

Royalists were called, that Cornelius Cole, although an old man, was seized and imprisoned, where he died a victim of fidelity to Fatherland. His property was confiscated, and his sons forced to seek a home in the wilds of Canada. In 1782 John and Adam Cole left, with other United Empire loyalists, for Canada, and passing up the St. Lawrence, they landed and settled in the County of Leeds, in that part now called the township of Elizabethtown, at a point on the river St. Lawrence about five miles west of the present town of Brockville, which place is still called "Cole's Ferry." Here Adam Cole settled, being, as he was frequently heard to say, the first person to begin a settlement in the township of Elizabethtown. Some years after the close of the war, Peter, a son of John Cole, returned to his grandfather's old home in Ulster county, to ascertain whether he could recover some of the family estate, which had been confiscated, but failed, as the authorities had granted the property to other persons. Adam Cole's wife was Thankful Fulford, also descended from loyalist stock. Her brothers, a short time after her departure with her husband, came to Canada and settled in the same neighbourhood, and they have left numerous descendants. Adam Cole's family, in 1812, consisted of nine sons and seven daughters, besides four who died in infancy. Five of the sons served in the war of 1812, the eldest, Peter, being present and assisted in the capture of Ogdensburg, and he subsequently held the rank of captain. The house of Adam Cole was the general headquarters of the military, when they were in that section of country, or when moving between Montreal and Kingston. It is related of Peter Cole, the eldest son, that in the year 1810, the mail carrier was taken sick at his father's house, and Peter took the mail to Kingston, where he received that from Toronto and carried it back to Montreal. At Montreal he took charge of the mail for the west, which had been accumulating for a month and weighed upwards of sixty pounds, and carried it to Kingston. He accomplished the whole trip, going and coming, of 430 miles, on foot, in fourteen days, and this was in March, when the tramping most of the way was through the forest and very difficult. He received for this service from the government the sum of fifteen dollars. Abel Cole, who was the youngest son of Adam Cole, is the only one of that large family now living (1886), and is a hale and hearty old gentle-

man of eighty years. His wife, Catherine Seaman, is the oldest person now living (1886) in Brockville, who was born there, her father, Nehemiah Seaman, being one of the early settlers. Wilmot Howard Cole, second son of Abel Cole, was educated at Brockville. He commenced mercantile business in 1855, and continued in the same until 1882. The old spirit of loyalty which he inherited, prompted him upon the organization of the volunteer militia of Canada in 1855, to become a member of the old "Brockville Rifle company," commanded by Major Smythe (now of the 100th regiment, British army). The late Col. James Crawford, William Fitzsimmons (present postmaster of Brockville), the late Samuel Ross, William Morris, Thomas Camm and other business men of Brockville shouldered their muskets and learned the drill at the same time. Wilmot Howard Cole has filled every position in rank from private to colonel of battalion. In December, 1864, he went with the Brockville Rifle company, as lieutenant, to Amherstburg, in the County of Essex, remaining there on duty until the following May. In November, 1865, the fear of a Fenian raid was so strong in the vicinity of the River St. Lawrence that the officers of the Brockville Rifle company (who were at the time: the late Col. Crawford in command, and Lieut. Cole, Lieut. Robert Bowie, and the late Lieut. Windeat), offered their services without pay, and to increase their company to 100 men to do duty for the protection of Brockville and vicinity, by drilling the men and mounting a heavy guard every night, with sentries posted in different parts of the town, the men only being paid twenty-five cents per day. The offer was accepted by the government, and that duty performed until the ensuing March, when a large portion of the volunteer force were called out, and a provisional battalion formed at Brockville, under command of Col. Crawford, Lieut. Cole assuming command of the Brockville Rifle company, with which he remained on duty until the next November, part of the time at Brockville, and part at Cornwall. Again in 1870, as major of the 41st battalion, he was on duty at Cornwall during the Fenian excitement. On the 28th June, 1871, he was appointed to the command of the 41st battalion, a position he still holds (1886). Col. Cole has occupied various positions of trust and importance in the gift of his fellow-citizens. He was a member of the town council of Brockville for fourteen years; a director for many years, and president of the Johns-