILLER JR (1799-1862), son of ANDREW & ELIZABETH married ELEANOR (ELLEN) PALMER, daughter of JOHN PALMER & MARY MABIE (MAYBEE).

Their son, JOHN PALMER MILLER (1822-1904) m. PRESCILLA WADE (1853-1931). They had 3 children, 2 girls dying in infancy and a son EDGAR EDGERTON MILLER (1880-1968) who married LUELLA SHERK (1885-1972). They have 2 daughters: AUDREY MILLER LAURIE and VIOLET MILLER RYSON.

May 27, 1976

Audrey Miller Laurie

CENSUS OF NIAGARA 1783: Col. Butler's Company.

Serzt. LEWIS MAYBEE (MABIE, MABEE)

Sergeant Lewis Mabee	- 44 yrs	- 1739-1823
Mrs	" - 43 "	- 1740
John	" - 14	- 1769
Elisabeth	" - 12	- 1771
Dorothy	" - 10	- 1773
Catharine	" - 8	- 1775
Mary	" - 6	- 1777

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<sup>1</sup>  
WILL OF LEWIS MABEE 1823-5 He mentions his son John Mabee, Elisabeth wf of Henry Anguish and Mary wf John Palmer and Grandchildren.

<sup>2</sup> John (1769-1825) had 2 dau <sup>3</sup> Mary Rice and Nancy Beam  
" grandchildren

<sup>4</sup> Sally Ann Rice; Elizabeth Rice; Mary Rice Jr  
<sup>4</sup> Lulyan Beam; Adam Beam; Barbery Beam.

<sup>2</sup> Elisebeth, wf of Henry Anguish & Grandson Lewis Anguish  
(See Anguish)

<sup>2</sup> Dorothy (1773- )

<sup>2</sup> Catharine (1775- deceased in 1796) first wf John Palmer. (1772-1819)  
acc to petition child (Lewis?)

<sup>2</sup> Mary (1777-1851) second wife of John Palmer and widow.  
Lewis Maybee leaves her Lot 13, Conc. 7 Bertie Twp, 100 acres.  
and personal estate.

<sup>3</sup> (1803-4-1892)  
Ellenore (Ellen) m. Andrew Miller Jr. (1799-1862)  
John Alex Leigh Palmer m. Elizabeth Glover.

*(Mabel Beam:  
Could you add  
anything here?)*

*1/ Lewis (1739-1823) Maybee & Anna his wife*

<sup>2</sup> John	<sup>2</sup> Elizabeth wf Henry Anguish	<sup>2</sup> Dorothy wf Burger?	<sup>2</sup> Catharine wf John Palmer	<sup>2</sup> Mary 2nd wife of John Palmer
	<sup>3</sup> Lewis Anguish		<sup>3</sup> Lewis Palmer?	<sup>3</sup> Ellenore wf John L Palmer

*2 dau - <sup>3</sup> Mary Rice  
<sup>3</sup> Nancy Beam*