

1792, the phrase "The Landing" is used twice and means Queenston, this paper is yellow with age and the ink pale so that the writing is not very legible, the amount on one side of the page is £125 with a contra account of £64 leaving a balance of £60, but on the next page the amount due at Niagara was £176, finally £250 which is settled in full by security, when paid the signature is simply R. Hamilton, but the account is not in the same writing. It is very pleasing to see that in all these accounts and contra accounts sometimes of very large amounts the confidence placed in one another and the good feeling shown. For instance the Hon. Robert Hamilton writes: "I give you joy that you have been able to reduce the indebtedness." There is never in sending an account any urging of payment. The sentence which begins "I hope" and we might suppose it may go on to say "for a speedy settlement" reads instead in account after account "I hope you will find the statement right." and each seems to have an account against the other for years, but is always finally paid either by a contra account or cash, or security. One gives groceries, the other flour, or one gives wheat for groceries and then exchanges the wheat for flour. The business done in those early years in Queenston and St. Davids was extensive.

The next account is that of Stephen Secord to James Secord; the latter of course is the husband of Laura Ingersoll Secord. The first named had the mills at St. Davids while James Secord had a store at Queenston. In this account of £90.11, New York Currency we find that sugar is three shillings a pound, a quart of spirits eight shillings, two rose blankets come to 80 shillings and one dozen buttons four shillings, half a bushel of salt is fourteen shillings. This is in 1798.

The next letter is a valuable one and is in the hand writing of Hon. Robert Hamilton, Feb. 1800. We read elsewhere of his kindness and benevolence and this certainly shows a kind heart. It also shows what a large business was done at the mill of Stephen Secord at St. Davids, as well as the extent of business done by the Hon. Robert Hamilton.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please receive your account with me up to this day and the interest on your obligation calculated to the 1st of Jany.

Balance of account .....	£15, 10, 1
" mortgage ...	84, 9, 6
Total.....	99, 19, 7