

took up their abode under the noble Prince of Wied. The city greatly prospered, and soon became a bright landmark in Southern Germany, known throughout Europe as a city of refuge for the persecuted Protestants of the continent.

Among the refugees from Hungary were the family of Servos. They were probably Hungarian, of Servian origin, as this is a Hungarian form for Serbos, pronounced Servos, meaning Servian. They settled in Alt Wied, and subsequently removed to the new city of Neu Wied, where they lived and prospered, some of them taking up the military profession in the service of their adopted and afterwards of their native prince.

Christopher Servos, born at Alt Wied about 1670, is the first whom we shall particularize as the ancestor of the Canadian branch of the family. He entered the service of the Prince of Wied as a private soldier of his guard in 1687, and in which by successive promotions, he attained the rank of officer. He served in the army thirty-nine years and nine months; he went through the great campaigns of Marlborough, serving in the German contingent which formed a large part of the army of that great commander.

On the termination of his long and honorable military service, Christopher Servos being then a man well in years, with a wife and a family of six grown children, determined to emigrate to one of the English Colonies of North America, about which he had heard a good deal during his campaigns with the English armies.

Prince Frederick William, of Wied, the reigning prince at that time, gave him the most honorable discharge from the military service, and with it a large letter of introduction and recommendation under his own hand and seal, to the Governors of New York and Pennsylvania, in one of which Provinces he intended to settle.

This letter, written in old German on parchment, with the signature and

seal of the Prince of Wied, is still preserved by the family, and is now in the possession of Mr. Ethelbert Servos, of Hamilton, Ontario. It recommends Christopher Servos to the respective Governors of the Provinces of New York and Pennsylvania, and reads as follows:

"We, Frederick Wilhelm, of the Holy Roman Empire, Count of Wied and Lord of Runkel and Issenberg, do hereby declare that Christopher Servos, a native of our principality, entered our military service in the year 1687. He served in our Guard as a musqueteer twelve years, as corporal five years, sergeant fifteen years, and as Landsfahndrick seven years and nine months, in all thirty-nine years and nine months. During this long service he was always distinguished as a brave and honorable man, faithful in the performance of every military duty and in all the relations of life of strictest integrity, upright and honorable, as becomes a good man and faithful soldier to be.

"We, therefore, of our own motion and free will, understanding that he desires to emigrate to America with his wife and six children, do hereby grant him an honorable discharge from our service, and release him from all our spiritual and civil jurisdictions, declaring hereby the great satisfaction we have had from his long and honorable services. Not desiring to lose him, yet since of his own desire he has resolved to go with his wife and six children to America, the better to provide for their future welfare, and will betake himself either to New York or Philadelphia, and in order that he may be favorably received by the Honorable Governors of New York or Pennsylvania as a man every way worthy of their assistance and patronage, we recommend the said Christopher Servos to them, pledging ourselves by any means in our power to the said Honorable Governors, to reciprocate any kindness, good-will, and assistance which they may be pleased to show to the said Christopher Servos.