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To:loyalist-lake-history@googlegroups.com

Fri, Mar 6 at 12:02 PM

Hello Lake group,

I am writing from the Toronto Public Library. I am up in Canada for a few days doing some research.

Yesterday I was in Kingston and visited the archives at Queen's University. Are you all aware of Dr. H.C.Burleigh's fonds? <https://archives.queensu.ca/search-our-collections/genealogy/dr-hc-burleigh-fonds> He has more than 200 pages on the Lake family, if you click Lake on that link.

Much of it we know already, from various sources, but there is a wealth of information still on the Lakes in there. I was told Dr. Burleigh focused on the early Kingston families / United Empire Loyalist families - that's us, for those of us who descend of the UEL Lakes who went to Canada.

Among other things, Dr. Burleigh's file on the Lake family includes letters written by Lake descendants. Some interesting details in there.

Also - today at the Toronto library, I found something rather obscure and interesting that I doubt many of you (any of you?) have seen before...

In a hard-covered book titled **"Minutes of the Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace for Mecklenburg/Midland District [Counties of Frontenac, Lennox & Addington, Hasintgs & Prince Edward], Volume 1, 1789 to 1790, 1794 to 1804, 1807 to 1816"** I found an interesting reference to Christopher Lake b.1755, who is an ancestor to some of us including Wesley and I.

Christopher Lake was on **jury duty** in 1801!

The court session was held on Oct. 14, 1801 in Kingston.. here is what is written about the case:

CASE: The King on the prosecution of John Win vs. Henry Cassidy and John McLaughlin

CHARGE: Assault and battery

JURY: Andrew Boyce, foreman, Isaiah Vanorder, Andrew Miller, John Lake, James Hogle, Thomas Corner, Gideon Shurtliff, George Miller, **Christopher Lake**, Lewis Hartman, John Vanluven, Henry Storms

PLEA: Not guilty

WITNESSES: John Win, Thomas Cook, Philip Pember

VERDICT: The jury withdrew to consider of their verdict; and having returned to court, say that the defendants Henry Cassidy and John McLaughlin are **guilty**.

The court sentences Henry Cassidy to pay a fine of 5 pounds and John McLaughlin the sum of 10 shillings.

Something different and interesting..

I also found a notebook called **"The Ernestown Diarist"** - an index for a diary written by John Collins Clark of Ernestown Twp, 1831 to 1864.

Here are the Lake entries:

Lake, Benjamin - beat a mare(?) to death in Camden, Apr. 16, 1839
Lake, Daniel E. - was assessing at the farm of John C. Clark, Mar. 1, 1853
Lake, Daniel E. - assessor, overnight guest of John C. Clark, Mar. 3, 1854
Lake, Dennis, Esq. - father of Mrs. Thomas Empey, wife of Odessa innkeeper; she died, Feb. 20, 1862
Lake, Ira S., Esq. - married Hester Shibley, second daughter of Jacob. Esq., at Crystal Spring, Ernestown, by Rev. John Salmon, June 1, 1863
Lake, James - of Ernestown, married Miss Adelaide Parks, daughter of D.P. of Fredericksburgh, by Rev. F. Berry, Dec. 24, 1861
Lake, John - from Wisconsin, called "Winking John," guest of John C. Clark, June 19, 1949
Lake, John N., Rev. - son of James of Morven, preached here, Mar. 16, 1857
Lake, John Sr. - of Adolphustown, father of Mrs. Calvin Perry, who died, aged 50 years, Oct. 21, 1857
Lake, Samantha, Miss. - of Portland, married Thomas Empey of Ernestown, Dec. 18, 1853
Lake, Selina, Miss - married Samuel Crawford McDonnell, both of Sheffield, by Rev. Paul Shirley, Oct. 5, 1855
Lake, William - of the 7th concession of Ernestown, died, May 22, 1859
Lake, William, Mrs. - of the 7th concession of Ernestown, sister of James Hogle of the 2nd concession of Ernestown, died, Apr. 17, 1854

The diary mentions crimes committed, fires that engulfed homes, drownings, bad storms, all kinds of things - it's very fascinating. Glad there weren't major misfortunes for our Lakes.

I do find it curious that there is no mention of the death of Margaret Snyder Lake, wife of John Lake, and mother of Christopher, Thomas, Nicholas, John, James. Supposedly she died in Ernestown in 1835. If true, she would have been more than 100 years old and it should have been notable for John C. Collins to include, as his diary started in 1831. Not sure of the source of her death but I know it's been repeated many times that she lived to a very old age.

Hope you find these finds interesting,
Craig