

this district. History informs us that a battle took place on the hill at Oakland, in which the General, who had a far larger army than the local forces, gained a victory and from there marched through to the lake, burning the mills at Waterford. We are told that Morris Sovereign, owner of the mill, extinguished the flames three times, despite the repeated threat that interference would cost him his life. Finally he was seized and taken to the top of the hill nearly opposite the site of the present Baptist Church, a rope, fastened around his neck, was passed over the branch of a tree, and he was about to be hanged, when the commanding officer discovered his Masonic identity and spared his life. After the close of the war the progress of the County was rapid. All the Townships were settled by farmers in the front portions and by lumbermen in the remote portions. The Act of 1849, which abolished districts, gave the name Norfolk once more to this County. By the same act the present municipal system was introduced. In the early times the County business had been regulated by the quarter sessions. It was not until 1849 that Councils were elected and that Reeves and Deputy Reeves composed the County Council.

The first Canadian Parliament sat in 1792. The first election of which we have any account was held in 1800 at Avery's Mills, Waterford. Hon. David W. Smith and Richard Cockerel were the candidates. Mr. Smith was elected and became Speaker of the House. In the Local Legislature the North Riding was first represented by James Wilson of Townsend.

Some of the veterans of the war of 1812-15 were:—Bloomsburg—Moses Barber, William Kitchen, George Muma, Abraham Nelles, Hartford—John Wilcox. Round Plains—John McDonald, Lawrence Sovereign. Townsend Centre—James S. Lewis, Benjamin Haviland. Waterford—Adam Bowlby, Chas. Merrill, William Slaght.

