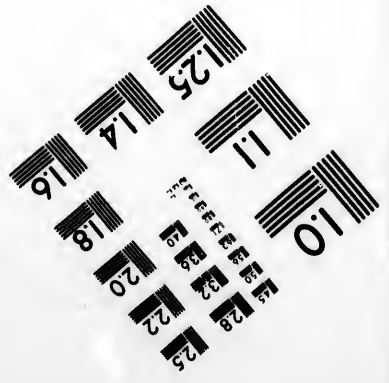
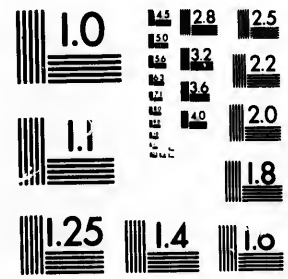


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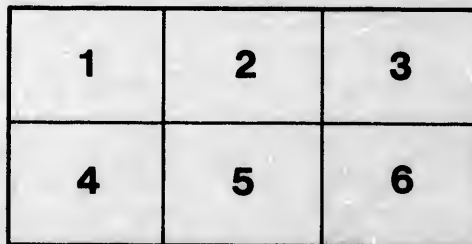
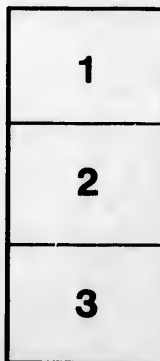
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Have the honor to be
Dear Sir

Your most Obed^t
humble Serv^t

W. Churton

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
OF
THE LATE
COLONEL CHEWETT

TORONTO:
PRINTED BY C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, 5 JORDAN STREET.
1890.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

OF

THE LATE COLONEL CHEWETT.

COLONEL CHEWETT, whose portrait we have selected to accompany this year's proceedings of our Society, was one of the Surveyor-Generals of Upper Canada. Our engraving was made from a miniature on ivory, by Hoppner Meyer, and appears to be exquisitely painted. We are assured by the family that the likeness is good, and when one considers that the old gentleman was past ninety when he sat for his portrait, we are struck with the remarkable freshness of his complexion and the abundance of his hair, though in this latter the appearance is deceptive, for Mr. Chewett wore his hair in powder on all occasions of state or ceremony, the survival of a fashion prevalent in his early days. Our illustration, therefore, presents Mr. Chewett younger looking than one would expect, yet at ninety years he was really both healthy and active, was always an early riser, and in summer took a "constitutional" on the pathway before his house every day the weather permitted.

We propose in our sketch of Mr. Chewett's life to note only a few prominent events and confine ourselves in the main to extracts from a private journal, for the years 1792-3, in the possession of his family, in which he dwells almost wholly on professional matters, and therefore cannot be otherwise than interesting to the members of our Association.

Mr. Chewett, born in London on the 21st December, 1753, was educated as a hydrographical engineer for the East India Company's service. He received his appointment to an East Indiaman towards the close of 1770, but shortly before sailing he was taken with small-pox, and his place supplied by another. On his recovery, rather than wait for another ship, which in those days were few and *very* far between, he embarked on a small vessel bound for Quebec, where he arrived in 1771 and commenced the practice of his profession.

On the 20th May, 1774, a little past the age of twenty, he was taken into the office of the Surveyor General of the Province of

Quebec, and afterwards served in the Quebec militia from the latter end of September, 1775, to the 6th May, 1776, during which time the place was besieged by the rebellious Americans. The siege was put an end to on the latter date by the arrival of His Majesty's ship of war, *Isis*, and the *Surprise*, frigate, under the command of Sir Charles Douglass, having on board the flank companies of the 29th Regiment, commanded by Lord Petersham. During the siege Mr. Chewett was employed, by order of His Excellency, Captain-General Carleton, Governor of Quebec * (there being no Engineer in the Province, and the Surveyor-General, Major Holland, being with the army at New York), under the direction of the Deputy Surveyor-General, the Hon. John Collins, in surveying the fortifications surrounding the city, and in determining the distance of the rebel batteries, whenever and wherever erected. After the defeat of the Americans, Mr. Chewett was appointed acting Paymaster of Works for the posts of St. John, Isle aux Noix, and their dependencies on Lake Champlain; to the Engineers, Quarter Master General and Naval Departments, and remained in these appointments until 1783, when he was recalled by Lieutenant-Governor Hamilton to Quebec and again placed in the Surveyor-General's Department.

In 1786, Mr. Chewett was sent by the Surveyor-General, Major Holland, to take charge of the district of Lunenburg, formerly the eastern Townships of Upper Canada, and now comprising the easternmost counties of Ontario. Here he was employed for several years surveying and laying out lands for the disbanded troops and loyalists.

Mr. Chewett married in 1791, but before doing so he wrote the following letter to his friend, the Hon. John Collins, to procure him a marriage license, and which the writer discovered some years ago in the office of the Crown Lands Department in Toronto, where, no doubt, it still remains. It is a curiosity, and will bear analyzing; there is a bashfulness about it that seeks to conceal *love* by representing *expediency*, and a *timidity* lest his superior should think that at his age (37) he might be guilty of a folly. One can hardly help thinking that were he not obliged to send so far (Quebec) for the license, and to a

* General Carleton arrived at Quebec in November, 1775, from Montreal, by the assistance of Mr. Bouchette, the master of a small vessel, who was afterwards made a Provincial Navy Captain for this service. General Carleton, at Quebec, issued a proclamation that all who were desirous of leaving the country from national feeling were at liberty to do so. Very few availed themselves of the permission, the French-Canadians preferring to remain in the city, and those occupying St. Rocque and St. John's suburbs said if arms were given them they would come in and defend the city. The Americans attacked on the 31st December, and these Canadians fled, leaving their arms in the hands of the Americans. The suburbs were then burned, by order of General Carleton. In May, 1776, volunteers were required to act against Montreal, then in the hands of the Americans—only *one* volunteered from Quebec. A Canadian, however, named Baygeau, of St. Thomas, redeemed his countrymen's want of pluck by bringing forward over two hundred from his place of residence. He afterwards became a priest, and died a bishop.

friend, who happened to be the Chief of his Department, he would have been less embarrassed. However, here is the letter:—

“ CORNWALL, 22nd April, 1791.

“ DEAR SIR,— Having found out a girl whom I mean to make a partner for life, and without which it is impossible to exist in this settlement, having no settled place to retire to after the fatigues of a survey, or take care of the little property I have (this, I hope you will not think unreasonable at the time of life I am come to, as it does not proceed from motives of folly, but of a mature and deliberate consideration), I therefore must pray you as my friend, to obtain a license for me and Isabella McDonell (she is of the family of Major Archibald McDonell, of the Long Sault), to be sent by the first opportunity: and in doing so you will oblige an old servant who is, with the greatest respect

Dear Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

“ W. CHEWETT.

“ The Honourable JOHN COLLINS, Esq.”

We have no means of fixing the date of his marriage, but his first son was born on the 20th May, 1792.

In the autumn of 1791, Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe, the first Governor of the new Province of Upper Canada, arrived at Quebec, when Mr. Chewett was recommended to him to take charge of the Surveys Department of the upper country. Governor Simcoe accepting the recommendation, Mr. Chewett was ordered to report at Quebec, and we will now confine ourselves chiefly to extracts from his journal, which is the one he carried in his pocket, and consists of rough notes made, for the most part, daily, often in pencil, and from which he must have made up his regular journals, some of which are to be found in the Crown Lands Department. It commences on 23rd December, 1791. From that date until the 25th January, 1792, he was engaged in making plans of the District of Lunenburg for the Surveyor-General's office, and on the 26th he notes: “ Employed making into letters the certificates for the family and bounty land for the Township Osnabruck, sent up in the summer, 1790, as the people did not attend to receive them agreeable to the advertisement of the 3rd February, 1791,” and afterwards engaged on plans for Williamsburg, Charlottenburg, and “ of the present situation of Cornwall for the Board.”

“ 5th February, 1792.—Writing to the Deputy Surveyor-General and making up my account current, as there is a mistake in the one sent to Mr. Frobisher, and packing up a plan of Cornwall of the original proprietors.

"6th.—Making a plan of Cornwall," this work and "strengthening the lines on the several plans of the Grand River in order to reduce to the standard scale of the district," occupied his time till the 27th.

"27th.—Set out from the Grand Remous and arrived at Charlottenburg (probably Glengary House, or the mouth of the Riviere aux Raisins).

"28th.—Set out from Charlottenburg and arrived at the Cedars.

"29th.—Set out from the Cedars and arrived at Lachine.

"30th.—Set out from Lachine and arrived at Montreal."

We call the reader's attention to the date of his arrival in Montreal, 30th February—1792 being Leap Year, he must have arrived on the 29th. He probably started on the 26th, not the 27th. It would be interesting to see if has copied this error into his official journal in the Crown Lands Department. He remained in Montreal on the 1st March, and on the

"2nd.—Set out from Montreal and arrived at Berthier.

"3rd.—Set out from Berthier and arrived at Point du Lac.

"4th.—Set out from Point du Lac and arrived at St. Anns.

"5th.—Set out from St. Anns and arrived at Point aux Trembles.

"6th.—Set out from Point aux Trembles and arrived at Quebec.

Waited on Governor Simcoe—promised employment—presented him my plans—very well received—engaged to dine with him the next day." He appears to have been in attendance upon Governor Simcoe till the 18th, when he "waited on Governor Clark, when I am informed there is a requisition from Governor Simcoe to the Surveyor-General's office for my departure.

"19th March.—The Surveyor-General has sent Governor Simcoe's requisition to Governor Clark to know how he is to act.

"20th.—Governor Clark's answer is that since the separation of the Province he does not conceive there can be any outfit from his Government, therefore Mr. Surveyor-General says he can give no orders. But the Surveyor and Deputy Surveyor-General have given me the strongest recommendation as the most proper person to carry the business into execution. So far, so good.

"21st.—Waited on Governor Simcoe—delivered him the plans—but upon entering into conversation, he was pleased to say he had dropped the idea of carrying on the survey until he took possession of his Government, when he should have everything at his command. Requested by him to copy all the instructions relative to settling the Upper Country—buy a book for the same and charge to the Surveyor-General." He was engaged in this work until the end of the month. On the

"25.—Waited on Governor Simcoe, and he requested me to lend him a copying glass. He desired me to enquire of Major Holland in what manner and in what quantity the lots of land were given in the Town of New Johnstown, now called Cornwall. Went to the levee of Governor Clark.

"26th.—Carried the copying glass to Governor Simcoe. He was not visible.

" 27th.—Applied to Major Holland agreeable to the order of Governor Simcoe to know in what manner the town lots were given away in New Johnstown, now Cornwall, and he says there was no settled mode of locating them, 'twas optional with the Surveyor-General, therefore Major Gray's *ipse dixit* does correspond with Major Holland's.

" 1st April, 1792.—Waited on Mr. Dunn relative to £100 6s 4d currency that Mr. Frobisher refused to pay me. Mr. Dunn said that Mr. Collins ought to pay .. e for the balance coming, as well as for my drafts (plans?). Attended the leveé. Employed bringing up my journal. Mr. Robert Coffin returned from his survey, having made as far as Cap la Magdelaine, the ice broke up at Three Rivers, consequently impassable. There should have been a provisional order for surveying by land.

" 2nd.—Employed copying instructions to the several surveyors. Dined with His Excellency, Governor Simcoe." From this date until the 15th he was engaged in copying instructions.

" 15th.—Waited on Governor Simcoe. He wishes me to go off as soon as possible, and I am to enter into his pay from the 10th April at the same pay I usually had, with permission, when not employed for Government, to work for the public. He wishes to have the plan of the River Rideau by Mr. French.

" 18th and 19th.—Employed making up my account to the 10th April.

" 20th.—Employed copying Mr. French's sketch of the Rivers Rideau and Petite Nation.

" 21st.—Carried the plans from the Surveyor-General's office to Governor Simcoe, with a receipt for the same. Dined with Governor Simcoe. He wishes to have the plan of Cornwall in its present situation; the plan of Kingston in its present situation; the harbor of Cataragui and surroundings and Mr. Kotte's survey from the 8th or the Township of Elizabethtown with the Thousand Islands.

" 22.—Breakfasted with Governor Simcoe and received from him Point Henry Frederick in order to have a title put to it. Also the Town of Toronto to know whether it has ever been laid out, and a letter to Major Holland upon business. Went to Major Holland's lodgings, but he is in the country.

" 23rd.—Made a demand for the following plans:—The plan of Cornwall in its present situation. *Answer.*—Not in the office. The plan of Kingston. *Answer.*—Not in the office. The plan of Cataragui Harbor and its surrounding. *Answer.*—Not in the office. Mr. Kotte's survey of the Mille Isles to be copied. Messrs. De Pen- eur and Penoyer's plans on the River Rideau. *Answer.*—Not come to hand.

" 24th.—Reported them to Governor Simcoe.

" 26th.—Waited on Governor Simcoe with Major Holland. Governor Simcoe wishes to have the plans authenticated. Major Holland requests to have the box and plans sent back.

" 27th.—Went to Governor Simcoe and brought back the plans and began their examination." He was employed at this work and in

writing letters until the 10th of May. On the 6th he records as an event:—"This morning left Quebec, the *Recovery*, Capt. Foester, in which went Mr. Toosey and family,"—(for England.)

"10th May.—Governor Simcoe came to the office about 1½ o'clock p.m. and requested to have the plans as he should send off his baggage next morning. At 6 p.m. carried him the plans

"11th.—Employed writing letters and instructions into a book for Governor Simcoe.

"12th.—Ordered before a committee of Council with the several surveyors now at Quebec in order to give in an estimate of the number of days it would require to run the out-lines of a Township of ten miles square on a river, and gave the following, viz :

" Running the front on a river.....	Days 15
" one side line.....	" 10
" one rear line.....	" 10
" Returning to the first station in order to finish the closing line.....	" 1
" For the closing line.....	" 10
" Allowance for bad weather and other casualties ..	" 14
	—
Total days.....	57
" 1 Surveyor, 10/ per diem.....	10/
" 2 Chain Bearers, 2/ " each.....	4/
" 8 Axe Men, 1s. 6d. each.....	12/

" Provisions for the party to be allowed the same as the Deputy Surveyor-General was allowed, 1s. 3d. per day for each man. Implements:—

" 6 New England axes.

" 4 Tommy-hawks.

" 1 Oil cloth.

" 1 Batteau or Canoe, and all the contingencies to be sworn to.

"13th.—Waited on Governor Simcoe, and he desired me to copy Mr. Gale's remarks on the District of Lunenburg, and to obtain from Mr. Collins his treaty with the Mississaga Indians. In consequence of which waited on Mr. Collins and he promised to give it me. Went to the leveé of Governor Clark."

Until the 19th he was employed copying orders, on the

"19th.—Copying a reference to a plan for Governor Simcoe, who came to the office and signified that I must leave Quebec on Monday. Mr. Collins promised to settle with me in the afternoon, but put it off until after leveé on Sunday.

"20th.—Breakfasted with Governor Simcoe and told him Mr. Collins was to settle with me after the leveé. Waited on Mr. Collins, who put it off until 9 o'clock a.m. on Monday, as he must have reference to the council books and to the account current book in the office. Packed up my little baggage ready for departure. Dined

with Governor Simcoe, and after dinner received my instructions and an order on Capt. McGill, Acting Receiver-General, for £30 stg.

"21st.—Waited on Governor Simcoe and received two letters, one for Sir John Johnson, and another addressed to Capt. Duncan and Capt. Munro. Waited on Mr. Collins to settle my account, which took us from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Waited on Governor Simcoe with Dft., but he was not at home. Waited again at 3 p.m. He seemed very much displeased. Went with him to Mr. Secretary Coffin—not to be found. About half-past 1 p.m. a boat upset in the river, in which were fourteen people. The Curé of Quebec, two ladies and all the rest were drowned. Went to the play.

"22nd.—Waited on Mr. Coffin with Mr. Collins and obtained a letter of credit for my balance. Finished the whole of my business at 10 p.m. Waiting for Mr. Angus McDonell. He came in the evening but the tide had turned and going down, so that it was impossible to go off, and I am therefore forced to delay my departure until the morning. At 9 p.m. went to bed in order to be ready for departure.

"23rd.—Rose at 4½ a.m. Called up Mr. Angus McDonell. Got our baggage on board. Breakfasted at 6 a.m. Paid my account. Set out at 7½ a.m. and arrived at Sillery at 8½ a.m. It being the turn of the tide the boat got on ground. Took out its load and launched her into the water. Made up a square sail of a cotton main sail. Waiting for the turn of flood. At six p.m., Mr. Angus McDonell having all his chemical apparatus on board, embarked and made Cap Rouge at 8 p.m., the wind being from the S.W. very strong against us.

"24th.—At 6 a.m. Left Cap Rouge, the wind from the S.W. against us and arrived at 10½ a.m. at Pt. des Ecurieuls. Waiting for the turn of the tide. At 7½ p.m. the tide turning. We embarked at Lotbiniere, opposite to Deschambault, at 10½ p.m.

"25th.—At 7½ a.m. the tide and the wind coming about from the N.E., got under weigh and came opposite Grandines' Church. Very squally with thunder and lightning. When about three miles further Mr. Angus McDonell was very much panic struck, let go the halyard, broached too the boat and frightened the crew, who lay on their oars and all I and Mr. Grant could say—we telling them there was no danger, which in fact there was not—they would not row a stroke and we drifted to Grandines. When about 100 yards from the shore he was in so great a fright that he attempted to get out of the boat, and when I asked him, what he was about to do, he said he did not think there was so much water at the place. We arrived at 10½ p.m. and lay up the boat as snug as it was possible.

"26th.—Went down to the boat and found her full of water, which the people, by their negligence, had left last night, although ordered to bale her. I severely reprimanded them, and one of them took it into his head to desert. Mr. McDonell went after him. At 10 a.m. Mr. McDonell not returned, the tide making very fast and I am afraid if he does not come soon that we shall lose it. At 11 a.m. Mr. McDonell returned with the deserter and sat down to breakfast. The

wind continuing strong, we determined to reach Three Rivers. When we were abreast of Cap la Magdelaine, McDonell, seeing the church and one house, wanted to go in, let go the sail and made the people take to their oars, and as the boat came to the shore made a leap and ran as if the devil was after him, not waiting to secure his own baggage. The boat immediately filled, and Mr. Grant and myself did what we could to those articles that belonged to ourselves. When the business was over we found him (McDonell) sitting by a fire, and said he could not endure the cold.

" 27th.—A vessel from London passed Cap la Magdelaine at 3 p.m. Another ship from London at 6 p.m. We got out our boat, bilged and broken to pieces. We endeavoured to stop the leak, but could not, and forced to send over to Three Rivers for pitch and oakum, and to get a carpenter.

" 28th.—Employed the carpenter examining and repairing her, which detained us until 4 p.m. Embarked and made a little river about half a league beyond Three Rivers at 6½ p.m. The wind being from the S.W. so strong that we could not proceed further.

" 29th.—At 6½ a.m. left the little river, the wind strong from the S.W. Came to Point du Lac, and there came to an anchor in order to see if the wind would change or abate, but it grew more violent and we were obliged to return to the place we set out from. At 6 p.m. Bouillard deserted the second time.

" 30th.—Embarked again at 6 a.m. and made Machiche, the wind being very strong against us from the S.W.; but we could not get into the river, and so we were forced to anchor off the point exposed to the whole of the lake.

" 31st.—At 4 a.m., the weather being calm, got under way and stood through the lake in hopes of the wind freshening. When about three miles above River du Loup the wind came from the S.W. so strong that we were forced to stand in for River du Loup, which we made with much difficulty at 2 p.m. At 6 p.m., the wind coming from north, we made the entrance of Chenal du Nord at 10 p.m.

" 1st June, 1792.—At 6 a.m. embarked. Light wind from the N.E. and S. At 11 a.m. the wind failed. At 8 p.m. made the upper end of the Seigniory of La Valtrie.

" 2nd.—Embarked at 6 a.m., the wind variable from N.E., N. and S. Made Montreal about 4½ p.m.

" 3rd.—Sunday. No business to be done. Waited on Sir John Johnson.

" 4th.—Waited on Sir John Johnson. The letter not ready. Employed packing up my little baggage. Waiting for my provision.

" 5th.—Waiting for Sir John Johnson's letter.

" 6th.—Set off for Lachine and arrived in the evening.

" 7th.—At 1 p.m. left Lachine and arrived at the Cascades at 8 p.m. Very rainy.

" 8th.—At 4½ a.m. left the Cascades and arrived within about one league and a half of Coteau du Lac at 9 p.m.

" 9th.—5½ a.m. departed, and arrived at the mouth of the Riviere aux Raisins at 9½ p.m., the wind being against us all the time.

" 10th.—Sunday. 6 a.m. left the Riviere aux Raisins, and arrived at Cornwall at 9 p.m.; the wind being against us all the fore part of the day.

" 11th.—Set out from Cornwall at 6 a.m., and arrived at the head of the Long Sault at 9 p.m. We found very much difficulty in getting up the Long Sault.

" 12th.—Left the Long Sault, and arrived at Grand Remous at 10 a.m. Breakfasted. Employed unloading the boat and searching for the leak. Found it in her bottom. Exchanged the batteau. Put the provision again on board. Employed packing up my little necessaries for campaign, and settling my little family affairs. At 9 p.m. Mr. McDonell not yet arrived. A report is spread that a Mr. McDonell was drowned this evening. Sent off my servant with a horse to enquire after him.

" 12th.—At 4 p.m. servant not returned. Employed packing up the remaining part of my little necessaries.

" 13th.—At 10 a.m. Mr. McDonell returned. At 3 p.m. part of Governor Simcoe's corps came too and made a halt, commanded by Capt. Shaw. Obligated to wait this afternoon for my servant.

" 14th.—At 1 p.m. set off, and made Capt. Munro's at 9 p.m. Delivered my letters.

" 15th.—At 6 a.m. left Capt. Munro's, and made Campbell's at the Town of Johnstown at 8 p.m.

" 16th.—At 6 a.m. left Campbell's, and made Airs' at 7 p.m.

" 17th.—Left Airs' at 5 a.m., and made the middle of the 11th township at 7 p.m.

" 18th.—Departed at 5 a.m., and made Kingston at 7 p.m.

" 19th.—This day one of my servants refused to go any further, and the commanding officer interfered in his behalf, in consequence of which I was forced to let him remain, although he was £1. 10. cy. in my debt. Wanted to get another man in his place, and to lay in a little stock for our voyage.

" 20th.—6 a.m. left Kingston, and arrived at Lieut. Parrott's at 7 p.m.

" 21st.—6 a.m. left Parrott's, and arrived at the Green Point at 7 p.m.

" 22nd.—At 6 a.m. left the Green Point, and arrived at Crisdall's and informed Capt. Meyers—to whom I had a letter from the interpreter at Kingston, in order to find me an Indian (? guide or interpreter). Two miles below building a sawmill.

" 23rd.—At 6 a.m. set off for Capt. Meyers', who informed me the person whom he wished to go with me was at the Appanne Mills (? Napanee), but was hourly expected. Employed getting an Indian who knew the Salt Springs, and a Scotch lad who speaks Indian as an interpreter.

" 24th.—Employed as yesterday. At 12 m. left Capt. Meyers' and arrived at the head of the bay, waiting for the person whom he wishes to go with me. Employed grinding axes.

" 25th.—Employed grinding and making helves for our axes, securing our baggage, laying up our boat, getting a canoe for the ex-

pedition. This evening arrived Capt. Meyers and informed me that Mr. Blacker would arrive in the morning.

" 26th.—Mr. Blacker arrived, and after having spoken concerning the springs on the Trent, he informed me that he saw Mr. Jones, surveyor for Niagara, who informed him that he has a salt spring at the head of Lake Ontario which produced a large quantity of salt. A salt spring being a mineral water, consequently, as a mineral, therefore cannot belong to Mr. Jones, and so ought to be inspected. At 1 p.m. set out from the mouth of the River Saggettewedguam, and arrived at 6 p.m. about four miles from its confluence. On the east side the land in general is high—that is to say, from 10 to 20 feet; on the west side low, and on both but indifferent and stony land. Encamped about 7 p.m. Rainy weather all the evening. The water very strong from its mouth, so that the Indians are forced to get out of the canoe and lead it all the way except about a mile from its mouth.

" 27th.—Departed from our encampment about 6 a.m., and arrived at the head of the first rapid at 3 p.m. and dined at 3½ p.m. Set out for the head of the second rapid and arrived at 7½ p.m. and encamped. The land on the north side appears tolerably good, except in some few places above the head of the first rapid, and that on the south side for about five or six miles; the rest appears to be low and swampy.

" 28th.—At 7 a.m. set out for the spring.

" 29th.—Blazed the track all the way from about four miles and a half. The first part, for about a mile, is very swampy. Arrived at the spring about 9 a.m., and upon examination found it to be a pool of about 2½ ft. in diameter, with no run from it, strongly impregnated with sulphur. Smell and taste nearly like to a solution of gunpowder, which induced me to believe it had been some imposition of the Indians, but Mr. McDonell and myself, after having with our kettles taken out all the water and dug down to a clay and gravel bottom, the water rose from about 10 a.m. to 10 a.m. the next morning the same height, very clear, and about the same quality.

" 30th.—At 10 a.m. began the operation of examining and weighing the water, after which Mr. McDonell filled two kettles for boiling. Employed the people digging with axes and shovels we had made, and dug down about five feet and about four feet in diameter and the spring made no more water. At 5 p.m. it began to rain, and rained hard all the night.

" 1st July, 1792.—At 10 a.m. Mr. McDonell, having finished his operations, we packed our baggage and McDonell went across the "carrying" in order to go down in the canoe, and I remained, waiting for the people to return, to go across the woods to the mouth of the Saggettewedguam, as one canoe could only take three people and the baggage. One was a person who acted as interpreter, a John McIntosh, and the other a son of Capt. Meyers, who knew the greatest part of the country, and who volunteered the journey. At 2 p.m. the people returned and we set off, and made 8 miles and at 7 p.m. encamped.

" 2nd.—At 6 a.m. set off, and came to the hills of Lake Ontario at 10 a.m., about five miles west from the head of the Bay of Quinte, in

order, as the Indian said, to avoid the swamps, and at 2 p.m. arrived at the mouth of the Saggettewedguam. Mr. McDonell arrived at noon with canoe. So soon as the people had dined, sent them for the latteau. We are informed by some other Indians there is another spring. Sent for the chief, who says it only runs in the winter, but that he must have a bottle of rum this evening. His whole aim seems to be for the bottle of rum. He has now trumped up another story, that he knows of another which he has seen while hunting; that it is about a yard in diameter, boils up and runs, but that a person may drink the water of it. That salt has never been made of it, and that the spring or mud hole we were at is the only place where salt has been made, consequently, it certainly must be the spot to which we were directed, as it corresponds perfectly in regard to the situation, but not to the quantities of salt that has been made there. As no person in the country ever having seen above a few ounces, and exactly of the same taste with that McDonell made. Another thing that makes it appear to be the place, we found at our encampment the trees blazed all around at the foot of a high hill on the east, and the spatulas with which they had stirred the salt; also a scum they had thrown off, like unto that which McDonell had from clarification with eggs, both in taste and smell.

"3rd.—McDonell employed asking several questions of the chief, but his answers tend to the same purport of last evening—that is to say, the bottle of rum. Returned the interpreter to his master, and made every acknowledgment in our power for his politeness.

"4th.—At 6 a.m. set off from the Saggettewedguam, and made Capt. A. McDonell's on the Presque Isle de Quinte at 11 p.m.

"5th.—At 6 a.m. set out from Capt. A. McDonell's, and arrived at Kingston at 8½ p.m.

"6th.—Ordered by the Major of Brigade to wait on the Governor at 10 a.m. The Governor gone to visit the Mills and did not return until 2 p.m. Waited on him and gave our remarks concerning our journey to the Salt Springs. Mr. McDonell neglected to make out his report. Ordered by the Governor to wait on him at 8 a.m. on the morrow, as also Mr. McDonell.

"7th.—Waited on the Governor at the hour appointed, but Mr. McDonell did not attend. Ordered to call again at 10 a.m., and to bring Mr. Aitkin along with me. Attended. Employed labelling and sorting plans.

"8th.—The Governor was sworn in at 10 a.m. Ordered by him to attend at 7 a.m. on the morrow.

"9th.—Attended at the hour appointed. Employed in labelling plans and answering several questions with regard to the Surveyor-General's Department, in regard to dividing the districts. Ordered to enquire whether the settlement of the District of Nassau was numerous. Ordered to attend early, that is to say, at 7 a.m. on the morrow. Agreeable to the order of enquiry, applied to Mr. Secord, who is a young man of about twenty, and the only person in the place who knows. He says the settlement in general is full of inhabitants from

the Chippeway Creek to the head of Lake Ontario, and in many places from ten to twelve miles in the rear.

"10th, 7 a.m.—Repeated the information I had received to the Governor. Employed docketing plans and writing a list of them. Ordered to enquire concerning the strength of the militia in the District of Nassau. Mr. Wm. McKay reports concerning the number of militia in the district of Nassau, and from his having been a military man I should think it the best information we can obtain on this spot, that

The 1st Battalion, from the head of the lake to Niagara, consists of about	160 men.
The 2nd Battalion, from Niagara to the Chippeway Creek, consists of about	200 "
The 3rd Battalion, from the Chippeway Creek to Long Point, consists of about	200 "
Total	<u>560 men.</u>

"He says the above-mentioned number is near the amount of the muster of the last year, and that he does not think they have increased to more than six hundred. Mr. Jones arrived this evening.

"11th, 7 a.m.—Attended on the Governor. Employed in docketing and referring plans, and in dividing the District of Lunenburg and Meiklenburg into counties.

"12th.—Employed dividing the District of Nassau and Hesse into counties," and so on at office work until the 24th, when he left Kingston, and arrived at Gananoque at 7 p.m.

"25th.—At 6 a.m., left Gananoque, and arrived at the upper end of the township of Augusta. Made all the interest I could in the behalf of Mr. White, the Attorney-General, with the principal people of Elizabethtown. The gentlemen seem much to favour him.

"26th.—At 6 a.m. left Augusta, and arrived at the Grand Remous at 9 p.m.

"27th.—Employed unloading my batteau and settling with my party. Allowed them five days to carry them home, it being customary." Here, as commanded by Governor Simcoe, he appears to have been busily engaged in making and copying plans, and closing up his work in this part of the country before handing the district over to his successor, Mr. Hugh McDonell. He was then to join the Government at Niagara, and take charge of the surveys of Upper Canada as Surveyor-General. Closing up his affairs occupied a month, for we read that on the 28th August he was "waiting the opportunity of batteau to take him up the river." On the 29th a "brigade of batteaux" passed up, and, taking passage, he was landed in Kingston at midnight of Sunday, 2nd September, 1792.

"3rd.—At 4 p.m. left Kingston, and arrived during the night within about fifty miles of Niagara.

"4th.—Gentle breezes, the weather cold. Came abreast of Niagara about noon, and lay off the whole of the day for want of wind. About 8 p.m. came to an anchor, but the wind changing, immediately

weighed anchor again, and about 11 p.m. came to alongside the wharf off Navy Hall.

"5th.—Waited on Major Littlehales to inform the Governor of our arrival. The Governor too unwell to see anybody.

"6th.—Waited on Major Littlehales to ask for a tent or marquee. Was answered, so soon as the Governor was well he would mention it to him." Here the Governor was confined to his bed with fever, and supposed to be dangerously ill. The Counsellors and members of the House of Assembly had arrived, but the House, on meeting, was prorogued to Monday, the 17th. In the meantime Mr. Chewett appears to have found lodgings in a tavern at the rate of three shillings per day, and his servant at two shillings.

"17th September, 1792.—At 1 p.m. the Governor came to the House of Peers and made a speech to the members of both Houses. The Commons then were ordered to return to their House, to be sworn in and to choose a Speaker." After this, till the 30th, Mr. Chewett does not seem to have seen anything of the Governor or to have had anything to do except to describe some boundaries of townships at the request of the Chief Justice, in order "to make them into patents."

"30th September, Sunday.—Attended the Governor, who, after speaking on various subjects, concluded with saying he had appointed Mr. David Smith Surveyor-General, and that we must enter into business immediately. After the levée was over, the Surveyor-General was pleased to say the Governor would appoint me Deputy Surveyor-General, and requested that I would attend him at 4 p.m. on Monday to begin business." Mr. Chewett was disappointed. When Governor Simcoe arrived at Quebec in the autumn of 1791, Major Holland, Surveyor-General of the Province of Quebec, proposed to Governor Simcoe his appointment as Surveyor-General of the Upper Province, but on Mr. Chewett's arrival in Quebec, early in 1792, Governor Simcoe candidly told him that he could not make the appointment, as it had been promised to Lt.-Col. Provost, who would not come to the country, but that Mr. Chewett should be the acting Surveyor-General. How Mr. Smith, a captain of the 5th Regiment, in garrison at Fort Niagara, became Surveyor-General in place of Colonel Provost, is not explained; at least there is no record among Mr. Chewett's papers, though until this date official documents were signed by Mr. Chewett as "acting" Surveyor-General.

"1st October, 1792, Monday.—Attended the Surveyor-General at 4 p.m. No business to be done, as he had not received instructions.

"2nd October.—Ordered to the Governor at Navy Hall relative to a tract of land prayed for by a Mr. Easton. Ordered to write a description of the place. Complied with the order." And after this date he appears to have been busily engaged in office work and attending at Navy Hall, etc., until he records that on

"3rd November, 1792.—Received from Mr. Smith fifty H. joes, which Mr. Smith received from the Receiver-General, all of them light, and given as full weight. I expostulated with the Receiver-

General, but he said the merchants would give a draft for them on Montreal.

"4th November.—Dined with the Agricultural Society at the Freemasons' Hall. Governor Simcoe and his suite were present.

"5th.—Left Niagara about 10 a.m., and

"6th.—Arrived at Kingston at 6 p.m.

"7th.—Remained to settle my accounts with Mr. Forsyth." This occupied him till the 9th, when he left Kingston at midday and arrived at midnight at No. 10 in the township of Young.

"10th November.—At 6 a.m. left the place where we slept the last night, and arrived at the place of my residence at 9 p.m." Here he remained all winter, making plans and schedules of pretty nearly all the townships in the Eastern District. On the 17th April, 1793, he records: "Packing my little necessaries for the voyage to Niagara. On the 18th four batteaux arrived about half-past six in the evening, belonging to Mr. Frobisher, but were too much loaded to take in passengers." He was told that others were following, and would arrive the next day. It was not till the 20th that two belonging to Mr. Glenny came by, in which were Dr. Burns and Mr. Bowman, passengers. With these gentlemen he proceeded to Kingston, and arrived on the 24th. Here he was detained until the 5th May waiting for a fair wind to enable the *Mississaga* to make a start. On the 5th, the wind being fair for Niagara, he embarked and they weighed anchor. It, however, died away, so he came ashore and returned to Kingston. It was not until the 9th the *Mississaga* got off at 6 in the morning, and they arrived at Niagara the next day at 11 a.m.—not bad sailing. He now records: "The Governor and his suite being gone to Toronto, waited on the Chief Justice."

"11th May.—Waited on the Receiver-General.

"12th May, Sunday—Waited on the commanding officer Major Smith.

"13th.—Arrived at half-past two p.m. His Excellency Governor Simcoe from Toronto.

"14th.—This morning arrived the Surveyor-General.

"15th.—Waited on the Surveyor-General, and received a balance of £10 currency, which I paid to Mr. Crooks on account for Mr. Glenny." From now on he appears to have been hard at work upon plans, etc.

"31st May, Friday.—Both Houses being assembled at one o'clock p.m., and on the appearance of the Governor the garrison of Niagara fired a royal salute, a compliment to him as the representative of the crown. The Governor being seated, an order was sent to the Commons for their attendance. The passage to the bar was so crowded they could hardly come up to it, owing to the sergeant-at-arms being out of the way. Methinks there should be a pale to the bar for the Commons to enter, in order to be separate from the populace. The Governor was then pleased to make a most noble and gracious Speech from the Throne, which made the heart of every true Briton jump for joy.

"4th June, 1793.—Being the anniversary of His Majesty's birthday, attended the leveé, but being dressed in boots, was told by the

sentries that none but military men were thus admitted. Returned in order to dress myself accordingly, but was too late. In the evening an elegant ball and supper was given for all His Majesty's loyal subjects, and the ladies made a splendid appearance, though not very numerous. After supper a number of loyal toasts went round, suitable to the occasion. The company went to their homes about 2 a.m. in great good humour, and a few of the gentlemen spent the evening all night!

"5th June.—Employed by His Excellency the Governor making a reference to a plan of Toronto by Joseph Bouchette." Shortly after this date, Mr. Chewett set out with a surveying party, going up the Niagara river, transporting his batteau round the falls, and arrived at Fort Erie on the 18th. From this point he proceeded westward, and was engaged in surveying the county, its shores and harbours, the rest of the year.

Mr. Chewett settled in Toronto when the Government was moved from Niagara, and occupied a log house near the north-east corner of York and Wellington Streets, afterwards converted into a root-house when he built a residence for his family on Market Street (now Wellington). This building, a little changed by additions, still (1890) stands, the foundation of which was laid in 1799.

On the 1st January, 1800, Mr. Chewett was appointed Registrar of the Surrogate Court for the Home District, and retained that office upwards of forty years.

In 1802 Mr. Surveyor-General Smith retired and left for England, and, although Mr. Chewett was promised the appointment, it was found that Mr. Smith had disposed of his office, together with his house and land in the town of York (Toronto) to Mr. Charles B. Wyatt. Mr. Wyatt, however, was suspended the same year for having conspired with Mr. Justice Thorpe and others against the Administration of the Hon. Mr. President Grant, and Mr. Chewett was afterwards appointed joint Surveyor-General with Mr. Ridout.

During the American War of 1812-14 Col. Chewett commanded the 3rd Regiment of West York Militia, and upon the reported landing of the Americans near the Humber on the night of 26th April, 1813, Major-General Sheaffe withdrew his troops, believing he could not sustain an attack, and (leaving instructions with Col. Chewett and Major Allen, residents of the town, to treat with the American commander for terms,) retreated for Kingston.

The next day, the 27th, the Americans advanced on the town, and the Canadians, seeing the capture of the place inevitable, blew up the powder magazine to prevent its falling into the hands of the enemy. Unexpectedly, the force of the explosion caused the stones and debris of the building to be discharged directly amongst the American soldiers drawn up in the square of the Fort, killing General Pike and over two hundred American soldiers. The terms of capitulation were signed the same day, by which, among other concessions, two hundred and ninety-three Canadian militia were surrendered prisoners of war.

In 1832 Mr. Chewett was permitted to retire on full pay, after a governmental service of over fifty-eight years. The remaining period of Mr. Chewett's life was passed in a quiet, uneventful manner. An

ardent lover of his country and a true British subject he always kept His or Her Majesty's birthday, and marked the occasion by loyal toasts at his dinner table; and we find recorded in his journal for 1838 (the Rebellion year): "November 19th.—This morning came Messrs. Walton and Capreol, under the resolutions adopted by the Common Council, to visit all the male inhabitants of the city of Toronto who had not been enrolled for the defence of the city, dated 15th inst., when they were pleased to receive me as a volunteer for the Ward of St. George—my own patron saint!" Mr. Chewett was then within a month of completing his eighty-fifth year. After this there was still before him nearly eleven years—eleven years of healthful, pleasant life. No sickness, pain or trouble that too often renders the closing years of the aged, years of labour and sorrow. To the day of his death he was up and about, making notes of little trifles of interest to himself alone—one of which was winding his watch, which he daily did at noon. On the 24th September, 1849, appears in his own handwriting the last words he ever wrote, "Wound up." Four hours and a half afterwards he laid himself down on his bed, dressed as he was, and quietly fell asleep in death.

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