

kindness shewn to these captives, and money and presents expended to purchase them from the Indians, so that they were all finally, except the father, who died from hardships, returned to their homes in Pennsylvania, first being sent in British vessels to Montreal. The Gilbert family (Quakers) fifteen in number, were captured in April, 1780, by Indians, carried off and endured many hardships, travelling to the Seneca country. Several of them reached Fort Niagara and were kindly treated by Col. Guy Johnson and different British officers, among them being Capt. Dace, Capt. Powell, also Mrs. Powell.

Mrs. Frey is mentioned as giving money to free some of them.

They crossed over to what was then called Butlersburg, now Niagara, in 1782, Newark, where Elizabeth stayed in the home of John Secord for over a year, where she felt so at home that she called Mrs. Secord "mamma." She was visited here by her brother, Abner, and taken over to Fort Niagara to see other members of the family, and finally purchased from the Indians who claimed her. They were gathered from many quarters where the Indians had separated from one another, and in 1782 they met in their former home.

Col. Claus, then in Montreal, is mentioned as interesting himself in their favor.

The story is valuable and interesting to us, as shewing that John Secord's home was near Niagara.

During the Revolution, we have the names of seven Secords who settled in this neighborhood, at Niagara, Queenston and St. Davids, where their descendents are still found. Some of the women and children came in 1777, while the men were in the army.



1782 From the Archives obtained by Capt. Cruikshank :

"24th August, 1782. Col. Butler took the first census of the Settlement of Niagara. There were sixteen families, eighty-four persons, forty-nine horses, sixty cattle, one hundred and three hogs, thirty sheep, and two hundred and thirty seven acres cleared. The statement also gives the number of bushels raised that year of wheat, oats, potatoes, and Indian corn.

The names of settlers given are: Isaac Dolson, Peter Secord, John Secord, Jas. Secord, Geo. Stuart, Geo. Fields, Jno. Depue, Dan.