

These District Rolls were the result of a Proclamation of Governor Simcoe, dated the 6th of April, 1796, containing the following:— 'Whereby it appears by the minutes of the Council of the late Province of Quebec, dated Monday, the 9th day of November, 1789, to have been the desire of His Excellency, Lord Dorchester, the Governor General, to put a mark of honour upon the families who adhered to the Unity of the Empire and joined the Royal Standard in America, before the Treaty of Separation in the year 1783, and for that purpose it was then ordered by His Excellency in Council, that the several Land Boards (should) take course in preserving a registry of the names of all persons falling under the description aforementioned, to the end that their posterity might be discriminated from (the then) future settlers in the parish registers and rolls of the militia of their respective districts and other public remembrances of the Province, as proper objects, by their persevering in the fidelity and conduct so honourable to their ancestors, for distinguished benefits and privileges.' But as such registry has not been generally made, and as it is still necessary to ascertain the persons and families who may have distinguished themselves as abovementioned, &c., do hereby direct all persons claiming to be confirmed by deed under seal of the Province of their several possessions, who adhered to the Unity of the Empire, and joined the Royal Standard in America, before the Treaty of Separation in the year 1783, to ascertain the same upon oath before Magistrates in the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions assembled, now next ensuing the date of this Proclamation, that if they neglect to ascertain according to the mode set forth, their claims to receive deeds without fee, they will not be considered as entitled, in this respect to the benefit of having adhered.

The District Rolls which we have in the Archives and which are the result of this Proclamation, are the following:—

(1) Eastern District. (Copy from original in Crown Office.) A Roll of Loyalists who adhered before the treaty of 1783, made, pursuant to Simcoe's Proclamation of 1796, at the Quarter Sessions of the above District, 11th October, 1796, vouched for or sworn before A. Campbell, Thos. Fraser and other J.P.'s. The list of 58 names at the end of the volume, is certified by Hugh Munro, Wm. Fraser and Thos. Fraser, J.P.'s, 15th December, 1797. To this list 3 names are added by O. C., 14th June, 1798, or sworn before A. Campbell, Thos. Fraser and other J.P.'s. The list of 58 names of U. E. Loyalists certified by Eph. Jones, Thos. Fraser and Allan Paterson, J.P.'s, at the Quarter Sessions, New Johnston, 11th October, 1796. (No cover.)

The body of the book, which is unpagged, contains the main roll of 1,277 names of U. E. Loyalists certified by Eph. Jones; Thos. Fraser; and Allan Paterson, J.P.'s at the Quarter Sessions, New Johnston, 11th Oct., 1796. (No cover.)

(2) Eastern District. Roll (continued) of U. E. Loyalists made at Quarter Sessions held from the 10th October to the 1st of November, 1797, pursuant to order of Peter Russell, Esq., for extending the time for enrolling of such U. E. Loyalists as had not been enrolled under the Proclamation of Gov. Simcoe of 6th April, 1796, 58 names; certified by Hugh Munro, Wm. Fraser, J.P.'s, 15th December, 1797, and signed also by T. Farrand, Clerk of the Peace, Eastern District. A large sheet folded.

(3) Eastern District. (Also Home and Midland Districts. Short lists.)

(1) List alphabetical of U. E. Loyalists in Eastern District (names numbered up to 1,277), pp. 1 to 35 (not dated but note on p. 34 suggests 1303). The original list was made in 1798.

(2) Eastern District. Additional list of U. E. Loyalists. Fifty-one names with note by P. Russell, dated 26th July, 1798. The original list was sent to D. Burns, 13th April, 1796.

(3) Eastern Home and Midland Districts. A list of persons permitted to be entered on the U. E. list. No date; 22 names, p. 40. This book contains 42 pages, no cover.