

THE SURVEY OF MORNINGTON

This article is intended for the boys and girls as well as for the grown-up people of the township.

The survey of the Province of Ontario seems to have been made in a haphazard way without any well defined plan as to the size and shape of the counties. Apparently the townlines, dividing the counties, were run in any and every direction, forming gores and making the map of Ontario have the resemblance of a crazy quilt, and the county of Perth is no exception to this irregularity in shape.

In Manitoba and other Western Provinces the sections, townships and municipalities have the form of exact squares. The section is one mile square, thirty-six sections make a township, six miles square, and a number of townships form a municipality. The sections and townships are numbered and the municipalities are named. The survey is made from the international boundary and the principal meridian and is uniform throughout.

The township of Mornington has the form of a rectangle and contains 14 concessions, numbered from south to north. Each concession consists of 18 lots of 200 acres and divided into west half and east half. The concessions lying between concession roads are divided by what are known as blind lines, some of which have been opened up as public highways. The lots in concession one contain from 245 to 246 acres while the lots in concession 14 contain from 170 acres at the west end to 164 acres at the east end. There is quite a variety in the surveys of different townships: In Elma the concessions contain 36 lots of 100 acres each and are numbered from north to south and the lots are numbered from west to east. One peculiarity of the survey of Elma is the fact that the lots in concession one extend from the townline north to the first concession road. In Wellesley township we find gores within gores. There is a line running in a southeasterly direction across the township called the section line, which divides the township into east section and west section. In some townships such as Blenheim, in the county of Oxford, there is a survey that might appropriately be called the jog survey. In that township the concession roads run east and west and are straight while on every intersection of the concession roads the jogs are to the east and west alternately.

We should all know something about the survey of our township. I have met owners of land who could not tell the number of their lot and concession and how many there are who do not know their neighbors within a distance of three miles. The best way to get a grip of the survey of our township is to draw a map of it and I am going to ask the boys and girls to draw a good-sized map of Mornington, showing the lots and print the names of the owners as far as you can. You can use a Voters' List to find out the names of the owners and you can make a good map on the back of a wall calendar to begin with. Father and mother will have time during the long winter nights to assist you. The writer of this article will offer one or more prizes or the best maps drawn and exhibited by the boys and girls of the township at the next township fair. Further particulars will be given later. The township of Mornington was surveyed under great difficulties. Lines for sighting had to be cleared through bush and swamp, streams had to be crossed and the hardships of living in the woods had to be endured. The difficulties to be surmounted were far greater than those on the plains of the West and the vagaries of the survey of our province may not appear so great when we take in to account the disadvantages under which the pioneer surveyor had to labor.

THE PIONEERS

Among the pioneers of the Province of Ontario were to be found men and women of the best brawn, brain and heart ever produced in the old land. The majority of those who left their native heath in England, Ireland and Scotland and crossed the briny deep to provide for themselves homes in the dense forests that mantled the virgin soil of this fertile province, were men and women of undaunted courage, unflinching zeal and great moral worth, ready to face fearful odds in the battle

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