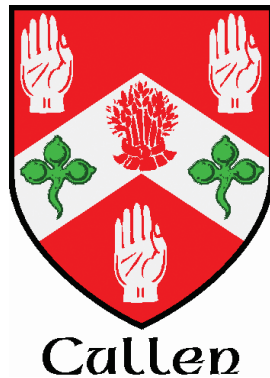


The Cullens of Templeton
A Two Hundred Year Journey
*A History of John Cullen and Elizabeth Carolan
and their Descendants*



Mark L. Cullen

The Cullens of Templeton
A Two Hundred Year Journey
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This book is dedicated to my father, John Anthony Lawrence Cullen, for his encouragement and guidance, and whose original research on the Cullen family tree inspired me to take on this project; and to my wife Barbara, whose loving patience and understanding has allowed me to complete this work over the past 12 years.

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Introduction

This is a chronicle of our ancestors, John Cullen and Elizabeth Carolan, who settled in Templeton Township, Lower Canada in the late 1820s, and four generations of their descendants. It is a story of pioneers and builders contributing to the development of their community, with later generations mostly farming or moving to the urban setting of Ottawa. It culminates years of genealogical research by my father Lawrence Cullen and the author and provides a record for the benefit of the sixth, seventh and later generations of our family. As well, the book covers our related Cullen lines – the McClements, Carrolls, Powers and Cassidys.

In the past few years, people would ask why I was working on my family history. The answer is multi-faceted. I have always had an interest in 19th century Canadian history. And the story of my mother's Turner family authored in 1975 by her cousin, the late Marjorie Waters, made a lasting impression. In the absence of today's internet sources, Marjorie did all her research through written inquiry and manual viewing of microfilms. Her work is a family legacy. About the same time, my father decided to research our Cullen and McClements family trees. When I retired, I undertook this project with the intention of furthering Dad's work by producing a complete family tree of all our ancestral lines. When completed, the tree of course was far too large to present in an easy-to-read format, and, in reality, was merely a data map with little family history.

My thinking evolved and I decided to work on the story of our early ancestors in the Bytown era. I also wanted to recreate for present generations what it was like to live as early settlers in our land. By then, genealogy internet sources were proliferating and I was able to discover story material about our early generations. I began to collect material in earnest and commenced writing the history. This led to the development of a Cullen website on which I loaded draft chapters of the book. While the website has been a successful medium for fellow genealogists to meet and share information, it can never replace the warm feeling provided by a book. And so, I embarked on the final chapter, and this book completes my journey through our Cullen history.

I want to alert the reader that this is not a typical work of history. Research has produced biographical material for many individuals, but for others, mainly raw census data and church records are the only information available. Yet we have gathered enough information to provide an appreciation of our ancestors and their collective contribution to the growth of Templeton. This collection of data and selected documents and pictures is sprinkled with liberal interpretation and woven into, hopefully, a generally readable work. There are errors, both factual and interpretative, and for that, I take full responsibility.

Complete family tree data and sources of my genealogy files can be found at www.cullenancestry.ca. If readers note errors in my work or have new information, please advise me at mark@cullenancestry.ca.

The Cullen story is ongoing. Information for some individuals described remains to be discovered. As more archival information is digitized, additional data on our family will surely become available. I hope that others will carry on the family research in later years.

Mark Cullen, Vancouver, April 2011

Acknowledgements

The writing of a family history is no different than any authored work. There are many people who help in a myriad of ways in its completion. And certainly I have many to thank for insights, facts, suggestions, information sources, editorial contributions and critiques. Foremost, I thank my father who, in the 1970s, toiled in the National and Quebec Archives viewing countless microfilms to develop our family tree. His research assistance and counsel has continued since I assumed the project in 1998. And his recollections of growing up in Ottawa in the '20s and '30s have provided the reader with sober understanding of those times and his generation. And I must pay special tribute to my wife Barbara who, with commendable patience, suffered through many periods of my deeply engrossed state of "living with the dead". As well, I owe thanks to my siblings and children who have also offered their support and encouragement.

Many people, both relatives and researchers, made important contributions to this work including Martina McPhillips, Valerie Verity, Lorraine Chevrier, Sherry Huntingdon and Catherine McFaul; my cousins, Diane Barley and Anne Carrera, contributed pictures and memories of their parents and Barney and Lucy Cullen and Helena and Bill Graham; Basil and Lois Carroll, Joy Carroll and Candis Miles helped with background of our Carrolls; John McDermott furthered our knowledge of the Cassidys; Shirley Plouffe wrote her memories of Uncle Joe and Aunt Florence McClements, and she and my other McClements cousins, Bill Cameron, Lorraine Charbonneau, Evelyn Burke, John McClements, Julie Gray Hoflin and Marianne McClement, provided their comments, information, background and pictures. Also, my cousin the accomplished author and writer, Matthew Hart, provided regular and timely words of encouragement.

Clearly, the internet has been critical to producing this work. It would have been impossible to complete without it. Important advances have been made in information sourcing even since I began work. Many fellow online researchers contributed advice, sources, data and historical content. And I have made extensive use of the *ancestry.ca*, *bytown.net*, *rootsweb.com* and *canadiana.ca* websites and the Canadian, Quebec, Ontario and Ottawa archives. I also made four trips to Ireland and have used the facilities of its National Archives and National Library and several County genealogical research centres. Special thanks go to Al Lewis for his important *bytown.net* website, the indispensable source for researching Irish ancestors from the Bytown and early Ottawa eras. And also to Marc St. Jacques of the Centre d'archives de l'Outaouais Bibliotheque et Archives nationales du Quebec, for research and providing many family documents from the 1800s.

Book production mechanics are bewildering to the neophyte and I want to thank Johanne Leach for her sage advice and help in guiding me through the process. Also to Gerilee McBride for providing the cover design and general assistance and to the folks at First Choice Books for their expertise and counsel on the back end of book production.

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