

ONE OF THE FIRST FARMS NEAR JARVIS

"HARRY SHANNON"

ollowing the building of the plank road in 1840-50, a tollgate was erected where Concession now meets Number 6 Highway and was operated by Mr. W. C. Shannon, unable to find housing in town and moved into the tollgate building. He after-operated a store and kept the post office on the west side of the street, where insurance office now stands, until destroyed by fire. Mrs. Shannon having passed the remaining family moved out to the farm of the son, Harry, which his father bought for him, one mile south of Jarvis, where the former Leonard Church home now stands. The small home consisted of two rooms, a living room and kitchen with woodshed, was to be the back of a much larger dwelling, but with many misfortunes this was built. The furniture saved was also taken there. The small barn sat on pine Later Harry built a bank barn costing \$400.00. This farm at that time was used from the grandfather of the late Dr. Jaques, who had kept sheep in a small acre.

W. C. (Walter Chambers) Shannon was born in Ireland and passed away in August year 1860 at 42 years of age. He was buried on a knoll near the present home of Kenzie but the body was later removed to the Presbyterian cemetery when it was shaded and a lovely tall monument erected which now stands centered by a clump of pines.

The home life of this pioneer family had centered around many valuable furnishings, a Baby Grand piano, walnut beds and diningroom table and chairs of the same. Many treasures were found in this old home, one was a bed canopy of a unique of stripes on a wine background. As Jarvis Centennial approached, I was looking suitable trim for my gown of wine and used the strip of moss roses found on the

erry Shannon had many good neighbours and friends, who brought into his life a cheer and local news with their frequent visits. Mr. Charlie Yokum of Jarvis, of his many visits noticed the dingy and gloomy walls which were in a very soiled and he suggested that Harry purchase wall paper, as Dr. Jaques was having a sale. hesitated, saying the rolls would all be different but his friend assured him wouldn't matter and he would do the papering. Finally the purchase was made with giving for it consisted of several designs and colours. However, Mr. Yokum work and pasted over the many pretty colours and left Harry with bright and white clean walls.

erry became quite a recluse and lived in a most decided bachelor style. One day our small daughters became missing, a trip was made down the lane to the back farm, the watering trough was examined and the bush across the road with its ends searched, with no lost little girl. Finally, trudging down the road, we "Where were you, Dear?" Only up to Shannie's eatin' puddin' pie." This caused quite a smile, because it was doubtful if we oldsters could have been to eat off the other side of the used plate among all the bits and pieces as