

# PROMINENT FAMILIES OF THE PERIOD

## CAPTAIN WALTER BOSWELL RN 1770-1850



### WHO HE WAS:

Walter Boswell was a brother of George, a descendant of the Boswells of Balmuto, and a relation of the celebrated biographer James Boswell. He had **a long and distinguished career in the British Navy**, seeing service in many parts of the world: off the coast of Spain, the English Channel, the Mediterranean, Newfoundland and the Caribbean. He was promoted to captain, in 1814 and retired shortly afterwards.

### HOW HE GOT HERE:

About 1818 Boswell came to Cobourg with the intent of taking up his land grant north of Rice Lake. For several months, according to family tradition, the Boswells stayed at a hotel near the corner of present day Division and King Streets. His family much objected to going out into the wilderness so they were very happy when one day the Captain arrived back at the hotel to announce that he intended buying a farm near the settlement. Shortly afterwards he bought a large cleared farm east of Cobourg and named it Beech Grove.