

207. Province of Ontario, County of Elgin, to wit: I, IDELLA LEITCH¹ of the Township of Southwold in the County of Elgin, spinster, make oath and say:

1. That I reside at the Township of Southwold in the County of Elgin and that I have never been married.

2. That I was pregnant and sick with child² and was delivered of an illegitimate child at the said Township of Southwold on or about [the] twenty-first day of September, A.D. 1897.

3. That WILLIAM JONES of the said Township of Southwold is really the father of said child with which I was pregnant and delivered as aforesaid.

4. That the said seduction took place in the said Township of Southwold in the said County of Elgin.

5. That I make this affidavit voluntarily and without coercion or the fear of coercion on the part of any person or persons whomsoever. *Idella Leitch*

Sworn before me at the Township of Southwold in the County of Elgin this 21st day of December, A.D. 1897. *Malcolm Campbell*, a Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Elgin

208. Province of Ontario, County of Elgin, to wit: I, ELIZABETH SULLIVAN³ of the Township of Dunwich in the County of Elgin, spinster, make oath and say:

1. That on the sixth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety nine I was delivered of and gave birth to an illegitimate male child at the said Township of Dunwich.

2. That WILLIAM McCAFFERY⁴ of the said Township of Dunwich, farmer, is really the father of the said child.

3. That I make this affidavit voluntarily and under the provisions of the Act Respecting the Support of Illegitimate Children, being Chapter 169 of the Revised Statutes of Ontario 1897. *Elizabeth Sullivan*

Sworn before me at the City of St. Thomas in the County of Elgin this 28th day of April, A.D. 1899. *David McLaws*, Justice of the Peace for the County of Elgin

¹ The 1891 census of Southwold Twp. contains the listing of 13 year old Idella May Leitch, born in Ontario. She is in the family of carpenter Dugald Leitch (41) and his wife Deborah (41). Albert Edward Latham, aged 24, of London, married Ida May Leitch, of Aldborough, born in Elgin Co. to Douglald Leitch and Deborah Michenson, on October 30, 1901 in Middlesex County. The Find a Grave website records that Ida Mae Latham, born 1877, died in 1955 and was buried in Pond Mills Cemetery, London. On the reverse of the affidavit, the name of Solicitor Andrew Grant is recorded.

² Idella Leitch's child was named Freddie Elmore Leitch, and his birth was registered.

³ Elizabeth Teresa Sullivan, was born June 16, 1882 to Mathew Sullivan and Maggie Markey, in Dutton, Ontario. She was baptized in the St. Thomas Roman Catholic Church. Alexander McGaw, aged 26, of St. Thomas, married Elizabeth Sullivan, aged 24, of Detroit, born in Canada to Mathew Sullivan and Margaret Markey on April 7, 1908 in Detroit.

⁴ The 1891 census of Dunwich Twp. contains the listing of 14 year old William McGaffrey, born in Ireland. He is in the family of farmer Michael McGaffrey (35) and his wife Catherine (35). A family tree on Ancestry states that William was born in Elgin Co. to Michael McCaffery and his wife Catherine Sullivan.

209. Province of Ontario, County of Elgin, to wit: I, MARION GRIFFIN¹ of the Township of Bayham in the County of Elgin, spinster, make oath and say:

1. That I was delivered of an illegitimate male child² on the twentieth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety nine.

2. That WALTER ASHTON³ of the Township of Malahide in the County of Elgin is really the father of the said child.

3. And that I make this affidavit freely and voluntarily of my own accord.

Marion Griffin

Sworn before me at the Town of Aylmer in the County of Elgin this 11th day of October, A.D. 1899. *C.O. Leann*, J.P., a Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Elgin

210. Canada, Province of Ontario, County of Elgin, to wit: I, LOTTIE BELL HILDREDTH⁴ of the Village of Springfield in the County of Elgin, spinster, make oath and say:

1. That in the month of February last, one thousand nine hundred and one, I was seduced by JOHN McMANUS⁵ of the City of St. Thomas in the said County of Elgin, foreman.

¹ Warren Wilson, aged 28, of Bayham Twp., married Marion Griffin, aged 24, of Bayham, born in Bayham to Madison Griffin and his wife Marion Ellen Stratton, on August 8, 1900, in Bayham. The 1901 census of Bayham Township contains the listing of 24 year old Marion Wilson, born June 29, 1876, with her husband Warren Wilson (28). That same census also contains the listing of farmer Madison Griffin (49) and his wife Barbra A. (53). With that family is a "son", Ceneth, born May 19, 1899. On the reverse of the affidavit, the names of Solicitors Miller & Backhouse of Aylmer are recorded.

² Kenneth Griffin was born May 19, 1899 in Bayham Twp. to an unknown father and Marion Griffin. Mrs. Warren Wilson of Bayham, his mother, was the informant. Kenneth Marwood Griffin, truck driver, aged 38, of Toronto, son of Marion Griffin, married Ruby Louise Gray, aged 22, on January 15, 1938 in Toronto.

³ The 1901 census of Malahide Twp. contains the listing of 29 year old single Walter Ashton, born in Ontario on April 4, 1872. He is in the family of farmer Marwood Ashton (63) and his wife Isabella (62). Walter M. Ashton, aged 28, of Malahide, born in Malahide to Marwood Ashton and Isabella Mosley, married Phoebe Axford, aged 28, of Yarmouth, on May 3, 1900, in Yarmouth. A family tree on Ancestry states that he died September 28, 1956 in Ontario.

⁴ Charlotte Bell Hildreth was born June 13, 1877 to Reuben Hildreth and his wife Annie Aikins in Ancaster. The 1891 census of Springfield, Middlesex Co., contains the listing of 13 year old Lottie Hildreth, born in Ontario. She is in the family of farm labourer Reuben Hildreth (53) and his wife Annie (53). Percival Wesley Stringall, aged 23, of Niagara Falls, married Lottie B. Hildreth, aged 25, of Niagara Falls, born in Ancaster to Reuben Hildreth and Annie Hakon, on September 27, 1906 in Niagara Falls. By the time of the 1911 census of Springfield, widow Lottie Bell Stringall, 34, is in the family of widower Reuben Hildreth (73). Also in the family is Anna Bell Stringall, born in November, 1901.

⁵ The 1891 census of St. Thomas contains the listing of 15 year old John McManus, born in Ireland. He is in the family of city labourer Patrick McManus (61) and his wife Mary Ann (50). John M. McManus, aged 37, bachelor of St. Thomas, born to Patrick McManus and Mary Ann Lyden, married Ellen Clark Brennan, aged 38, of St. Thomas, on January 7, 1912 at St. Thomas. John Michael McManus, retired engineer of St. Thomas, born September 22, 1877 to Patrick McManus and Mary Lyden in Co. Mayo, Ireland, died October 24, 1945 of cerebral haemorrhage.