

eight hundred acres, immediately on the shore adjoining the farm of Thomas Merrigold. How much he was influenced in this step by seeing that his friend had some bright and promising daughters, father never told us.

Having selected the farm, my father's next duty was that of felling the trees and clearing the land. On the Lake shore this was begun in a peculiar manner. The clearing was commenced along the shore, the first trees being cut in such a way as to fall over the bank into the lake. The next thing was to build a log house in which he had the assistance of the Merrigold boys. Matters prospered with him, and in due time he had a considerable clearing and a house of more modern conveniences, although it was still of logs. His farm life during this period was varied by the part he took as Major of the Militia in the War of 1812-14. The sword he carried in that war was the same one his father had used in the Revolutionary War, when Lieutenant in the South Carolina Dragoons. I have still the sword in my possession.

In 1816 my father married Susan Isabella Merrigold, daughter of Thomas Merrigold, whose farm, as I have said, was adjoining his own. Of this union I was the fifth child, and was named after Peter Robinson, (a younger brother of the late Sir John Beverly Robinson) a life long friend of the family, and after whom the Town of Peterboro was called.