

VICTORIA LODGE OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH
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A CANADIAN HELPED TO BRING MASONRY TO OREGON

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Preamble

That word Canadian has been in use for a lengthy period. At first used in a derogatory manner by the governing classes sent out here from France and later from England. It usually referred to those born here and not in commerce or government. The imported rivalry of France and England produced wars, the rebellion of 13 English colonies. The formation of the union of the rebel colonies, all contributed to the separation of the two nations that now occupy North America. With Rebellion over, where was the boundary between them. That took over 60 years to settle so it is hard to tack a name on people in the disputed areas. One such area was the Ohio territory explored by the French Canadians, another was the New York State boundary, and would Vermont be an independent colony or not? Connecticut, New Hampshire and Massachusetts also presented problems. My story started in one such area.

OTTAWA RIVER

The Napoleonic wars opened up the lumber trade on the Ottawa River. French Canadians, Irish and Scottish settlers along with men from Montreal were accompanied by men from Massachusetts, Vermont, Connecticut and the Ohio Territory.

The Ottawa River has a succession of rapids, at its junction with the St. Lawrence at Ste. Annes de Bellevue and in a 20 mile area between present Rigaud and Hawkesbury. The most difficult part was the Long Sault at Carrillon some 40 miles up river. Here York boats had to be unloaded, material portaged then placed in other boats for the trip upriver. Soon a small canal was built to avoid the merchandise transfer. Still later steam driven paddle-operated barges, and finally paddle-wheel steamers until the Railroad to Lachute was built.

St. Andrews Lodge

At the Long Sault area arose the town of St. Andrews East which in time became an important industrial town. Masons started St. Andrews Lodge No. 13 on Riviere Duquesne in 1798, had a difficult time of it and was erased reportedly for unmasonic conduct. In 1812, Murray Lodge No. 17 was formed with many of previous St. Andrews Lodge members. In 1823, the number was changed to No. 5. In 1825, they reverted to the name St. Andrews as No. 784 Grand Lodge of England. From 1832 to 1853 it was numbered 516 G.L.E. and finally it became No. 12 Grand Lodge of Canada in 1855 but it failed to survive and became unreported and dropped from the register of G.L.C. in 1857.

The Kellogg Family

In the record of St. Andrews members for the period 1813-1823 appear the names of:

Elijah Kellogg, farmer, initiated 1814, demit 1816
Orin Kellogg, tanner, 24 years. Initiated 1814
Stephen Kellogg -

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Elijah Kellogg, the father, started as a 'farmer' as did nearly all in those days in the early years of the 19th century at St. Andrews. He demitted two years later. Did he then return to the U.S.A. ??? No records exists.

Orin Kellogg, was a tanner, probably worked for Moses Davies who set up a tannery and made shoes and harness of all kinds.

Stephen Kellogg - related to above but no record of him is found. Probably a brother of Orin.

Joseph Kellogg, a son of Orin, does not appear in any St. Andrew's records. Reputed to have been made a Mason at Perrysburg, Ohio on August 9, 1847. Orin Kellogg demitted from St. Andrew in the early '20's'. The Kellogg Family is listed as one family among several that are not well recorded in St. Andrew's East. Probably because they worked for others, were there for only a short time and then departed so left few records.

Canadian or American

Because of border confusion, part of life spent in the U.S.A. and part in Canada, are they truly Canadian or American??? Particularly those who returned to the States in later years and left no descendants in Canada. I have classed Orin Kellogg as a Canadian because he played a part, maybe only a minor part in our history. We made him a Mason and seem to have imbued him sufficiently to carry out Masonic tasks.

Early Settlers

First English speaking colonists were from the U.S.A. in the last two decades of the 18th century. Started with 1785 United Empire Loyalists. A large group 1795 were largely Americans of Puritan Ancestry - many veterans or sons of veterans of the Revolutionary Army such as Elon Lee, Nathaniel Hazard Treadwell, Theophilus Yale, Theodore Davis.

On opposite sides in the war they worked harmoniously in creating a strong Pro-British sentiment in St. Andrew's. The bitterness of war disappeared with the passing of the Tories responsible. Heavy post war taxation, change from stony farms of white and Green Mountain areas of Vermont, New Hampshire and Andirondacks to fertile Ottawa valley brought them to St. Andrew's East along with the ease and cheapness of acquiring land. United Empire loyalists were Anglican, others were with non-conformist religions. They formed the vanguard of the reform movement in Canada and the struggle for constitutional government.

French settlers came from St. Benoit and St. Eustache. Protestants settled on the North Shore (some Scots also), Catholics on the South Shore, around Hawkesbury (some Scots also). They opened up a wilderness. Capt. Eldon Lee founded the Lee hostelry at St. Andrews. Reserve officers, bankrupt by war made a moonlight flirting with Canada, came to the Ottawa area, as not likely to be easily found there - took up wild land. Fugitive pioneer with a Puritan conscience. The S.W. of Murray Lodge was appointed Moderator when building the Presbyterian Church. The Lee tavern door was always open for Sabbath Services. Model landlord, jovial, could discipline the wayward ones. Good wife, noted for her hospitality and excellent dinners. The stable housed horse-changes for the mail coaches. Cushing stage from St. Eustache to Grenville. Treadwell, fur trader with Hudson Bay Company and Astor, came from Plattsburgh in 1794, was a North Wester also, Not orthodox in his beliefs.

Heavy Scots immigration came later.

Canadianized Americans and their sons intermarried with Highland and Lowland Scots - influenced Highland type of hospitality and New England refinement.
18.

No epitaphs to mark most of them - mounds and wooden markings have disappeared - others have left many descendants who played stellar roles in Canadian History.

Oregon

The man who carried the charter issued by the Grand Lodge of Missouri from St. Joseph, Missouri, - F.B. Cornwall organized the wagon train for Oregon that set out in April 1848. Held up at Omaha by hostile Indians where it was augmented by a wagon train from Ohio. When the combined party reach Fort Hall (Now Pocatello) Idaho, they learned of the discovery of gold in California. The combined team again split up, part bound for the California gold diggings.

Cornwall then turned over the charter he was carrying in a tin container to Orin and Joseph Kellogg, men from the Ohio team. Orin Kellogg, the father, placed the tin cylinder in his cowhide trunk and he and his son Joseph went with the part of the train bound for Oregon. Some two years and seven months after the notice in the Oregon Spectator the Charter arrived in Oregon City and Multnomah Lodge No. 84 Missouri Registry was instituted.

On Sept 11, 1848, Joseph Kellogg is listed as Treasurer, Orin Kellogg, Junior Deacon; however on June 14, 1901 at the celebration of Oregon semi-centennial celebration, J . M. Hodson, a Past Grand Master presented a lengthy address on that first meeting and listed Orin Kellogg, S.W. and Joseph Kellogg as Treasurer. Orin Kellogg was elected as J.W. to replace the originally designated W.P. Doughery who had left for the gold diggings

The above is all as recorded in "History of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Oregon" by John C. Wilkinson, Grand Historian.

So now we have the Kelloggs, a father and son team physically carrying the charter to bring Masonry to Oregon, arriving safely and being installed as important officers of the new lodge.