

Haldimand, asking relief for herself and seven children, who were in great distress as they had been plundered of all their effects at the time her husband was imprisoned.

His daughter (Mrs. Stephen Secord) at this time was only ten years of age. She with her mother and sisters were brought to Canada by a party composed partly of Indians. My grandmother, got a great fright through their kind intentions. One day whilst getting water from a spring she was picked up by an Indian, who, putting his hand over her mouth, ran away with her to a place where they would not be observed; there he questioned her carefully to find out if any of the Americans were near. He with his party was collecting the women and children to conduct them to a place of safety. She never forgot this incident, and in after years would often speak of the terrible fright she had received before finding out that it was a friendly Indian.

Mrs. Secord was noted for her courage and great energy. After her husband's death she carried on the mill herself and made a success of it.

Through the kindness of her sister-in-law Mrs. Cartwright, she was able to give her children a good education, their aunt giving them a home while attending Dr. Whitelaw's school in Kingston. Although Mrs. Secord found the mill a success, her troubles were not yet over; she now had the vicissitudes of the war of 1812 to contend with. During the war she worked the mill entirely alone, being unable to get help, turning out flour, for which the government gave her the high price of ten dollars per barrel.

Her house being the largest in St. Davids, she had the officers quartered on her, General Drummond and staff, and when the Americans were in possession her house was their headquarters too. I may do the American officers the justice to say they always treated her with respect.

Mrs. Secord did not appear to have much fear of the Americans. On one occasion a soldier seized a bowl of butter to carry off. To this she made a decided objection, telling him he might have the butter but not the bowl, seizing it at the same time, and holding on with such determination that he desisted, telling her she might keep her old bowl in rather profane language, at the same time giving it a cut with his sword, chipping a piece of wood out of the side. The nick may still be seen in the bowl, which is yet in possession of the family.

Two of her sons, David and William, served during the war of 1812. David was actively engaged in the battles of Queenston Heights and Lundy's Lane.

In July, 1814, General Brown, commander of the American army, broke up his camp before Fort George, and retired to Fort Erie. In his retreat they burnt St. Davids. So once more the Secords lost their homes, but this time only their dwellings. John