

Dennis Albert Snelling  
English Immigrant  
Georgic  
March 28, 1952



Minster, Isle of Sheppy,  
County of Kent, England.

I came to Halifax aboard the MV Georgic-which sailed from Southhampton, UK in March 1952-with my mother Vera (now deceased), and brother Brian. En route to Halifax, we stopped in Le Havre, France and took on more passengers. The Atlantic crossing was terribly stormy, and many-even some of the crew-were seasick. My 14 year old brother Brian was dreadfully seasick. I was 17 years old at the time, and didn't miss a single meal! It had been a long while since we'd seen such an abundance of food, as we had been accustomed to wartime rations. My mother had decided to make a fresh start for us on another continent.

We arrived in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada on March 28, 1952. While Halifax is beautiful, spring had not yet begun, so the landscape appeared rather bleak. My very first impression was to "give it back to the natives." We quickly received "Landed Immigrant" status. Next, we boarded what can best be described as a glorified cattle train. Upon our arrival in Montreal, we (fortunately) boarded a much nicer train, which took us to Toronto. My Uncle Don and Aunt Iris (nee Mulgrue) Garner, both deceased met us in Toronto and drove us to the "banana belt" in St. Catherines, Ontario. The landscape here was quite a contrast from our initial view of Halifax, as spring had already begun in the Niagara peninsula.

My brother Brian is married with three children and five grandchildren, and now resides in New Market, Ontario, Canada. After living in Ontario, New Brunswick (where I met and married my wife Olive Cameron in 1958), and Quebec, I migrated to the USA in 1964. I have lived in New Hampshire, Upstate New York, and am now retired and living quite contentedly in Vassalboro (near Augusta), Maine, USA. My wife and I have two daughters, one residing in Southern Maine and the other in Upstate New York; and two grandchildren both in Upstate New York.

While I have some fond memories of my youth in the UK, I have never regretted leaving England for Canada and the USA. I only returned to England once in the late 1960's and "got it all out of my system." We really enjoy Maine tremendously, and we love vacationing in Eastern Canada, having visited New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Prince Edward Island, Ontario, and Newfoundland.

