



Northumberland Hall

He entered the political arena in 1824 but did not actually sit in the House of Assembly until 1830. An ardent Tory, **he stridently fought political reform in Upper Canada** believing the vote-by-ballot was *"a mean and despicable mode of voting... that tended to encourage deception... falsehood and misrepresentation"* He also supported the removal of William Lyon McKenzie from the Assembly. In 1847 he was appointed to the Legislative Council and remained a member until Confederation in 1867.

Boulton was active in Cobourg affairs including being **one of the first directors of the Cobourg Harbour, a director of the Cobourg and Peterborough Railway Company**, a commissioner of the Trent Waterway System, and a trustee to the Northumberland and Durham Savings Bank. Sometimes self-interest and civic interests collided. In connection with the Cobourg Harbour, Boulton was accused of trying to create a monopoly on lands around the harbour that would increase user costs, profiting him and a Toronto syndicate. Yet he was considered a kindly, religious person who was a great benefactor to the poor.



Cobourg-Peterborough Railway Train

In 1840, after the death of his first wife, he married widow Maria Walton Beck (1799-1862) of Port Hope. By his first wife, Boulton had three children, Edward Trevor, Harriet and Georgina. Only the latter married and she married close to home - her step-brother Walton Beck, later rector at Peterborough. Boulton died at Northumberland Hall in 1869.



Cobourg Harbour - c1840-1850