

**W. E. Trout and parents, James Trout
and Mary Williams Trout**



William Ernest Trout, son of James Trout and Mary Williams, was born 20 Jul 1870 St. Vincent Twp., Grey Co., Ontario and died 1954. Buried Lakeview Cemetery, Meaford Ontario

Married Emily Weller Lewis 31 Oct 1894 Detroit, Michigan

She was born 13 Sep 1872 Vespra, Ontario and died 1954. Buried Lakeview Cemetery, Meaford, Ontario

Attended the Nashville Bible School 1897-1899 and 1898-99. He was on the faculty 1898-99, Department of Bookkeeping. Listed as from Meaford, Ontario

James Trout, son of William Trout and Catherine MacKinnon, was born 10 Feb 1839 Norval, Ontario and died 16 Feb 1906 Meaford, Ontario. Mary Amanda Williams Trout, daughter of John Williams and Selina Brewster, was born 18 Oct 1847 St. Vincent Twp., Grey Co., Ontario and died 28 Dec 1922 Meaford, Ontario. They are buried in Lakeview Cemetery, Meaford, Ontario

They rented a house at Spruce St. across from the Nashville Bible School. Their son,

wife, and grandson lived with them, as well as a her sister and husband Abigail and John Deegan, a niece, Maud York, and an adopted daughter, Emily Falls. Although not enrolled as students they did audit some of the classes, etc.

1883

Willie Trout Is in Detroit meets there with the Church. Lives in Toronto at this date Feb. 6, 1901 married Emily Lewis.

The Meaford Journals 1848-1998, p. 34

THUR. SEPT. 1, 1898

A bad time at breakfast Emma & Will Jay took Emily & Paul for drive we finished packing trunks Jay took Emily & Paul to station - he drove like a five year old Mr Jay said.

FRI. SEPT. 16, 1898

Oh so tired James & I were all forenoon and up to 2 o'clock getting the stuff ready to ship then it did not go and wont till tomorrow afternoon Freight to Detroit 3.40 To Nashville 4.28 customs entry 70 Affidavitt Wilson .50 = 8.88

After freight gone we
mended trunks then I swept
front upstairs and Maud back
Emma Studied

Mary Williams Trout Diary, 1898

Canada Notes

Among the late arrivals at the Nashville Bible School from Meaford, Canada, are Mr. and Mrs. John Deegan, Mr. and Mrs. James Trout, Miss Maud York, Miss Emily Falls, W. F. Cox, and John Jay. W. E. Trout, who is in charge of the Commercial Department of the Bible School, came with his wife and child the last of September. From the city of St. Catharines we have Brother Ellis Claus, and from Carman, Manitoba, we have Brothers Stanley York and Norman Mallory. With Brother Whitfield, who has been here two terms, and Brother Mackie, we make up a fair representation from that part of the continent.

Gospel Advocate, November 10, 1898, p. 723.

SAT., JAN. 7, 1899

We had our usual Saturdays work to do I kept by stove till I went to Lipscombs classes We had a continuation of the speeches again today The folks all went but one I took Paul and went to Jacksons. James and John Deegan went to hear Burdette.

THURSDAY 26 [JAN 1899]

We were up in good time I went to chapel and Hardngs first class this morning also Llipscombs two classes and the Topic class I darned the stockings turned cold tonight I called to see Mrs Harding who is in bed

THURS. MAR. 2, 1899

Mrs Pitman came over to
try a piece of music. I
went over to Both
Lipscombs classes also
Singing class & Topic
class both girls missed
thunder storm last night

WEDNESDAY 15 [MAR 15]

Warm and windy this morning but turning colder. I emptied Abbies room and sent Jackson and Stanley in it then I overhauled my room and trunk room did not get to classes this forenoon got singing and Topic Claus led meeting Harding & Grant spoke

THURS. APRIL 13, 1899

About as hot today as yesterday To Lipscombs classes James & I went to Capitol to hear Congress which is still in session to Topic and singing all boys went to hear Tant Jas & I called at McCandless also Grants home at 8:20 Not very well today. Jones making charts all went for picture

FRIDAY 21 [April 1899]

Hot as ever this morning Jones better Yeagley here to breakfast & at Lipscombs classes Bro & Sister Harding hired rig took James & I to Fanning Orphan School – Industrial school Mount Olivet Normal school Medical college & Vanderbilt Jas & I to McCandless for tea Emma and Emily out to Glendale – Ward girls Will Paul & Emily took horses and rig home \$3.50 – Emma & John Jones at Carol st

THURSDAY 27 [APR 1899]

Had a seat to self quite a lot of sleep S. M. Jones left us this morning we got the early train at Cincinnati arriving in Detroit at 4:20 Went to John Yorks then Carries for evening McKaig girls called on us Campbells and Lily Falls – Emma went to Lizzies Johns baby Wilford

Mary Williams Trout Diary, 1899

Their first homekeeping and business venture was in Detroit. Afterwards they removed to Toronto, where he held, for a good number of years, a leading place in a manufacturing plant for business office conveniences and supplies. Of late years he has followed his father's pursuit; hoping, if possible, to rival his dad in the handling of real estate. He is a good singer. This was undoubtedly his mother's share in his heredity, she being a good singer. William taught singing and led a good choir at the Toronto Bathurst street Church of Christ. He enjoyed immensely the service of a fine speedy horse to which he would willingly give his personal attention, and the horse would most sympathetically respond to his master's wish. He would spring at a hint, and slacken as required. A ride with William behind one of his favorites was a spell of fine mental exhilaration.

[*Trout Family History*](#) p. 293

The Song Service.

Not the least enjoyable part of the June Meeting was the song service, and judging by the heartiness with which all present entered into the singing, it was indeed a delightful season for all, young and old, visitor and visited.

...

The whole Song Service was entrusted to the care of Bro. Wm. E. Trout, who carried out this part of the programme

to the entire satisfaction of all present. Bro. Trout possesses a strong voice of excellent quality, and is untiring in his labors for the improvement of the singing in Bathurst Street. It needs hardly be said that Bro. Trout is a Meaford boy – the home of good singing. Bro. James Gourlay, of Plum Street, Detroit, was also present and contributed to the enjoyment of the meeting by his sweet singing of several solos.

Altogether to the song service was due in no small measure the complete success of the Annual June Meeting, for which Bro. Trout is deserving of our best thanks.

The Bible Student, June 1907, p. 10

Faculty.

1898-1899.

DAVID LIPSCOMB,
The Bible.

J. A. HARDING,
The Bible and Biblical Greek.

J. W. GRANT,
Mathematics.

DR. J. S. WARD,
Natural and Physical Sciences.

W. A. BRYAN,
Latin Language and Literature.

J. N. ARMSTRONG,
Classic Greek Language and Literature.

S. R. LOGUE,
English Language, Philosophy, and Belles-lettres.

L. K. HARDING,
Latin and Sight Singing.

S. P. PITTMAN,
Voice Culture, Elocution, and Oratory.

R. H. BOLL,
German and French Languages, and Literatures.

DR. I. LEWINTHAL,
Hebrew Language and Literature.

E. E. SEWELL,
English.

R. N. GARDNER,
Principal of the Intermediate Department.

W. E. TROUT,
Department of Bookkeeping.

MRS. W. T. COOPER,
Shorthand and Typewriting.

MISS CLARA SULLIVAN,
Music on Piano and Voice Culture.

MISS IDA C. NOBLE,
Art.

MISS CLARA BENEDICT,
Primary Department.

Trustees of the Property:
DAVID LIPSCOMB, W. H. DODD, J. R. WARD.

Superintendent,
J. A. HARDING.



Tomb of W. E. and Emily Trout, Lakeview Cemetery, Meaford Ont.



Mary Williams Trout with grandson Paul



Home of James and Mary Trout, Trowbridge St., Meaford, ON



Mary Trout

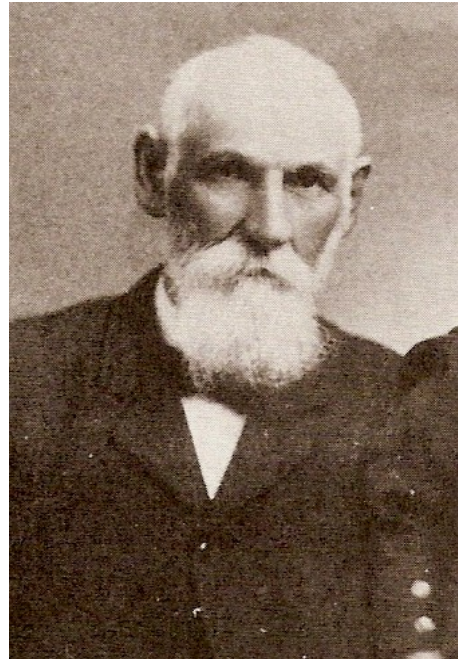
32. Mary Williams Married James Trout
1869

The Meaford Journals 1848-1998, p. 10

7. James Trout 1856 baptized in St.
Vincent

James Trout Baptized 1856 died Feb 16
1906

The Meaford Journals 1848-1998, p. 9, 22



James and Mary Trout moved to Nashville when their son was at the Nashville Bible School. They lived at 1117 Spruce Street in a house rented from J. W. Shepherd, across the street from the Nashville Bible School and James A. Harding.

Mary's sister, Abigail, was living with them in 1881 and 1891. And in 1891 an "adopted" daughter, Emily Falls, age 16, was living with them. Also, the Trout home served as a home-away-from-home for children from families that had moved west. Maud York, daughter of Frederick York and Catherine Williams, lived there while she went to high school.

Ernest Perry made his home with his Aunt Mary Trout in the summer of 1910. He was in Meaford to "learn the carpenter trade."

***Meaford Monitor* 15 Jun 1871** Mr. James Trout lost a fine horse on Saturday morning the 10th inst., which was struck by lightning while running in the pasture field close to the house. He was worth \$120 and was insured in the Beaver and Toronto Mutual fire Insurance Co. for \$70. This is a

practical illustration of the benefit of insuring stock, which no farmer should neglect to profit by. [He was obviously already an active insurance agent.]

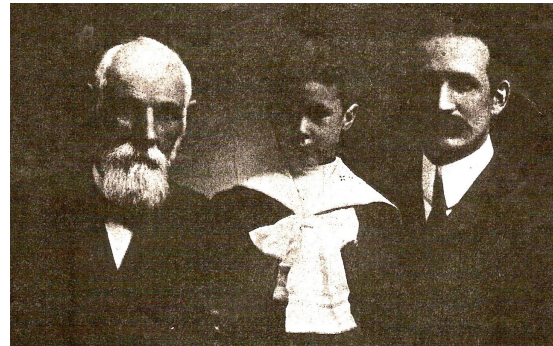
Meaford (ON) Monitor 23 Nov 1875: Trout's agency continues to increase the volume of its business. In addition to all kinds of farm implements and machines, he can supply pianos, organs or melodeons, steam engines, shingle machines and in fact any kind of machinery. He buys and sells lands on commission, lends money on easy terms and insures your buildings, your stock or your life - and claims to be "always at home and in good humour."

15 May 1885 Mr. James Trout commenced his business about 20 years ago; spending a day or two each week in Meaford, and 15 years ago settled in town permanently, his office business was then all conducted in a room about 6x8 feet, with no assistant; shortly after this Mr. Jay began to operate with him, and soon became a partner. Since his first commencement there has been one steady stream of business, each month and year exceeding any of its predecessors; during their time as a firm it is safe to say they have bought and sold more land than the combined land agents of the county.

... they have inaugurated a new business to a great extent, which consists in the exchange of large farms for small ones - or vice versa - town property for farms, etc. This branch of their business has given universal satisfaction, and to the farmer who wants to sell his small farm and get a larger one he saves the commission he would have to pay to dispose of it, by making a direct exchange. Their success is certainly due to good business ability; and their new premises gives them increased facilities for continuing to do business more successfully than ever.

Meaford (ON) Monitor 24 Nov 1876

described their home: West Ward 1875 J. Trout, brick cottage, 2 storeys, 28x36 with kitchen 14x34, Nelson Street, Law Co., contractors, \$2200. Further improvements were reported in the **20 Sep 1878** issue: West Ward - Mrs. Williams, new verandah, rough casting house, new fence &c \$350. **22 May 1896:** Mr. James Trout is erecting a fine, fancy fence round his dwelling house ground on Trowbridge street, which will improve its appearance 200 percent.



James, grandson Donald and son W. E. Trout from Trout Family History.

Trout Family History: He was the farmer boy that stayed at home. The only one that farmed with any real farming purpose; and even that did not last very long. The only farming feature in which he made any distinction was in his breed of pigs, and that was only on a moderate scale; but he always carried off first prizes at the township shows, and sold his pigs at fancy prices. ...

The farm was their home for only three or four years. James sold it and they moved into the town of Meaford, and engaged in money lending, insurance and real estate business, with C. Ch. Jay as partner.

On the door of their large office safe they had a well-painted significant picture. It was a water scene - a fine big trout was making his leap out of the water to catch a big fly; and above the fly was a jay perched on a limb ready to pounce down on the fly should the trout miss him. Indicating that

they were sure to catch and serve their customer; whether to his benefit or their own, or both, might only be afterwards determined.

James regarded his business as a useful public service, and ... had a right to so regard it. He had the quality of mind in a high degree of readily understanding people; and not only adapting himself and what he might have to sell them to their benefit; but also to adapt people to one another.

Sometimes, among family connections, there would be a property row hard to understand and still harder to settle; but he would soon see through it and what could be done with it, to the general satisfaction of all and some profit to himself. Or, in the winding up of a heavily involved, complicated estate, his genius was in seeing at once all the possible solutions of the problems and working them out to the interest of those concerned. His abounding good nature, tact, and agreeableness, helped him through everything.

... the welfare of the church and the cause of Christ were matters of chief concern. He was never associated with any other than the Meaford congregation of the Disciples of Christ. Like many more of those brethren, his beliefs in the New Testament teaching were exceedingly well defined and there seemed to them no possible logical basis for any difference of view. However, he was never harsh in judgment on those who might not agree with him. He was too kind for that.

About a month previous to his death ... He had been fighting against a slow, but fatal, kidney disease for a good number of years. Its final grip was then upon him. ... During that winter, 1905, he had been confined to his room; ... His mind was clear, and his resignation and cheerfulness constant. Toward his helpful, loving wife he had that cordial easy, kindly manner that cuts out

trouble, and leaves no place for pain. When she would be helping him, [he would remark] 'Mary and I have been having the time of our life this winter. We had some of our courting over again, and we are having a second honeymoon too.'

Meaford (ON) Monitor 18 Mar 1887: Mr. and Mrs. James Trout and Son, Mrs. Jos. Whitelaw and family, and Miss Cassy Jay, left of Wednesday morning on a visit to United States via London, where Master Willie Trout will remain at college. ... **22 Aug 1890:** Mr. James Trout and Miss Abie Williams left on Wednesday morning for Detroit to take their holidays. Mrs. James Trout and son William are at present in that city, the latter taking a college course. **21 Aug 1891:** Mr. William Trout of Detroit is spending a week's holiday at home. **8 Jan 1892:** Mr. Wm. Trout, of Detroit, has been spending some holidays with his parents this week.

In a letter from W.E. Trout, 425 W. Cambourne, Ferndale MI, addressed "Dear Cousin (Ernest Perry), dated 13 Mar 1951:

Did you know that Mother took a lot of us to Nashville for the winter of 97-98, rented a house ... across the street from the old Nashville Bible S., ... In the party were, Father & Mother, John Deegan & wife, Stanley & Maud York, W. F. Cox, D. H. Jackson, self & Emily my wife and Paul (about 18 mos.). I had a class in spelling, penmanship, bookkeeping, mental arithmetic.

<http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~syafam/wlmsdestxt3.htm#Williams2-1847>



Tomb of James and Mary Trout, Lakeside Cemetery, Meaford, Ontario

Ontario Marriage Registration: Vol 5, pg 75
- James **TROUT**, 30, farmer, Esquesing, St. Vincent, s/o William & Catherine, married Mary Amanda **WILLIAMS**, 22, St. Vincent, same, d/o John & Salena, with: Duncan **STIRLING** & Harriet A. **TROUT**, both of St. Vincent, 18 Oct 1869 at St. Vincent

Obituary

James W. Trout was born Feb. 10th, 1839, died Feb. 16th, 1906. He lived in and around Meaford, Ont. for 59 years. Was the son of Wm. Trout, who set in order the church in Grey County, Ont. When 17 years of age he obeyed the gospel, and for 50 years lived a disciple. He was married to Miss Mary A. Williams on Oct, 1869, and for nearly 35 years they lived happily together, fighting successfully life's battle. One son, William E. Trout, of Toronto, and three grandchildren are left to console

mother and grandmother in her loneliness. For many years Bro. Trout was at the head of the Bible Class in the church at Meaford. He was also a trustee and deacon of the church at the time of his death. For nearly five years as evangelist with the church at Meaford the writer has been quite intimately associated with him, and knew him to be devout and steadfast in his Master's cause, when able always at his post of duty. At the head of his bed hung the motto that characterized his life, "Do right and fear not." I was told by two who lived in his family for twenty years that they never knew him to be unable to control his temper. Peace ruled supreme in that home. While I loved and esteemed him as a Christian brother, I would not leave the impression that he was faultless, for it is human to err, and Christ-like to confess our faults one to another. In my presence on his death-bed he said, "I have done many things for which I am glad." The church at Meaford has lost one of its oldest, most steadfast and influential members, but our loss is his gain. He looked forward to the time of his departure with delight. It was a Christian triumph, and with Paul could say, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness which the righteous Judge shall give to me at that day."

W. F. Neal

The Bible Student, March 1906, p. 8

Mary Williams Trout: Diaries of a Small Town Lady



Coming soon! What was life like for women in Grey County at the turn of the 20th century? Find out from someone who was there! Mary Williams Trout (1847-1922) was a school teacher and housewife from Meaford who documented her daily life in a collection of 26 personal diaries. The diaries span from 1867 to 1920 and contain comments on many aspects of her life including religion, teaching, travel, and the many trials and tribulations faced by her family, friends and neighbours. Over the fall, winter and spring of 2008-2009 these diaries will be scanned and transcribed, then posted right here so researchers can view the original text as well as the transcriptions. A search tool and teacher's guide will also be developed, as the content of the diaries meets Ontario curriculum requirements for grades 2, 3, 7, and 8.

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