

R.R. 1
 Burgessville, Ont.
 NOJ 1CO
 July 27, 1987

Dear Peter,

Thank you for your letter of March 8 and for the revised "Whitelocks of Yorkshire #2" file. I hate to tell you this, but there's a gremlin in your computer. It has situated my grandmother's marriage in "Tillsonburg, Ontario, U.S.A."!

In your letter, you wondered when the Whitelocks emigrated from England. I can easily shed some light on that question. My grandmother told me her father came out at the age of 21 and worked for money to send back for the rest of the family. Great-Aunt Bessie Hayes said grandma was wrong - he came out at 19. Either way, that dates George's arrival in the latter half of the 1850s. All my informants agree that his mother Catherine Foster (who was Scottish) died in the old country - Mary Catherine Whitelock thought she died a year before the family left England. At any rate the survivors were all in Ontario by 1861. I investigated a little here in the Norwich Archives, & enclose a photocopy of its transcript of the 1861 census in Dereham Township.

My grandmother used to talk about visiting her Uncle Matthew and Aunt "Bessie," but I don't remember her mentioning her Uncle James. He must have arrived well before the others, since he appears in the Dereham census of 1851 (assuming it's the same James!) where he is described as 30, single, and C of E. On a microfilm of Oxford County Marriages there is the following entry for Dec. 18, 1852: "James Whitelock and Sarah Ann Allin of Dereham - witnesses James Allin, Robert Fewster." The child Moses who appears in the 1861 census with James and Sarah has disappeared by the 1871 census, where James is listed as 52 and Sarah as 34. James's obituary in the Tillsonburg Observer of Feb. 10, 1888, reads as follows:

Died Whitelock - at his residence in this town, on the
 6th inst., of paralysis, James Whitelock, formerly of
 Dereham, aged 70 years and six months.

That is the sum total of my knowledge of James and Matthew Whitelock.

I enclose a brochure from the Norwich Archives. The archivists are very proud of their local history material. They had no file on the Whitelock family until I appeared with your Whitlock Genealogical Research leaflet and the "Whitelocks of Yorkshire #2" file. They seized on both, photocopied them, & opened a file with the photocopies.

I hope some of this stuff is useful to you.

Sincerely,

Fay Bailey

answered
 Aug 14, 1987