

in the depth of a savage wilderness, it is supposed one died from illness and exhaustion, the other from fear and thirst, as they were found some distance apart, one brother apparently having wandered away in search of water, although the popular impression, which has become a tradition, was that they were literally bled to death by mosquitos. The late Mrs. Ross, who was born the same year and to whom the occurrence was only a memory, said that Lieut. Impett, who was in command, was severely censured for his inhumanity, in the general estimation, as it is said the sick soldier requested to ride and was refused. Sir Richard Bonnycastle of the Royal Engineers, who was here at the time, made an official investigation and reported "no one to blame," as the weak one may have died in the course of nature, and the strong one from fear at being left with his brother's corpse in the vast wilderness. Sir Richard often passed the spot on horseback, not, as he says, without a shudder. (Bonnycastle's Canada, Vol. I., p. 292). The tree with the names of the two soldiers carved thereon by the settlers was a well known landmark for years in the forest just beyond the late Chas. Rankin's residence. The remains of the devoted brothers were carried on stretchers to the garrison and deposited in the little military cemetery by their faithful comrades, who caused a stone to be erected with the following inscription:—"Erected by their comrades to the memory of Privates John and Samuel McGarraty, two brothers, late of the 79th Regiment, who died on the march to this Post on the 2nd June, 1831, John aged 25, Samuel aged 23 years. 'In the midst of life we are in death.'" The 79th had fought under Wellington at Waterloo. History says that of the 800 men who went into the conflict on that fateful day only 80 survived. Among the survivors who accompanied the Regiment to Canada was the late John Hamilton of Hillsdale. He received his discharge at Penetanguishene in 1832 after 21 years' faithful service and settled on the Military road where he kept a wayside inn for many years. James and William Hamilton of Hillsdale are sons, and the late Mrs. Daniel Gill of Orillia was a daughter.

The 82nd Regt. appears to have been co-temporary with the 79th, or succeeded them very soon, as it is scheduled for 1831. The 82nd with the 6th Warwickshire formed Gen. Brisbane's Brigade and fought at Fort Erie in that gallant sortie, which a premature explosion rendered so terribly fatal on the eve of success. Dr. Nicholson was surgeon of this detachment, said to be related to Squire Sam. Fraser; Thos.