

"Ducit Amor Patriae"

**Niagara Historical
Society**

**NOTES ON NIAGARA
No. 32**

1759 - 1860

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NIAGARA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Its Objects are the encouragement of the study of Canadian History and Literature, the collection and preservation of Canadian Historical Relics the building up of Canadian loyalty and patriotism, and the preservation of all historical landmarks in this vicinity.

The Annual Fee is fifty cents.

The Society was formed in December, 1895. The Annual Meeting is held on October 13th. Since May, 1896, six thousand articles have been gathered in the Historical Room, thirty one pamphlets have been published eleven historical sites have been marked, an Historical Building erected at a cost of over \$6,000, and a catalogue published.

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PREFACE

In the custody of the Niagara Historical Society are many papers printed in Niagara in the early years of the Nineteenth Century, and also the closing years of the Eighteenth Century.

Many interesting items from them were given by the President of the Society to the Niagara Times. Besides the Mail, Chronicle and Reporter, there are copies of The Gleaner, Telegraph, Spectator, Herald, Argus, Spirit of the Times, not forgetting the Upper Canada Gazette of 1793. These show the difference between Niagara then and now, the progress of the world, the notabilities of the past, etc. So began Historical Item Number One, continued from 1896 to 1915, when the Times ceased to exist, the last item being No. 285. It has been strongly urged that we should print extracts from them in order of date to form a pamphlet.

EXTRACTS FROM THE NIAGARA PAPERS

1759: In a letter from Rev. Jno. Ogilvie, who ministered to the Royal American Regiment at Fort Niagara in 1759, after its conquest from the French. "In this fort is a very handsome chapel and the priest, who was of the Order of St. Francis, was the French King's Chaplain to the Garrison. I performed divine service here in this church every day during my stay here." This reference to the chapel is interesting, as in it were buried two

English officers, General Prideaux and Colonel Johnson, and many attempts have been made to locate their graves. In the life of Sir Wm. Johnson is an entry from his diary: "On the 28th of July we buried General Prideaux and Colonel Johnson in the Chapel, with great form." On the authority of Peter A. Porter, the Chapel, which was Roman Catholic, was taken down and removed to Fort Schlosser. The question arises, were the bodies removed to the Military Graveyard? A Miss Hosmer states that when she was a girl at school, there was a Monument to General Prideaux near the altar tomb of Amasa Snow. Excavations were made and remains found, but because no military buttons were seen it was not thought the right spot was found; forgetting the fact that in those days, they buried in a shroud and as he was not buried for several days, there was ample time for preparation. Soldiers buried on the battlefield would retain their military clothing. It has been thought that there should be a monument to two British soldiers who gave their lives for Britain's glory. Lately, Jno Ross Robertson found in the British Museum a Map showing the position of the chapel, which can now be pointed out in the parade ground.

1776: Mrs. Bowman Spohn, of Ancaster, wrote an account in 1861 for Dr. Ryerson's History of the U.E. Loyalists of the hardships in coming to Canada. "When their home was pillaged, the sick mother and children took refuge on the Mohawk River. In the fall, the commander of the British Forces at Fort Niagara, hearing of their destitute conditions, sent out a party with some Indians to bring them in. They brought five families, viz: Nelles, Secord, Young, Buck, and Bowman; five women and thirty-one children, and only one pair of shoes among them. They arrived there on the 30th of November, 1776. In the Spring of 1777, my father joined Butler's Rangers. His brother, only nine years of age, went as a fifer. In 1789, the year of the famine, their only food was the leaves of trees, milk and fish. As soon as the wheat was ripe, they rubbed it out and boiled it as a great treat.

1778 – 1783: Strange stories are told of the hardships of the United Empire Loyalists in reaching Canada, in wagons, on foot, by water, long and arduous journeys, the help given them by rations from Fort Niagara. The name of McGregor Van Every occurs in the census taken by Col. Butler in 1783. Mr. Van Every tells that they were the first settlers in East Flamborough and came from the Mohawk Valley, took six weeks to travel to Montreal. "My mother carried the first ploughshare here. In fording a river on rafts, forcing the cattle to swim, they took to pieces the farming implements and carried them separately. There were three houses at Hamilton and the board shanty of Robert Rand. My father's house was of white oak. There were five brothers; one returned to find a young girl whom he loved, and found her in three days, fastened to a tree; he cut her thongs. Later he made known his love, but she was promised."

D.W. Smith's notebook tells of a method of crossing the river: "Nineteen covered wagons, conveying families, came to settle in Lincoln County. The way they cross the river is remarkable. The body of the wagon is of close boards. They caulk the seams and

by shifting off the body it transports the wheels and the family to the other side, and the vehicle is then put together again."

1780 – 1782: The story of the Gilbert captivity published in 1784 is connected with Niagara and gives several facts, confirms dates and gives several names familiar to us, shewing the kindness shewn to these captives and money and presents expended to purchase them from the Indians, so that they were all finally, except the father, who died from hardships, returned to their homes in Pennsylvania, first being sent in British vessels to Montreal. The Gilbert family (Quakers) fifteen in number, were captured in April 1780, by Indians, carried off and endured many hardships, travelling to the Seneca country.

Several of them reached fort Niagara and were kindly treated by Col. Guy Johnson and different British officers, among them being Capt. Dace, Capt. Powell, also Mrs. Powell. Mrs. Frey is mentioned as giving money to free some of them.

They crossed over to what was then called Butlersburg, now Niagara, in 1782, Newark, where Elizabeth stayed in the home of John Secord for over a year, where she felt so at home that she called Mrs. Secord "Mamma". She was visited here by her brother, Abner, and taken over to Fort Niagara to see other members of the family, and finally purchased from the Indians who claimed her. They were gathered from many quarters where the Indians had separated from one another, and in 1782, they met in their former home.

Col. Claus, then in Montreal, is mentioned as interesting himself in their favor.

The story is valuable and interesting to us as shewing that John Secord's home was near Niagara.

During the Revolution, we have the names of seven Secords who settled in this neighborhood, at Niagara, Queenston and St. Davids, where their descendants are still found. Some of the women and children came in 1777, while the men were in the army.

1782: From the Archives obtained by Capt. Cruikshank:

"24th August, 1782: Col. Butler took the first census of the Settlement of Niagara. There were sixteen families, eighty-four persons, forty-nine horses, sixty cattle, one hundred and three hogs, thirty sheep and two hundred and thirty seven acres cleared. The statement also gives the number of bushels raised that year of wheat, oats, potatoes and Indian corn.

The names of the settlers given are: Isaac Dolson, Peter Secord, John Secord, Jas. Secord, Geo. Stuart, Geo. Fields, Jno. Depue, Dan. Rowe, Elijah Phelps, Phil Bender, S. Lutz, Michael Showers, H. House, T. McMicken, A. Young, McG. VanEvery. One male slave is included in the list. In 1783, among the new names are: Barnard Frey, A. Bradt, B. Pawling, Jacob Ball, Peter Ball, Brant Johnson, J. Chisholm, Jas. Forsythe; and the number of acres cleared was 373.

1784: MILL AT PALATINE HILL One of the first mills was that of Capt. Daniel Servos, to which the Home Government had sent machinery.

The settlers came from far and near with their grist. It was about 200 yards above the present iron bridge over the Creek on the Lake Shore Road. A few submerged timbers still mark where it stood. There was also a general store carried on. From some old account books, extracts are made, shewing prices then and the names of early settlers, most of them United Empire Loyalists.

June 10th, 1784: Messrs. Street and Butler are charged with lumber at \$20 per thousand; Mrs. Frey is charged \$7.50 for 100 lbs. of flour; Jno. Clement paid \$3.38 for three pecks of salt; Capt. Peter TenBroeck bought deer skins at 63 cts. each; Isaac Vrooman bought wheat at \$1.00 per bushel; Samuel Street is charged with elk skins at 14s each, 6 bear skins at 20s each, and 3 marten at 5s each.

1784 – 1790: In two bulky volumes of the Ontario Archives may be found much curious information of the losses of the United Empire Loyalists. In 1783, a Commission of five members was appointed to classify the losses and services. They sat in London, (England), Halifax, St. John, Quebec and Montreal. Many found it impossible to go so far, so that many names of Loyalists do not appear in the lists.

By April, 1788: 1,680 claims had been examined and 834 not heard, and nearly \$3,000,000 allowed. A transcript had been placed in the Public Record Office in London. The manner in which another copy was obtained is another example of the curious "finds" we hear of. One of the Commissioners, Col. Dundas, of Carron Hall, Scotland, was visited by a relative from Canada, who saw the manuscript and persuaded him to place it in the Smithsonian Institute of Washington in 1860. The Ontario Government granted a sum of money to copy it for our Archives. Claims were lodged to the amount of \$47,000,000., and the total outlay on the part of Britain amounted to \$30,000,000 to 2, 560 persons. Witnesses were required, which made the expense of travelling so far, too heavy.

To us the familiar names of Ball, Secord, Servos, Field, Freel, Butler, Clement, Claus, Crysler, Johnson, Merritt, McMicking, Nelles, and Warner occur.

To understand the losses of those who remained faithful to the King, it must be understood that property could not be sold nor debts collected, many were subjected to imprisonment or were slain, some were actually tarred and feathered for their loyalty.

Their sufferings in reaching Canada and their hardships there in the "hungry year" have only been partially told."

By Jay's Treaty of 1794, they were to be recompensed by the United States for their losses, but this was never done, and Jay was burned in effigy when he returned to the United States.

1789-1790: ARCHIVES LAND BOARD Since a new survey of the Town has been made, it may be interesting to refer to the different plans for the Town. On the 29th of

March, 1790, Mr. Augustus Jones produced a plan for the first township. On the 31st of March, it was proposed that the centre of the Township on the bank of the Niagara River be the proper place and that Lots 15, 16, 17, 18, in the centre at present in the possession of Gilbert Field and others be procured for that purpose.

On 25th August, the inhabitants asked that a part of the lands near Navy Hall be granted for a Town. On 20th June, 1791, the Town is to be called LENOX, with a front of three-quarters of a mile. On 24th June the outlines of the Town are to be run west of Navy Hall.

A document of 1795 gives a plan of the Town west of King Street with the names of the owners of lots numbered 1 to 412.

Another of 1820 gives the owners then.

After the Town was burned, orders were given in the summer of 1814. when an attack was expected, that all the brick walls and chimneys still standing should be pulled down, lest they give shelter to the enemy.

In a letter to General Drummond it was recommended that the site of the Town be changed to the other side of Fort George, as safe from attack, but this the people refused to do, and began rebuilding on the old site.

In a Map of 1817 procured from the Archives at Ottawa, the houses and barns built up again could be easily counted.

In a Map of 1822 by Capt. Vavassour the common was to be laid out in streets. In the Maps of 1817 and 1835, the buildings of Butler's Barracks all appear as now; also the Indian Council House, which became the Military Hospital.

In the Map of 1799, the buildings called Navy Hall appear. In later maps, only one building is seen, still called Navy Hall.

In 1822, the Town was extended east of King Street, and different names were given; as Queen Street became Picton Street from King Street, Prideaux Street became Ricardo Street, Johnson Street became Platoff Street, and Gage Street became Castlereagh Street.

1791: In the Crown Lands Department is the following, which may shed some light on where the first Masonic Lodge was situated: "Land Board met at Niagara 24th June, 1791. Present: Col. Gordon, commanding Upper Posts; Col. Butler, Peter TenBroeck, Robert Hamilton, Benjamin Pawling, Jno. Burtel, Jno. Warren, Jno. McNabb, Lieut. Bruyere, Royal Engineers.

The Board authorize a Public House to be build on the corner lot at the east end of the Town, adjoining the river, and a Mason's Lodge next to it.

This gives reason to suppose that the Lodge was opposite the Ellcott House, but later investigations in the Crown Lands gave certain informaton that the "Lodge" was on Lot 33, and in another place the words "The Mason's Lodge."

By strange coincidence, the present Masonic Lodge is on the very spot in the building formerly called the "Stone Barracks," built about 1816 by Jno. Eaglesum. It is said he carried the stones to build it from the ruins of the Town.

The phrase, "on the next to it," which has been taken to mean the next plot to it, may mean the corner next to it. The Town then only extended to King Street and the

Public House was the east end of the Town. The Historical Society placed a marker on the authority of the first statement, which now should be altered, although the building may first have been close to the river, or later orders farther up, but Lot 31 is certainly the Corner of King and Prideaux Streets.

AUGUST 24TH, 1792: In the old Register of St. Mark's Church of Births, Deaths and Marriages, the second entry reads: "Captain James Hamilton to Louisa, his wife. They had been married by some commanding officer or magistrate and thought it more decent to have the office repeated." This quaint notice has attracted much attention and investigations have been made. The Michigan Historical Society state that the marriage was performed by Dr. Mitchell, the bride's father, he being a Justice Of The Peace. But a grand-daughter of Captain Hamilton has obtained the Record Book at Mackinaw that the ceremony took place on the 15th November, 1791. and the Marriage was performed by Capt. Charleton, of the 5th Regiment, Commandant of the Post of Michilimackinac. The Bride's father was Dr. Mitchell.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY 1792 SILVER SNUFF BOX Two documents give evidence of the first Agricultural Society in Upper Canada, at Niagara, one the diary of Col. Clark, the other the record of the Niagara Library, dating from 1800. In the diary: "Governor Simcoe subscribed ten guineas to the Agricultural Society in 1793. My father was a member. I remember the monthly dinners given by the members and the great silver snuff box ornamented with the "Horn of Plenty" on its lid. I wonder what has become of that old box? It most deservedly ought to be kept among the Archives of Canada. It always remained with the house-keeper who had to supply the next monthly dinner. It was the property of the President PRO TEM for the year, and at the annual meeting, when a new one was chosen, passed into his hands. It was a piece of fine workmanship, and I trust it may yet turn up and remain an heirloom to tell posterity at what an early age agriculture was encouraged here."

The second reference is in the old Record Book of the Niagara Library of 1800. It appears that the Agricultural Society had a library of fifty valuable works, which they presented to the Library in 1805, in consideration of the fees of certain members in arrears being remitted, they being also members of the Society, and that a share in the Library be given to others who are members of the Agricultural Society. Jane Crooks, eldest daughter of Francis Crooks, was admitted to a share in right of her father as a member of the Society. Thus history repeats itself, as the daughters of Zelophehad in Bible history demand and obtain their share of land, so Miss Crooks demands a right in the benefits of the Library.

A few of the books are: Young's Agriculturist (14 volumes); Museum Rusticus (6 volumes); Gentleman Farmer; Bath Papers (5 volumes); etc.

NEWSPAPERS, 1793 - 1913 By reference to copies in the Historical Building, it is shewn that twenty-three newspapers have been published in Niagara. Their names and dates are: The Upper Canada Gazette 1793-8; The Constellation 1799-1800; Herald, 1801-2; Freeman's Journal, 1809-10; The Bee, 1812; Spectator, 1817-18; Gleaner, 1817-1837; Argus, 1820; Canadian, 1824; Herald, 1828-1830; Spirit Of The Times, 1830; Literary Miscellany, 1832; The News, 1832; Reporter, 1832-1842; The Ark, 1835; The Telegraph, 1836; Chronicle, 1837-1854; Argus, 1844-6; Mail, 1846-1870; Fountain, 1847; The News, 1870; The Echo, 1884; The Times, 1894-1914. And in the vicinity; St. Davids Spectator, 1816; Upper Canada Phoenix, 1818, at Dundas; Farmer's Journal, 1826 at St. Catharines.

1793: FIRST PRINTING PRESS IN UPPER CANADA - In the Museum in the Normal School Building, Toronto, are two relics which might well have a place in Niagara. The Printing Press used in printing the Upper Canada Gazette of 1793. When the Historical Collection was visited by Col. Neilson, of Quebec, and he saw some copies of the Gazette of 1794, he wrote in the Visitors' Book:

"My grandfather, John Neilson, sent his workman, Louis Roy, to Niagara to print the Upper Canada Gazette." The printing press was removed to Toronto, when, in 1798, the paper was printed there, as the capital was changed to Toronto.

The other relic is the imposing stone used by the Mail, given by Mr. Kirby, the editor. It had been used by the Constellation in 1799, and possibly by the U.C. Gazette.

1793 FIRST BRICK HOUSE IN THE PROVINCE - A document in the Reference Library Toronto, gives us information as to the first brick house in the province. It is the memorial of William Dickson, of Newark, Merchant, to His Excellency, J. Graves Simcoe. "That your memorialist, has resided there for six years past in the Town now called Newark and has expended to a considerable extent in buildings and improvements; that your memorialist considers it some merit to have built the first brick house in the province; he has one town lot, but finds it inadequate to his wants; your memorialist is without a pasture for horse or cow; without any place for the purpose of an orchard, for the raising of hay or vegetables for domestic use"; and asks for land above Navy Hall; and thinks himself deserving of twenty acres, more or less.

1793: NAVY HALL, NOV. 4TH In a Document in Portland, signed by J. Graves Simcoe,

The Lieutenant Governor, occurs the following passage:

"Last year I hitted the Queen's Rangers as well as possible close to Niagara, and I fitted up the King's Barracks and storehouses to contain the Officers of Government and to accommodate the Legislature of the Province, who must for some time have their annual assembly at that place. These temporary buildings I thought a great public saving

to refit, as it is most probable they may be required hereafter for various governmental purposes."

1793: OLD RECORD BOOK TOWN MEETING RECORDS - At a Meeting of the inhabitants electors of the Township of Newark, for the appointment of parish and town officers, William Mollynox, Constable, presiding; Ralph Clench, Town Clerk; Assessors, Collectors, Pound-keepers, and fence-viewers were appointed. The name Newark is used till 1799; but after, that of Niagara.

1794: THE UPPER CANADA GAZETTE OR AMERICAN ORACLE. Vol. I, Not 17, Thursday, August 14th, 1791, printed by Louis Roy, Newark (although Vol.2 Dec. 16th, 1794, is printed by G. Tiffany). It is a sheet 14 and a half by 10 inches, and is a great contrast to the papers of a century later. There are no illustrations, except the "Royal Coat of Arms, G.R." when "good old King George" reigned. There are no personals, no poetry, no stories, no editorials, no jokes, no telegraphic despatches. What, then, are the contents? First: A proclamation signed John Graves Simcoe, "from George the Third to our well beloved and faithful Legislators, Counsellors of our Province of Upper Canada, to meet at the Town of Newark on the 22nd day of September, to treat, do and conclude upon those things which by the favour of God may be ordained. Dated at our Government House, Navy Hall. Wm. Jarvis, Secretary.

Another proclamation offers a 50 pound reward for bringing to justice those who passed in a batteaux the garrison of Niagara, carrying contraband goods, and when followed by Sergt. Lawson, of the 5th Regt. of Foot, refused to come to shore and fired twice on the Sergeant and his party, in defiance of the laws and contempt of our Lord and King.

Another long notice from the Council Chamber, May 24th, signed John Small, resolves "That those who have taken up land without having been located by the Surveyor-General, although authorized by the Commanding Officer, must give in a memorial of it, so that proper grants may be made.

Another notice from the Secretary's Office (Mr. Jarvis) relates to an Act to lay and collect duty on stills, declares they shall pay one shilling and three pence on every gallon which the still may be capable of obtaining. An infringement on this incurs a fine of ten pounds.

The latest news is from the Philadelphia papers, news from Frankfort, April 10th; Tournay, Valenciennes, Philadelphia, June 30th, and July 3rd; apparently news six and ten week old.

The Niagara News gives the arrival of His Majesty's armed vessel "Mississauga" with the Right Reverend Lord Bishop of Quebec, who confirmed a respectable number of young persons who presented themselves August 14th, 1794.

On Monday, the magistrates and principal inhabitants presented an address to the Right Reverend, Father in God Jacob by Divine permission Lord Bishop of Quebec. Both address and reply are given in full.

Several advertisements are signed by D.W. Smith, Acting Surveyor-General. A notice to Free Masons reads thus: "A meeting of the members of St. John's Lodge, No.19 will be held in the lodge room, Newark, on the second Tuesday of October at 11 o'clock a.m. Signed: Ralfe Clench, Secretary."

Another advertisement is interesting to us at the present time of enlistments: "TEN GUINEAS BOUNTY MONEY. To all loyal and gallant subjects: Recruits wanted for His Majesty's 1st American Regiment of Queen's Rangers. Fifty active young men. Gentlemen volunteers, healthy and stout, shall receive ten guineas bounty on approval as fit for active service of the regiment, enter into free quarters, be clothed, accoutred, victualed and paid agreeably. None need apply to Lieut. Brooking at Niagara, but such as are perfectly fit for the most active service; five feet, four and a half inches high, health and stout."

1795: SLAVERY - Although it is generally supposed that slavery was done away with at once, it must be understood there were conditions in the Act. Some were free at once, some at attaining a certain age. Here is a strange advertisement: "For sale for three years, by year or month, a negro wench named Chloe, 23 years old, understands washing, cooking. Robert Franklin, at Receiver Generals." In some advertisements of servants or slaves, it is given as a recommendation that they have had smallpox.

30th SEPTEMBER, 1794: ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH - In an old leather bound Record Book, the first item reads: "A number of people met this day at Hind's Hotel and resolved that "as religion is the foundation of all societies, and which cannot be so strictly adhered to without having a place dedicated solely to Divine worship, that a Presbyterian Church should be erected in the Town Of Newark, and that subscriptions for that purpose be immediately set on foot, as well as for the support of a clergyman of the same persuasion." The committee consisted of John Young, Four-Mile-Creek, chairman; Ralfe Clench, Andrew Heron, Robert Kerr, Alexander Gardener, William McLelland and Alexander Hemphill. The size of the building is given- 46 x 32 feet. The subscriptions, the agreement with Rev. Jno. Dun.

The Church was burned in September, 1813, by the enemy, as it was claimed that its spire was used for taking observations.

The schoolhouse partially burned, was repaired and used for service until 1831, when the present church was built.

NOV. 4TH, 1794: Council Chamber, Navy Hall. Present: His Excellency, John Graves Simcoe.

Read the petition of John Young, Esq. on behalf of a number of inhabitants of the Presbyterian persuasion, Town of Newark. Petitioners are desirous of erecting a Church and school house, etc. Prays that a square of four lots be granted for the purpose.

Ordered - by the Honorable Executive Council, that the same be granted. Signed John Small.

January 25th: Mrs. Ker, the wife of Dr. Ker, was the daughter of Sir William Johnson and Molly Brant. She is buried in St. Mark's Cemetery. The stone is the oldest there.

1795: La Rochefoucault de Liancourt spent nineteen days at Navy Hall as a guest of Governor Simcoe. He says: "During our residence at Navy Hall, the session of the Legislature of Upper Canada was opened. Dressed in silk, Simcoe entered the hall with his hat on his head, attended by his adjutant and two secretaries."

Now, where was the Hall? This has been a vexed question.

The old building still standing has been spoken of as that where Parliament met. From the evidence of the "oldest inhabitants" several places are mentioned. By Mrs. Simcoe and Governor Simcoe's letters, Col. Clark, Mr. McEwen and Mrs. Quade, the following places are mentioned: Navy Hall, the Indian Council House, Butler's Barracks, a Marquee Tent, the Parliament Oak. Each has its advocates, one scouting the other's statements.

Now, as Parliament met here five years, it is possible that each of these places can claim the honor. The Parliament Oak seemed to be a myth, but there is generally some truth, if searched for, in the story. If in a tent on a hot day, the shade of a tree would seem soothing.

But why that tree? Was it the only one near? But evidence, good evidence, has lately been produced where Parliament met the first day. Littlehales, the secretary, states that the meeting was in the Masonic Hall, which stood where the present Masonic Hall still stands (the old stone barracks). Statements have also been made that all the buildings of Navy Hall were burned in the War, and that the present old building was not erected till 1816. The question gives room for further discussion.

4TH NOV. 1795: No. 3034 - Province of Upper Canada Grant to Robt. Kerr, James Muirhead, William Dickson, and Isaac Swayze, of the Township of Niagara, and John McFarland, John Young, Andrew Heron, Bernard Frey and John Grier, of the same place, yeoman. In trust for the Presbyterian Congregation of the Town of Niagara, a square of four lots in the said Town of Niagara. An extract from the Minutes of Council, 4th Nov. 1795," Mar.2d, 1803. Thos. Scott.

Another document describes the four acres square as Nos. 157, 158, 183, 184, being those now occupied by St. Andrew's Church. Signed: D.W. Smith, Acting Surveyor-General, 11th May, 1795.

1796: In the Upper Canada Gazette, December 12th, 1796, St. John's Lodge of Friendship No. 2 will meet at Wilson's Tavern, Festival of St. John. Ralfe Clench, Sec'y. The members of the Grand Master's Lodge to meet at Thompson's Hotel to celebrate the

Festival of St. John, Dec. 27th. J MacKay, sec'y. A sermon to be preached at the Presbyterian Meeting house in this Town, being the Anniversary of St. John.

1797: On Jan. 4th, Lodges 2 and 4 of Free and Accepted Masons, clothed in badges and preceded by a band of music playing Masonic airs, walked in procession to the Presbyterian Meeting House, when Rev. J. Dun delivered an excellent and philanthropic discourse, amidst the deep attention of a crowded audience. The thanks of Lodges 2 and 4 were given afterwards for the excellent and liberal discourse. Thos. Clark, Sec'y. Lodge 2, Richard Cockrel, Sec'y. Lodge 4.

In Philanthropy, Lodge No. 4, at a meeting of the lodge in their room, Newark, it was resolved to establish a fund for the benefit of Free Masons' widows and orphans and indigent Brothers' children.

1799: FESTIVAL OF ST. JOHN - In 1799, Festival of St. John, Grand Lodge and others join them at Charles Field's at 2 p.m., procession to Church. Sermon by Rev. Bro. Addison, Grand Chaplain. This must have been St. Andrew's Church, as St. Mark's was not started till 1802.

1796: GIVING UP OF FORT NIAGARA - Correspondence with respect to giving up of Fort Niagara to the U.S., which was the last fort given up. It was held by part of the 5th Regiment and was given up August 11th, 1796. A celebration of this event was held 11th August, 1896, the centenary of that event. The period of thirteen years between 1783 and 1796 is called the "hold over period," as Britain retained certain forts as a guarantee that compensation would be given for losses, as promised by Jay's Treaty.

1798: "THE COUNT'S HOUSE" - Hearing the expression often, "The Count's House," it had seemed a myth, as no explanation had been given, but on visiting the Archives in Ottawa the whole story was made plain from the documents found there. During the French Revolution many had fled to England, always the refuge of the oppressed foreigner, and the British Government gave them assistance and support.

A plan was formed for a military settlement in Canada by the Count de Puisaye and it was expected that two hundred would go, but only forty-seven ventured, and it was a venture, going from Sunny France in winter to build huts in Canada. The settlement was in Markham, north of Toronto, but not proving a success, notwithstanding the assistance given, nearly all returned to France. The County de Puisaye obtained 200 acres of land on the Niagara River, two miles from Niagara, built a house in 1799, a long low building with dormer windows, which still stands on the property of W.K. Jackson. General de Puisaye lived here till 1802, when he returned to England, as he was in bad odour, both with the Royalist and Republican Party, the former blaming him for his part

in the disaster at Quiberon. He married his house-keeper, Mrs. Smithers, whose name is given in the list.

There are descendants of her son, who assumed the name of Kent, and several valuable relics are in this country, as the sword given the Count by his friend, William Pitt, in 1794, which has this inscription. There are also the portraits of the Count and Countess, the latter the French Countess whom he had married in France. The house was used as a store at one time, and has at one end a brick building supposed to have been used, but whether for weapons, for wine, or for storage, has never been settled.

In the letter-book of the Hon. Richard Cartwright, grandfather of Sir Richard, lately presented to Queen's University, are many points interesting to us. They seem to have been friends. Fruit trees were sent for, and it is said till lately a fine variety of pear of unknown name still flourished, supposed to have come from France.

The house of D.W. Smith, with the four acres, now called the Town Block or Market Square, was offered for sale with an endowment of 160 acres for a Seminary. The objection made was that it was in range of the guns of Fort Niagara. A plan of the buildings is in the Reference Library, and it was described as the best house in town with fine gardens. Half of the four acres became military property and the whole, finally town property, which it still is, all the owners of houses, paying ground rent.

The house is described as 80 x 40 feet, with large rooms, and four fireplaces. It must have been situated about where the electric car station now is.

1799: THE WILDERNESS - An article by Miss Jean Earle Geeson gives many particulars of this picturesque spot, one of the most historic in the town, and containing one of the oldest houses. There are also several magnificent trees, one a Balm of Gilead with a girth of sixteen feet and two hundred feet in height, which in early times was a guide to fishermen steering for home. An old oak is nearly twenty feet in girth, and numerous sycamores and an old weeping willow and fine stately pines add to the wild beauty of the scene. Here Chief Brant and his followers pitched their tents when they came once a year for their presents or to trade with Governor Simcoe.

The property first belonged to Robert Pilkington of the Royal Engineers, who purchased it from the Crown in 1796.

The Indians, to show their gratitude to Mrs. Ann Claus, the wife of Daniel Claus, and the daughter of Sir William Johnson, raised money to purchase it by surrendering part of their land on the Grand River, and presented it in 1799, 31st Dec. On her death, it belonged to Col. Wm. Claus, whose diary at Fort George shows that he was one of the last to leave when the Fort was taken by the Americans 27th May, 1813. He says: "At the time I went out of the breach by the octagon blockhouse a flag came in at the gate."

It is told that at the time the Town was burned, Mrs. Taylor, the wife of Fort Major Taylor, took refuge here with her four children in an old root house, which is still known by the name of the "Pitt." Another spot was a large dugout, where forty wounded men lived part of that winter.

The present house, part of it built in 1816, is said to be the shape of "Longwood" occupied by Napoleon in St. Helena. An attempt to open the street in 1822 which should run right in front of the house was frustrated, as a road closed for sixty years cannot now

be opened, so that instead of the usual four acre block there is here an eight acre block with "no thoroughfare."

1800: A document of 1794 gives power to John McFarland, of Niagara, the true and loving Attorney of McFarlane & Gibbs of Montreal. The brick house on the River Road was built in 1800. In 1813, John McFarland was sent as a prisoner of war to Greenbush. On his tombstone in St. Mark's: "Finding his property burned up and destroyed by the enemy, it enervated him so much that he died in a few months after, in the 64th year of his age."

This must have been a house in Town as given in the list of houses burned in December, 1813. The brick house is still standing and in good order was used as a hospital during the War, as was also the home of George Field farther up, where they show the cannon ball which pierced the brick wall.

8th JUNE, 1800: When, by the merest chance, I laid my hands on an old brown leather covered book, I had no idea of the rich treat it was to prove. By it was shown that in these early days there was in Niagara a valuable library, well supported.

The book contained the list of proprietors and of their payments and those of non-subscribers, catalogue of the library, money expended, rules and regulations, account of annual meetings, contingent meetings, list of books taken out, alphabetical list of subscribers. There were at first forty-one names of proprietors, afterwards more; the church, the army, the civil service, the yeomanry, several names from Fort Niagara, U.S. and names from as far as thirty miles distant, several names of women, too. The library existed until 1820. Some books were burned when the town was burned, many were saved. The members paid on joining, sums from four dollars up to nine, and an annual fee of one to three dollars. There were 1,000 books in the Library, chiefly history, travel, religious, valuable reviews, but few of fiction.

The first entry reads: "Niagara Library, 8th June, 1800. Sensible how much we are at a loss in this new and remote country for every kind of useful knowledge, and convinced that nothing would be of more use to diffuse knowledge amongst us and our offspring than a library, supported by subscription, in this town, we, whose names are hereunto subscribed, hereby associate ourselves together for that purpose, and promise to pay annually a sum not exceeding four dollars, to be laid out in books, as agreed upon by a majority of votes at a yearly meeting to be held by us at this town on the 15th August, annually, when everything respecting the library will be regulated by the majority of votes."

The first name signed is Andrew Heron, who a great part of the time, acted as Librarian, Secretary and Treasurer, gratuitously.

The book was found in a drawer in the Vestry Room of St. Andrew's Church, where it had lain probably seventy years.

1802 – 1809: ST. MARK'S CHURCH - From the annual reports of the S.P.G. (Society for the Propagation of the Gospel) certain information has been obtained as to when St. Mark's Church was built. Extracts from these have been sent by Mr. Cyril Rudolf, of London, England, and since then by Prof. Young, of Trinity College, Toronto. It has generally been stated that it was erected in 1792, but from research in Archives, early books of travel, and other documents, it had so far been shown that it could not have been begun before 1802. It is of course certain that Mr. Addison came out in 1792, as the Missionary to all this region, and he kept a careful record of births, deaths and marriages, which register may be seen, and this fact has given credence to the belief that the church dates from 1792. In Mr. Addison's report to the S.P.G., he says: "December 29th, 1804. The congregation rather increases, and they begin seriously to talk of building a Church. July 1st, 1805. The Church is begun and is half up. July 5, 1807. The Church advances slowly. The floors, however are laid and the windows nearly ready for glazing. Jan. 2nd, 1808. The Church has gotten the first coat of plaster. Jan. 5th, 1810. The Church is so far finished that Divine Service has been constantly performed there since last August.

1806: GEORGE HEROT'S TRAVELS - "On the western bank is the British Fort, constructed of earth and cedar pickets. Beneath the fort and on the border of the river are several buildings, consisting of storehouses and barracks, one of which is called Navy Hall, contiguous to a wharf (King's wharf). A swamp in the vicinity is prejudicial to the health of the troops of the garrison. A plain intervenes, extending a mile between the Town and Fort George. The houses in general are of wood, and may amount to two hundred. The streets are spacious, and are laid out at right angles to each other, so that the Town will be healthy and airy. On Mississauga Point on the west side of the river, a lighthouse has lately been erected."

1802-1813: THE LIGHTHOUSE - The Lighthouse which stood near where Fort Mississauga now stands was built in 1803. We have had much information from Miss Quade of Ransomville, whose mother was the daughter of Dominick Henry, the lighthouse keeper. A picture obtained from J. Ross Robertson shews the lighthouse and the keeper's house, and a copy from the Archives shews the plan. Mrs. Quade was born there in 1804, and was present and remembers the day when the town was taken and the night when the town was burned. Many people brought valuables to store in their home, which was not burned, as the lighthouse was valuable to both sides. She tells that the Tower or Fort was built partly of bricks from the ruins of the town and it is true that broken bricks can be seen in the walls.

NIAGARA BEE, OCT. 24TH, 1812: This is another example of the odd corners in which history may be discovered. A page of an old newspaper the Niagara Chronicle, August,

1838, had been used as the lining for the lid of a trunk, from which it was removed as perfectly as its cracked state would allow, by two sympathetic young ladies, for Mrs. Curzon, whose interest in Canadian history was well known. The article in the Niagara Bee, Oct. 24th, 1812, has been reproduced in the Niagara Chronicle, August 22nd, 1838. The battle is described with particularity, and a different rendering given of the famous words attributed to General Brock. First it is told that on galloping past Brown's Point, where some of the York Volunteers were posted, he called out: "Push On, York Volunteers!" Another account gives his last words in ascending the mountain, but this version says: "Push On, Never Mind ___" (ME, it is supposed to be as the paper is mutilated). It is possible both accounts were true, the one at Brown's Point, the other while ascending the hill. The Bee was started in July, 1812, at Niagara by James Durand.

NOV. 6th, 1812: In the Michigan Historical Society publications are many things interesting to Niagara, such as Council Meetings of Indians and Military in 1793, 1795, etc. "At a General Council of condolence held at the Council House, Fort George, Nov. 6th, 1812, with the Six Nations, Hurons, etc. Present: Wm. Claus, Dept. Supt. Gen.: Capt. Norton, Capt. J.B. Roussiaux, etc.

Little Cayuga Chief, Speaker, said: "Brothers, we therefore now seeing you darkened with grief, your eyes dim with tears, and your throat stopped with the force of your affliction, with these strings of wampum, we wipe away your tears, we clear the passage in your throats that you may have free utterance for your thoughts, and we wipe clear from blood the place of your abode. That the remains of your late beloved friend and commander, General Brock, shall receive no injury, we cover it with this belt of wampum, which we do from the grateful sensations which his friendship toward us inspired us with, as also in conformity with the customs of our ancestors."

There had been many meetings of Indians in Niagara before this, in 1791, 1793, 1795 and 1802. Several of these were held in the Free Masons' Hall, and names of well known chiefs are given: Red Jacket, Farmers' Brtoerh, Cornkiller and also we find that Joseph Brant was present at some of the Meetings.

When Fort Niagara was given up by the British in 1796, word was sent to the U.S. officer that there were three thousand Indians to be victualler at the Fort.

At these Meetings a regular ritual is observed and much figurative language preserved to the present day, as at a meeting of the Ontario Historical Society at Oshwekin, when Chief A.G. Smith gave the address of welcome to the council fires from the Six Nation Indians, his speech being marked by dignity and oratorical powers of no mean order, closing thus:

"We will pull out the thorns that have penetrated your shoes and wash your feet with pure cold water to refresh you, for we meet not as strangers, but as brothers, whose fathers have fought side by side in the past in defence of the country; may the Great Spirit, who has guided you on your way, watch over you on your homeward journey."

1813: FORT GEORGE - Although in the double star ramparts of Fort George there are no buildings but the stone powder magazine and the caretaker's house, there were a number of buildings, four blockhouses, all of a good size, one 100 feet by 30, another 44 x 24, north and south blockhouse the same size, and an octagon blockhouse, 28 ft. in diameter; another for stores, 90 x 26. The Officers Pavilion, 120 x 20, with wings 20 x 20. The hospital was a good building, 70 x 26. A guard house, 48 x 20. A powder magazine. And there were kitchens detached from the officers' and soldiers' quarters. The fort was defended by forty-eight guns of different sizes, from three pounders to eighteen pounders. When on the 27th of May, 1813, the American force was seen approaching, sixteen sail vessels and 134 boats and scows, with a force of 6,000 men; General Vincent had only 567 all told, consisting of forty men of Newfoundland Regiment, ninety of the Glengarry Light Infantry, 310 of the 8th or King's Regiment, and 100 of the Lincoln Militia, with twenty-seven of Captain Runchey's Negro Company. At Two Mile Creek, there were fifty Indians, under Norton, 2,300 of the American force landed at once, and were repulsed twice, but our force gave way, but were rallied by Col. Harvey, who brought a few of the 49th and made a stand at the Presbyterian Church, and again at near the Indian Council House.

Vincent sent word to Col. Wm. Claus to evacuate Fort George and join him at Queenston, and later they reached Burlington Heights.

Many of the people had left the town. One incident may be told: Mrs. Cassidy went to the Butler Farm for safety. Her daughter, who afterwards became Mrs. Whitten, carried her brother on her back. On the next day the mother returned to see if she could go to her home. She found it occupied by officers, who asked if she would return, they would supply 100 lbs. of flour, and if she would give them one hundred pounds of bread, she could have the rest for herself. All of which shewed that Mrs. Cassidy made good bread. During the seven months occupation by the Americans, there were only women and children, or old men unable to fight in the Town.

1812 – 1813: INVENTORY OF GENERAL BROCK'S EFFECTS - A curious discovery was lately made while taking down the house of the late Hon. G.W. Allen, in Toronto.

In the cellar, stuffed into a hole in the wall, a number of pages, yellow with age were found, being an inventory of the furniture and belongings of the late Sir Isaac Brock. The greater part was purchased by Major General Sheaffe, the remainder by Major Glegg, Capt. Brock, Col. Bishop, Major Allen, Rev. Dr. Strachan, etc. The articles sold consisted of silver, cut glass, furniture, wine carpets, provisions, etc., the whole amounting to about 800 pounds. The books were sold at auction Jan. 4th, 1813. Rev. Dr. Strachan bought several books, also Major Allen, Mr. Denison, Mr. Hamilton, Major Givens, Dr. Powell, Lt. Dickson and Mr. Small. Miss Selby bought a sofa and a gig. Among the live stock sold were sheep, pigs, and a cow; and in the pantry stores, preserved cranberries, pickled mushrooms, etc.

The prices are given in dollars and New York Currency.

REMINESCENCES OF TECUMSEH, 1813: Mrs. Van Every of West Flamboro, told her children, about 1860, what she could remember of the great warrior, Techumseh. "The

Indians were near us. Tecumseh went off about five miles from West Flamboro village, near the great burial ground where your father and the late Hon. Jas. Crooks dug up the big copper kettles, pipes, beads, clay crocks and tomahawks without number. He was dark copper color, six feet in height, broad shouldered, deep-chested. He had long arms, a prominent brow, firm chin, Roman nose, piercing eyes and black hair. He wore a toque of eagle plumes, silver half moon ornaments in his fine robe and beads on moccasins and leggings. He was quiet, lonesome, proud. His wigwam stood north of our house. He often warned his people against firewater. He harangued thousands of Indians, who were still as statues of stone. When he raised his arm, they said "Hough!" meaning "Attention!" He was a man no one could forget, a perfect Demosthenes in eloquence. He swayed his hearers like reeds. His words were like an electric charge. My brother at 16 would dress up in Indian fashion and repeat the speeches of Tecumseh, which seemed to have fixed themselves in the minds of my mother and brother. Some sentences I remember. They ran as follows:

"The Pale Faces who fought against our fathers, the British are our enemies.

They came to us hungry, and they cut off the hands of our brothers, who gave them corn. We gave them rivers full of fish and they poisoned our fountains. We gave them mountains and valleys full of game, and in return they gave our warriors rum and trinkets and --- a grave. The shades of our slaughtered fathers can find no rest, their eyes can see no herds on the hills of light in the hunting grounds of the dead. Until our enemies are no more, we must be as one man, one chief whose name is DEATH! I have spoken."

Tecumseh was a remarkable man. Brave, merciful, he did everything in his power to prevent cruelty in his followers. He did what many white men have not done – conquered his love of drink. He travelled from the Gulf of Mexico to the North, trying to form all the tribes of Indians into one Confederacy, and shewed great administrative powers, so that his memory should not be forgotten.

1813 MAY 27TH: Of those who were killed when the town was taken, we find the record of a resident of this township in a tablet at the north door of St. Mark's Church. Capt. Martin McLellan, whose farm was about a mile from town, is the first past the Oak Grove. He had been captured by the Indians when a boy, but restored to his family. It is told that on the evening of the battle, when retreating, he and several others, favored by the heavy fog, went back to spike the guns, but the fog lifting, they were slain.

In the Historical Room is an interesting relic: his pocket-book, with his name, written by himself, he having left his watch and purse with his wife the night before the battle, saying ; she would not see him alive again.

14TH AUGUST, 1813: From the Archives was obtained the correspondence between Hon. William Dickson, prisoner of war, and Gen. Dearborn.

Albany, 14th Aug. 1813.

SIR:

In behalf of myself and others, whose names are hereunto attached and designated by their different avocations in the District of Niagara, in the Province of Upper Canada prisoners of war in Albany, in the State of New York, I respectfully call your prompt and animated attention, in your official character, to their case, arising out of a policy of war which had not been anticipated by them. I have therefore to state that on the 27th May last, when General Dearborn's troops entered the town of Niagara and Fort George was evacuated, many inhabitants of Niagara and its vicinity, with their families, under the existing circumstances and under impressions favorable to the presumed policy of the commander of the forces, remained at their homes. Generals Lewis and Boyd gave me assurance of protection in person and property, and civilities with them and the officers of the army were mutually exchanged."

On the 19th June, I and others were taken under a guard and confined in a house in Niagara for two days.

We were escorted under guard across the river to the American Fort, remaining there three days under unaccustomed privations.

From thence to Batavia, Canandaigua, Geneva and Utica, remaining at these respective places for some time, making a procrastinating route of about three hundred and fifty miles in fifty-seven days.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient, humble servant.

WILLIAM DICKSON

List of Persons ordered in the custody at Niagara by order of Major-General Dearborn on the 19th, 20th, 21st June, 1913:

NON COMBATANTS

Alexander McDonnell, Deputy Paymaster, Gen. of Militia.

William Dickson, Esq., Barrister at Law

John Symington, Esq., Merchant, D.M. Paymaster

Joseph Edwards, Esq., Merchant, Justice of Peace

James Muirhead, Esq. Surgeon, Justice of Peace.

Andrew Heron, Merchant, Niagara

John Grier, Merchant, Niagara

John Baldwin, Merchant, Niagara

John Crooks, Clerk to Jas. Crooks, Merchant, Niagara

Haggai Skinner, Farmer, Falls, 64 years of age.

_____ Doan, Farmer

_____ Ramsay, boy of Stamford

John McFarland, Boat builder

William Ross, Commissariat

MILITIA

Ralph Clench, Esq., Clerk of the Peace, Register of Surrogate,
Col. of Militia and Dep. Qr.-M. Gen.

John Powell, Esq., Register and Capt. of Militia

George Law, Usher of Leg, and Capt. of Militia

John Decoe, Farmer, Thorold, Capt. of Militia

John McEwen, Merchant, Niagara, Capt. of Militia.

John Jones, Taylor, Capt. of Militia.
_____ Baxter, Farmer. Capt. of Militia
Jacob A. Ball, Farmer, Capt. of Militia
William Powers, Farmer, Niagara, Lieutenant
Jonathan Williams, Farmer, Niagara, Lieutenant
John Bradt, Farmer, Ensign

A list has been found with names of those to whom passports were given Dec. 11th, 1813: Wm. Dickson, Jos. Edwards, John Grier, John McFarland, John Crooks, J. Baldwin, A. Heron: who were returned to their homes.

9TH JAN. 1814: From an original letter of an American prisoner.

"Queenston, 9th Jan. 1814.

Dear Sir:

It being very uncertain where my family are at this time, I must request the favor of you to inform Mrs. Lee that I am still a prisoner at the house of Gilbert Fields, that I am well, etc. Will you please to call on Mr. Potter for the balance of the money he has collected from Mabee and London on my account. Also call on Mr. David Beard for \$1,000, the amount of the draft I gave him, of which you are knowing. If Mrs. Lee is not near you, please give your receipt for both sums, which shall be good. But in case she is near, I wish her to receive the money and receipt thereof - at all events, let her have the money.

With respect and esteem, Your obedient servant,
AMOS LEE

Capt. B. Carryl,
Williamsville,
New York

July 8th, 1814 Weekly distribution return of the Right Division,

Major-General Riall.

HEAD QUARTERS, FORT GEORGE, JULY 8TH, 1814.

Fort Niagara, Lt.-Col. Tucker, 41st Regt. Staff: 21 Officers.
Royal Marine Artillery - Four Officers, five Sergeants, one Drummer, 62 Rank & File.
100th Regt. - Sergeant - twelve Rank & File.
Fort George - Lieut. Col. Gordon, Royal Scots.
Fort Mississauga - Major Evans, 8th Regt., 19th Light Dragoons; 3 Officers, Six Sergeants, One Bugler, 64 Rank & File, four sick.
Provincial Light Dragoons - Two Officers, Three Sergeants, Fifteen Rank & File.
Royal Engineers - Two Officers.

Sappers and Miners - Six Rank and File.

Royal Artillery - 8 Officers, 3 Sergeants, 3 Buglers, 162 Rank & File., two sick.

Incorporated Militia Artillery - 1 Officer, Two Sergeants, 10 Rank and File.

Royal Artillery Drivers - One Officer, Three Sergeants, One Bugler, 28 Rank and File, One sick.

1st Royal Scots - 29 Officers, 53 Sergeants, 22 Drummers, 726 Rank & File, 153 Sick and wounded.

8th Regiment - 27 Officers, 35 Sergeants, 10 Drummers, 515 Rank & File 11 Sick and wounded.

100th Regiment - 5 Officers, 15 Sergeants, 17 Drummers, 261 Rank & File, 11 Sick and wounded.

Incorporated Militia - 33 Officers, 27 Sergeants, 10 Drummers, 309 Rank & File.

Colored Corps - One Officer, 2 Sergeants, 1 Drummer, 22 Rank and File. 4 sick.

26TH JULY, 1814: In the account given by Dr. Dunlop, often called "Tiger Dunlop," of his share in the War of 1812 - 1814, he tells of arriving at Niagara in a gunboat the day after the Battle of Lundy's Lane, and his waiting on two hundred wounded in a log building at Butler's Barracks. "There was great want of room, many lay on straw on the floor, others in berths one above one another, so that it was impossible to get round them to dress their wounds. In the course of the morning I had my hands full. Our Surgeon had gone to Scotland in ill health, our Senior Assistant was exhausted with bringing his wounded down - wagon after wagon arrived and before mid-day I found myself in charge of 200 wounded, including my own regiment, prisoners and militia, with no one to assist me but my hospital sergeant, who, luckily for me, was a man of sound sense and great experience, who made a most able second. But with all this, many a poor fellow had to submit to amputation whose limb might have been preserved had there been time to take reasonable care of it, as it was better to convert a troublesome wound into a simple one to save a patient's life. I never underwent such fatigue as I did on the first week at Butler's Barracks. The weather was intensely hot, the flies were in myriads and lighting on the wounds, deposited their eggs so that maggots were bred in a few hours, producing dreadful irritation, so that long before I could go round dressing the patients, it would be necessary to begin again, and as I had no assistant but my sergeant, our toil was incessant. For two days and nights, I never sat down. When fatigued I sent my servant down to the river for a change of linen, and having dined and dressed, went back to my work quite refreshed. On the morning of the third day, however, I feel asleep on my feet with my arm embracing the post of the berth. It was found impossible to waken me, so a truss of straw was laid on the floor on which I was deposited and a hospital rug thrown over me, and there I slept soundly for five hours without every turning.

My instructions were as soon as a man could be safely removed, to ship him to York, and as the whole distance was by water conveyance and there were ships of war always in readiness, and as my men were eminently uncomfortable, I very soon thinned my hospital, and the few that remained were sent to a temporary hospital and I was despatched to Chippawa."

1814: HOPE COTTAGE, 14TH SEPT. FORT GEORGE - This is a letter from Mrs. Jenoway, the wife of the Royal Engineer who built Fort Mississauga and the earthwork fortifications behind Brock's Monument, which have been thought the work of Indians, the French, or the Americans, so that two points are made clear by this letter in the possession of a lady in St. Catharines.

"It is now five months since your brother was made Assistant Engineer at this place. I left York on the 6th June to join my husband at Queenston, he having been ordered from Fort George to erect fortifications there. Five thousand of the enemy landed at Fort Erie. Mr. Jenoway was left to command Queenston and the fortifications he had constructed, but as our army had to retire after a hard-battle, with only fifteen hundred British to oppose so many, consequently your brother had to blow up the batteries and go to Fort George with his men and his guns. Previous to that I had to retreat with the children at nine o'clock at night. We went to the "Twelve," where we stayed three weeks. My husband now has the entire command at Forts George and Mississauga of the Engineer's Dept. The latter is a large new fort, which he had the direction of at the commencement, and considered the largest and most important in Upper Canada."

(We are indebted to the Hon. J.G. Currie for this information obtained in a letter belonging to Mrs. Saxton, of St. Catharines.)

SPECTATOR, ST. DAVIDS, 1816: In a copy for May is the following advertisement, signed Ralfe Clench:

"Materials for building gaol and court house, NIagara, to be delivered in June and July: 20 toises stone, 330 bushels lime, 200 thousand brick, square oak timber 14 x 12, 20,000 ft. pine lumber, 20,000 ft. 18 inch shingles."

From the report of the Loyal and Patriotic Society, 1817, we learn:

"The Society granted 25 pounds to Dominick Henry, who kept the lighthouse at Niagara, and was extremely meritorious. His wife was very active in assisting the troops on the 27th May, giving them refreshments during the Battle. Quite a heroine not to be frightened."

1817: A memorandum on an old yellow sheet of paper gives the contrast between then and now. It is a list of the expenses of liquor for the funeral of Mrs. Hewit, of Queenston, in 1817. The items are for four days and include seven kinds of liquor. This is a custom that has fallen into desuetude, and is certainly more honored in the breach than in the observance.

Oct. 26 th :	To	1 qt. Madeira wine.....	12s
		1 qt. Spirits	8s
		1 qt. Brandy.....	12s

	1 qt. Shrub.....	8s
Oct. 27 th :	1 qt. Teneriffe wine.....	12s
	1 qt. Port Wine.....	12s
	1 qt. Spirits.....	8s
Oct. 28 th :	1 qt. Madeira wine.....	12s
	1 qt. Shrub.....	8s
	1 qt. Teneriffe wine.....	12s
	1 qt. Port wine.....	12s
	1 qt. Brandy.....	12s
	1 qt. Spirits.....	8s
	1 qt. Gin.....	6s
	1 qt. Madeira wine.....	16s
	1 qt. gin.....	6s
	1 qt. gin.....	12s
	1 qt. Madeira wine.....	8s
Oct. 29 th :	To cash for liquors at Queenston and	
	Digging the grave.....	3.0.0
	The whole amounting to 12 pounds,	4. 0

In a very rare book the report of the Loyal and Patriotic Society of Upper Canada published in 1817 at Montreal, may be found much relating to Niagara. The reasons for the formation of the Society are given: First: The army had neither arms nor Clothing; they were first armed at the expense of the enemy; private subscriptions from York; flannel shirts were made by the ladies for companies between Fort Erie and Niagara. Second: For distress of families, a subscription of one-tenth of the income of subscribers in Montreal, Quebec, London in England, Nova Scotia, Jamaica. The Duke of Kent, father of Queen Victoria, subscribed liberally; the Militia in Canada gave one day's pay. Rev. Dr. Addison and Dr. Strachan personally distributed the Nova Scotia fund for those suffering from the burning of Niagara. Medals were struck to be given for merit. In the Niagara Peninsula, between 4,000 and 5,000 pounds were distributed. George Ball was given 30 pounds from the fund to distribute at the 20 Mile Creek. Mr. Secord to distribute at St. Davids. Dr. Muirhead had been exceedingly active in assisting the distressed, and although he had lost almost all at the burning of Niagara, would receive nothing from the Society, but attended patients gratis.

A statement is given October 1817, signed by John Strachan (Bishop Strachan) who was treasurer.

At a meeting in March, 1814, it is mentioned that Mr. Clench's house, the only one remaining in town, was burned accidentally on the 14th inst., with clothes, bedding, etc. There were seventeen people living in it, as the Stewarts, who were cousins, had taken refuge there when their house was burned, Ralph Clench, the owner being a prisoner of war.

From the Gleaner newspaper, started in 1817, we learn of races held on the race course made by the Turf Club in 1797. A ball given afterwards by the officers of the 70th Surrey in their mess room. Dancing was kept up till five in the morning.

Another item tells of a famous apple tree near town which produced thirty bushels of apples which would make three barrels of cider worth five dollars a barrel.

SEPT. 20TH, 1817: Here is a curious reference to Sir Walter Scott. We remember how jealously was guarded the secret of the authorship of "The Waverley Novels." His brother in Canada had been mentioned, but we had not known that his brother was in Niagara as Paymaster of the 70th Surrey. Sir Walter did not acknowledge his authorship until the failure of the great publishing firm, which he so nobly redeemed.

In the Journal of Capt. Langston, 1817, describing a trip from Philadelphia to Niagara, is found this passage: "Sept. 20th, 1817. Took the stage at 6 for Newark. Reached Fort George between 8 and 9 and went to the inn kept by A. Rogers. Next day went across to the American Fort. On return talked with Major Daws, of 99th, at Fort George. Dined with mess of 70th Regt. They live well and have a good mess room. Next day visited Fort Missisauga, a strong little star fort with a block tower in the centre. Fort George, a mile higher up, has been curtailed one half. Gen. Brock lies under the flagstaff in the highest bastion and I walked over the grave of the gallant soldier. Sept. 25th started on stage. Passed through Queenston. Saw remains of several redoubts. A toll pole like a flagstaff is erected on the spot where Gen. Brock fell, about 300 yards from the road." Finding he had left some articles in Niagara, he returned to the inn of A. Rogers and was pleased to find them. "The next day, ate peaches at Col. Grant's garden. Saw Capt. Vavsour. Sept. 30th, started at 7 o'clock. Plagued with harness. Got some string at Mr. Scott's, Paymaster of the 70th, who lives three miles from Fort George. Said to be the author of "Guy Mannering." "Waverly," etc. Disappointed at not seeing him. These novels are supposed to be sketched by Mr. and Mrs. Scott, but finished for the press by their brother Walter. Such is the opinion of the officers of the 70th.

A find has lately been made by Dr. Clarke, of Toronto, who found that the die of medals was still kept in England. He had several made. The design is remarkable, having the American Eagle attacking the Canadian Beaver, defended by the British Lion, the Niagara river dividing the combatants. The medals, for some reason, were not given the first consignment. It is said they were not accepted, from some fault. Some say that the Canadian and American sides were reversed. The question as to what became of the medals has now been ascertained, as in the history of the Toronto Hospital by Dr. Clarke, it is seen that they were sold and the money used for the hospital in 1819. There were 561 Gold and Silver Medals sold for 395 pounds. 9.11. They were 2 and a half inches in diameter. They were 61 of gold, the rest of silver.

NIAGARA SPECTATOR, JUNE 18TH, 1818: An account of the presentation of a set of colors at Grimsby: The Annual Meeting of the 4th Regt., Lincoln Militia at Grimsby. A set of Colors, consecrated by Rev. W. Sampson, who delivered an animated oration, after which the colors were presented by the two Misses Nelles, each addressing a few words to the Officers and men. Miss E. Nelles said: "These colors are presented to the 4th Regt. of Lincoln Militia under a fixed conviction that you will do honor to them on every occasion, and should you again be called to defend your country from an invading foe, may your united endeavors as heretofore be crowned with success by the God of Justice, and may these banners, sanctified by Divine benediction, remain unsullied as symbols of

your loyalty to succeeding generations." Miss M. Nelles then said: "My friend has left nothing for me to add to the brave Officers and men of the 4th Lincoln Militia, except that to say, "There there is any doubt of their voluntarily defending with their lives these colors now confided to their charge, would be to contradict the many proofs they have publicly given of their loyalty and bravery. May your arms always prosper against the enemies of your country." The evening was closed with a social party and dance at the Lieut.-Colonel's (Robt. Nelles).

NIAGARA SPECTATOR, APRIL 9TH, 1819: This number contains a long letter from Robert Gourlay to the resident land owners of Upper Canada. Two columns are devoted to the District Common Schools. The teachers are requested to go from house to house, inquiring who possess a copy of the Holy Scriptures, and if without, can have one for a quarter of a dollar a month, and if not able can have it gratis on applying to Samuel Street, Falls Mills, Secretary of the Niagara Bible Society. Signed: Ralfe Clench. Rules for schools are printed, ten in number.

NIAGARA SPECTATOR, FEB. 4TH, 1819: "Proposals for Establishing a Circulating Library in the Town." Rules are given. Subscriptions in advance, ten dollars. Subscribers to have access to all books in the New Book Store." On another page: "Just received at the Niagara Library the following books." These advertisements are unsigned, but it is known that the Niagara Library was in charge of Andrew Heron, who was at different times, its librarian, secretary and treasurer, and eventually became its owner. In those days, people were willing to pay for the privilege of reading, when ten dollars were asked yearly. It is not known whether the Circulating Library was formed, but there was a library in 1825 and again in 1830 are advertisments for magazines and reviews for a Circulating Library, and St. Andrew's Church Library was formed in 1830, as shown by the printed catalogue.

The Mechanics' Institute Library was formed in 1848, now the Public Library, so that there has been a continuous library in the Town from 1800, which can be said of no other place in Ontario.

The St. Andrew's Catalogue of 1834 shews 1,000 volumes, and these were added in 1854. The Library of 1800 - 1820 also had 1,000 volumes, as shewn by the catalogue. To this may be added the valuable library of Rev. Robert Addison, for a long time, in possession of his grandson, Dr. Stevenson, now in the Rectory of St. Mark's, consisting of 1,000 volumes, many of them extremely rare, large folios.

A small Map of 1819 by Capt. H. Vavasour, Royal Engineers (copied from the Archives) came into existence from a curious dispute between the military and civilian elements. John Grier, a merchant here, wrote to the Governor in Quebec complaining of the injury done him by the filling up of his tan pits by the order of Vavasour, and Vavasour on being reproved writes defending himself, sending a map shewing the plots offered to Grier in exchange in 1817 and 1818, which had been refused by him. The Governor is asked to select a spot but refuses. A long correspondence ensues, finally

settled in 1820. Vavasour explained that the site desired by Grier is too near the Town, the Church and the Engineer's Quarters. The whole bank, he says, is provided with springs.

A Union Sunday School was in existence in Niagara in 1819, held in the School House of St. Andrew's Church, what is now the Sexton's House, and where Divine Service was held after the Church was burned in 1813. John Crooks conducted it for fourteen years. Among the teachers were Dr. Miller, Mrs. Miller, Miss Young, Rev. T. Creen, A. Heron, Mrs. Heron, etc. A curious sort of acoustic of the names of Christ was composed by Dr. Miller in 1822, also at one time a Superintendent. It was committed to memory by the children, and Mrs. Comer, the grand-daughter of Dr. Miller, at eighty-four could recite it. It began:

A was an ANGEL, came down from the sky, (Isa. 63.9)
B was the BRANCH exalted on high (Zec. 3:8)
C was the COUNSELLOR who good counsel gave (Isa. 9.6)
D the DELIVERER from death and the grave (Rom. 11:26)

A list is in existence of the members of a class of boys in the Sunday School.

1819 – 1822: From the volumes published by Robert Gourlay, we learn much of his troublous days and of the condition of Canada. He was confined in Niagara Jail for eight months in 1819 and banished illegally by a misinterpretation of the Allen Act of 1804 and false evidence given. He is often called the "Banished Briton." It is not generally known that in the petition drawn up by him to be presented to the British Parliament, many of the changes for the betterment of our Country were outlined for Canada nearly a hundred years ago. It was recommended that a union of all the Provinces should take place, that each Province should govern its own local affairs, that there should be a Parliament for the Whole, that there should be no duty on goods between Canada and the United States, the improvement of navigation on the St. Lawrence, that the Clergy Reserves should be sold and applied for education, that Canada should support its military and naval forces, so that no expense should fall on Britain, and finally, that Canada should be represented in the British House of Commons. This shews remarkable foresight on the part of Gourlay, who certainly was a man far ahead of his time. Every one of these with one exception, has been gained by strenuous exertions after strong opposition. If not yet represented in the British Parliament, we know that at least three Canadians are members. Gourlay, a man of unimpeachable integrity, immense energy and a man of eager, restless spirit, would by some be called an agitator but we cannot but feel sympathy for one ever strong for the right, but sometimes uncomfortable in the wrong.

1819: In the diary of John Goldie, who walked the greater part of the way from Montreal to Niagara to examine the botanical production of Canada, he states that "the only building worthy of particular notice is the jail, just out of town." It is a large, two-storey brick building, very handsome, and is considered to be the finest building in Canada. At present, it holds within its walls the celebrated Gourlay. The papers are full of his

writings and those of his opponents. I suspect his greatest fault is in speaking too many truths."

1821: STATUTES OF UPPER CANADA Two acts refer to the weekly maintenance of insolvent debtors and to fixing the limits in the jails of the Province.

In the first case, a weekly allowance of five shillings, payable on Monday, is to be made by the creditor, and in default of such payment the prisoner shall be discharged out of custody.

March 19th. An Act for additional allowance to the Rev. R. Addison, Chaplain of the House of Assembly, for his long and faithful service. "Whereas the Rev. Robert Addison has for thirty years, with zeal and piety discharged the duties of Chaplain to the Honourable House of Assembly, and whereas from his advanced age and long services it is expedient to grant him a pension during his life, that the sum of fifty pounds annually be granted after the passing of this Act.

1822: Some curious stories are told shewing the ability of animals to find their way home across rivers and even by long journeys by land. We have heard of remarkable returns home of both dogs and cats, but these extend the story to the horse and even geese, not generally considered the wisest of animals.

In 1822, Mr. Lachlan Currie, living half way between Niagara and Queenston, sold a grey mare to a gentleman of Waterdown, N.Y., for \$140. It was conveyed by the lakes. In two months, the mare was seen swimming across the river and came home. Mr. Currie kept her and returned the money.

The Lambert family moved and took a flock of geese with them to Wilson, N.Y. They returned across the river to their old home.

Another story is that a dog was sold for \$25 to go to the States. It came home six weeks after, swimming across the river.

REV. JOHN McEWEN, 1824: Reminiscences of one born in Niagara, 1811. "On the 13th October, 1824, I was present when the remains of General Brock and his Aid were taken from the ramparts of Fort George to Queenston Heights. The hearse was a large army wagon covered with black cloth. It was drawn by four black horses. These were driven by a black driver. Four black men walked at the head of the horses. Boy-like, though very young, I followed, walking with the procession and back again to Niagara.

JULY 15TH, 1823: A letter from Alexander Stewart, a lawyer in Niagara, gives the losses of Mrs. Campbell, the widow of Fort-Major Campbell, who died in December, 1812, and was buried at Fort George. The letter tells of the house, 36 x 24 furnished in a handsome manner, also barn and outhouses, all burned and the furniture plundered. "I

remember hearing of her having a sum of money taken forcibly from her hand. The house was valued at 1200 pounds. Her case requires commiseration. Left with three children, one an infant, she walked four miles, carrying it for baptism and on its death had to dig its grave and cover its remains.

1825: FIRST POEM - It is believed that the first poem published in Upper Canada was "Wonder of the West, or a Day at the Falls of Niagara in 1825."

It was printed at York by G. Fothergill the same year, simply signed by a Canadian. The writer is now known to have been J.L. Alexander, a teacher in York Grammar School, afterwards incumbent at Saltfleet and Binbrook. An imperfect copy was found in a garret of the town, but by the kindness of Dr. Bain, of the Toronto Reference Library, the first eight pages were supplied, copied in his own handwriting, our copy being thus not only a rare book, but a memorial of Dr. Bain. As a poem, it is not of a high standard, but is chiefly interesting to us as giving a description of the town, the river, Queenston, Brock's Monument, the Falls, etc.

"Upon the river's eastern side
A fortress stands in warlike pride,
Ontario's surges wash its base
And gradually its walls deface,
And from its topmost tower displayed
A flag with Stars and Stripes portrayed.
Upon the west an ancient mound,
The Union Jack and British ground.
Nor distant far another stands,
Which the whole river's mouth commands
Between the two lays Newark Village."

The fruit trees along the road to Queenston are mentioned, also Brock's Monument and the winding staircase on the outside. A reference to the death of Col. Nichol, to Table Rock, the ladder made from a tall tree, etc., the romantic meeting of two lovers who each had thought the other dead. There are 48 pages.

20TH APRIL, 1825: From an original letter: "This is to certify that on the 11th December, 1824, I paid to Mr. Jno. Wilson, of Niagara, by order of Mrs. Mary Truesdell, executrix to the estate of the late James Rogers, of Niagara, deceased, the sum of two hundred and eighty-five pounds currency on account of the losses sustained by the late James Rogers during the war.

ROBERT GRANT

NIAGARA GLEANER, 1826: At the Assizes, three thieves were sentenced to be hanged

25th October. At the time appointed thousands flocked from miles to see the execution and were greatly disappointed when at the last moment, a reprieve arrived.

GLEANER, 1826: "Surprising feat of agility in old age, Mr. Wm. Dunbar, a carpenter, in his 77th year, ascended by a very difficult perpendicular ladder to the summit of the Monument to General Brock, where he levelled, plumbed and placed the semi-circular arch on the top of the monument, 115 ft. from the base, and continued there nearly six hours, when he descended the ladder with the agility of a sailor. Mr. Dunbar is a native of Scotland. Signed: Peter McArthur, Jas. McNaughton, Contractors, Ed. De Field, Wm. Foley."

GLEANER, JAN. 28TH, 1826: From a Gleaner of 1832, we quoted an account of the celebration of St. Patrick's Day, and in another was told that of St. Andrew's Society.

In the Gleaner of 28th January is the account of a Dinner on January 25th to the memory of Robert Burns, shewing who were present, what toasts were given and how the day was celebrated three quarters of a century ago.

"At six o'clock forty sat down to a sumptuous dinner. Jas. Muirhead and Dr. Hamilton did the honors of the table. After the cloth was removed, the following toasts were drunk, and the music was furnished by the band of the 76th Regiment.

No. 1 To the memory of Robert Burns. Tune "I'm Wearin Awa, Jean."

No. 2 The King, 4 Times 4. Tune: God Save the King.

No. 3 The Land of Cakes. Tune: Kail Brose.

No. 4 Rose, Shamrock and Thistle. Tune: All who of Britain Bear the Name.

No. 5 Earl of Dalhousie and British Colonies: Tune: British Grenadiers.

No. 6 Sir Peregrine Maitland. Tune: British Grenadiers.

No. 7 Scottish Wives, Scottish Bairns and All Who Lie in Scotchman's Arms. Tune: Come Under My Plaidie.

No. 8 Wooden Walls of Great Britain. Tune: Rule Britannia

No. 9 Duke of York and the Army. Tune: Duke of York's March.

No. 10 Lady Sarah Maitland and Canadian Fair. Tune: Green Grow the Rushes O.

No. 11 The Great Unknown. Tune: A man's a Man for a' That.

No. 12 Washington Irving. Tune: White Cockade

No. 13 The Greek Cause. Tune: Scots Wha Hae wi' Wallace Bled."

Some of the true sons of Caledonia continued till an early hour next morning. It is not probable these toasts were drunk in water, as would likely be the case at the present time when the authorship of the Waverley Novels was still kept secret, though soon after openly acknowledged at a public dinner after the crisis, when Scott found himself under such an immense load of debt, which he nobly made such herculean efforts to discharge. Washington Irving was the friend of Sir Walter and the Greeks were then struggling for freedom a year before the Battle of Navarino.

NIAGARA GLEANER, 1827: On Jan. 18th, an icebridge formed, which lasted for five weeks. Booths for the sale of liquor were put on the ice.

FEB. 23RD: A collection was taken up in the school of Mr. David Thompson in aid of the distressed Greeks, amounting to 11s, 1-1/2 d. This was the year of the Battle of Navarino.

AUGUST 3RD, 1828: St. Mark's Church was consecrated on Sunday, August 3^d, by the Hon. and Rt. Rev. Charles James, Bishop of Quebec, in the presence of His Excellency, Sir Peregrine Maitland, his staff and other dignitaries, the Bishop preaching and the Morning Prayers and Litany by Rev. Robert Addison and Rev. Thomas Creen, the assistant Minister.

IN COUNCIL, 6TH AUGUST, 1828: "Received the petition of the Minister and Church Wardens of Niagara, praying for a title of land appropriated for the Episcopal Church of that place. Read also the following report of the Surveyor General thereon. The block of land within prayed for contains about four acres and a half, and formed part of the Military Reservation adjoining the town at Niagara.

Upon which it was ordered that the grant of land within alluded to be granted in perpetuity to the Minister and Church Wardens of the Town Of Niagara, for the purpose of a site for an Episcopal Church and Burying Ground, in the usual way and upon like trusts as in other cases upon payment of usual fees in similar grants to the Surveyor-General."

GLENER, 1828, 1814-1823-1837: War Losses Major David Secord. In the Welland Tribune appeared many articles by Lt. Ernest Cruikshank, now General Cruickshank, who is called the Historian of the Niagara Peninsula. His account of all the battles there of the War of 1812-1814, his Documentary History in nine or ten volumes, all published by the Lundy's Lane Historical Society, all shew his research, his reliability, his non-partisan spirit.

The documents loaned to Mr. Cruikshank shew that the Secords were among the first settlers in the Niagara Region, coming in 1777. There were seven of the family in the Rangers, who settled in Niagara or St. David's. The First Mill 1783, was theirs (No, 1st Mill Servos) the materials supplied by the Government. The house of John Secord is spoken of in 1780. St. Davids took its name from Major David Secord, who obtained patents for (No Peter Secord 600 acres of land near the village. In 1796 he was a Magistrate, and in 1811, Member obtained patents) of the Legislative Assembly for 2^d Lincoln. His losses were great from the burning Maj.D. bought 1799) of St. Davids on the 19th July, 1814, of which a list was furnished, consisting of two stone houses, one frame house, one barn, one grist mill, one blacksmith shop, two log buildings, one store of merchant goods, all his household furniture and family clothing, seven horses, four cows, twenty fat hogs, etc.

We have heard of delay in paying the war losses, of the deductions made, of the length of time between the instalments paid. There is a long article, or rather petition, of David Secord in 1837 to the House of Assembly, detailing his losses and his treatment by the Government, notwithstanding his services in the war, and of thirty-three years in the militia. It appears that his claims had been allowed in 1823, but not paid, and his statement in full was published in a Welland Paper.

In the Gleaner, Nov. 24th, 1838, is a long article giving the wrongs suffered by Major David Secord. He tells that he is now an old man, having been a resident for fifty-one years. Had taken part in the battles of Queenston Heights, Chippawa, Lundy's Lane, Fort Erie, and had lost property to the value of \$20,000.

In the Gleaner of January is recorded the death of Ralfe Clench, who had held so many offices: Clerk of the Peace, Judge, Register of Surrogate, Colonel of Militia, Member of Parliament. Had been in King's 8th Regt., and also in Butler's Rangers.

1830: Extracts from Journal of Rev. Jno. Oakley, a teacher in Niagara, and afterwards a Baptist Minister: "I arrived in Niagara in October, 1814. There I was appointed to take charge of militia stores, as clerk of the field train at Fort George. In 1815, I married Mary Henry, eldest daughter of an artillery pensioner, Dominick Henry, light-house keeper. In 1816, I was placed upon the reduced army list on half pay. Before I left Niagara the Lord enabled me to obtain means for building a chapel on the western side of town. It is a plain, substantial building, 30 x 40 feet and is now principally occupied by the African race, they being the most numerous members of the Church.

A child of Mr. Oakley's is buried in the graveyard near the Church.

Oct. 4th. Have been travelling, soliciting money from the brethren of other churches to assist. The Lord gave me favor, and out of 220 subscribers, several of them Catholics, not more than 30 from our own denomination, many of whom gave less than was expected.

1830: ADS. IN GLEANER - Mr. Groat advertises his library, subscription \$4.00 a year. A Sabbath School Society at the Pine Grove, Queenston Road, adopts a constitution and appoints officers; Mr. Soloman Vrooman, President; Joseph Brown, Vice-President; George Field, Secretary; H. Brown, Treasurer; Managers: Daniel Field, David Kemp, Daniel Cooper, Jas. Cooper, Jas. Durham, J.E. Ferry.

Niagara Ferry. The proprietor having refitted his house boat, is now ready to convey horses, waggons and passengers to and from Youngstown. Passengers can be conveyed across the Niagara River in the small boats at a moment's notice. Andrew Heron.

In Gleaner for December, 1830, we learn that 750 pounds has been subscribed for erecting a Presbyterian Church, and plans and estimates are asked for the building, to be capable of containing 600 people.

1ST OCTOBER, 1830: Rules and Regulations of the Niagara Fire Company, No. 1 printed by A. Heron as a small pamphlet. Officers: James Barker, Capt. Edw. C. Campbell, Lieut. J.Y. Crooks, Treas; John Rogers, Sec. The Company consists of two divisions of seventeen each. Other names are John Graham, Geo. Varey, R. Howard, Jno. Clement, R. Fields, J. MacBride, Jas. Rogers, R. Wagstaff, T. Whitten, H. McNally, Thos. Richardson, A. Heron, Jr., Jno. Davidson, N. Wall, J. Kay, A. Boylan. A Meeting of the Temperance Society in the Methodist Meeting House. The Death of John Secord, the earliest settler is recorded, age 80.

1831: A map in the possession of the Historical shews that the Harbor and Dock Company was formed in 1831. From newspapers, it is learned that the marsh was part of it filled in, part of it pumped out and excavated for the "Slip" a foundry built. The King's Wharf used before was at Navy Hall where it is told in magniloquent terms by the reporter at the launch of the George Canning that "she glided most majestically from the stocks to the noble waters of Niagara and floated proudly on its bosom. She is an elegant vessel well worthy to bear a name dear to Canada and imperishable in the annuals of British History."

The Gazetteer of 1848 gives the names of many steamboats and schooners built here. The first steamboat on Lake Ontario was the Frontenac of Kingston, 1817. It has been a disputed point whether Canada or the United States has the honor of the first steamboat on Lake Ontario. An article by _____ in a Buffalo paper gives pictures of the Frontenac and states that the Ontario, the U.S. vessel was built in 1817.

It is remarkable how many boats connected with Niagara have been burned, the Frontenac near Niagara, the Zimmerman at Niagara Wharf in 1863, the City of Toronto at Port Dalhousie in 1884, the Cibola at Lewiston Wharf caught fire in 1895 and drifted down the river giving a spectacular sight as well as a sad one for the third engineer perished. Dr. Scadding in his Toronto Of Old give a vivid description of the loss of the Zimmerman at the Niagara Wharf, Aug. 21st, 1863, concluding this. "The long shrieking of the steam whistle, the resounding moans and convulsive sighs in a variety of keys from the tubes of the boiler gave the onlookers the painful impression of some gigantic sentient creature helplessly undergoing a fiery death and suffering pangs, protracted and inexpressible."

The second mate and the fireman, Patrick Lawless, were burned to death.

Many stories are told of the Captains of the Lake Boats, of their ability and thorough seamanship, among others Capt. Gordon, Captain Dick, Capt. Twohy and some remember Capt. Duncan Milloy as their beau ideal of a sea captain.

31ST MAY, 1831: In the Niagara Gleaner, June 4th, 1831, is an account of the ceremonies at the laying the foundation stone of St. Andrew's Church. A detachment of the 79th or Cameronian Highlanders was present. The prayer and address of Rev. Robt. McGill are given in full. The prayer was as follows: "Almighty and Eternal Creator of Heaven and Earth be pleased to prosper by thy gracious providence this undertaking and

enable as happily to complete what we have piously begun. Preserve this building from fires, floods, storms and all accidents that it may be a sanctuary to Thy sincere worshippers to remote time.

May those by whose Christian liberality it is erected, long enjoy within its walls, the blessings of a pure gospel faithfully administered and bequeath it to their posterity as evidence of their own true piety and of their concern for the real and immortal welfare of their children and their country. And may a seed arise up to serve and praise Thee when we are joined to our Father in the Temple above. Now unto the King Eternal, Immortal and Invisible, the only true God, the Supreme Architect and Ruler of Heaven and Earth be honor and glory forever and ever."

It is remarkable in view of the prayer for protection, that St. Andrew's has suffered from fire, by lightning stroke, by tornado, but it still stands.

GLENER, MARCH 31ST, 1832: At the request of the debtors confined in the Niagara Gaol, we insert the following: March 27th, 1832.

Sir: If there is a time when the kindness and sympathy of strangers entwine with the most secret fibres of the heart it is when the gloom of adversity has gathered darkly around and friends and acquaintances have dropped off, one by one till all are gone and left us in a sea of trouble to be borne down by some merciless wretch or driven to desperation by despair. Then is the soothing of the stranger who prompted by humanity stretches forth a hand to succour the unfortunate duly appreciated and deep and lasting gratitude awakened which no change of fortune can extinguish in a breast of ordinary sensibility. With these impressions, Sir, we beg to express our gratitude to Mrs. Stephenson, widow, whose kindness and liberality during the past winter can only be duly appreciated by those who found their misery so much alleviated by it. But how shall we thank little Mary Stephenson, who comes to us like an angel of mercy, diffusing happiness to every heart and inquiring out and administering relief to every little want. We trust that the Author of all Goodness will protect her the rest of her life.

We also have the honor to acknowledge many favors from Mrs. Capt. Mosier and we are obliged to Jno. Crooks, P.M. for his liberal donation of wood during the month of February. We have the honor to be Sir, your obedient servants.

There is a fine oil painting in existence symbolical of the above. A Birdcage and Bird representing the prisoner and the jail and a young girl holding out food to the inmate of the cage. It is said to have been painted by one of the prisoners. It hung in a house in Niagara for many years.

GLENER, DEC. 11TH, 1832: Pursuant to notice, the Trustees of the Niagara District Grammar School lately appointed by the Lieut. Governor met when the following gentlemen were present, Rev. Thomas Creen, Rev. Robt. McGill, James Melville, Robert Muirhead, Thos. McCormick, Robt. Dickson, Wm. Clark, Wm. D. Miller and George Ball, Esquires.

Resolved 9th that this Board express their high satisfaction at the liberality of James Muirhead, Robert Dickson and John Claus, Esquires, the Trustees of the Market

lots for the liberal appropriation of 500 pounds, they have made for the erection of suitable buildings for a District School.

GLENER, NOV. 3RD, 1832: The Dock Company is excavating the marsh to form a basin for vessels drawing ten feet of water. In June, 1833, there are now five vessels coming weekly, The Great Britain, William the Fourth, United Kingdom, The Queenston from Prescott and the United States from Ogdensburg.

Sept. 21st, 1833 - Launched a fine new Schooner with the name of Princess Victoria the presumptive heiress of the British throne.

Sept. 7th, 1831 - Niagara Market, beef per pound d 2 and a half to d3 and a half. Butter d 7 and a half.

May 18th, 1833 - GLENER. A return of the population gives 1,573 to the town and 1,940 to the township.

GLENER, MAR. 31ST, 1832: A remarkable meeting called by J. Kidd, Acting Sheriff to meet at the Court House (now Western Home) at the request of the yeoman to discuss the affairs of the country and draft an address to the King. The account is very confusing and conflicting, charges and counter-charges go on for weeks with regard to the meeting. Mr. Jas. Cooper was nominated Chairman, also Mr. Woodruff, a show of hands seemed to be so equal that it was hard to decide. The Sheriff desired the meeting to adjourn to the outside when Mr. Cooper was made Chairman. Mr. Dickson introduced the resolutions, eleven in number, and an address to the King, stating their loyalty; full contentment with their present condition and their detestation of designing and seditious men. Meanwhile, another meeting was being held in the Court Room, eleven resolutions and an address to the King passed declaring their loyalty, but asking for a change of men and measures, referred to the war losses not being paid declared by the Home Government seventeen years ago and called for their payment also to the Crown Land abuses.

Each party asserted that theirs was the only legal meeting. The Editor sums up declaring that while he upholds the constitution, he will fearlessly state what he thinks is wrong and mentions several real evils which demand redress. Of course we know these were not redressed till after the rebellion but this was the muttering of the storm which had been going on since the time of Gourlay. How hard it is to do away with what seems to be vested rights. Not till 1854 was Responsible Government granted after a hard struggle.

1832-33: Just at the time that letters were received asking information about the early years of the Grammar School in Niagara, several pages of foolscap were found in the chest containing the Communion Silver in the Manse, with minutes of meetings apparently by Dr. McGill who was a trustee. Letters to and from the Lieutenant Governor, resolutions nineteen in number relating to plans for erecting a suitable

building. In those days the trustees were appointed by the Lt.-Governor and permission is asked to appoint another teacher, he having been warned to improve his classical attainments. The reply is that it will not be necessary to go to the Mother Country as proposed but that a competent teacher can be found in Canada. Four acres had been granted for a site opposite Fort Mississauga on Queen St. It is remarkable that though plans had been made as far back as 1798 and now in 1832, no permanent building was provided till 1875 for the High School, and the Public School in 1859.

GLENER, MAY, 1833: As showing the views held by some as to the use of liquor, a letter signed G.F. gives the character of some gentleman styled Stoicusa man of sound learning and soldi judgment but of stern moroseness.

One day when invited to dinner with friends, either from the ridiculous supposition that three or four glasses would impair his faculties or some other reason, he was observed to fill his glass only twice. When he withdrew for some minutes, it was remarked how strange it was that a man of such superior understanding, should labor under so great a foible. How strange to see us now is such language and yet how many arguments now in 1920 are brought forward for the uses of liquor.

Oct. 2nd, 1834: The contents of a document found lately will be a surprise to some, to know that over eighty years ago, the merchants of Niagara were supplying foods to those of Toronto. This is shown by several letters from Robert Cathcart to Messrs. Jno. Rogers & Co., who did an immense business at that time in this town in the large three story brick building at the corner of Gate and Queen Sts., since taken down.

Toronto, Oct. 20th, 1834

"Dear Sir,-

Send me a case of your best Twankay Tea and I will forward the cash. Let me know how the election comes on."

Yours, Robert Cuthcart.

Another letter of Oct. 6th tells of trouble with the Customs House and an affidavit is requested that it was bought at the India Sale Montreal, which on being given, the price of the chest of tea was sent with the remark "Trade good in good spirits, cash plenty these times." On April 24th, 1835, he encloses fifty pounds and speaks of fifty pounds sent by the Captain of the Canada.

NIAGARA REPORTER, SEPT. 14TH, 1837: The Article describes the excitement in Town when the order to the Sheriff to deliver up Johnson Molesby, an escaped slave confined in our jail charged with horse-stealing. "Curiosity induced us to go up to the jail where we found a motley assemblage of colored people drawn up in battle array. Up marched a non-commissioned officer of the Royal Artillery with three of his men ordered

up by our Magistrate to assist the Sheriff. Gracious Heavens! Are we in a British Colony? Not one person of respectability would step forward to assist the Officers and Constables. The soldiers were ordered to charge and they entered the thick of a justly infuriated mob but just then orders arrived from Toronto for a reconsideration of the case and the multitude dispersed with three cheers - Since writing the above, the Deputy Sheriff repaired to the jail with military and constables to deliver the slave to the authorities of Kentucky. The assistants were ordered to fire on the mob, the prisoner escaped but two colored men were shot dead and two wounded.

DEC. 9TH, 1837: In the Diary of Col. Clark, St. Catharines is a reference to the troublesome times of the Rebellion. "In 1837, Dec. 9th, 100 volunteers went across from Niagara to Toronto to help against the Rebels. Mr. Lockhart and staunch friends from the Dock had fitted up in twelve hours, the Britannica (dismantled) provisioned here, etc. Warning had been given to St. Catharines, wagons procured, some walked, 50 cavalry formed at once, all went through mud and mire to Niagara in three and a half hours, as they passed every window flew open, handkerchiefs waved. The size of the boat only allowed twenty horses. At six p.m. the boat left the wharf amidst cheers but such a gale blew that they returned after three hours. Indians came in under Chief Col. Kerr of Wellington Square, Niagara was filled Dec. 11th. The Niagara troop was under Capt. Dickson.

REPORTER, MAY 26TH, 1837: The Fishermen of Niagara last night captured upwards of 6000 whitefish equal to sixty barrels. They are sold at the beach at six dollars per hundred.

27 MARCH, 1839: An account with the weight and price of the Town Bell. Niagara Fire Company bought of H.R. Wagstaff Fire Bell, weight 700 lbs. Cost 71 pounds, s11, d3. The Bell was put in place and rung the first time on Monday, 27th March, 1839. The committee, W.D. Miller, James Monroe, H. Charles, W. Press, John Andrews, James Harvey. The bell must have been placed in the Market House as the present building was not erected till 1847.

AUGUST, 1838: In the account of Benjamin Wait, who was banished to Van Dieman's land for his share in the Rebellion, there is a pathetic story of his wife's devotion in efforts for his release. He had been sentenced to be hanged at the jail here 25th Aug. 1838. This heroic woman went 700 miles to Quebec to intercede for a pardon from Lord Durham. The reprieve only arrived half an hour before the time appointed for the execution. She afterwards went to England to try to obtain a pardon from the young

Queen and had determined to go to Van Dieman's Land but came back to intercede with another Governor. She was assisted by Hon. Wm. Hamilton Merritt, Jesse Ketchum and others, and spent four years of her life in helping the prisoners. When he was at last reprieved, it was found that he had escaped.

Although he spoke as if his health was injured by his hardships, he lived to be an old man while she lived only a year after his release.

AUGUST 14TH, 1840: In the Niagara Reporter are given the speeches given at the great meeting on Queenston Heights, when 8,000 people were present. Ten steam vessels from Toronto, Cobourg, Hamilton and Kingston reached Niagara at ten and ascended the river, the banks being lined with spectators, shouting being heard from shore to ship and ship to shore. It is said that those who had provided dinner lost heavily, as the speaking lasted so many hours that evening came on and the steamers started with an enthusiastic, if a hungry crowd. There were eleven resolutions and the mover and seconder spoke, giving an opportunity for twenty-two speakers. The Speakers were: Sir Allan McNab, Col. Angus McDonell, Mr. H. Draper, Mr. Thorburn, M.P.P., Col. Moris, 2nd Lanark, Hon. Justice Macaulay, Col. Clarke, 15th Lincoln,; W. H. Merritt, M.P.P.; Col. Sherwood, 2d North York; Col. R. Stanton, 1st North York; Hon. Chief Justice Hagarman, Col. H. Ruttan, 3d Northumberland; Col. Kearns, 2nd Batt. Prescott. The Lieut.-Governor, Sir George Arthur, closed. Only two officers of the regular army who were in the Battle were present: Col. Bullock and Major Garrett, of Niagara. This was what was called the "INDIGNATION MEETING," after the blowing up of Brock's Monument, when it was determined to erect a larger and finer one.

1842: The "Chief Justice Robinson," 400 tons burden, built at Niagara. Capt. Hugh Richardson. Peculiar bow. Enormous cutwater, like a double-furroughed plough, to cut through the ice in winter.

MAY 20TH, 1841: The Niagara Reporter has a letter signed J.G.R., proving what had been said, that the graveyard extended much farther than now:

"Having been informed that the bones of individuals long deceased are visible in the road leading by the side of the English Church to the wharf, I visited the spot and found on one side of the road, the end of a coffin, the fragments of a skull crushed by wagon wheels, and a coffin lid worn away by passing feet. I trust the proper authorities will cause the remains to be placed in the graveyard, or remove the fence to the original limits of the consecrated ground." Alexander Davidson has three columns advertising new books for sale and that of the Canada Spelling Book by himself recommended by Rev. A.N. Rethune, Cobourg; Rev. J. Scott, Rev. Robert McGill and Rev. Thomas Creen. The Canada Spelling Book was used for years in the schools.

1841: BROCK'S MONUMENT - A document relating to the funds was held at Kingston 29th Sept. 1842. A balance on hand of 428 pounds was recorded and debentures of 2,800 pounds. It was agreed to publish the resolution of thanks to the Indian Tribes which had contributed. "That the committee has received with the most lively satisfaction an account of the Munificent Donations of the principal Chiefs and others of the Chippawas of the Upper Reserve on the River St. Clair, the Hurons and the Wyandots of Amherstburg, the Chippawas on the Lower Reserve, and Walpole Island on the River St. Clair, the Chippawas on the River Thames, the Moravians on the River Thames, the Munsees of the River Thames, the Oneidas of the River Thames, the Six Nations of the Grand River, the Mississaugas of the River Credit, the Chippewas of the Saugeen River, Lake Huron; the Chippawas of the Township of Rama, Lake Simcoe; the Chippawas of Snake Island, Lake Simcoe; The Mississaugas of Alminck, Rice Lake; the Mississaugas of Rice Lake Village in the Township of Otonabee, and of Mud and Balsam Lakes and the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte.

The Committee have much pride in finding themselves associated with the brave and faithful warriors of the Indian Nations and have the greatest respect for the loyalty of their Red Brethren and they shall take care that their generous gift shall be made the best use of, that as long as the Monument shall endure, it shall tell their great mother the Queen and all their White Brethren that the brave and grateful Indians have not forgotten their glorious leader and friend, and that they have helped to build the tomb over his grave."

Who now in viewing the monument ever recalls the fact that the Indians contributed so generously to its erection? It is well that such deeds should be remembered.

1843: Some facts regarding the beautiful stained glass window in the chancel of St. Mark's Church which are not generally known may be found interesting. The simple design, the soft subdued colors, the chaste appearance of the whole attract attention and are a contrast to the glaring colors and questionable taste of some of the more modern windows in other places. Several years ago, the Rev. Archdeacon McMurray gave the writer some facts which have not yet appeared in print. Of the three first stained glass windows in Ontario, that of St. Marks is the only one now in existence as both the others, that of St. James Cathedral and in Ancaster were destroyed by fire. The chancel was built in 1843. Several names were mentioned in connection with its construction. There would of course be the designers, the contractors and the workman, the names Craig and McCauseland are mentioned. Further information it is hoped may yet come to light.

SEPT. 20TH, 1844: A document in the possession of the Society gives the story of a chair now in St. Marks Choir. It is a list of subscribers in the Sunday School to purchase a chair for the old clerk, the sums varying from 7 and a half d to 2d 6s. It begins

"Whereas the old clerk has returned to town and expects to occupy his place in the Church so long as he lives and is able to attend and is able to attend divine service, it has been observed that his seat on a stool is not easy nor suitable for him and an easy chair has been kindly thought of. This has been made to order and will be an appropriate present to honorable age from the young as a mark of respect for his grey hairs and long service. The list of youthful contributors will be carefully preserved. "The cost is one pound, 15 s currency, the surplus for Sunday School books." In the graveyard is a tombstone to John Wray, Clerk for 50 years in the Church.

CHRONICLE, FEB. 7TH, 1845: The weather this week has been of the most wintry cast, the northeast wind blew its heaviest, accompanied with a heavy fall of snow, and it was altogether the most dreadful storm we ever witnessed, even in Canada.

The snow drifted tremendously as shown by a fact unprecedented in the memory of the oldest inhabitant, that from Tuesday to Friday at 11 p.m. not a single mail has reached this town though we ought to have one daily. The Steamer from Toronto has discontinued her trips no doubt in consequence of the bay in Toronto being frozen over.

One of the overdue mails arrived on Saturday at noon, brought by a man on foot who started with it from St. Catharines at 10 o'clock the previous day and reports the roads to be almost impassable."

Observe in the above, there was no railway train, no electric car to bring the mail, just the stagecoach alone, but the Steamer ran all winter when practicable between Toronto and Niagara.

JUNE 20TH, 1841-46: In an old record book is some account of the Niagara Temperance Society from 1841 to 1846 and again in 1850. First is given the Constitution signed June 20th, 1841. Meetings were to be held every three months and addresses given. Hundreds of names were signed many at meetings where a lecture was given. The names of the lecturers are Rev. E. B. Harper in 1846, Rev. John Hart in 1850, Rev. J.B. Mowat in 1852. Following some of the names are some strange remarks one "requested his name to be taken off as he is to be married this day," others "broken out," "expelled," etc.

MAIL, MARCH 31ST, 1847: A letter contradicts the statement that the Savanna was the first vessel to cross the Atlantic with steam. The letter goes on to say "Canada can boast of owning the first vessel to cross the Atlantic altogether by steam, her name was the Royal William built by George Black, Quebec in 1831. The machinery was made in the establishment of Messrs. Bennel & Henderson, Montreal, drafted by John Lowe, late of this place. The Royal William crossed from Halifax to Falmouth in 1833 making the passage in nineteen days. As I was Chief Officer of that vessel when she commenced running, I am desirous of putting this matter right.
Yours Respectfully, James Sutherland.

This is the James Sutherland who was afterwards the Captain of the Magnet.

A letter in Montreal Witness 1893, signed by Robert Slack confirms the above statement and gives the additional fact that the plans of the vessel were designed and drawn by his brother-in-law, L. H. Shea, Montreal, formerly of H.M. Dockyard, Woolwich, England.

CHRONICLE, JULY 6TH, 1847: On Saturday last, Capt. Sutherland's new iron steamer was launched at the dock and was christened the "Magnet." Her Majesty's War Steamer Cherokee was lying at anchor in the river.

At the launch, the Steamer Admiral moored on the outside of the wharf and the Telegraph came to the inner side, Capt. G. of the former remarked to Capt. M. Of the latter, that he had cut in and obstructed the view. "It is not Capt. M's fault said a bystander the "Magnet" attracted the "Telegraph".

NIAGARA MAIL, APRIL 7TH, 1847: Millions of wild pigeons pass over this town almost daily but altogether out of reach.

Sept. 15th. The new and splendid Court House erected by the Corporation is so far progressed as to admit of the Assizes being held in it. The Hon. Mr. Justice Jones assisted by E.C. Campbell and Thos. Butler as associate Judges. His Honor alluded in complimentary terms to the noble and elegant edifice and was decidedly of the opinion that it is superior to any other building of the kind in the province.

JAN. 20TH, 1847, CHRONICLE: The trustees of the town being required to ascertain the number of children of or certain age thought it as well at the same time to obtain the number of inhabitants in the town. From these returns we find the total number of souls 3,058, of these 792 are between 5 and 16 and of these about 300 attend the five Common Schools respectively conducted by Mr. Shaw, Mr. Thompson, Miss Eedson, Mrs. M.A. Eedson and Mrs. Wilson. There are a number at the Roman Catholic School and in addition there are three institutions of a higher order of learning, namely the District Grammar School conducted by Dr. Whitehead, assisted by Mr. Logan, The Classical School of Rev. Dr. Lundy, and the Ladies' School of the Misses Burgess. There is also an Elementary School by Mrs. Read.

NIAGARA MAIL NOV. 9TH: A bear weighing 300 lbs. was killed about a mile from town by two men in the employment of Jno. W. Ball, Esq. They discovered it among the branches of a huge oak tree and retraced their steps to obtains guns and a dog. The first

fire did not kill him and he fiercely engaged the dog when the other man ended the strife by shooting him through the head.

SEPT. 22D, 1847, NIAGARA MAIL - Two columns are filled with names and amounts given for the relief of distress in Ireland from famine and fever, shewing the people of this neighbourhood were both wealthy and generous, 1, 776 pounds and 1,200 barrels of flour being sent, the names of twenty-eight collectors are given and the amount, the largest being 50 pounds each from two persons. Geo. Keefer's Mill Thorold, gave 25 barrels of flour and G.P.M. Ball's Mill, Louth, 16 Barrels.

In the Mail, a graceful speech made by Mr. Hamilton in presenting a silver snuff box to Warden Thorburn in the Niagara District Council. For himself, he could say that the conduct of the Warden had furnished him with many wholesome lessons of self restraint, patience, good feeling and temper. In presenting this Mr. Warden, I perform a duty highly pleasing to myself.

JUNE 15TH TO NOV. 20TH, 1847: A curious part of the history of town has lately been unearthed known perhaps to not many. It is contained in a small minute book and relates to the emigrants arriving here in 1849 in that sad sad time resulting from the failure of the potato crops in Ireland and the famine and fever which resulted. Thousands died at Grosse Isle, many in Kingston and from the record, just found forty in Niagara. At that time the Board of Police represented what we now call the Town Council.

They received orders from Kingston to form themselves into a Board of Health, the Members being John Simpson, President and Messrs. T.McCormick. A. Davidson, A. Heron, J. Boulton. Medical Officers were appointed Doctors Melville and Rolls. Buildings were rented for a hospital and for shelter.

Beaver Bonerer was appointed Inspector and was to visit the steamboats on arrival and report. The minutes give the names of those who died, the expenses of nurses, food, medical attendance, blankets, beds, furniture, etc. Weekly reports were given of the number sick and well. About two hundred in all were relieved. The Total expenses which were to be paid by the Government amounted to almost ---- 1,000. One nurse died. Many letters were written by Mr. Simpson before the money was paid. The buildings were one near Navy Hall, the house of Mrs. Putman, perhaps the oldest in Town, the brick house of Mr. Stevens, near it was the hospital. These must have been sad, sad days for the townspeople to witness such distress as well as for those suffering in the hospital.

In May, on a Sunday, was seen one continuous flock of pigeons, which would dwindle now to a line and then widen out almost to cover the sky, sometimes so low as to be knocked down with a club, at others very high.

They were flying from the south to the north, but rather curiously seemed to be flying west, because when they reached our lake, they skirted the shore till they reached the western end of the lake and then flew north.

JULY 16TH, 1847: NIAGARA CHRONICLE - In the Emigrant Hospital in this Town, there are still several cases of fever, two of which it is feared, will prove fatal. We regret to learn that there are some soldiers of the Royal Canadian Regt. ill with the fever which they caught from some on the Mail Steamers coming from Kingston. We are sorry to learn that Dr. Grasset, physician to the Emigrant Hospital, Toronto, died this morning.

MAIL NOV. 22nd, 1848: Here occurs a rather complimentary notice of the medical men of the town, "Niagara is favored with a fair or rather an unusual proportion of medical talent and skill – Strabismus or squinting. We understand that Dr. Lowe of this town, M.R.C.S.L.L.A.C.L. recently performed several successful operations where the obliquity of the eyes was concerned. One of the individuals was formerly a workman in our office. We believe the doctor uses chlorform in cases susceptible of its influence. Dr. Lowe, Dr. Melville and Dr. Maitland of the Royal Canadian Rifles are all above mediocrity in their profession. A few days ago, Dr. Maitland amputate the leg of a soldier who refused to avail himself of chloroform saying he would rather be shot than use it."

JUNE 7TH, 1848: Interesting and important operation. On the 31st, Dr. Campbell, Port Robinson, performed a very serious operation on Mrs. Andrews of this town without the slightest pain through the influence of chloroform. Dr. Campbell soon after came to town.

APRIL 5TH, 1848: A singular phenomenon at the Falls. The water ceased to flow and swindled away to the appearance of a mere Mill Dam the rapids above disappeared, the bed of the river was exposed. This is accounted for by the accumulation of ice at the lower extremity of Lake Erie which formed a sort of dam between Buffalo and Fort Erie.

An account of the Suspension Bridge at the Falls. The Iris says that the feeble beginning was made by sending a kite across the Niagara with a string, then a cord, then a stout rope, then a hawser, then a wire cable. Mr. Elliott the engineer of the bridge crossed the river upon this wire in an iron basket.

MAIL, JULY 12TH, 1848: The footpath was finished and people crossed on payment of a quarter of a dollar. On 24th Sept. 1847, directors had been appointed. The Queenston Suspension Bridge was opened 18th Mar. 1851.

In the Journal of Education of 1848 is an item which will read strangely to Torontonians as well as Niagarians. It would seem that the system of free schools was adopted in Niagara before it was law in Toronto. The Journal says: "A town of Niagara, instead of shutting up the schools to gratify wealthy or party selfishness, they nobly provide for educating all the children of the Town and open up the Town Hall for public examination and for the distribution of prizes. What a different feeling would be produced in the City of Toronto by a Public School Examination from that of shutting up the schools and leaving the children to wander about in ignorance and idleness." Then follows an extract from the Niagara Mail giving the list of prizes in the schools of Mr.

Shaw, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Wilson, Miss Eedson, and Mr. Loony. The number of children examined was 377."

JULY 16TH, TELEGRAPH, 1847-1850: The Niagara and Queenston Telegraph is completed and from Queenston to Chippawa is in operation and from Toronto to Montreal in a few days.

Dec. 11th, 1850. An article tells when the telegraphic communication began between Niagara and Queenston. It was paid for by stockholders and it appears by the letters signed by the Managers, E.C. Campbell, Geo. Boomer, R. Wagstaff, there was a deficiency of 17 pounds made up by the Chairman. The operation was Mr. Nisbet. In 1849, there was a deficit of 66 pounds and the office was closed in August. The Townspeople are urged to come to the rescue. There is given the number of messages in 1847, 8, 9 and 1850 and the distant points mentioned.

1849 – 1850: In the Chronicle and Mail, November 1849, is an interesting account of the first annual meeting of the Niagara Mechanic's Institute, which was founded in the year 1848. "The chair was taken by Walter H. Dickson, Esq. M.P.P. President. The annual report was read and adopted by motion of Thos. McCormick and John Simpson. This was ordered to be printed. There was a balance of 34 pounds, 19 shillings, 6 d. The number of members was 126, the number of volumes 270, and such "the avidity of members in availing themselves of their privileges that 200 books had been issued as recorded on the library register." During the winter months, there had been twelve lectures, to full audiences in the Town Hall, kindly granted by the municipal corporation. Several ingenious pieces of mechanism the work and designs used in illustrations form the nucleus of a museum.

Application had been made to the government for pecuniary assistance, but was refused. The members intend to appeal to the liberality of private sources to obtain scientific apparatus. Signed; Richard Wagstaff.

The collector of these extracts remarks here, In many respects this report is a contract to the present state of affairs when instead of 270 volumes, there are 4,000. But alas could we by any way obtain audiences for twelve lectures except perhaps our successful and skilful young hockey players would kindly give their aid.

MAIL, MAY 8th, 1850: has an address to the officers of the Colored Company Incorporated Militia, lately disbanded at Port Robinson.

MAIL, 1850: At the Provincial Exhibition to be held at Niagara, September 18th, 19th, 20th, Professor Croft was to deliver a lecture in the Court House and the Annual Address was to be given on the grounds, a public dinner in the evening, steamboats to carry passengers at half rates, hotel keepers to entertain at the usual rates. The premium list amounts to twelve hundred pounds. His Excellency the Governor General to be present, a ploughing match to take place in the neighborhood at 9 o'clock a.m.

SEPT. 4TH: Preparations for the Provincial Show to be held at Niagara are progressing. Fourteen acres are enclosed by a substantial octagonal fence. Floral Hall is 140 ft. long by 40 ft. wide. Agricultural Hall and Mechanic's Hall are each 100 ft. long by 24 ft. wide. There are pens in great number for the reception of poultry and animals.

1851: Two petitions presented to the Mayor and Town Council shew a difference of opinion. The one signed by one hundred and thirty-nine demands that the law made with regard to licenses be more strictly enforced, the other signed by twenty inn-keepers and recess keepers asks that the law be repealed and the license lowered. Stranger reasons are given for this. If not granted, it is said "the income of the town will be lowered, families will either be reduced to want, or driven elsewhere for substance, houses will be left untenanted on the hands of their owners and anarchy, confusion and bad feeling exist throughout the community. "All this seems strange to us who now exist without the sale of liquor either in store or hotel."

JULY 7TH, 1851: NIAGARA CORRESPONDENCE IN ST. CATHARINES PAPER. Town Council. Five resolutions against the free School System were negative and the amendment moved by Alexander Davidson, seconded by John Davidson, carried.

"Resolved that the education of the rising generation is of paramount importance not only as being the most likely means of qualifying them to be useful and respectable members of Society but as the most effectual method of preventing crime and the consequent expenditure of money in maintaining the concomitants of retributive courts. Resolved that for this purpose, the Free System is the most perfect and efficient that can be devised." Carried.

CHRONICLE, FEB. 6TH, 1851: Queenston and Lewiston connected. The magnificent bridge between Lewiston and Queenston is so far finished that this day, a footpath was perfected and the engineer, E.W. Sirrell and lady, followed by the Warden of the United Counties of Lincoln and Welland,

Major Brown, followed by an immense crowd of all ranks and degrees, crossed from the Canadian side to the American. Cheers were given for the engineer and his lady, for the Company and for good feeling between the two countries. Suspension Bridge, Niagara Falls. By the papers of 1848, it is seen that the wire cable by which people crossed in an iron basket was in use in April and in July 1848 people crossed on a footpath on the Suspension Bridge at the Falls.

MAIL, NOV. 10TH, 1852: The Park - Council Chamber, Nov. 3rd. "A Petition to be sent to His Excellency, the Governor General for permission to occupy four acres of land in front of the Episcopal Church for ornamental grounds, I.H. Johnson, Clerk.

This was the origin of our beautiful park, permission being obtained from the Ordinance Dept. To the persistency of Mr. H. Paffard and his good taste as well, we are

indebted for the beautiful trees. He told me once that when he tried to obtain a grant for trees for the Park and the streets, all they would grant me was \$25., but more liberal grants were given afterwards.

NOV. 30TH, 1852: The Annual Meeting of the Mechanic's Institute (now Public Library) is recorded, E.C. Campbell, President; W. Kirby, Secretary; T. Eedson, Treasurer and Librarian. The library then consisted of 500 volumes. Numerous notices appear of lectures the titles of which seem not very interesting subjects as Mental Improvement, Sympathy, The Real and the Ideal, Use and Benefit of Mechanical Institutes, etc.

1853, JULY 29TH: CHRONICLE - In this number is a letter from Wm. Thomas, the Architect of the present Brock's Monument, defending himself from the charges made by the Loyalists of carelessness in the removal of Gen. Brock. It may not be generally known that there were four interments, first at Fort George, next under the first monument 1824, third to the Hamilton Family Graveyard for a year while the vault was being prepared, and fourth, to the present monument 1853. He says, "I beg to state that I had orders when proceeding to take down the former ruinous constructure to have two shells prepared and remove the remains to the burial ground of the Hamilton Family at Queenston. I therefore took the two shells from Toronto on the day appointed and very carefully had the vault opened and placed all the remains and fragments of the broken coffin into each separate shell and fastened the original silver plates with the inscriptions engraved thereon and accompanied them to the burial ground where I had them placed in a grave, eight feet deep as proper security. I had no order to make any further ceremony only to take proper care of the remains, therefore it must be seen that the greater part of the Loyalists' statements is not founded on fact."

JULY 13TH: Mr. Worthington has the contract for building Brock's Monument. Mr. Thomas is the Architect. The ruined shaft came down on Saturday after repeated blasts. From 5,000 to 6,000 pounds has been contributed voluntarily.

MAIL, AUG. 10TH, 1823: The Steamer Chief Justice Robinson picked up a colored man about twelve miles from Niagara, floating on a raft made out of a gate. He escaped from Tennessee and came to Lewiston but was afraid to go on one of the Steamers to cross and tried to cross the River on the gate, but the current being strong, he was drifted out into the lake. He said: "Thank the Lord Massa, I am a free man now."

1854: ABIGAIL BECKER - Perhaps it may be said why tell the deed of one who had no connection to Niagara, but the Historical Society possesses a short letter with signature and photograph of the heroine sent by herself. In the High School Reader, is a fine poem by Amanda Jones, a Canadian, born not far from Niagara and at Amherstburg the Ontario

Historical Society had the pleasure of hearing this recited and seeing Capt. Jones one of those rescued at that time, a very old man. The following story of the deed appeared as Number 175 in Historical Items in 1904. "Enough is not known of this Canadian Heroine who fifty years ago performed a deed perhaps never excelled in courage, strength and daring, saving the lives of seven men from the Schooner Conductor, wrecked at Long Point, November, 1853. Born near Kingston, Abigail Jackson married Trapper Becker and the "dail toil for scanty gain", prepared her for her deed of heroism. She was a large, strong woman aged twenty-four. They lived alone and her husband was absent, when a vessel struck in a fearful storm and the seven men took refuge in the rigging clinging there benumbed for hours. Abigail built a fire on the beach and waved her hands encouraging the men to swim ashore.

The Captain at last ventured but was caught in the undertow and would have perished but that Abigail rushed in and dived for him, dragging him to shore and restoring him to life by the fire, where she had hot tea ready. In turn, this was repeated, she wading out and grasping the drowning men in once case bringing by a superhuman effort two together as her crippled stepson had attempted to assist him and was himself almost lost. For four days, she kept and fed them in her hut till the arrival of a party to search for the dead bodies from the wreck, but found instead, seven living men saved so wonderfully. The city of Buffalo raised \$550.00 and also presented her with a beautiful bible. The New York Life Saving Association gave her a large and handsome gold medal and later Queen Victoria sent her a letter enclosing 40 pounds, expressing her pride in knowing that a woman of such heroic courage was her subject.

On several other occasions, she has saved life but it is pathetic circumstance that though she saved others, she could not save her own as her husband was frozen to death and her stepson met with a tragic fate. She is now Mrs. Rohrer, aged 74, a large woman weighing 255 pounds living on a farm at Walsingham Centre. A short sketch of her life by her stepdaughter tells of kindness to her stepchildren and says that she has brought up seventeen children, eight of them boys who use neither tobacco nor liquor.

In the preface to the account by her stepdaughter the writer, a clergyman alters a verse to show that it was the stepson instead of the mate and says with calm self-satisfaction on the verse he substitutes that he trust it does no injustice to the poem of Miss Jones.

Her verse reads:

Oh life is dear; the mate leaped in,
I know the Captain said right well:
Not twice can any woman win
A soul from yonder hell.

His substitute is:
Her crippled stepson now comes down
To mother's help he wants to go
And heeding not his mother's frown
He tries what he can do.

Which shows that some people are very easily satisfied with their work.

MAIL, 1855: Until lately, it was thought a very extreme measure to propose prohibition and it was thought it was an impossibility to obtain it, but it is rather startling to find that in the year 1855, (over eighty years ago), there were fifty-two men brave enough in Niagara to propose it, sending a petition to the Town Council to ask them to petition the Legislature to pass an enactment prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors, except for medicinal or mechanical purposes. On examining the list of names, we find all the four churches of the town represented. A sentence may be quoted:

"Humbly sheweth that your petitioners regard intemperance as a great moral and social evil, destructive of health, virtue and happiness, and producing only disease, hunger and crime ---- entailing heavy burdens on Society and creating a fatal barrier in the path of individual and national progress."

In 1858, there is a list of thirteen taverns and fourteen recesses - twenty- seven places where liquor could legally be procured -- and it is known that there were other low places without licenses.

MAIL, APRIL 25TH, 1855: A long account of the "Tornado last Wednesday, 18th instant. About a quarter to seven o'clock in the morning the town was visited by a frightful hurricane. The sky assumed a green color, succeeded by a clear white. The storm came from the north-east, leaping in its course, lasted about five minutes, and was at its height not more than one minute, but the damage done was tremendous. The storm seemed to leap first to the Car Factory, next to the Daguerrean Gallery standing in the Park. The next leap was to St. Andrew's Church. At the Car Works, were levelled two large finishing shops, each 175 ft. x 50 ft., two stories high. A large new frame building, 200 by 70 ft was piled in a mass. The engine house of the Erie & Ontario Railroad was very much twisted. It appeared to be most providential that the day had been set apart as a "Fast Day." so that no workmen were in the Car Factory, otherwise there might have been a loss of 50 to 100 lives.

The contents of the Daguerrean Gallery were scattered on the Common in fragments, it having run over several times and made a complete wreck. St. Andrew's Church had a third of its roof and gallery inside swept away. It is remembered that in 1854 a storm took off part of the roof. Fences and chimneys were blown down. It was remarked that during the hurricane, the water suddenly rose from five to eight feet along the lake shore and in the river. We may thank God that neither was life lost nor any person seriously injured."

1857 – 1873: In the St. Catharines Weekly News is found an account of the address presented to the Rev. William McMurray, D.D. Rector of St. Mark's, which throws much light on the condition of our town in those years. When Dr. McMurray was appointed in 1857, the Town was in a prosperous condition. Several manufacturers were employing hundreds of artisans. Niagara was the County Town, and a sum had been collected for a Rectory. A grant of two acres from the Ordinance Dept. had been obtained.

The first sod was turned February, 1858, and the Rectory completed and occupied in December, 1859. Since then, serious changes have occurred in the Town. Manufactories have collapsed. Fires have devastated the Town. Niagara has ceased to be

the County Town. Hundreds of the population have emigrated. Reference was made to the services of Dr. McMurray to Trinity College, he having been appointed by Bishop Strachan to visit the United States and Great Britain and Ireland in its interest.

MAIL, 20TH OCTOBER, 1858: In the obituary notice of Mrs. Hoople, age 93 years, an incident of the Revolutionary War is mentioned. She was a sister of the late John Whitmore. After the murder of the father and mother by the Indians, some of the children were adopted by the tribe, and being separated, never met for seventy years. Mr. Whitmore who had settled in Niagara Township, heard of his sister's whereabouts and visited her.

MAIL, FEBRUARY 28TH, 1859: The destruction of Gibson's Warehouse and the Free Mason's Room above, with all their papers and regalia, is recorded.

MAIL, AUG. 8th, 1860 - LAURA SECORD: "A Canadian Heroine".

"A respectable, aged lady of this county, one of the loyal stock, presented herself at the office of the Clerk Of The Peace at Niagara, to sign the address to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, along with the old soldiers of 1812. The Clerk demurred to taking so novel a signature, although the lady insisted on her right, having done her country more signal service than half the soldiers and militiamen engaged in the war. We do not give the venerable lady's name, as she might not like the notoriety, but she is the same person who, ...etc."

The article goes on to tell of her walk to Beaver Damns to give warning, and closes thus:

"We say the brave, loyal, old lady ought not only to be allowed to sign the address, but she deserved a special introduction to the Prince of Wales as a worthy example of the War of 1812, when both men and women vied alike in their resolution to defend the country."

In a later paper, it is mentioned that the Prince of Wales visited Laura Secord at Chippawa, and in the Mail of March, 1861, it is recorded that a present of One Hundred Pounds had been sent by the Prince to Mrs. Secord.

SEPT. 19TH, 1860: NIAGARA MAIL - After the Prince of Wales had laid the foundation stone of the obelisk where General Brock fell, Oct. 13th, 1812, he went on board the Zimmerman for Niagara where a handsome arch had been erected and also a pavilion on the wharf. A band of pretty little girls strewed flowers before the Prince and school children sang God Save The King, and the Mayor read the address of the Corporation of the Town. Another address was read by Judge Lawder, that of the County

Magistrates. Before leaving, a pleasing event took place. Miss Miller presented a jar of fruit to the Prince and a little girl gave a bouquet. On leaving for Port Dalhousie, the steamer Peerless arrived from Queenston loaded with Militia men and accompanied the Zimmerman all the way. The Prince and his suite took lunch in the Ladies' Cabin where the tables were piled with fruit, the finest specimens of peaches, plums, pears, nectarines, grapes, presented by the Town and Township Agricultural Association. On Monday, the 16th, the following gentlemen were invited to lunch with the Prince, Mr. Sampson, M.P., Mr. Merritt, M.P., Mr. McMicken, M.P., and Col. Kingsmill. On presenting them, Colonel Bruce remarked to the Prince. This officer, Col. Kingsmill, fought at the battle of Busaco, fifty years ago under your great grandfather, George III.

It may be said in explanation that the Miss Miller who presented the fruit was the Miss Miller who died here very lately and the small girl who presented the bouquet was Marjory McMullen, now Mrs. Bottomley.

ST. CATHARINES JOURNAL, 1869: At a Meeting of Queenston Heights, 13th October, a picture was taken of eight veterans who took part in the battle, the eldest being 89, the youngest 67 and their united ages 609. Their names are Daniel Fields, Solomon Vrooman, Seneca Palmer, John P. Clement, John Whitten, Lewis Clement, Duncan McFarland, Daniel Cooper.

EPILOGUE

Since the pamphlet consists of scraps of a miscellaneous nature, the following lines relating to the notabilities of the town are added, authorship and date unknown, but supposed to have been written by James Davidson, the son of the Editor of the Mail, the date (from internal evidence) about 1847. They were passed on the walls. One was rescued, rather torn, and, in after years, was recited from memory for the amusement of old residents, the reciter having read them when she was a little girl.

Election times are coming on.
Dobie still goes for Henry John.
But, as we do not deal in fiction,
We'll do our best for Walter Dickson.

Some talk of nominating Blain,
If Henry John don't come again.
Blain is a good man, and he will stick
To old Niagara like a brick.

Others again, indignant thereat,
Threaten to bring forward Garrett.
Although his colour is not white,
His manners always are polite.

The Board of Police --- a pretty crew!
Perhaps we won't their acts review;
Their heads much wisdom comprehend,
And fairly aim our ways to mend.

First comes John Simpson, fair and bland,
His acts you all can understand.
His aim is high, his efforts strong,
And seldom he is in the wrong.

Then comes the worthy of the Mail,
Who does his duty without fail;
A modest and a careless air
Conceals a power which cries: "Beware!"

The third rejoices in a name
Applied to something like a Crane:
To give him all the praise we wish,
He tries to catch the golden fish.

James Boulton has, we understand,
Addressed the folks in Haldimand;
If he can't talk a man to sleep
Before a jury he can weep.

The gentleman who keeps the bank
Does not deserve inferior rank;
In calculation he stands first,
And in kind actions not the worst.

The street surveyor and the clerk
Is just the man to do his work;
His acts are always just and fair,
No better man could fill his chair.

Then comes High Bailiff Beaver Bonner,
He is a man of sense and honor;
Who fills his office very well:
How punctually he rings the bell!

Mr. Simpson was the Editor of the Chronicle and afterwards Deputy Assistant Auditor General at Ottawa. "Henry John" was Henry John Boulton.

Those mentioned without name would be: Mr. Andrew Heron, Mr. Alexander Davidson, Mr. T. McCormick and Mr. Isaac Johnson. Three verses have been omitted. A complete copy was found lately in a garret in town.

MEETINGS

The Regular Meetings are on the second Monday of each month from October to May, except that the Annual Meeting is on the 13th of October.

PUBLICATIONS

Of many of our Publications the edition is exhausted, but we have, (price chiefly 25 cents):

- 2.4 Slave Rescue, etc., (Reprinted) and Battle of Queenston Heights.
- 3 Blockade of Fort George (Reprinted)
- 5 Sermon of Rev. R. Addison, Historic Houses, etc. (Reprinted).
- 8 Family History (Reprinted).
- 11 Reminiscences (Reprinted).
- 12 Battle of Fort George, republished from No. 1, with additions, etc.
- 13 St. Vincent de Paul's Church, A Canadian Heroine (Reprinted).
- 14 Letters of Mrs. William Dummer Powell, 1807-1821
- 15 Sir Isaac Brock, Count de Puisaye, (Republished).
- 16 Report of the Opening of the Historical Building (Reprint)
- 17 Ten Years of the Colony of Niagara
- 18 Early history of St. Mark's, Robert Gourlay, etc.
- 19 Inscriptions and Graves in Niagara Peninsula (Price 40 cents) No. 10, reprinted with additions.
- 20 Reminiscences of Fenian Raid, etc.
- 21 Historical Buildings, Churches (No. 7 Reprinted).
- 22 Some Graves in Lundy's Lane.
- 23 Fort Niagara, Col. MacDougal
- 24 Catalogue
- 25 Laura Secord, Diary of a Prisoner in Fort Garry, 1869-70
- 26 Notes on District of Niagara, 1791-3
- 27 Names Only, But Much More. No. 1 Company, Niagara
- 28 Family History and Reminiscences
- 29 Niagara Frontier, 1837-8
- 30 Hon. William Dickson, etc
- 31 Appreciation of Lt. W.J. Wright, M.A., Emigrants of 1847 in Niagara, etc.

Our Exchange List now numbers sixty. The Historical Room is open every Saturday afternoon from 3 to 5. In summer on Wednesdays. We now have a membership of two hundred and sixty.