

a way as manhood recoils to name. These wretches being recognized, with special safety against the Indians, placed in charge of Sergeant Secord and a guard of the Rangers. Oneida Joseph speedily found them out, and, in a paroxysm of rage, demanded them from the guard, in order to put them to death. Sergeant Secord, in obedience to his orders, protected them, and came near being killed himself by Oneida Joseph, who, with some other Indians, tried to force the guard and get at the prisoners. The chief ran a spear through Mr. Secord's coat, exclaiming, 'Give me the rebels—he kill my wife! he kill my child? he burn my wigwams! Oneida Joseph kill him, or kill you.' Assistance came to the guard, and the infuriated Indians were at last drawn off, and the wretches, who really deserved death, were kept as prisoners of war. Oneida Joseph and Mr. Secord both survived these events nearly seventy years.

"We saw the old chief in his house near Brantford, in 1847, then about ninety years of age. The good old man, as we entered, was lying on the bed, with spectacles on his nose, reading the Bible. He was, even then, as fine a specimen of the Indian race as we ever saw. He talked freely of old times, and although, like other chiefs of the Six Nations, he had lost immense possessions through his loyalty to the Crown, the sacrifice never gave him one moment's regret. In the war of 1812, Oneida Joseph was one on the most active chiefs that took up the tomahawk to defend their beloved Canada against their old enemy.

"This incident between Oneida Joseph and Mr. Secord, shows conclusively that the Rangers, so far from utterly destroying the inhabitants of Wyoming, preserved the lives of their worst enemies, and that, too, under orders of Col. Butler, whom the *New Dominion* allows its pages to insult as a 'merciless fiend.'"

CORRESPONDENCE.

(For the *New Dominion Monthly*.)

STEAMBOATING ON LAKE ONTARIO.

I observe in the *NEW DOMINION MONTHLY* for May some notes on this subject, wherein I think the writer is slightly in error, and I will, with your leave, pen my recollections and impressions of the early steam navigation of our splendid lakes.

There is no doubt but the "Frontenac" was the first steamer on Lake Ontario, and I have the impression she was built earlier than 1818. During the summer of 1822, I was on board of her. She plied between Kingston, Toronto, Niagara, and Queenston, making a trip once a week, calling at Toronto going up. Passengers going to Kingston had to cross in her to Niagara and Queenston, for she did not call at Toronto on the downward trip. The cabin fare was \$12, and the deck \$3. The "Charlotte" that year plied between Kingston and Belleville. She did not go to Prescott. In the latter part of that season, a small steamer was built, called the "Dalhousie," which ran between Kingston and Prescott. There was a small steamer the same year, belonging to the Americans, that plied between Sacketts' Harbor and Kingston. I forget her name.

There were four steamers on Lake Ontario in 1822. On Lake Erie in 1820-21, there was but one steamer—the "Walk-on-the-Water," which ran from Black Rock to Green Bay, on Lake Michigan. On coming up from Black Rock, in addition to her steam, she required the aid of several yoke of oxen to enable her to get up the current. This was the only boat at that period on the Upper Lakes.

Had I time, I might write for the *MONTHLY* a short account of a two years' cruise on the Upper Lakes in 1820-21, while attached to the expedition appointed for running the boundary line between Canada and the United States.

E.

Peterborough, 24th June, 1868.

[We will be much obliged to the writer of the above communication for the narrative of his cruise in 1820-21. One object of the *NEW DOMINION MONTHLY* is, as its readers have doubtless perceived, to preserve the most interesting of the facts and incidents connected with the early settlements of all parts of the Dominion, that would otherwise pass into oblivion.—Eds. N.D.M.]