A-Grafton (07-32) p.)

THE COBOURG WORLD, THURSDAY, JULY 18th., 1935. ac l'



Grafton Historical Notes By T. R. M. (28)

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In order that the contents of these notes may not belie the title it might be well at this point to summarize the local incidents, most of which

have been mentioned before, in connection with the War of 1812. At this late date it requires a vivid imagination to reconstruct a mental picture of the district as it must have been in 1812. Between York and Kingston were no villages of any size. In Amherst were a few houses and inns clustered near the Courthouse, but only one building stood on the site of Cobourg. With the exception of a few scattered log houses in the clearings along the southern fringe of settlement, the whole district was covered with primeval forest. Although there were numbers of sailing ships on Lake Ontario, yet many of the troops marched along the Danforth Road between York and the Carrying Place, on their route to and from the strategic post of Kingston. Haldimand was of some importance at the time, particularly because it was the home of the local Assembly Member who was also Commissariat Officer.

Rogers was commissioned as Second Major in the first Regiment of Northumberland Militia in Aug. 1812, but it is not probable that this position had any direct connection with the supplying of the troops. The document published in No. 21 of the Notes illustrates the important function that such an officer filled. passing troops he doled out food, the States during the War, but has drink and apparently money. The Army Bills mentioned therein tell of the sacreity of specie. Paper money of varying denominations was print-

ed in order to facilitate exchange, and these Bills were redeemed by the Provincial Parliament at the close of the War.

It is not fanciful to suppose that various bodies of men, local Militia companies as well as passing British and Colonial regiments, visited the Rogers house during the War years. Sheaffe's letter published in No. 2 reveals that the Haldimand military station was a convenient stopping Ask my friend George to assist Rus.

familiar uniforms over the ruls and corduroy of the Danforth road. During the summer the troops encamped on the sloping meadow south of the Rogers house, a field now devoted to the peaceful pursuits of picnics and base-ball. During the colder weather soldiers were billeted in neighbouring Apparently it was on such houses. an occasion that the chimney of Eliakim Barnum's house caught fire and the building was burned. It may well have been that the compensation was such that young Barnum was emboldened to build the present mansion, but no trace of the architect or the circumstances surrounding the building have yet come to light.

A characteristic letter (now in the Land papers in the Archives) written by Rogers to Surveyor-General Thomas Ridout of York throws light on a post-war problem of long ago, and illustrates how, loyalty was rewarded. It is interesting to recall that Ridout, whose headstone may be seen in the porch of St. James Cathedral, Toronto, was the greatgrandfather of Miss Mabel Green and Mrs. Hilda Runciman, now of Co-The letter reads as follows: bourg.

"Haldimand, 10 May, 1815. "Dear Sir:-

"The Bearer, Wilson Rus is coming up to York to endeavour to get a lease of Lot 21, first Concession. This lot was leased to Haldimand. To one Francis Burnham who went to since been back and transferred the lease to a person of no better character than himself. Rus is now on the lot, having before the war purchased a part of it from Burnham but unless Government Interfere I fear he will lose even what he bought. Surely those vagabonds that went away are not to be allowed to return and dispose of their property.

"Rus has served in the incorporated Militia and all his sons have belfaved well. He is poor but if he could hold possession of the Reserve it would be a living for him. . .

We

ESPERSEN

A very pretty in New York o: when Vera Bla Mrs. Blackburn Wm. Blackburn, in marriage to son of Mr. and New York, the officiating.

The bride cari of sunset roses, gown of blue trimmed with 1 quilted taffeta j Bakuk hat trim and yellow acce. tended by Mrs. who was attrac flowered chiffon ture hat. She The groom w

brother, Mr. He Following the Mrs. Espersen c home of the b Mr. Whitney Corners, where a was held. The l decorated with mer flowers, del roses, providing ting for the reluncheon. The Blackburn, rece mauve figured Mrs. Davidson in with a rope of

Miss Kathlee borne, sister of t ed in grey trip! neckline and trin vet.

A buffet lunch table centred wit prettily decorated the floral decorat pink, candles in

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> "I am, Dear Sir, "Your very Obedient Humble Servant, "D. M. B. ROGERS."

about two weeks ago.

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The remains were interred in the family plot in Centreton Cemetery on Thursday.

To Be Continued)

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The service was largely attended by a number of people from Bethany. Warkwarth, Ramanath and from othis store from the real or places. Many beautiful floral trib

officiating.

The bride call of sunset rose: gown of blue trimmed with quilted taffeta Bakuk hat triv and yellow acc tended by Mrs who was attra flowered chiffo ture bat. She

The groom brother, Mr. H Following th Mrs. Espersen home of the Mr. Whitney Corners, where was held. The decorated with mer flowers, de roses, providin ting for the r luncheon. Th Blackburn, re mauve figured Mrs. Davidson with a rope of

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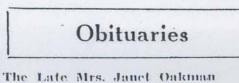
The bride, y popular teache New York, hn vacations for # Cobourg when friends.

Mr. and Mrs in Emporium,

Artillery

Local artille a number of 1 ranks recently; increase their :

Mr. and Mr



rent. in

The funeral of Mrs. Janel Oakman,

use death occurred on Monday of