

Old St. Thomas Churchyard—(Continued from page 86)

James Mills, and Amelia, wife of David McKinley, each with their own tombstone. Not far away is another Lindsay plot containing the grave of Robert, died 1855, and little child, daughter of Robert and Ellen Lindsay. Next in passing by is John Oliver, 1850, Sydonia Gording, 1852, John Conrad, 1834, Henrietta A. Hutchinson, sister of A. M. Hutchinson, in 1855, with the Col.s. Haines and Lockes.

The Caughell plot is next. The oldest, John Caughell, Sr., died August 8th, 1826, having reached the advanced age of 92. John Caughell, Jr., 1856. The earliest grave is that of Alma, daughter of David and Mary, 1843; also Abigail Teetzel, whose first husband belonged to this family. Not far away are Eliza Ann Leeke, 1855; Mary, wife of Charles Lawrence, 1850; William Adkins, 1843; Francis Lewis Hoyt; the McCullys, of Southwold, a son of whom, James, being the last one laid to rest in this churchyard. The Lodges, George, Hioes and wife, Emily Hagley; Rachel, wife of John Allworth, 1839, aged 40; lying beside is Ann, wife of R. Hughes, daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Payne. William and Elizabeth Squire and others lie just south of the ravine.

Almost opposite here, on the other side near the Walnut street fence may be seen a small piece of level land shaded by a tree. On this a few years ago stood wooden headboards, marking the place where two of the children were laid, all trace of which are now completely gone.

Robert Henley and his wife, the daughter of an Irish Bishop, lived almost across the street, in the forties, and kept a small store. He often pointed to this spot, expressing a wish to be buried there. His request was granted.

No Free Mason lodge being established here then, but he being one of the members of the order, attended the funeral, namely, Messrs. Rodgers, Langan and Dr. Duncombe. The Henleys left three children, and these were taken to their grandparents in Ireland.

The Paynes, Nicolls, Mandevilles and Chisholms have family plots in the centre. The Paynes have a long row. Henry, Sr., of Westbury, Wiltshire, aged 67, died in 1845, his wife, Elizabeth, aged 92, in 1875, having survived her partner thirty years. Their son, Henry, Jr., died in 1896, aged 83 years. He arrived in St. Thomas in 1830, being then a lad of seventeen years.

The Lewises and Jacksons have small head stones, which have been supplemented by a large brown stone tomb which states that Asahel Bradley Lewis, born at Whitehall, New York State, 1805, died Oct. 13, 1833; also Alma Lewis, born in Vermont, 1807, died 1861; Adelaide's and William Jackson's names are also recorded on it. Chauncey Lewis, 1815, also lies near, Major Nevills, (James) 72 years, with his wife, Elizabeth, who is also one of the nonogenarians, having lived 93 years, and sons who died in 1846 and 1848. The name of Major Nevills was once a household word.

The R. B. Nicoll plot is surrounded by an iron fence, in which a chased bronze monument records the names of Richard B., 1882, aged 78 and Lucy, his wife, 1907, aged 91. There is also a beautiful white marble monument of unusual design to the memory of Harriett Nicoll, wife of R. Brough.

The Simon Nicoll plot, only a short distance away, has very much the same story to tell; Simon, 1874, aged 80, and his wife Eliza, aged 94, with their son and daughter, Mary A. Dalton, 1856, John Allworth, and Sarah, his wife, 1834, Charles Knight and daughter, Keziah, 1848. Two children of Peter Roe, Catherine and John Philpott, John Bassett, Ann and Francis Jones. The Pottier family, of Southwold, and many others are of later days, most of them being between

1860 to 1880. Elizabeth McCormick, Sampson Lawton, the first Shepherd family, Henryette Hutchinson, the Gloias, Going back again to the forties, then Catherine and John Copeland of Egremouth, Cumberland, Catherine, 1846, but John survived her many years, he reaching the age of 93. Near the Chisholms are the Grahams, Mellors, Martins, two of whom were interred the same date, 1890, and Ellis's lot. The lettering on the stone of Kate Napper, wife of Henry Ellis, stands out in bold relief. The Mellors are among the early graves on this side, Mary dying in 1837, and Allen in 1848. The epitaph refers to a cheerless grave in the dreary, distant clime, showing the homesickness of those who were left. An interesting row of graves bearing the names Donald McColl, Annabella Campbell and Jane Sinclair, 1835. John McColl, 1847; John Gordon, 1840, the only later date, Annabella, wife of Hugh McColl, 1867, aged 83, from Meifort, Argyle, Scotland, bring to mind the Highland pioneers of the Talbot settlement.

A member of the family of Chisholm returned from California about 1873, caused a beautiful and costly pile to be erected. A well beaten path towards it shows that this is the greatest attraction in the yard and it is well worthy of a visit, not only for its beauty, but to ponder on the lesson it contains. Enclosed by a substantial iron fence, it consists of seven panels; in the centre over a granite circle covered by a canopy, stands a beautiful female figure, with the phrase, "Vaut virtue." The head of the family, William, aged 65, 1829, has this central place. His wife is to the right hand panel. Frances Oswell Grant, aged 55, died 1832. The others, their children on each side. Alex., 1828, aged 29; William, 1832, aged 22; Francis Oswell, wife of Henry Mandeville, 1832, aged 25; Lewis, 1833, aged 21; Ann, 1835, aged 29. A whole family passing away in the bloom of life, mother, father and children, in five short years. The husband of Frances, Henry Mandeville, lies just beneath the railing, died in 1837, aged 40. Next, a very interesting stone in memory of David Mandeville, died Nov. 26, 1824, aged 79, and wife, Dinah, died in 1837, aged 75. David Mandeville has the distinction of being the earliest born recorded in this churchyard, his birth taking place a century and a half ago, 1745, he and his family coming from Long Point in 1811, built a home in the valley below.

Judge Ermattinger, in the Talbot Regime, says: "West of Rapelje's lot, that of his fellow-settler, and neighbor, David Mandeville, extended across the valley of Kettle Creek, and over the hill to the west. The first lot in Southwold, south of Talbot street." His son, Richard, and Ann Smith, were the first couple to be married here. Ann and William Mandeville, Elvira, wife of J. G. Merritt, are buried in an enclosed space. Not far away lie Garrett Smith, 1846, and wife, Mary, 1859. These are the ones who settled on the other corner, lot No. 1, north Talbot street, Yarmouth. Thus the Drake, Mandeville, Smith and Rapelje families have found homes in death as in life, side by side, in this, the most picturesque part of God's acre.

From the inscription on the stone of John Mitchell we learn that he died September 22nd, 1823, which was before the land was given. So far we have not learned whether he was buried first on his own farm above Sandy Mount Hill, and removed here or whether, with Daniel Rapelje's consent, he was laid beside his sons.

It also bears the remains of many more old settlers: Sam York and Tacyin, his wife, W. H. Doan, three children of Robert and Mary Scott, buried between April 10 and May 4 in 1859; the Tisdales, of New Brunswick, Barbara Mitchell, the Millers and Ellisons.