

ROGERS, (WALTER) FAMILY

READING ROOM

THE UNITED EMPIRE LOYALIST

By Walter Rogers, Esq., Barrister, Inner Temple, London, Eng.

Published by the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Ontario, at Toronto, 14 December, 1899. By Lt-Col. A.C. Rogers of Peterborough, Ontario.

ROGERS
RANGER
AND
LOYALIST

... the only justice which has been done to the memory of the American Revolution, although not, perhaps, directly attributable to the spirit of Anglo-American law, is that of time, coincided not inappropriately with that movement.

In his monumental work on the history of the United States in the eighteenth century, Mr. Lockyer's estimate of the character and position of the so-called Tories in the revolution, has found a sufficiently convincing echo in the papers of Mr. A. C. Rogers, a recent historian of the United States. In truth, Mr. Lockyer's contention, "that the Tories were a great extent wrong from the representation of the character of the country," could, in the light of what we know of the American revolution of the type of Dr. Johnson, and Professor Tyler of Cornell, have been made a reality.

A PAPER BY

WALTER ROGERS, ESQ., B.A.

Barrister, Inner Temple, London, Eng.

It is to be regretted that this fact, which is a source of misapprehension, is not stated in the history of the United States. It was, however, as we expected that the representatives of a nation would have looked for sympathy at the hands of the writers of the emancipated property and their immediate descendants. The great elevation which carried upon the rebellion has been more than once compared, both in the magnitude of its scale and the number of the circumference, with the Hundred Years War of France, a century earlier.

The efforts of this and of other kindred societies in the Dominion, should do much towards supplying material for future students of the inner history of the United States. A few facts drawn, in so far as they are new, from documentary sources in the British Museum and from the War Office Correspondence now preserved at the Record Office in London, may possibly prove not uninteresting, as a humble contribution towards the better understanding of the circumstances which attended the early stages of this Revolution.

Read before
The United Empire Loyalists'
Association of Ontario, at
Toronto, 14 December, 1899.

By

LIEUT-COLONEL H. C. ROGERS,

of Peterborough, Ont.

1. Hist. of the United States - 21, 530, Haldimand Papers; Correspondence with Col. Burgoyne and Major General.
2. War Office Correspondence, May 1799, Haldimand Papers - 1799-1799.
3. Haldimand Papers.

ROGERS - RANGER AND LOYALIST

By Walter Rogers, B.A., Barrister, Inner Temple, London, Engi

Read before the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Ontario, at Toronot, 14th December, 1899, by Lt-Col. H.C. Rogers of Peterborough, Ontario.

The somewhat tardy justice which has been done to the memory of the Loyalists of the American Revolution, although not, perhaps, directly attributable to the spirit of imperialism now afoot, has, in point of time, coincided not inappropriately with that movement.

In his monumental work on the history of England in the eighteenth century, Mr. Lecky's estimate of the character and position of the so-called Tories in the revolted colonies, has found a sufficiently ungrudging echo in the pages of not a few recent historical writers on this continent. In truth, Mr. Lecky's contention, "that the Loyalists to a great extent sprang from and represented the old gentry of the country," could, in the light of modern research, hardly be denied. American scholars of the type of Professor Hosmer of Washington, and Professor Tyler of Cornell, have amply, indeed generously, recognized this fact. It is to be regretted that the results of a century of misrepresentation concerning the Loyalists are still reflected in the tone of the more popular works on history disseminated in the United States. It was, perhaps, to be expected that the representatives of a beaten cause could hardly look for panegyric at the hands of the owners of the confiscated property and their immediate descendants. The great migration which ensued upon the rebellion, has been more than once compared, both in the magnitude of its scale and the pathos of its circumstances, with the Huguenot exodus from France a century earlier.

The efforts of this and of other kindred societies in the Dominion, should do much towards supplying material for future students of the inner history of the Loyalist migration. A few facts drawn, in so far as they are new, from documentary sources in the British Museum,¹ and from the War Office Correspondence² now preserved at the Record Office in London, may possibly prove not uninteresting, as a humble contribution towards the better understanding of the circumstances which attended the early settlement of part of this Province.

The founder of my own family in Upper Canada was my great-great-grandfather, Col. James Rogers. During the revolutionary war he had served for five years as commandant of a corps known as the King's Rangers, which, during that time, formed part of the garrison of St. Johns, Quebec. This post commanded the northern outlet of the great waterway which connects the valley of the Hudson with that of the St. Lawrence. At the Peace, my ancestor settled with some two hundred of his disbanded soldiers upon the shores of the Bay of Quinte, he and his followers occupying what is known as the township of Fredericksburg, (as well as part of an adjoining township.)³

1 Brit. Mus : Add. MSS. - 21,820. Haldimand Papers; Correspondence with Col. Rogers and Major Rogers.

2 War Office, Original Correspondence, No. 5 : Rogers' King's Rangers - Field Officers' Papers - 1779-1784.

3 Canniff page 62

The earliest recorded connection of this officer with Canada, however, dates from a quarter of a century earlier than the settlement. Of that part of the so-called Seven Years' War which was waged upon this continent, he saw service from the commencement to the close.¹

As a captain in command of a detachment of his more famous brother, Robert Rogers' regiment - serving, however, independently of the main body - he took part in the campaigns in Cape Breton and Canada, under Wolfe and Amherst. He was present at the successive captures of Louisbourg, Quebec, and Montreal; the steps by which Canada passed from French to English rule.

Before Montreal, the army of the St. Lawrence, in which he was acting, was joined by the forces from the south, in whose campaigns the main body of the Rogers' Rangers, eight hundred strong, under the command of his brother Robert, had played a somewhat conspicuous part.

Upon the capitulation of Montreal and the cession of Canada, this latter officer was despatched by the commander-in-chief upon the first British expedition, as such, up the great lakes. With two hundred of his rangers and a staff of executive officers, Robert Rogers made the voyage, in whaleboats, from Montreal to Detroit. The successive French posts upon the route were visited; the white standard of the Bourbons was replaced by the flag of Great Britain, and allegiance to His Britannic Majesty exacted.

The story of this voyage has often been told, notably in the Major's own military journals published in London in 1765, a work, which, with its companion volume, an account of North America, betraying an intimate knowledge of the continent from Labrador to the mouth of the Mississippi, has ever since been regarded as a valuable authority upon the geographical history of this country.

With the early and more brilliant part of the career of Robert Rogers, whose exploits as a partisan or light-infantry officer fill a large space in the history of the French and Pontiac Wars, we are not here immediately concerned. He has been the object of enthusiastic praise and of no less virulent detraction.

It is, however, a source of what, I trust, you will not regard as altogether unpardonable pride to my family and myself, that one of our name should have been thus intimately concerned in a transaction which was virtually the inception, as part of the British Dominions, of what is now the Province of Ontario, - a province which, from its earliest settlement, has been our home.

The interval between the close of the Seven Years' War, or, rather, of the Pontiac War, in which he also bore a part, and the revolt of the Colonies, was occupied by my great-great-grandfather, James Rogers, in the building up of an estate in that part of the Province of New York which was subsequently erected into the State of Vermont. Partly by grant as a reward for his services, and partly by purchase, he acquired what was, in extent, a very considerable property, scattered from twenty miles west of the Connecticut River to the shores of Lake Champlain. The crown patent for some 22,000 acres of this estate in Windham County is still in possession of the family. We know from a letter in the Haldimand Correspondence, dated 1780, that the value he placed upon his property in the colonies was between thirty and forty

¹ Haldimand MSS., J.R. to Haldimand, Oct 20th, 1779.

thousand pounds.¹ Frequent references in the same correspondence show that the position he had occupied in Vermont, previously to the revolution, was one of influence and authority. The respect in which he was held in the country that had formerly been his home, is testified to by the fact that even after the Peace, viz.: in the spring of 1784, he had been invited by the leading men of the State to pay a visit to Vermont in order to facilitate the removal of his wife and family to their new home in the British Dominions.

Notwithstanding the efforts of his friends, the reception which he met with was not unmingled with insult at the hands of the owners of the confiscated property, who now grasped the helm; and the good man's surprise and horror at the state of anarchy prevailing are depicted in his letter to the commander-in-chief on his return to his regiment at St. Johns.

Between the close of the French and Indian Wars, and until after the outbreak of the American revolution, the other brother, Robert Rogers, spent most of his time in England. Here his various books were published² and here he enjoyed a very considerable notoriety. In old magazines of the period, amidst chronicles of the time, his exploits and his books find frequent mention.³ The story of his prowess in the single-handed capture of a highwayman went the round of the taverns. His portrait in full Ranger uniform, with Indians in the background, adorned the windows of the print-shops, and was even reproduced in Germany. His tall figure, in half-pay officer's uniform, became a not unfamiliar object in the Court quarter of the town. He undoubtedly enjoyed the patronage and favour of the King. One of his enemies writing in 1770 to Sir William Johnson, complains that "Robert Rogers has the ear of the court; that many of the great are pushing for him; and that Mr. Fitzherbert, an officer high in the household of George III, is his particular friend."⁴ Indeed, to the end he seems to have enjoyed the not entirely unequivocal distinction of King George's approbation. Lord George Germaine, writing to Gen. Howe as late as 1776, says, "The King approves the arrangement you propose, in respect to an adjutant-general, and a quartermaster-general, and also your attention to Major Rogers, of whose firmness and fidelity we have received further testimony from Governor Tryon."⁵

-
1. The picture which Sir George Trevelyan has drawn, in his recent volume on the American revolution, of the Utopian condition of colonial society in the days immediately preceding the rebellion, although perhaps too highly coloured, is not without considerable foundation in fact. The strong pro-American tone of the volume is perhaps only what was to be expected from the nephew of Macaulay and from the depositary par excellence of the Whig tradition.
 2. Journals of Major Robert Rogers - London, 1765, 8vo.
A Concise Account of North America by Major Robert Rogers.
London, 1765, 8vo. Dublin, 1770, 12mo.
Ponteach - A Tragedy - London, 1776.
 3. Gentleman's Magazine: 1758, Mar, Aug., Oct.; 1760, Nov, Dec;
1765, Dec.
London Monthly Review, xxxiv.9-22-242
 4. Johnson MSS. xviii. 185-186.
 5. American Archives, Fourth Ser., iv. 575.

George III.'s choice of instruments at this period, notably in the case of Lord George¹ himself, as Secretary for the Colonies, is not generally regarded as betraying exceptional political sagacity.

Notwithstanding the royal favour, which does not seem to have been alienated even by his alleged eccentricity in appearing for a wager, on one occasion, at the King's levee, in the buckskin gaiters worn by rangers during their woodland campaigns, Robert Rogers was probably more at home in the society of soldiers of fortune, where his prowess as a boon companion and raconteur was doubtless popular.

In 1772 we find him writing from his lodgings at Spring Gardens, Charing Cross.² Soon after that, his superfluous energies found vent in foreign warfare. A true Captain Dalgetty, he fought in Northern Africa in the Algerine service. We know from a letter of Washington's that he was assigned to service in the East Indies³ when the outbreak of hostilities in America recalled him to the scene of his earlier activities. That he arrived in America with an open mind is not impossible. Unlike his less brilliant but more substantial brother, James, he was probably not the man to suffer gladly for a principle.

The conduct of the rebels, however, forced him prematurely into the service which would, probably, in any event have ultimately claimed him. Arrested shortly after his landing at Philadelphia, by order of the Pennsylvania Committee of Public Safety, he was submitted to the disposal of Congress. This body ordered his release on parole. His position as a half-pay officer, however, and his long identification with the royal service attracted the suspicion of the more violent Whigs, who clamoured for his re-arrest, which was ultimately decided upon. The indignity of this second arrest was treated by him as a virtual release from his parole. Consigned by the Continental Congress as a prisoner to be dealt with by the New Hampshire Assembly, he was fortunate enough to effect his escape. Received within the English lines, he was offered by the commander-in-chief, Gen. Howe, the commission of colonel in the British service, which offer he accepted.

With remarkable celerity he succeeded in raising the regiment so honourably known in the history of the revolution as the Queen's Rangers. This corps, to which very frequent reference has been made in the transactions of this Society, played, under his successor in the command, Colonel, afterwards Lieut. General, Simcoe, a conspicuous part in the war, and subsequently, in the settlement of Upper Canada. Broken in health and possibly enfeebled by a life of dissipation, a tendency to which seems to have been his real moral weakness, he retired from his command in the following winter and returned to England. The evil example of dissipation and high play set at the headquarters camp between Bedford and Amboy, in the winter of 1776-77 was not without its effect upon the morale of the army. Bancroft even attributes the failure to crush Washington at Valley Forge in the following winter, to the eager pursuit of pleasure which distinguished Howe's command.

1. Lord George Germaine, better known by his former name, Lord George Sackville, was the officer who, in command of the English cavalry at Minden, in a fit of spleen refused to charge and so marred the completeness of Prince Ferdinand's victory.

2. Johnson MSS., xxi. 238.

3. Spark's 'Washington,' iii 440.

Meanwhile the Revolution ran its course. The singular incapacity which marked the conduct of the English arms almost throughout, was responsible for reverse after reverse. Spasmodic efforts to reinforce the army in America were made, and as the result of one of these, Robert Rogers arrived at New York in 1779 with instructions from home that he was to be again employed.

On May 1st 1779, he was commissioned by Sir Henry Clinton, Howe's successor in the command-in-chief, to raise a regiment of two battalions to be known as the King's Rangers. One battalion seems to have been destined for service in the Province of Quebec; the other for Halifax. In this regiment his brother James was gazetted major. A document in the War Office Correspondence shows that James Roger's appointment dated June 2nd, 1779, although there was a still earlier commission to the same rank dated May 1st 1778. Recruiting parties were sent out into the northern colonies, and a ship was chartered by government for the conveyance to Quebec of Major James Rogers and eleven officers¹ gazetted to the new corps. This vessel, the brigantine "Hawke," -- Capt Slaitor, -- arrived at Quebec in September 1779. The colonel, Robert Rogers, with a staff of officers, was conveyed in H.M.S. "Blond" to Penobscot. There he was present at the naval engagement in which the rebel fleet was destroyed, August 13th 1779.

Meanwhile, with the accustomed mismanagement at headquarters, no definite instructions were sent to General Haldimand, Commander-in-chief in Canada, as to the embodiment of the new corps. So early as May 24th 1779, Lord Rawdon, -- afterwards Lord Hastings, Governor-General of India, -- then acting as Adjutant-General to Clinton, wrote to Haldimand, indicating the probable appearance of Col. Robert Rogers within the latter's command. With official dread of exceeding his instructions, and fearful of provoking animosities regarding recruiting in the other corps in the province, Haldimand hesitated how to act.

Meanwhile, the numerous recruits coming in by the overland route, consigned to the King's Rangers, had to be subsisted as best they might out of the unfortunate major's own pocket. Ultimately, however, and upon his own authority, Haldimand placed the corps upon his own establishment. A scale of half-pay was arranged, and the Rangers were clothed in the regulation green uniforms of the provincial corps. From this time forward the King's Rangers garrisoned the post of St. Johns, sharing the barracks there at first with the 34th and, subsequently, with the 29th regiments of foot.²

The correspondence of James Rogers with the commander-in-chief in Canada, from 1779 to 1784, is still preserved in the British Museum, and, together with fugitive letters of Robert Rogers, fills a substantial folio volume of manuscript. The "Field Officers Letters of Rogers' King's Rangers" are in the Record Office, London, removed there from the War Office Archives. The light which these old documents throw upon the military history of the time is a

-
1. Most of these were from one or other of the five battalions of Gen. Skinner's brigade. Two are described as from the Queen's Rangers.
 2. The army in Canada in 1781 consisted of the following troops: The 8th, 29th, 31st, 34th, 44th, 53rd, 150 men of the 47th, a battalion of the 84th or Maclean's Highland Emigrants, Sir John Johnson's Royal Regiment, of New York, Jessup's Loyal Rangers, formerly the Loyal Americans, and Rogers' King's Rangers. In addition to the above were the German troops, consisting chiefly of Brunswickers and Hessians. General Riedesel, in a plan communicated to Clinton, about this time, for operations against the Ohio and Alleghany regions, estimates the total effective strength in Canada at 6000 men. - Max Von Eckling's Memoir of Major General Riedesel.

curious one. The chief difficulties in the administration of the corps seem to have arisen concerning the matter of recruiting and the intermingling of the accounts with those of Halifax, where the other detachment of the regiment was stationed. For the rest, James Roger's relations with his commander-in-chief are excellent. Repeated testimony to the confidence felt in his integrity at headquarters occurs in the correspondence. His long apprenticeship to warfare, his intimate knowledge of the country, and undoubted zeal for the King's service contributed to his usefulness at this frontier post. Various schemes of reconnaissance and attack were, from time to time, submitted by him for his Excellency's consideration, and approved. His advice is asked and taken. On more than one occasion he seems to have been employed, where a field officer's services were demanded, upon missions of delicacy and importance. The growing despondency as to the issue of the war is apparent as time goes on. Incredulity as to the truth of the surrender at Yorktown succeeded by consternation when the news of the disaster is confirmed. At last, in November 1783, the King's order for the disbanding of the loyalist troops arrives. It is accompanied by extracts from Lord North's letters respecting the allotment of lands to the provincial troops and refugee loyalists then in the Province of Quebec.

Throughout the winter of 1783-84, preparations are made for the move westward in the following year. In the early spring, my great-great-grandfather paid that last visit to his former home, allusion to which has been made above. His wife, a daughter of the Rev. David McGregor of Londonderry, N.H.,¹ accompanied him on his return, to renew in the northern forests that life of exile which had been the lot of her family earlier in the century. Upon his return to St. Johns, leave is asked on behalf of a number of incorporated and unincorporated loyalists, that an officer of the King's Rangers and a detachment of ten or a dozen men may go to Cataraque to reconnoitre. A pathetic touch, betraying the ignorance and bewilderment of those distracted times, occurs, where the commanding officer notifies the commander-in-chief of a report which he had come upon "amongst our common men, that the major was going to have them taken to Cataraque and there made slaves." Notwithstanding this alarming suggestion, confidence seems to have been restored; and most of the King's Rangers accompanied their old commander in that heroic advance into the wilderness, in search of a new home. Several of the officers remained at St. Johns, buying the ground on which their late barracks stood.

The tale of how the final allotment of the territory in the Frontenac district was made, is set out in Grass's narrative² preserved by Dr. Ryerson. Grass, the pioneer of the district, chose the first township for his followers, Kingston; Sir John Johnson, the second, Ernesttown; Col Rogers, the third, Fredericksburg; Major Vanalstine, the fourth, Adolphustown; and Col McDonell and his company, the fifth, Marysburgh; "and so after this manner the first settlement of loyalists in Canada was made."

In the pages of Canniff's work upon the "Settlement of Upper Canada" ³ is preserved a story told by the late Dr. Armstrong, whose recollections dated back to the closing years of the eighteenth century. He remembered to have seen as a child, at my great-great-grandfather's house at Fredericksburg, a quantity of old implements of war: broken firelocks, torn uniforms, and cannonballs. Not a few relics of the soldier settlement still exist in the family, in the shape of rusty small-arms, obsolete powder-horns and flint lock pistols.

1 See History of Londonderry

2 Ryerson's "Loyalists of British America," Vol. II, p. 211

3 Page 118

James Rogers passed away 23 September 1790. His brother Robert had died in England eight years previously, and shortly after the close of the war.¹

My great-great-grandfather was succeeded in his position in the settlement by his son, David McGregor Rogers, my great-grandfather, who, for twenty-four years, represented his district in the early House of Assembly of Upper Canada.²

A recently recovered copy of the journal of the House of Assembly for 1801, which had been lost at the sacking of York, now Toronto, in 1813, records how after the House had met and the members subscribed the oath, a message was delivered by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod. A brief and formal speech by His Excellency followed. Then:

"David M. Rogers, Esquire, Knight representing the Counties of Hastings and Northumberland, stood up, and addressing himself to the clerk (who, standing up, pointed to him and then sat down) proposed to the House, for their speaker, the Honourable D. W. Smith, Esquire, in which motion he was seconded by the Hon: Henry Allcock, Esquire, one of the judges of the Court of King's Bench, Knight representing the counties of Durham, Simcoe and the East Riding of York." The motion was carried, the new Speaker expressing "his gratitude for the honour," and "thereupon he sat down in the chair." The House then adjourned.

David McGregor Rogers seems to have been a man of considerable force of character, uniting as he did the blood of his soldier-father with that of the Highland outlaws, which he owed to his mother, whose name he bore as part of his own. On one occasion he is said to have slain a wolf, the marauding tyrant of the district, with his oaken walking-stick. As a lad he had taken part in the migration, and upon his return to St. Johns years afterwards, he was invested with the dignity of an honorary chieftainship by the local Indians. He died at Grafton, Ontario, in 1824, while still a member of the House of Assembly.

In the foregoing attempt to tender a small act of piety to the memory of my great-great-grandfather and of justice to that of his gifted, but erratic brother, I trust that I have not too far trespassed upon your forbearance.

In the recrudescence of the spirit of imperial expansion with which we are familiar to-day, it is a not unsatisfactory reflection for us, the offspring of the loyalists, that it was for an ideal which at present animates so large a section of the Anglo-Saxon race, that our ancestors were ready, more than a century ago, to sacrifice all that seemed to make life valuable.

What that ideal was has perhaps never been better formulated than in the words of the historian Lecky: "It was the maintenance of one free industrial and pacific empire comprising the whole English race, holding the richest plains of Asia in subjection, blending all that was most venerable in an ancient civilization with the redundant energies of a youthful society, and likely in a few generations to outstrip every competitor and acquire an indisputable ascendancy in the globe."

"Such an ideal," he adds, in words which have been before now quoted before this society, "may have been a dream, but it was at least a noble one, and there were Americans who were prepared to make any personal sacrifice rather than assist in destroying it."

1 I have followed here the family tradition as to the date of Robert Roger's death. This places it in 1784. The writer of the article upon the life of Robert Rogers in the "Dictionary of National Biography" -- London, 1897 -- places it in 1800, but in this he had followed Hough who, in his turn, evidently followed Sabine in the matter. There is no trace of his having lived after 1784, and everything, including the story in his family, points to his having died soon after his return from Halifax.

2. See Morgan's "Celebrated Canadians."

1. For Coat of Arms in "Burk's Peerage" (Crest 3 Stag's Heads)
2. The Roman Numbers indicate the successive generations in America.

ROGERS FAMILY MEMOIRS

The family is of Norman French origin. Count de-Rogier was an officer in the Army of William the Conqueror.

After settling in Britain, the name became Anglified to Rogers. Subsequently, some of the family took part in the Conquest of Ireland and settled in the north.

In the year 1740, James Rogers, born 1700, with his wife, Mary McFatriage, and eight children emigrated from Londonderry, Ireland, to America, and settled in the English Colony of New Hampshire.

As an evidence that the family were of the lineal descendants of the aforesaid, is the fact that they brought with them the family Coat of Arms inscribed on a medal, which is still in the possession of the family. They must have been in fairly good circumstances as they obtained a grant of the Township of Dunbarton, and became the first settlers therein. They seem to have inherited the military spirit of their ancestors, for as soon as opportunity offered, three sons took up arms on behalf of the mother country, and became officers of distinction.

1. James Rogers died from the effects of a gunshot wound received in the woods near his own house, being mistaken for a bear in the dusk of evening, and fired at by a party of hunters.

His sons were:

- (1. Samuel, who inherited his father's Homestead and remained a citizen of the country.
- (2. Robert, who became the famous Ranger (see No. 1.)
- (3. James, (see at Ref. No. 2.)
- (4. Richard, (" " " No. 3.)
- (5. Daniel went to sea and was drowned off Cuba. He left a wife and family at home.

Daughters:

- (1. Mary, married James Blair and remained in N.H.
- (2. Martha, married John Miller and remained in N.H.
- (3. Catherine, married Frank Miller and remained in N.H.

No. 1. Robert (11), B. in Ireland in 1724. D. 1784.

In 1755 he organised a company of Scouts or Rangers for service against the encroachments of the French and Indians on the New England Settlements. This corps developed into the celebrated "Queen's Rangers" which took an important part under his command in the seven year's war that resulted in the conquest of Canada. On the capitulation of Quebec and Montreal he was sent by General Amherst

with 200 of his Rangers to take possession of Western Canada, particularly the Garrison of Detroit, which surrendered to him on the 29th of November 1760, thus ending the French rule in Canada. On their way up the Lakes, his expedition of whale boats touched at Fort Toronto where the French had formerly had a trading post by that name, the site of which is now marked by a monument at the Exhibition Grounds. He was, for some time, Governor at Macinaw, and subsequently spent some time in England where he published his Journals of the French War and also a "Concise description of the Colonies in North America, 1765. His portrait, in uniform, was placed in the British Museum in recognition of his services to the Crown.

He returned to America during the Revolution, and for some time refrained from going into active service against such men as his former Lieutenants, Stark and Putman who had become Revolutionary Generals.

However, he was by taunts and ill-usage, provoked to action, and he re-organised the Queen's Rangers, but shortly afterwards was obliged to go again to England, being succeeded in the command by Col. Simcoe, who afterwards became the first Lieut. Governor of Upper Canada.

Major Rogers did not again return to America but died, in England, 18 May 1795.

No. 2. James, U.E.L. (11) Born in Ireland 1726.

An officer in Queen's Rangers till the capitulation of Montreal 1760 terminated the war. Having obtained a grant of a township in Vermont which he called Londonderry, he settled there, and in 1763 married Margaret McGregor, whose Grandfather, the Rev. James McGregor, built, and was pastor of the first Presbyterian Church in America, at Londonderry, New Hampshire.

At the outbreak of the Revolution, James Rogers raised the 84th, or King's Rangers, in support of the Royal Cause and for some time was in command of this corps at St. John, known at that time as the Key to Canada. At the capitulation of this post, after a siege of 45 days by Arnold, of the Revolutionary Army, he was paroled and thereby prevented from doing further service during the war.

The loss of the Royal Cause was to him the loss by confiscation of all his property, and he organised a band of "United Empire Loyalists" who sought out new homes in the almost unknown country to the north where they could still enjoy British protection and institutions.

At Montreal, he was joined by his family and a number of his disbanded Rangers, where they spent the winter in preparation. In the Spring of 1784, after a month's dangerous and laborious work, they surmounted the rapids of the St. Lawrence, and reached Kingston, Ont., where they had to wait some time for the completion of the surveys. At length, in July, the allotment was made and "Col. James Rogers" was given 3rd choice, his decision being the Township of Frederickburg on the Bay of Quinte for his party. He subsequently removed to the Little Lake Hallowell, Prince Edward County. He finally returned to Fredericksburg where he died, Sept. 23rd, 1790. Issue two sons and three daughters.

- 111 (1. James (see No. 4.)
 (2. David McGregor (see No. 5)
 (U.E.L. (1. Mary, married John Armstrong, Secy. to Govr. Simcoe.

- (2. Mary Ann , married Col. Jno. Peters, Sheriff of Hastings and Northumberland.
- (3. Margaret, B. 25th March 1776, married Aaron Greely, a surveyor, in 1803. Their daughter, Susanah Burnham Greely was born at the Haldimand Mill in Ontario on Lot 14 in the first Concession of Tpi. of Haldimand on the 25th February 1806.

No. 3. Richard (11), an officer in his brother's Regiment of Queen's Rangers.

He died of smallpox in Fort William Henry during the siege by Montcalm.

Not married.

No. 4. James U.E.L. (111), born in Vermont, about 1765.

On the death of his father, at Fredericksburg, he returned to Vermont, where he married Mary Allen, and continued to reside there till 1818 when he brought his family and settled between Grafton and Colborne in Upper Canada where he died in 1841 and his wife also in 1853.

Twelve children.

Sons.

- (1. Timothy Died at Colborne in 18 Unmarried
- (2. James Died at Haldimand in 18 Unmarried
- (3. David, married to Eliza Hinman. He moved with large family to the Western States many years ago.
- (4. Charles Died at Haldimand in 1853 Unmarried
- (5. George Died in California in 1855
- (6. Robert Died in Colborne in 1890.

IV. Daughters

- (1. Mary Married Dr. Austin of Picton, Ont.
- (2. Eliza Married Hiram Meriman of Colborne
- (3. Nancy Married Hiram Meriman of Colborne 2nd wife.
- (4. Fanny Married Hiram Royce of Colborne, she died February 1889.
- (5. Mary Ann Died
- (6. Anne Wilmot Married R.D. Rogers of Peterboro as 2nd wife. She died 22nd October 1878.

No. 5.

David McGregor Rogers, U.E.L.(11) was born in Vermont in 1772. He came to Upper Canada with the U.E. Loyalists in 1784. In 1796 he was elected to represent Prince Edward County in the Legislature. In 1800 he was re-elected for the same county, and during the three succeeding Parliaments he was returned for the county of Northumberland to which he had removed. He declined to be a candidate in 1816, but was elected in 1820 and would have been elected in 1824 but he died while the election was in progress. Is buried at Grafton, St. George's Church Yard.

On the 9th January 1802 he married Sarah Playter at Toronto by whom he had two sons and two daughters.

On the death of his wife in 1810 he removed to Grafton. During the war 1812-14 he was actively engaged as a commissariat officer, his place being one of two principal depots between Kingston and Toronto. He was also registrar for the County and Postmaster.

His second wife survived him one year.

Sons.

- (1. James See No. 6.
- (2. Robert David See No. 7.
- (
- (

Daughters

- (1. Elizabeth Welding. Born 1804. died 1815.
- (2. Mary Eliza, Born 20th June 1807 - married 4th June 1826 to Henry Cassady, Barrister of Kingston. She died January 20th 1886 at Toronto, Ont.
- (

No. 6. IV James G. Rogers. Born August 4th 1805 at Brighton, Ont.

He succeeded his father in the Homestead at Grafton, and adopted the initial "G" to avoid confusion. He was an officer in Col. Coverts Northumberland Troup of Volunteer Cavalry.

A short time, 1833, previous to the Rebellion of 1837-8 he succeeded to the command of the same which he continued to hold for about 20 years. During the troublesome times above mentioned, his cavalry was engaged on active service, with head quarters at Toronto.

In February 1830 he married Maria, 3rd daughter of the Honourable Zacheus Burnham of Cobourg, by whom he had five sons and five daughters. His wife died 17th April 1856, and he married again in September 1860, Caroline Amelia Lyon at Richmond, Ont.

He maintained a leading and useful position amongst his contemporaries and died universally esteemed on the 27th November 1874.

Sons.

- (1. David McGregor See No. 8.
- (2. Henry Cassady See No. 9.
- (3. Robert Zacheus See No. 10.

- (4. James Charles See No. 11.
- (5. Edmund James Armstrong See No. 12.

Daughters

- (1. Mary Eliza, married James Rogers Armstrong of Toronto on the 18th June, 1850, she died February 15th 1851.
- (2. Sarah Playter, married Edward C. Caddy, P.L.S. of Cobourg on the 6th October 1856. Four sons and five daughters.
- (3. Margaret Achesa, married Henry Thomas Strickland of Peterboro on the 1st Sept. 1859. Two daughters.
- (4. Maria Harriet, married Dr. Horatio Charles Burritt, M.D., of Smith's Falls and subsequently Peterboro and Toronto on the 26th Oct. 1864. Five sons and two daughters.
- (5. Sophia Augusta, married Fred. W. Austin of Cobourg on the 24th November 1869. She died 29th April, 1873.

No.7. IV. Robert David Rogers was born at Greeley's Mill near Grafton, Ont. 20th April 1809. On the partition of his father's Estate, he moved to the Township of Otonabee and commenced clearing wild land for farming operations in 1834. On the breaking out of the Rebellion 5th December 1837, he joined Capt. Warren's Volunteer Company at Cobourg and marched with that corps to Waterloo on the Niagara Frontier. He took a leading part in capturing and destroying the steamer "Caroline" which was being used by McKenzie and his fellow insurgents in strengthening their position on Navy Island. He was the last to leave the burning vessel as it approached its final lean over the great cataract.

On the 12th March 1840 he married Elizabeth the eldest daughter of Richard Birdsall, P.L.S. of Asphodel, Rice Lake. In December 1842 he removed to the vicinity of Peterboro and commenced the settlement of what is now the village of Ashburnham where he built extensive Flour and Saw Mills and carried on a successful mercantile business for many years. He took an extensive part in municipal affairs and was more than once Warden of the County of Peterboro.

In 1863 he organised a Volunteer Company which was called to active service during the Fenian Raids and ultimately relinquished the command to his eldest son. His wife died on the 20th Sept. 1875. Their family was composed of 5 sons and 4 daughters. On the 20th March 1878 he was married again to Ann Wilmot Rogers at Colborne, Ont. She died 22nd Oct. the same year.

Sons

- 1. James Zacheus See No. 13.
- 2. George Charles See No. 14.
- 3. Richard Birdsall See No. 15.
- 4. Edwin Robert See No. 16.
- 5. Alfred Burnham See No. 17.

V. Daughters

1. Eliza Maria, born Jan 1st 1841, married 30th Aug 1859 to Robert A. McNab of Peterboro.
2. Sophia Louisa, born Jan. 18th 1844, married 30th June 1869 to Richard Mead of Peterboro.
3. Maria McGregor, born Dec 27th 1845, married 11th Feb. 1868 to John Burnham M.P. of Peterboro.
4. Amelia Mary, born Feb. 3rd 1848, married 28th Oct. 1873 to Samuel Roberts Price of Peterboro.

No.8. David McGregor Rogers was born at Grafton, Ont., on the 2nd day of April, 1833.

He was an officer in the Volunteer Cavalry Company the command of which his father had resigned about 1854 and which then was assumed by Lieut. Col. D'Arcy E. Bolton of Cobourg.

He married Charlotte R. Taylor, at Woodstock on the 9th November 1859 and resided for some years on a farm near Peterboro.

He died at Grafton on the 7th Jan. 1866 leaving two sons.

- VI.
1. Alexander James, born Jan. 1861, lives at Prince Albert, N.W.T.
 2. William David McGregor, born _____ who also resided at Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, N.W.T.

No.9. V. Henry Cassady Rogers, born at Grafton on the 16th July 1839.

Engaged in business at Peterboro, Ont., for some time. In 1871 was appointed Post Master of that town. At the age of sixteen, he joined the Peterborough Rifle Company and during the Fenian Raids in 1866 was in command of that corps on the Frontiers. In 1872 he organised and took command of the first Peterboro Troop of Cavalry which now forms "C" Troop of the 3rd Prince of Wales Canadian Dragoons. He was married on the 2nd Sept. 1863 to Maria, eldest daughter of Dr. Walter H. Burrett of Smith's Falls, Ont. by whom he had five sons and two daughters.

Sons

1. Walter James, born July 23rd 1864. Undergraduate at Merton College Oxford, England.
2. Herbert Burrett, born May 8th 1866. In civil service at Victoria, B.C.
3. Henry Schofield, born June 29th 1869. Graduate R.M. College, Kingston. Lieut. Royal Engineers, Secunderabad, India.
4. David McGregor, born May 4th, 1874. Student at Trinity College Toronto.
5. Guy Hamilton, born Nov. 29th 1877. At Trinity College School, Port Hope.

Daughters

1. Ethel Burnham, born Oct, 12th 1871.
2. Helen McGregor, born Mar. 23rd, 1880.

No.10. V. Robert Zacheus Rogers, born 29th March 1842.

He succeeded his father in the occupation of the Homestead Farm, at Grafton, Ont. On the 11th Sept. 1867, he married Isabella Bell, the eldest daughter of the late Sheriff John Wadell of Chatham, Ont., whose father was a Captain in the 1st Royal Dragoons at the battle of Waterloo. In 1880 he organised an expedition which established the first settlement in the Valley of the Souris River in the N.W.T., and for five years carried on an extensive business with lumber and flour mills at Millford, near the mouth of the said River, but the location of the C.P.R. and city of Brandon placed his enterprise at such a disadvantage that he was obliged to abandon it and return to his native residence.

His military service commenced on the Frontier, as a Lieutenant during the Fenian Raids in 1866. He was a Captain in the 40th Northumberland Battalion at its formation, and is now commanding officer of that corps, his rank of Lieut Col. dates August 1876.

His family consists of two sons and four daughters.

Sons

1. Robert Percy, born Oct. 27th, 1872. Graduated at Royal Military College, Kingston, June 1892.
2. Charles Herman, born 28th Dec. 1876 B.S.A. at O. Ag. College, Guelph, Ont.

Daughters

1. Mary Eliza, born _____ married William Henry Smith of Owne Sound on the 30th Sept. 1891. Two children.
2. Emily Gertrude
3. Maria Louisa
4. Nora Beatrice

No. 11 V. James Charles Rogers, born at Grafton on the 23rd March 1844. For some years he followed the business of banking but failing health induced him to adopt agriculture. He died on the 15th May 1875. Holding a commission in the 40th Battalion V.M. He was buried with Military Honours at Grafton. On the 7th April 1870 he married Elinor Maria, eldest daughter of George S. Burrell of Colborne, by whom he had two sons.

Sons

1. Francis Ernest, born 25th Dec. 1870. A medical student at McGill College.
2. Frederick Charles who died.

No. 12. V. Edmund James Armstrong Rogers, born at Grafton on the 27th March 1852. He adopted the Profession of P.L.S. and spent two seasons in preliminary surveys for the Canadian Pacific R., and in surveying the Manitoba. In 1881 he graduated as M.D. at McGill College, Montreal, and commenced the practice of Medicine in Denver where he still resides.

On the 8th day of March 1882, he married Georgina, 2nd daughter of George S. Burrell, of Colborne, Ont., by whom he had two sons and three daughters.

Sons

1. James Grafton
2. Edmund Burrell

Daughters

1. Mary Susanah
2. Frances Maria
3. Georgina Ruth

No. 13. V. James Zacheus Rogers, born in Ottonabee, Aug. 31st, 1842. In May 1866 he was promoted to the command of his father's Volunteer Company, and in 1879 he succeeded to the command of the 57th Battalion of Peterboro Rangers, which he continues to hold in 1895. He established an extensive business at Ashburnham in the manufacture of light cedar and basswood canoes, numbers of which he sent to various and distant parts of the world. He was married at Guelph, Ont., on the 21st September 1869 to Mary Louisa Evatt, who died in August 1870, and on the 13th June 1875 he married Margaret Achesa, eldest daughter of Francis Burnett of Cobourg, by whom he has now living two sons and one daughter.

Sons

1. Claude Henry, born Jan. 17th 1884
2. Keith Archibald, born Nov. 23rd 18

VI

Daughter

1. Mary Winnifred, born June 27th 1877

No. 14. V. George Charles Rogers was born at Ashburnham on the 12th June 1854. He succeeded his father in the management of the Ottonabee Flouring Mills to which he made extensive additions and improvements, in the midst of which his useful life came to a sudden and untimely end while superintending some repairs to the Mill dam. A boat in which he was conducting some workmen was carried over the fall, and though his efforts were effectual in saving the others, his own life was lost, 20th April 1883.

According to press reports his death was considered almost a public calamity and his funeral with military honours was the largest ever seen in Peterboro.

On the 5th August 1880 he was married at Hamilton, Ont. to Martha Annie Overend, who with three daughters mourn his loss.

1. Margaret Elizabeth born 12 May 1881
2. Muriel McDonald
3. Georgina Caroline

VI

No. 15. V. Richard Birdsall Rogers, born at Ashburnham, Peterboro, on the 16th January 1857. He graduated at McGill University Montreal, and adopted the Profession of Surveyor and Civil Engineer. He received the appointment of Government Engineer in charge of the Trent Valley waterways and is now actively engaged as Superintending Engineer of the Trent Valley Canal. Residence at Peterboro. On the 24th February 1881 he was married to Clara Mina, second daughter of Henry Calcutt of Ashburnham, Ont. His family consists of two sons and three daughters.

Sons

1. Henry George, born Nov. 1884
2. George Norman, born 9 June 1886 died 7 Dec 1947.
3. (Heber Symonds Born 1897 died 22 May 1958)

VI Daughters

1. Edna born died 7 Dec 1959
2. Lillian Isabella
3. Leah Maria

No.16. V. Edwin Robert Rogers was born at Peterboro on the 28th May 1859. He adopted a mercantile life and engaged in business at Uxbridge, Ont., at Winnipeg, Man., and at Calgary, at which latter place he now resides, and holds the position of Clerk of the Supreme Court in the N.W. Territories. He was married at Winnipeg on the 22nd October 1885 to Charlotte Elizabeth eldest daughter of J. Clark, Esq., of H.M. Customs Dept. who died at Calgary on the 15th January 1889 leaving one son and one daughter.

Son

1. Allen Stanley Clark, born Nov. 23rd 1888.

Daughter

1. Bessie Florence Clark

Married 2nd time at Toronto January 26th 1894 to Emily Pellatt.

No.17. V. Alfred Burnham Rogers was born at Peterboro on the 11th May 1864. He volunteered for active service with the Midland Battalion during the N.W. Rebellion 1885, and instead of returning with the troops, he took land near Calgary and settled down to farming.

Up to date January 5th 1895

R.Z.R.