

April 7th, 1814 to join the British forces at Niagara. My mother went to some friends at Sandwich. The first day out we had a canoe to travel in, the second day being on foot, we met a man named Johnson who was out looking for his horses, he had one horse with him and this he allowed me to ride all day. When we reached Johnston's house, we were obliged to stay there two days lying quiet, because we heard there of a party of Americans who were near. After this we continued our journey on foot. On one day our way lay through the 'Long Bush' where the road was just a cart track and no house for twenty-seven miles. The walking was dreadful, the snow newly fallen being about a foot deep with almost another foot of mud underneath. I got so tired that I lagged behind continually and father would have to wait for me, finally he made me walk ahead of him. I felt very downhearted and miserable, and father kept trying to cheer me up. At last we heard a cowbell which raised my spirits a little, and about dark we got into the village of Deleware, where we had plenty to eat and were made comfortable. Soon after that we had to go through the Township of Burford where the farmers were a very disaffected lot. They were very suspicious and inquisitive as to where we came from, and grumbled very much when we asked for a bed. They made us a shake down in front of the fire, which the hired man put out by sticking a large log on it, and there we lay and shivered all night on the floor which was made of rough logs with large cracks between, while there was a hole under the door large enough for a hog to come in at."

"When we got to the Grand River the bridge was broken down, but we could almost wade it. Where Hamilton now stands there was only one house at that time; a small stone cottage near the mountain."

"We reached Niagara safely April 20th, and went to a friend's. When we arrived General Riall was down by the river, and sent up soon after to ask if there was a man belonging to the Engineer Department come from Sandwich, father went out to him, and was told he was wanted over at the Fort at once. General Riall asked him if he had brought his little boy with him and father said 'Yes'. The General then asked if I was a mechanic and father told him 'No'. I had been at school. The General said 'Well, that's better for him, but bring him along and we'll make him useful. I was put on regular rations of bread, meat and rum, and my pay was fifteen dollars per month. We stayed here in good quarters till the end of the war. I used to sell my rum for two dollars a quart. All the men got two gills extra to work on. I have seen a hog'shead knocked in in the morning and all gone by dark. My work was to serve out tools and rum to the men. It was excellent rum, quite thick, it is very hard to