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...the night with the 14th United States Infantry, demolish the bridge, and then assist another body of infantry and seamen in taking the two redoubts near the "Red House" higher up the river, as a preliminary to a general embarkation of all the troops early in the morning. After rendering the guns in these works unserviceable, both parties were directed to return across the river. Soon after midnight both of these detachments set off from Squaw Island, eleven boats under the command of Lieut.-Colonel C. G. Boerstler sailing off in the direction of Frenchman's Creek with upwards of two hundred men, and the other composed of one hundred and fifty soldiers commanded by Captain William King, aide-de-camp to General Smyth and seventy seamen of the United States Navy led by Lieut. Samuel Angus going against the redoubts above, in ten boats. The result was a long, blind, confused struggle in the dark.

**At the "Red House"**

When near the shore, the approach of King's party was discovered by a sentry, who promptly gave the alarm. Its landing was soon opposed by Lieut. Thomas Lamont with thirty men of the 49th Regiment, quartered at the "Red House," who fired an effective volley into the boats, and Lieut. King of the Royal Artillery with two three-pounders. While reloading their muskets Lamont's men were charged in flank by the seamen, who landed unseen, and retreated to their barracks, where they rallied and, charging in their turn, drove their assailants to the water's edge. King's guns continued their fire and some of the boats pushed off and apparently recrossed the river. Lamont had again reformed his party at the "Red House," when the approach of a considerable body of men from the left or down the river was reported. As they wore long grey overcoats, they were mistaken for Canadian militia and allowed to come near unopposed. They suddenly fired a volley, which disabled Lamont and several men. Lamont was carried off towards the battery but most of his men shut themselves up in the house and made an obstinate defence. They were finally forced upstairs and their assailants set fire to the straw used for bedding in the rooms below. Being thus menaced with the dreadful death they made a bold rush through the flames and escaped at the rear, where they were again attacked and several taken prisoners. King's small band of gunners was next attacked in front by the soldiers and in flank by the seamen armed with pikes and pistols. One of his men was killed and he was severely wounded and taken with both of his guns. Lamont, who was being carried in that direction by two of his men was likewise captured. Lieut. George Bryson, of the Lincoln Militia Artillery, who commanded a gun-crew at a half-moon battery a little further up, finding himself exposed to an attack from flank and rear by overwhelming numbers, spiked his gun and abandoned his position. Captain John Bostwick on hearing the sounds of conflict at the ferry landing, advanced in the direction of the fighting until he encountered a much superior force with the flank companies of the Norfolk Militia. He attacked the invaders but was ultimately driven back with the loss of two killed, six missing and sixteen wounded, including himself slightly and Lieut. George Ryerson, severely.

**The Landing at Frenchman's Creek**

At Frenchman's Creek, Boerstler's landing was resolutely resisted by Lieut. J. Bartley with only thirty-five men, of the 49th and who fired for at least a quarter of an hour upon the boats, until they were assailed in flank by a party, which had landed at a distance unperceived, and was also mistaken for friendly militia. He then crossed the creek near the mill some distance from its mouth and retired toward Fort Erie. The noise of firing gave the alarm at Fort Erie, and leaving a single company

and about thirty men, he proceeded to the boats and fired with a view to the signal to begin crossing the river. The fire on their account was not long continued. But it soon ceased the firing of the bombardment and occasional flashes of fire were mainly intended to intimidate and not to destroy. Smyth to secure an unopposed landing. The boats moved slowly up the river to Black Rock in plain view and there the force on board received orders to "disembark and die." An officer with a flag of truce was sent over with a letter addressed to the commanding officer at Fort Erie by General Smyth in the following terms:

"You have seen a part of the hourly increasing force under my command. I propose to you the surrender of Fort Erie to spare the effusion of blood. I take this opportunity of assuring you that the devastations you have witnessed have been committed by sailors, not under my authority and very much against my will."  
"P.S.—I request, Captain King, to be sent over on parole according to treaty."

**A Bluff that Failed**

The tone of this message did not indicate any great degree of confidence and Hushopp promptly took advantage of the request in the postscript to send Captain Fitzgerald of the 49th back with a written reply, firmly rejecting the summons to surrender with the remark that the troops under his command were sufficient to repel former attacks and he had since received reinforcements. He added that he had no orders to release any prisoners and had no knowledge of any treaty to that effect. Incidentally Fitzgerald was instructed to gain all information in his power. He was cordially received by Smyth, who invited him to view his forces. Fifty-six boats filled with men were counted besides large scows, each having on board a field gun with its carriage and horses, fully equipped. He estimated the number of men on shore as being about five thousand.

An eye witness gives the following account of subsequent events in a private letter written from Niagara on December 6:—  
"By this time we had assembled a force of eleven hundred men and some Indians and taken up a position in advance towards the Ferry, at which the enemy, after having burnt nearly all the houses, still kept up a heavy cannonade. On gaining the heights opposite Black Rock we had a full view of the enemy's whole force, consisting of about six thousand men. About three thousand of these were embarked in boats ready to push off and the remainder were drawn up on the shore. They remained in this situation till about three o'clock, when, observing that we had unspiked the guns of the two twelve-pounder batteries and had got our six and three-pounders (which we had retaken) ready to open, they sent a flag of truce ostensibly to summon Fort Erie, but really to give them an opportunity of retiring from our fire. The night that followed this day was dreadful; the rain fell in torrents and we were all exposed till morning to the pelting of the pitiless storm, and remained for nearly thirty-six hours without a morsel to eat. Never did I witness such zeal, such devotion to the cause, and such determination as pervaded all ranks. In the course of next arrangements were made for getting our troops under cover in the remaining houses and barns. On the night of the 30th, the enemy were again observed to be in motion and we were all on the alert. We have subsequently ascertained that a large force had actually embarked, but had afterwards landed by order of the General. Disturbances have since then taken place, both in the camp and town of Buffalo. General Smyth has been shot at, and burnt and buried in effigy, the militia and volunteers, who are principally from Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia, have been in state of mutiny and many of them have returned home. Still, however, there is a great force opposed to us, and all our exertions will be required to

# Historians From N.Y. And Ont. Gathering In Joint Session Here

## Speaks Here



Brigadier - General Edward A. Cruikshank who was the first speaker at the joint meeting of the

General Cruikshank is first speaker and paints a picture.

## THE WAR DAYS

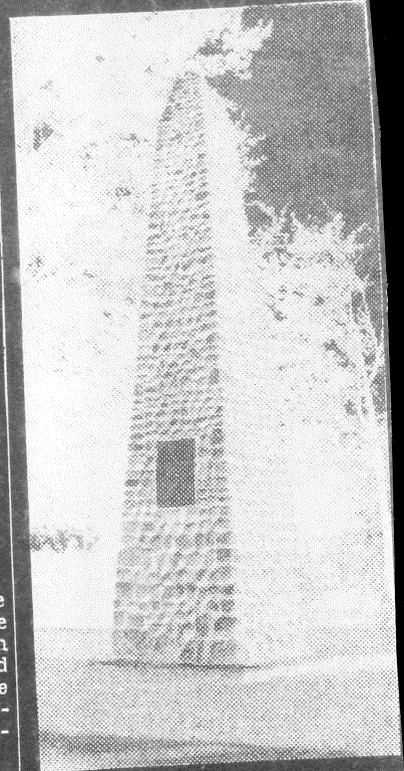
Delegates from both sides of line see historic sites.

More than 235 delegates from the Ontario Historical Society and the New York Historical Association were registered at the Fox Head Inn this morning, marking the opening of an international historical convention which will continue until noon on Wednesday.

Following registrations a meeting of the executive of the Ontario Society was held and final plans for the unveiling of the cairn erected on Lundy's Lane by the Lundy's Lane Historical Society to mark site of the Old Red Meeting House, were discussed.

This afternoon the convention was officially opened with an ad-

## Unveiled



The monument in memory of the pioneers of this district and to mark the site of the old Red Meeting House on Lundy's Lane, which was unveiled and dedicated in the presence of a distinguished party of historians from Ontario and New York State, this afternoon.

—Review photo and engraving.

## QUEENSTON HEIGHTS.

### A Thrilling Narrative of the Famous Battle Where General Brock Died Defending His Country.

(BY ERNEST CRUIKSHANK.)

(Continued from last week.)

Remaining but a few hours at Niagara, the indefatigable Brock hurried on to Kingston where he inspected the militia, examined the growing fortifications and wrote to Sir George Prevost for permission to attack Sackett's Harbor, where the American shipping on Lake Ontario had taken refuge. With his present superiority upon the lake he assured him that its capture would be an easy matter. A portion of the American troops at Niagara would be probably recalled for its relief, and while they were marching overland he would sail up the lake and throw his whole force against the posts they had left. But to the governor this daring scheme of operation seemed far too hazardous, and in reply he desired Brock not to provoke the enemy by needless annoyance, but remain strictly on the defensive, and even hinted that he had risked too much when he ventured to cross the river at Detroit.

This plan having been rejected, Brock returned to Niagara where he found that Van Rensselaer had already given notice of the termination of the armistice. Lewiston Heights were whitened with the tents of a large encampment. Other camps were visible at Schlosser, Black Rock, and in rear of Fort Niagara. Batteries had been erected on the commanding ground opposite Fort George and at Lewiston, and armed with heavy guns. A large flotilla of boats, suitable for the transportation of troops, lay moored under the guns of the fort at the mouth of the river, and others had been taken up to Lewiston. Forty batteaux, each capable of carrying thirty men, were known to have been built in Tonawanda creek. Every day large bodies of men could be seen exercising and marching to and fro attended by a numerous train of field artillery and detachments of cavalry. Everything pointed to an immediate attack, while Brock found himself at once greatly in want of officers, men, and artillery, and wrote to Prevost that he must have a thousand more regular soldiers to defend that frontier, and the latter replied, that not another man could be spared for Upper Canada under any circumstances. Without delay the British commander set to work to supply his lack of men and means with his wonted energy. Detachments of troops were ordered

friends styled the commanding general a traitor, while Solomon Van Rensselaer announced his intention of publishing Porter as "a poltroon, coward, and scoundrel." In this dilemma General Dearborn suggested that the Governor of the state should assume supreme command himself and march thither with as large a force of militia as he could assemble, while he endeavored to draw off part of the British troops by a movement towards Montreal by way of Lake Champlain. Tompkins was too shrewd a politician to peril his reputation by such a step, but he displayed great vigor in pushing forward troops, and stores, and invested Van Rensselaer with authority to call out an almost unlimited number of militia from the neighboring counties. Dearborn at the same time dispatched regiment after regiment of regular troops to Van Rensselaer's assistance, while the secretary of war sent sailors to equip and man the boats and vessels at Buffalo, and was urging forward another army to recover Detroit. Two thousand men from Pennsylvania were at the same time ordered to march to the Niagara.

There long continued efforts to enlist the Indians residing in New York and Pennsylvania actively on their side now promised to be successful. Already in July Erastus Granger, the American Indian agent for the state of New York, held a council with the Senecas at Buffalo, during which he proposed that they should permit two hundred of their young men to join the American army. This they refused to do, but consented to send some of their chiefs to Grand river to dissuade the Indians from joining the British. In this mission they were unsuccessful, but Granger appears to have represented to his government that they were anxious to be employed themselves, for as early as the 27th of July, the secretary of war wrote to Dearborn enclosing a letter to Granger authorizing him to organize the warriors of the Six Nations conditionally. At this time it was quite impossible for him to know that any Indians had joined the British. About the middle of September Van Rensselaer held a grand council with the Tuscaroras, and advantage was craftily taken of the appearance of a British scouting party upon Grand Island, which was still the property of the Senecas, to excite alarm amongst them lest they should be deprived of these lands. They were induced to declare war formally, and Red Jacket pompously announced they would put 3000 warriors in the field. Several hundred Indians were also brought down from the Alleghany river and a great feast and war dance held in the streets of Buffalo. Almost at the instant that these events were taking place, the secretary again wrote to Dearborn:—"By letters received from Erastus Granger it appears that the young men of the Six Nations can no longer be restrained, and that in case of refusal on the part of the United States to accept their services they would join the Indians under the British standard. Mr. Granger has therefore, been authorized after every attempt to secure their neutrality has failed to embrace them." In consequence of these communications, the

tendered their services to perform garrison duty.

The weather had been extremely discouraging. July had been excessively hot and dry, but August brought floods of rain. Wheat sprouted in the fields after being reaped and much of the harvest was ruined. September as a rule proved cool and pleasant, but October was ushered in by furious storms, and sudden changes of temperature which prevented most of the Indian corn from maturing, and blighted the lingering hopes of the farmers.

Besides several large scows for the transport of cannon, the Americans had begun to build three gun-boats at Black Rock, the destruction of which Brock frankly confessed he would have attempted had he not been restrained by his instructions. The Indians were strictly prohibited from crossing the river under any pretence, and were closely watched and guarded. A party which arrived from the west to visit Colonel Claus, bringing with them a bundle of scalps, were sharply rebuked and pledged not to offend in that way again. These rigid precautions had the effect of diminishing the number of those with the army until it did not much exceed one hundred.

A variety of motives absolutely forced General Van Rensselaer to assume the offensive. During September six regiments of regular infantry, five of New York militia, a battalion of rifles and several batteries of artillery had joined his army. The Pennsylvania contingent had assembled at Meadville on the 20th, and was marching to Buffalo. Forage and provisions had already begun to grow scarce, and the autumn rains would undoubtedly increase the ravages of disease already frightfully prevalent among his militia. Dearborn strongly urged him to attempt the passage of the river, as he declared they must reckon upon obtaining possession of Upper Canada before the winter set in, assuring him at the same time that Hanson would invade the province by way of Detroit with six or seven thousand men, while another strong body of troops was already assembled at Sackett's Harbor, where a squadron was fitting out to contest possession of Lake Ontario, and he, in person, would threaten Montreal from Lake Champlain. The ultimate success of these operations he regarded as almost certain, but he warned him that much would depend on his movements on the Niagara. Monroe, Secretary of State, openly ascribed the inactivity of the armies in New York to the effects of disaffection, which he declared had paralyzed the efforts of the administration and rendered the measures of Congress inoperative. The militia now clamored loudly to be led against the enemy, and did not hesitate to accuse their commander of lukewarmness and cowardice, while some of their officers announced their intention of invading Canada without waiting for orders from him, yet a trifling incident served to indicate how little dependence was to be placed on their assistance. A sentinel near Schlosser was shot on his beat in the night by some unknown person, and

## Unveiling

(Continued from Page Five)

active part in state politics, which gained him a commission as brigadier-general in the militia of New York. He had been fortunate in commanding at the moment when the attack on Sackett's Harbour had been discontinued a year before, and took the credit of winning a victory. Taken into the regular army of the United States with the same rank, his conduct had been creditable and was rewarded by promotion. He was undoubtedly brave, energetic, and self-confident. The troops of the regular army placed under his command were well organized, had considerable experience, and had been carefully trained. They were embarked and landed without opposition under cover of a heavy fog in two divisions, above and below Fort Erie, early on the morning of July 3. The fort was closely invested and its small garrison surrendered that afternoon after a mere show of defence. Brown's first brigade commanded by General W. S. Scott, his best officer, began its march toward Chippawa. Its advance was watched by a small observing force of dragoons and light infantry, which broke up the bridges and retired before it, while the militia were busily engaged in removing the horses and wagons of the farmers and driving the cattle into the back townships or over the Chippawa.

General Riall, commanding the right division of the army engaged in the defence of the province, had slightly less than 4,500 regular soldiers stationed within his district, comprising the provincial seat of government at York and all the country west of it. The naval situation at the time, when the command of the lake seemed certain to pass into the hands of the enemy, made the detention of considerable garrisons at York, Burlington Heights, and the forts at the mouth of Niagara river imperative to retain possession of those important harbours. The force actually available for field service was consequently not much more than one-third of that number. As a successful defence of the shore of Lake Erie and the upper Niagara was clearly out of his power, he had

the invaders, as it was the junction point of the principal roads from several directions and the main depot for his supplies. Twice before the defending force had been obliged to retire upon that place and had twice successfully pushed forward again.

The Indians from the Grand River and the west had taken refuge there the preceding fall, numbering some 2,500, mostly non-combatants, who had to be fed, and ate a third of his provisions. Burlington Heights were menaced by the western road. Raiding parties from Detroit had advanced as far as the western road. Raiding parties from Detroit had advanced as far as Oxford. Strong outposts were kept out in that direction. An attack seemed feasible from Long Point bay, where several hundred men were landed from the enemy's squadron early in May and had destroyed all the flour mills in the vicinity. Their destruction was a serious loss. This was supposed to be a reconnaissance for a more important movement. Three hundred men were detached to Long Point. With his troops thus scattered, Riall was unable to assemble more than twelve hundred regular soldiers to meet the invasion. He called out the local militia and recalled the 8th Regiment, which had been sent to York to recover from an epidemic of malaria.

The destruction of the bridges over at least three considerable creeks failed to retard the advance of the invading force to any noticeable degree. With the assistance of their boats, moving parallel on the river, the bridges were quickly rebuilt or replaced with scows, and Scott's brigade with its complement of artillery encamped on the right bank of Street's creek early on the afternoon of July 4. No attempt was made to take the bridge at Chippawa, which was hidden from view by a belt of woods. Tents were pitched and a supply depot established at Schlosser on the opposite bank of the Niagara. Brown's second brigade and the remainder of artillery came forward in the evening. He had been well served by his commissariat and quartermaster.

Riall intended to dispute the passage of Chippawa creek and next morning burned several buildings on its right bank which



OVER AND OVER IT ROLLS . . . A Chrysler Mouth Car. This is one of many amazing and brilliant performances at New St. Catharines Airport on Wednesday. All cars used in this thrilling show are safe.

the wood. He made a personal reconnaissance and hastily yielding to the fighting instinct decided to attack in the hope of dispersing it before the main body came up. He met with a smashing defeat, losing a third of his best troops. The battle was purely accidental, being due to Riall's sudden change of mind. He burned the bridge to prevent pursuit and sent away his baggage and sick and wounded men but retained his position until the afternoon of July 8, when Brown commenced the construction of a bridge near the mouth of Lyons' creek under cover of his artillery.

The works were then abandoned and the retreat began toward Queenston and Niagara, the militia being once more employed in removing spare waggons and horses and driving cattle into the forts at Niagara or beyond the Twelve Mile Creek, toward Burlington Heights. During the night Brown with the

engaged in the following evening his advance was surprising the militia on Queenston. He found deserters were left at Chippawa and guard Indians were in about and terrified inhabitants, few on the morning of July 8 on the escarpment of Lake Ontario a participation of the Chauncey's squadron equipment was train on waggons assembled. He moved on to 1 brought over the militia a ferry. Fort George at was joined by the 1st Battalion of Incorporated Militia, more than 400, brought in the ships se

Two hundred

## THE NIAGARA PENINSULA.

### The Settlement and Early History of the Niagara Peninsula, Formerly Known as the County of Lincoln.

A Lecture Delivered in School House No. 4, Bertie, May 16th, 1889.

(By Ernest Cruikshank.)

It is my intention to give to you tonight an outline, for I can scarcely do more, of the kind of people who lived in this county where you live now and the manner of life they led at the end of the last and beginning of the present century. This is not any easy task, for although fraught with toil and hardships, their lives were comparatively peaceful and uneventful while the greater part of the civilized world was convulsed by wars and political revolutions.

You are all no doubt aware that the actual settlement of what is now the great Province of Ontario dates only from the close of the American Revolution. Before that period the military posts and trading stations established on the great lakes were scarcely less isolated and unimportant than those now existing on Lake Nyassa or the Upper Congo. A small unlicensed trader's post had been founded at Toronto shortly after the English conquest, and a blockhouse called Fort Erie had been built by General Bradstreet on his march to receive the surrender of Detroit in 1764, but no genuine attempt at permanent settlement was made until the exodus of loyalists from the revolted provinces began.

The first definite cession of lands was made by the Senecas on the 3rd April, 1764, in a treaty concluded with that nation by Sir William Johnson. The ceded territory was described as beginning at Fort Niagara and extending to the creek above Fort Schlosser or Little Niagara, "comprehending the whole carrying-place with the lands on both sides the strait, and containing a tract about fourteen miles in length and four in breadth." The right of cutting timber for the use of his Majesty and that of the garrisons in any other part of their lands, and free use of the harbors on Lake Ontario and on any of the rivers was conceded at the same time. These privileges were evidently obtained for purposes of traffic and defence rather than colonization. A shipyard of some magnitude had already been established upon

#### NAVY ISLAND,

in which in 1763 the schooner *Victory* and a sloop were built, and in the year follow-

forays and the name of Butler's rangers has become associated in the local history of the districts ravaged by them with many a tradition of wanton cruelty and bloodshed, and the spot where Walter Butler fell, at the crossing of Canada Creek, by the rifle of an Oneida Indian, is still pointed out as Butler's Ford. The homeless families of the rangers sought food and shelter in the barracks, and the difficulty and expense experienced in supplying so large a number of persons with provisions and clothing from Lower Canada caused the Governor, General Haldimand, to propose in the summer of 1780, that land should be cultivated in the vicinity of all the upper posts for the support of the loyalists and the supply of the garrisons. He recommended that log houses should be built, and that the settlements should conform strictly to certain rules he laid down. The devastation of the country of the Six Nations, by General Sullivan the year before caused the migration of several thousand Indians to the banks of the Niagara, and the British commandant there was at the same time instructed to make them understand that they must get to work and support themselves upon the proceeds of the seed grain sent them. In December of that year Col. Butler reported that four or five families had settled, but that the winter wheat had arrived too late for sowing. The Indians had brought a considerable tract of land into cultivation at Buffalo creek, and had a surplus of 20,000 bushels, which had been purchased for the use of the garrison. He requested that tools, seed grain, and a dozen breeding sows should be sent him. A year later we learn, from the same authority, that the farmers had been able to sustain themselves entirely since the preceding September and were bringing in grain to exchange for flour. The difficulty experienced in obtaining the latter commodity induced two enterprising brothers, Peter and James Secord, to commence building a saw and grist mill, but a paternal government intervened, and they were informed that this would not be permitted as private property, but that material would be sent up to complete it and they would be allowed a profit for working it. As the prospect of peace improved the farmers began to fret over the uncertain tenure of their lands, which had never been surveyed, nor had the Indians' title in some instances been extinguished. Then discontent culminated in an address to the Governor stating their grievances and informing him that the Mississaugas would readily sell a tract of lands extending along the lake for twelve miles, and the commandant of the post, Col. Maclean, in forwarding it affirmed that the loyalists would sooner emigrate to Japan than settle among the Americans. Delay in complying with their reasonable request was followed by the natural consequences, and seventy persons left the settlement never to return. As late as the midsummer of 1783 the survey had not been completed, nor

Queen's Rangers, Simcoe was in thorough sympathy with the colonists on most questions, and evinced his hearty interest in their fate by cheerfully resigning his seat in the English House of Commons and leaving great estates to bury himself in the wilderness for five years and share their hardships. He entered upon his duties with great zeal and energy. The interior of the country lying between lakes Ontario, Erie and Huron had been as yet imperfectly explored. The trend of the coast line and the general course of the rivers was tolerably well ascertained, but islands, headlands, bays and streams yet retained the names bestowed upon them by early French navigators. One of the first acts of the new Governor was to divide the provinces into nineteen counties, several of which were named in honor of distinguished English champions of the loyalist cause, but the eight west of the Bay of Quinte were named in order after those on the east coast of England, beginning with Northumberland and ending with Kent.

To continue the geographical resemblance as much as possible, what had been known as Lake Geneva was called Burlington Bay; the River La Tranche, the Thames; the Barlue, the Orwell; the Chennette, the Waveney; the Grand, the Ouse; the Chippawa, the Welland; and Longue Pointe was re-named North Foreland; Point Abino alone seems to have been allowed to retain its French designation, perhaps for lack of an English name to suit the locality, but the townships received their names from towns or parishes in the English counties. The original county of Lincoln thus not only included all the townships now forming the counties of Lincoln and Welland, but five of those comprised in the present county of Wentworth—extending, in fact, from the head of Lake Ontario to the mouth of Grand River.

In the same year, the Mississaugas surrendered three million acres in the Niagara Peninsula in consideration of the payment of somewhat less than \$6,000, and Simcoe established his capital in the village of Niagara, which received the official name of Newark. He immediately planned and began the construction of a system of military roads which should connect the Ottawa with the Detroit and Lake Ontario with Lakes Erie and Huron, by the shortest possible route. At Long Point on Lake Erie, Penetanguishene on Lake Huron, and Toronto on Lake Ontario, he projected the establishment of extensive dock yards and the construction of a squadron of ten armed vessels upon each of these lakes. In the depth of winter he walked from Niagara to Detroit, and traversed the dense woods between Toronto bay and Lake Huron in the same manner, to make himself acquainted with the capabilities of the interior for settlement. He explored the course of the Thames, the Grand, the Welland and Holland rivers for many miles in a birch canoe, and familiarized himself in a similar way with the entire northern shore of

and often seen in the... Auntie Cruickshank, a girlhood friend of my mother, was an American who had married Ernest Cruickshank, a Canadian. I don't know her maiden name or the circumstances in which my mother's friendship with her developed. I think that she originally lived in Buffalo.

The Cruickshanks lived across the Niagara River in Canada on a farm on the Garrison Road about two miles from the Village of Fort Erie. Our house was Auntie Cruickshank's Buffalo headquarters. She stayed overnight with us frequently. We drove over occasionally with the Cruickshanks.

Auntie Cruickshank and mother had many literary interests in common. They frequently read and discussed the same books and their authors. Around 1890 whimsical poems known as limericks were inspired primarily by Edward Lear's Book of Nonsense, which, in the 1890's had a very wide circulation. Edward Lear was a tutor to Queen Victoria's children. We all tried to write limericks in imitation of Edward Lear.

Auntie Cruickshank wrote the best limericks. A collection of Auntie Cruickshank's limericks were written out in a small bound notebook. On the flyleaf is inscribed -

"This book to little Eugene was given when  
he was six and going on seven. He'll try  
to keep it spic and span until he grows  
to be a man."

and my mother added the following -

For these poems we thank Mrs. Julia Cruickshank.

I still now, more than seventy-five years later, have this book of Auntie Cruickshank's limericks.

Mr. Cruickshank, with the help of a reamer who lived nearby, operated the farm of 100 acres. There was a herd of cattle and chickens.

Mr. Cruickshank was a Colonel of the local militia. Each summer he spent several weeks at the encampment at Niagara-on-the-Lake. He was a very studious person, particularly interested in local history and military history. He was very reserved. I scarcely dared to speak to him unless he spoke to me.

*Later  
Bingadeen Crav.*

In the autumn of 1894 or 1895, when I was eleven or twelve years old, Auntie Cruickshank invited me to spend a week-end with Mr. Cruickshank and herself. This was my first absence from home by myself. I was thrilled.

I crossed the river on the ferry and walked the two miles up the Garrison Road from the village. I was given the Blue Room, the bedroom on the second floor at the east side of the house.

An incident of that visit which I remember is that at dinner, Mr.

In the summer of 1890 or 1891 and during the year or two following; we spent several weeks of July and August with Mr. and Mrs. Cruickshank at their house on Garrison Road about two miles from Fort Erie Village. Our horse was kept in the Cruickshank stable and father drove to Buffalo and back each business day.

The Cruickshank property was a one hundred acre farm, Mr. Cruickshank had lived there most of his life. The house was built by Mr. Cruickshank's father; from its architecture, I judge in the eighteen sixties and is still standing. The house is an interesting example of the architectural style of the period of its building. It is of the general character of design of many of the better houses built in southern Ontario during the mid-nineteenth century.

The house is one and one-half stories in height and the main section approximately square. The roof, of medium pitch slopes toward the road, the entrance side of the house, and toward the rear. There is a gable in the front center of the roof. A window in the gable is over the centrally located main entrance door. The exterior foot thick walls are of pink-red brick, the common brick of the mid-nineteenth century. A narrow veranda extends across the front, the southerly side of the house. Turning the corner it extends along the easterly side of the house. The veranda roof is in the form of an elliptical curve. From the interior french doors open on to this veranda. Elsewhere the windows are double hung, the sash six panes of glass.

The entrance door, recessed about two feet from the face of the front wall, opens on a hall about eight feet square. On the left a door opens into a living room about sixteen feet thirty feet, extending the depth of the building. There is a large fireplace in a chimney in the rear wall of this room. A door at the right rear of the hall opens into a large, almost square dining room. The stair, in parallel with the width of the house, about four feet in width, between the living room and the dining room, rises toward the front of the house, from a platform entered by doors from both the living room and the dining room. On the second floor are three large bedrooms, one in either gable end and one in the gable over the front entrance. A one story service wing of frame construction extends from the rear of the main unit of the house. It is entered by a door from the dining room into the kitchen. Beyond the kitchen is a large woodshed. There is a cellar under the main house and under the kitchen. It is entered by a trap door in the kitchen floor.

of the frontage. This was the direction toward the village. Passing in front of the house, the drive circled a turn-around and proceeded on toward the Carriage House and the Stables. The grounds were planted with an informal arrangement of trees, which in 1890 were very large. There was a vegetable garden to the west of the house, between the house and the stables.

Mr. Cruickshank was a gentlemen farmer and worked on the farm but most of the work was done by a farm manager and other hired help. The farm manager lived in a house on the farm a short distance up the Garrison Road.

Mr. Cruickshank, over the years, was the incumbent of a number of jobs in the government of Bertie Township. He was a student of and recognized authority on the history of the Niagara Frontier. Books which he wrote on this local history are still the most authoritative record of this history.

Mr. Cruickshank was a Colonel of a local Army Reserve Regiment. He spent several weeks each summer at the military training camp at Niagara-on-the-Lake. During World War One, Colonel Cruickshank, though of an older age, rose to the rank of General in the Canadian Army. For a number of years after the war, General Cruickshank was officer in charge of military archives in Ottawa.

There was a period of time, after the farm on the Garrison Road was sold and before residence in Ottawa when the Cruickshanks lived in a house which they built overlooking the Whirlpool Rapids of the Niagara Gorge, on the River Road between Niagara Falls and Queenston. I don't know the reason for the Cruickshanks living in this location.

Mr. and Mrs. Cruickshank had no children.

During the summer months which we spent with the Cruickshanks in the house on the Garrison Road, we occupied two of the second floor bedrooms, the room over the front entrance and the room at the east of the house.