

**Adolphustown, or the Township of Adolphus or
Fourth Town, the First Settlement by United
Empire Loyalists.**

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The settlement of Upper Canada by the United Empire Loyalists in 1784 was effected from three points, one on the St. Lawrence, one commencing at the ruins of Fort Frontenac, now Kingston, and the other from the banks of the Niagara River, opposite Fort Niagara.

Confining our attention to the second of these, the survey of the land into townships, which began in 1783, was made from Fort Frontenac (or as it was more commonly distinguished, Cataraqui) westward and fronting on the shores of Lake Ontario and the Bay of Quinte. At first the townships were known by numbers, as First, Second, Third Townships. The total of the numbers extending around the Bay of Quinte was ten. For many years the townships were spoken of by the settlers as First Town, Second Town, Third Town, etc. The Fourth Township, which claims our attention to-day, was surveyed in 1784.

On account of the configuration of the bay, and the limit of the township, on the east the quantity of land to form the township was only about 11,459 acres, making it the smallest township in the Province of Ontario.

It is almost surrounded by water, which to the pioneer settlers was a great advantage. Their only mode of travelling was by boat in summer and over the ice in winter, the land being as yet an unbroken wilderness.

The First Township was named King's Town after King George III. The Second Township was called Ernest Town, after Ernest Augustus, the eighth child of the King. The third Township received the name of Frederick's Town, after Frederick, Duke of York and Albany, the second child of the King; afterwards the name was modified into Fredericksburg. The Fourth Township was called Adolphus Town, after Adolphus, Duke of Cambridge, tenth child of King George III.

The original settlers of Adolphustown were a band of one of the noblest class of mankind the world has ever possessed—the United Empire Loyalists of America. Their moral worth, heroic sacrifices, and sublime devotion to national duty were ignored by history, and all but forgotten for one hundred years. Let us now present to this meeting a pen picture, taken from real life, of two centuries ago, with the view of exhibiting the character and the moral fibre which was inherited by the men and women