

Over the winter, I completed two other small transcripts and a large index. The orphan pension list revealed that Quarter Master Sergeant George Marlatt of Trafalgar Township left an orphaned child after his death in 1814. Rebecca Kenny received a pension for the care of that child. We discovered this information years ago but now it is easier to access and search in a digital index. A similar list for the severely wounded who received pensions was also completed.

These two pension lists have been published online at <http://images.ourontario.ca/TrafalgarTownship/3571896/data?dis=dm> and <http://images.ourontario.ca/TrafalgarTownship/3571955/data?dis=dm>

The large index was a 44-page alphabetical name list for the over 400 pages of the 1817 report by the Loyal and Patriotic Society which provided aid to Upper Canadian veterans and their families throughout the province. The index has been published with the book on the Brock University webpage at <https://dr.library.brocku.ca/handle/10464/4754>

When I used the search engine for text in the book to find “Trafalgar” I had no results. Most of the people supporting, administering, or receiving aid did not include places of residence. As the book can be searched, some of you will be wondering why a name index is required. There were printing errors in the book, faded print, and hyphenated words at the end of lines of print which would not be found with a digital search. It was also common at that time to find two or more different spellings for a surname in the same document. With the alphabetical index, researchers can more easily find names that look similar to the surnames that they are pursuing. A search for Joseph Bastido will yield the result “no matches”. However, looking at the alphabetical index will reveal the names of Joseph Bastado, Joseph Bastades, Mrs. Bastader, and Mrs. Bastider. John Tirer, whose wounds were reported above, may also have been John Tryar, John Tyrac, and/or John Tyrie.



I have not tried to find the Trafalgar militia men and other residents in this book but this research aid is now available for local historians to search.

For those of you with an interest in Upper Canadian life during the war and those of you looking for new research resources from that time period, I maintain a blog at <http://warof1812cdnstories.blogspot.ca/>

Donation of Two Whiffletrees from the Shea Farm. Note by A. Choate Little.

Michael Languay has given two whiffletrees to the TTHS that were used on the Shea family farm. We plan to hang them on an interior wall of the schoolhouse. Whiffletrees are load/pulley mechanisms that distribute force. On a farm, they would have made the work of pulling a log, perhaps, or a scuffer, or a harrow or cultivator easier for the draught horses. They are also called whipple trees, doubletrees, equalizers, leader bars.