

with others to work at the building of a school house. At that time the school was a voluntary institution, including the engagement and payment of the teachers. Considering the limited means of the settlers and the ideas of many of them as to the questionable advantages of education, we are not surprised to find that the teachers available and actually employed were very uncertain quantities.

Occasionally he was drawn to attend as a member of the Grand Jury, which met at Newark, the original capital of the Province, and after 1808 at Niagara. At first the trips to attend the Grand Jury, as for any other purpose, were made by water in open boats, which required to go ashore at night or in rough weather. He had occasional trips to York also after it became the capital, to look after matters connected with land grants for his family and others. The journey was broken at the Credit, a convenient halfway house on these trips.

In June, 1808, there was an election in that district for the member of the Legislature. Those were the days of open and prolonged voting. In this case polls were opened on the 15th and continued open until the 21st, when it was found that Mr. Levi Lewis was the successful candidate.

From 1804 on we find him attending the "training", as the Militia Service of the time was designated. Later his two sons, David and Jesse, were also in training for the defence of their country. When the troubles preceding the War of 1812 began to develop, the trainings became more numerous and when war itself was declared father and sons were called upon for active service. They were marched about throughout the Niagara District during the autumn and early winter of 1812 and again in the spring of 1813. Apparently the militia suffered much more from natural hardships and exposure to the weather than from the enemy. Smith returned from his campaigns much crippled with rheumatism. The settlers, however, were amply compensated for the hardships of the actual campaigns by the great influx of British gold, resulting in a ready market for all possible supplies at unheard of prices, as also for the services of men and animals at extravagant rates of pay.

As in the case of many of the other settlers from the United States, Mr. Smith was a Methodist in religion and very much devoted to his religious duties. Practically every Sun-