

I give you joy at having brought this long standing debt to be under a hundred pounds, and I have now to propose to you that I will take if you can procure the quantity, fifty barrels of flour from you between this and the first of June at 7 dollars—the price of Government—which will over pay your account 100 dollars which I will answer to your order in cash—so soon as I receive it. Let me have your answer in a week and believe me your friend and svt.

R. HAMILTON

Mr. Stephen Secord,
Queenston, Feb. 3, 1800

Another merchant of Queenston was Thomas Dickson, a brother of Hon. Wm Dickson and of Robert Dickson who traded with the Indians from the Gulf of Mexico to Hudson's Bay. The following letter is sent to Stephen Secord, addressed to Four Mile Creek Mills.

Queenston, 11th June, 1802.

Dear Sir:—I enclose you your account with me to 20th inst., balance due me £106, 10, 5, York, which I trust upon examination you will find right. You will observe you are charged with 93 flour barrels from Page, which will be credited you, when with flour £18, 12, 0, Yk. I shall be much obliged to you if you will make me two hundred wt. of fine flour for house use, which I will send for as soon as the roads are passable, also for some bran. I am dear sir, your most obt. svt.,

THOMAS DICKSON

Mr. Stephen Secord

The account of Thomas Dickson in 1812 against Stephen Secord and the contra account against Thomas Dickson give us an idea of the large business done by each, give us also the prices of wheat and flour, groceries and clothing. It would appear that Mr. Dickson bought wheat and sold it to Mr. Secord who then furnished barrels of flour. The name is always given of the person furnishing wheat which gives us the names of farmers in the vicinity who raised wheat. The account runs through the months of the year 1812. The amounts astonish us beginning with a balance of £203. ending with £483 while the contra account for 261 barrels of flour is £874 leaving a balance due Mr. Secord of £391, N. Y. Cy. Some of the names are familiar as Warner, Turney, Lampman, Middaugh, Adams, Hutt, Chisholm. Several German names appear as Osterholt, Huntsinger; Duchambeux must be French as also Debois. The first entry is Jan. 9 59 60 bushels wheat from Seaburn at 10s £4, 19, 10; the next entry Jan. 6th is one lb. tobacco 3s. On Jan. 20th Warner furnishes 109 56-60 bushels wheat. Jan. 30th one lb.