# DIARY AND OTHER MEMOIRS OF DANIEL O'CONNOR

(AND HIS FAMILY) one of the Pioneers of BY-TOWN

(NOW CITY OF OTTAWA) who settled there in

1827

FC 3096 .4 046 1901 fol. c.2

ARCHIVES GREY SISTERS OF THE FILMMOULATE GONGEPTION The original diary of Daniel Olimor in his own hand writing with the a companying papers, Came into my hands at his death in 1858 as one of his Nono, and have ben in my Castody even und tearing that if left in that Shope they unto ultimately belost ordestroped. as Inch oto family papirs pequently are that thempronted and illistrated with partiaits of m. Otmoranthis hile and Other members of the tamily In this way whatever value. is in them, relating to the early Settlement of Bylom, will be preserver. Del Comor Odanamarch

# DIARY

# AND OTHER MEMOIRS

OF

# DANIEL O'CONNOR

(AND HIS FAMILY)

one of the Pioneers of

TTC CONCEPTION

ARCHIVES

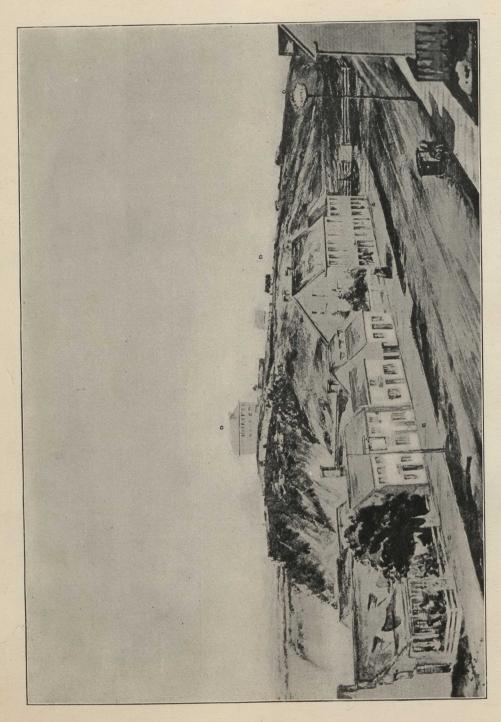
**BY-TOWN** 

(NOW CITY OF OTTAWA)

who settled there in

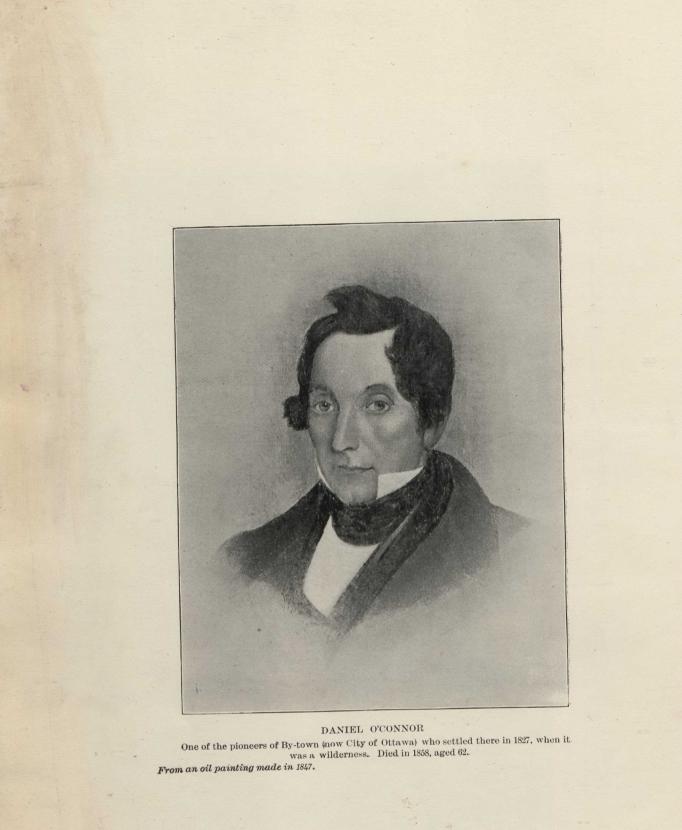
1827

when it was a wilderness



View of part of Wellington Street, By-town, at its intersection with Bank Street.
From a sketch made about 1845, the property of H. V. Noel, Esq.
A. Residence of Daniel O'Connor, deceased.
B. Hotel.
C. Residence of Co Chief of Daraneed by the Parliament and Departmental Buildings.

C. Residence of Commissary-General Adams, Chief of the Imperial Service at By-town.





MARGARET O'CONNOR Wife of Daniel O'Connor. Died 1872, aged 73. From an oil painting made in 1847.

## LA LEGION IRLANDESA.

CREY SISTERS of the IMMAGULATE CONCEPTION

#### JUAN D'EVEREUX,

### MAYOR GENERAL DES EXERCITO DE LA REPUBLICA DE

#### VENEZUELA Y NUEVA GRANADA, ETC., ETC.

Por quanto atendiendo a los servicios y meritos de cindedone Daniel O'Connor, he venido en admitirle al servicio de la Republica, conforme al poder que me ha dado S.E. el Gefe Supremo y nombrar le secundo teniente del primero Regimient de Caccadores de la Legion Irlandesa baseo mi namolo.

Por tanto, ordeno y mando a la autoridad a quien corresponda de la order conveniente, para que se le ponga en posesion del referido emplec guardaole y haciendo que se le guarden y cumplan las honras gracias exenciones, y preeminencias que, como a tal, le tocan; y que el Intendente del Exe'rcito o Provincia donde fuere a' servir haga tomar cuenta y formar asiento de e e despacho en la Contaduria del Estado. Dado, firmado de mi mano, sellado con el sello de la Legion, y refrendado por el Secretario militar de la Legion.

En Dublin a 8 de Julie de 1819.

#### D'EVEREUX,

#### MATT. SUTTON,

Mility. Secy.

## DIARY AND OTHER MEMOIRS

#### OF

#### DANIEL O'CONNOR,

## WHO SETTLED IN BY-TOWN, NOW CITY OF OTTAWA.

#### IN 1827.

Being the first of a numerous family that left Old Ireland in search of acquiring that degree of honor and respect in society, which I thought I could never attain at home, and being now the head of a rising family of my own in By-Town, I think I have a right to leave them a short sketch of my perigrinations through life so far, in order that my children who are natives of this town, and who are likely to succeed me, may be able hereafter to trace their patronage and the vicissitudes of their lives from youth to age.

My father was a respectable farmer living near Clonmel, in the County Tipperary, at a place called Darrinlar, where his ancestors lived some generations before. His name was Daniel.

As soon as I was able to walk to town, I was sent to the best English school in company with three of my brothers. At that time there were six of us, besides three sisters. During the summer we used to walk to school; but in winter, not being so robust as any of them, I was allowed to remain with my uncle in town as often as I liked.

At this time I had three cousins going to the same school with me, John, James and Michl. O'Connor, all about the same age with myself. They were intended for the church by their parents, and so was I, by mine; but when it came to the time to send us to a Latin School, I said I did not like to become a priest. They embraced the favorable opportunity, and were in a few years afterwards ordained. I was bound an apprentice to a shop-keeper for three years in the month of January, 1811, being then about the age of fourteen years. A fee of thirty guineas was paid for teaching me this branch of trade. On the 1st August, 1812, a sad calamity befell the whole family by the untimely death of my father, which occurred by a fall from his horse when returning home from Clonmel. I accompanied him out of town the same afternoon. This accident was a death-blow to the living prospects of his family, who became scattered and exposed like so many sheep without a shepherd to protect them from the ravenous wolf.

My father's remains were followed to the grave by the largest funeral ever seen in that part of the country. He was buried in Killoloan Church, where his father lay before him. He made no will and the administration of the property devolved upon my mother, who managed it the best way she could for the benefit of all the children; but some of my brothers being too fond of going to town, and meeting with so many friends there, indulged rather freely in the vice of intoxication, which in a few years brought death and destruction amongst them. Happy would it have been for them if there was a father Matthew in those days, or as I should have said at that time.

When out of my apprenticeship, my master made me a present of a silver watch, which cost £4, as a proof that I served my time with that integrity and honesty as I should have done; which watch I have worn from that day until this, not wishing to part with it under any circumstances.

I continued in my situation one year more at a salary of  $\pounds 15$ , after which I thought I should try to do a little business on my own account. I made my sentiments known to my mother who consented, and gave me a bond for  $\pounds 150$ , being for my money lent by my father to a neighboring gentleman, which sum was paid me.

I then rented a large house in Johnson street, formerly a banking establishment, at the yearly rent of £110, and carried on what was considered a respectable business during four years. I lived very comfortably, but abstained from extravagance.

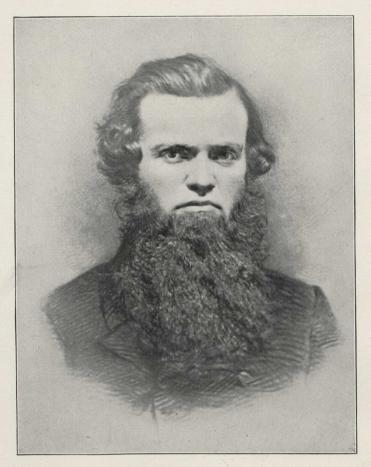
At this time the South American Patriot service was blazoned forth through the public press. Several regiments were being raised in Ireland, England and Scotland by Sir Gregor McGregor and General D'Evereux in aid of General Boliver, who was then at the head of a Republican army, endeavoring to shake off the Spanish yoke. The temptations held out were so alluring, that thousands of fine young men were entrapped into that unfortunate service.

Trade being at this time very dull with me, subject to an enormous rent, and being in the prime of youth, enjoying good health, and rather of an ambitious disposition, I caught the infectious mania also. I gave up my business and on the 30th June, 1819, I started for Dublin, purchased a first lieutenancy in the 1st Regiment of Light Infantry, commanded by Col. Power, late Major in the 28th Royal Irish, for which I paid £60, and £40 more for my regimental dress. It consisted of a superfine green Jacket, with light blue facings, gold epaulets, triple gilt buttons, with the words, "La Legion Irlandesa" round the rim. The trousers were also light blue, with gold stripes along the legs; a beautiful sword with a brass scabbard; a very handsome crimson silk sash, and a very fine black cap.

On the whole, it was a most beautiful dress, more becoming than that of an United Irishman, fighting for the freedom of his own dear Isle, than of an adventurer to a foreign government. Had I that dress now as I wore it in Dublin at a public dinner given by the officers of the regiment at Morrison's Hotel to Mr. O'Connell, and other distinguished individuals, it would not be easy to purchase it from me. "I parted with it under adverse circumstances, and I regret it sorely.

My commission was printed in the Spanish language, dated July 9th, 1819, and signed by Genl. D'Evereux as Commander-in-Chief of the Irish Legion. It is still in my desk amongst my papers.

I forgot mentioning that when riding in company with my brother Edward, from his house where I had been to bid him and his family farewell, I met with a serious accident in passing through the field to meet the mail-coach, by a fall



HENRY JAMES FRIEL. Mayor of Ottawa in 1863, 1868 and 1869. Died in 1869.



MARY ANN O'CONNOR, Daughter of Daniel O'Connor, First child born in By-town, in May, 1827, widow of the late Henry James Friel.

from my horse which split my gums and swelled my jaws so much that I was confined to my lodgings for nearly a week. This was considered a bad omen by my friends at that time, and it turned out so.

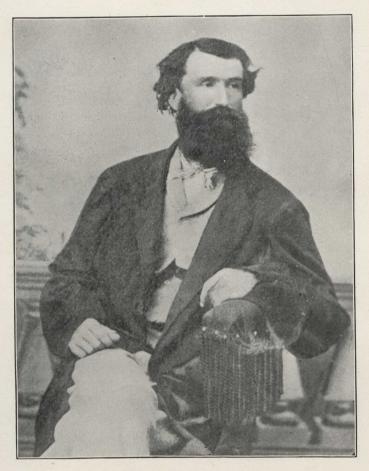
As soon as I was able to go out, my cousin John accompanied me to the Military Secretary's office in Sackville street, where I made my unfortunate bargain. Had he then money enough at his command, he would have done the same; but luckily for him he had not. His father arrived in a day or two after, who persuaded him to go home with him, but not until he promised to allow him to return again and supply him with the means of purchasing a commission and the necessary outfit; but when he got back to Clonmel, he was prevailed upon by his parents and friends to abandon the mad idea.

Being now left to myself in a strange city without friends or acquaintances there, and being wholly bent upon the object I had in view, I frequently visited Mr. Secretary Hutton's office where I soon got acquainted with some young men who had entered the same regiment with myself, as well as with others belonging to other regiments then raising in Dublin and other parts of the country. The 1st Light Infantry was filling up fast, and it expected we would sail for Margiratta (the place of rendezvous) by the first or second week in August.

The Spanish Ambassador in London used his influence with the Government. The foreign Enlistment Bill was introduced into the House of Commons and passed into a law, which declared it illegal for any of His Majesty's subjects to leave the country upon such an expedition after the first day of August following.

The 1st Light Infantry was not ready to sail before that day, but the 1st Lancers and some infantry regiments were off by that time.

Being thus frustrated in our most sanguine expectations through this interference on the part of the government, and not knowing what plan to devise, a meeting of the principal



CHARLES O'CONNOR. Son of Daniel O'Connor, died in Arkansas, 1865 in the military service of the United States.

officers was called, when it was resolved that the embarkation should be postponed for one month longer, as it was thought by that time they could ascertain whether the authorities would have positive instructions to put this law in force, or connive at our proceeding to our destination.

Several officers returned to their respective homes, while others remained in Dublin with the men who received some triffing pay. I embraced this opportunity of seeing my mother, etc., etc., once more, who were very glad to see me back again.

Before the expiration of the limited time, the absent officers received intimation that they might remain at home a month longer, which had thrown a damper on their prospects, as some doubts had arisen regarding the probability of the remaining part of the expedition ever sailing, being contrary to law, and in the face of some very discouraging intelligence received from some of those who had preceded us to the Spanish main.

While at home I engaged myself under such circumstances as well as I could. My stay was principally at Darrinlar, visiting my friends in Clonmel and elsewhere occasionally, who, when a good opportunity would offer, used to jeer me and my comrades for the foolish step we had taken. In place of calling us patriots, they nicknamed us "patriarchs." Of course I did not relish this sort of annoyance, and was determined to get clear of it as soon as I could.

The second month being now nearly up, and as I was thinking of again starting for Dublin, the Col. of the Regiment paid a visit to his relative, Captain Power, of Guirteen. This gentleman's domain was next my mother's farm. He invited me to meet my colonel at dinner, recommended me to him in a very flattering manner, and treated me with that degree of politeness and civility which is characteristic of Irish hospitality. He also recommended his Nephew, Wm. Brannigan, (a fine young man) for whom he had purchased a captaincy, to his special care and protection.

Upon this occasion, the Colonel informed me that I

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#### VERY REV'D DR. JOHN L. O'CONNOR.

Son of Daniel O Connor, Vicar General of the Diocese of Ottawa and Parish Priest of St. Patrick's. Died in 1881.

The following is the inscription on a tablet erected in the Hall of the St. Patrick's Asylum, of Ottawa, in his memory:

" This tablet is erected by the Council of The St. Patrick's Orphan Asylum of Ottawa, in grateful remembrance of the

#### Very Rev'd John Lalor O'Connor, D.D.

Vicar General and Parish Priest of St. Patrick's, Founder and Spiritual Director of this Institution, through whose zeal and devotion in the Cause of Charity, this building was erected, and who, for so many years, with Fatherly Care, presided over its destinies. Born, 17 June, 1833. Died, 19 January, 1881." need not be in any particular hurry to leave home, as matters were not yet finally arranged for our departure. Another long month passed over in the usual way, or rather worse, on account of letters being received in Ireland which gave distressing accounts of the fate of a great many who had gone out under the command of Sir Gregor McGregor. A disease had broken out among them on board some of the ships, called the "black vomit." A great number of them lost their lives by this complaint, while those who reached Margiretta, and other places on the Spanish main, had to fight their way the best way they could, there being no proper arrangements made for their reception.

At last a circular was sent to all the absent officers requiring them to repair to headquarters, as early in November as they conveniently could, and notwithstanding the disheartening accounts then in circulation, every man was at his post in due season; some of the men in the meantime left, while others were found to replace them.

The officers being now all returned to Dublin, they very naturally inquired of the General who was then in town if all was ready for their departure and when were we to sail. He gave us to understand that a fine ship had been chartered, that the commissariat was then laying in the necessary supplies for so long a voyage, that nothing should be spared to make us comfortable, that a sufficient number of muskets would be put on board, with other munitions of a warlike nature, to enable us to lick the Spaniards as soon as we would encounter them. He also told us that the government authorities were favorably disposed towards us, and should meet with no opposition on their part, provided we would embark in a private way, and make no public parade on our departure; and further, he assured us that if any unforeseen circumstance should occur to prevent our embarkation at the time appointed, the officers should each receive a guinea per week to pay for their boarding.

About this time news had reached Ireland that the patriots were fast gaining ground in New Granada; that a



RODERICK ED. O'CONNOR. Son of Daniel O'Connor, and his wife Mina Letelier, daughter of the Hon. L. Letelier de s'Just, Lieut.-Governor of Quebec. Died in 1882. portion of the Irish Legion commanded by Colonels, O'Connor, O'Leary, Lyster, and Kenny, had joined Bolivar's army, and the prospect of success more cheering than it had lately been. This intelligence raised our buoyant hearts.

Having every confidence in our veteran General, one of the "'98 men," and afterwards in the Austria service, we considered ourselves under the command of an able soldier whom we fancied would bring us through the many difficulties we were likely to encounter.

Being thus once more put into good humor, the officers decided upon giving their General and other distinguished personages who favored the cause, a public dinner. It was a splendid affair. Counsellor O'Connell (as he was then called) who had one of his sons in the Legion, was present. He made a speech upon the occasion. Counsellor McNally, one of whose sons had already gone out under Sir Gregor McGregor, was present, and made a speech also. Counsellor Conway and other barristers, whose names I now forget, besides a brilliant display of officers, including the General's staff, dressed in their costly uniforms. All went off well, and when I thought it time to retire to my lodgings, I left the hotel in company with my servant who waited patiently to see me home. Mr. Morrison made up his bill the next day and handed it to one of the stewards for payment, which came to £2 13s. 6d. each.

Measures were now being taken for a regular organization; the men were regularly inspected by a military doctor; rations were daily served out and to all appearances matters were likely to be well regulated.

One of these days, wishing to see the ship which was to bring us to the land of promise, I had strolled down the quays and went on board the ship "Ajax" for the mere curiosity of seeing her. The Captain was very polite to me and asked me to go below; I accepted the offer. The upper hatches being closed made the place dark. It was the first time I was under deck. The lower hatchway lay open. I uncautiously walked on when down I tumbled into the hold



MARGARET O'CONNOR. Daughter of Daniel O'Connor, Esq. Died in 1857, aged 21.

upon some puncheons. The Captain gave the alarm on deck, crying out "there was a man killed below." All hands were instantly down, when I was taken up, but not dead. The poor captain accused himself strongly for not opening the upper hatchway so as to let down the light, and made many apologies. I shook myself up and walked home as deliberately and firm as if nothing had occurred. However, when I got to my lodgings, I felt my side very sore, but got rid of the pain in a few days. This, thinks I to myself. is the second serious accident I met with since I entered upon this wild goose chase; but this is no time to repent; I shall go father at all hazards, although I may speed worse.

I must here observe that when going on board the "Ajax," I was perfectly aware of her not being the ship chartered for our use. Curiosity impelled me to see her interior, which nearly cost me my life.

Week after week we were sure to be off, but still some obstacle arose to prevent us, as if the hand of Divine Providence had interferred in checking our enthusiasm and retard our progress.

At length, arrangements being made for our final departure, orders were given for us to embark on board the "Nicholi Poliwitch," lying at one of the lower quays. It was arranged that we should embark at night, in order that the Government officers would have some excuse for not preventing us. It was on the 22nd December. The night was dark and dreary; it rained and blew hard; the elements seemed to combine against us; yet all this did not dampen our ardor, and so great was the anxiety manifested by all hands to get on board with their luggage, and so dreadful the confusion arising out of the circumstances just related, that one of our men fell into the river and was drowned. This unfortunate accident, together with the storm still increasing, induced the Captain to remain where he was until morning, when it was agreed upon that he would drop down the river, and cast anchor below the Pigeon House where all hands could go on board in the afternoon. Our Commissary-General, McNamara,





CATHARINE O'CONNOR. Daughter of Daniel O'Connor, wife of Rene Steckel, Civil Engineer. Died in 1893.

a wealthy merchant then residing in Dublin, had sufficient influence with the officials to induce them thus to embark in open day. Indeed it was supposed that the British Government, although passing the Foreign Enlistment Bill, did not care how soon there was an end put to Spanish domination in South America. The bill was passed merely to show a disposition on their part to keep on friendly terms with the Spanish Government.

How fortunate we were in not attempting to leave the quay that dreadful night for as sure as we did our patriotism was ended, and our friends and relations in lamenting our untimely fate, would condemn us for engaging in so rash an enterprise. To prove the probability of this assertion, three vessels lying safely at anchor in the harbor were driven on shore that night and several lives lost.

The following morning, such of us as did not remain on board (I was of the number) the previous night, made our way to the Pigeon House, some in lighters, while others went down by land carriage, and at 2 o'clock p.m., we were all safely embarked to the number of about three hundred and eighty, including officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates; of this number there were thirty officers.

At 3 o'clock we weighed anchor and set sail for our expected destination, with a clear atmosphere, a fine breeze and light hearts. The day being short, the long, dark night soon came on. Aurora hid her bright face from us while the twinkling stars helped to make up the deficiency.

Some fatigued and weary went below to enjoy the comfort of a sound sleep, while others remained on deck pointing to the different lighthouses, and taking a farewell view of Erin's lovely shore, while our ship gently skipped the seas. Our Captain intended to take a southern course, but the wind blowing north, he had to abandon that idea and steered in a northern direction.

The following morning was as fine as could be expected at this season of the year. Breakfast was got ready and though not neatly served up, it was disposed of with an avidity which betrayed no symptoms of ill-health on our part.



DANIEL O'CONNOR, Q.C. Son of Daniel O'Connor, Esq., deceased. / Aged 20.

The arrangement for cooking was not yet complete, and the day being Friday, the Captain thought that as the principal part of the officers and men were Roman Catholics, there would not be much cooking required that day, and in the meantime set about completing his cooking apparatus, thinking they would be content that day with bread, butter and tea, or anything else next to hand.

The private soldiers, among whom were a great many who had been lately in the British service, murmured at this, saying if they were used in this manner, still in sight of land, how would it be with them when out in the Atlantic Ocean. The Colonel and Captain remonstrated, assuring them there were abundance of provisions on board, and that henceforth there should be no such cause of complaint, when they appeared perfectly satisfied. The remaining part of the day passed over without any further indication of trouble. Every well-disposed man on board, both officers and privates, endeavoring to make all as happy as possible under existing circumstances, while the "Nicholi Poliwitch" glides through the northern channel yet in view of the iron-bound coasts of Ireland and Scotland. But we had some turbulent spirits on board who were not easy to satisfy.

The day having passed off tolerably well, we soon found ourselves enrapped under the sable mantle of night, and fast receding from the sight of land. During the early part of this night, a report had gained ground that the ship was leaking very fast; the alarm spread from stem to stern. The pumps were examined and well worked, when it was considered there was no danger, and that the draw of water was no more than usual the first two or three days, with vessels lying in harbor some weeks before. Towards day the ship still leaking, the dissatisfaction increased, and at daybreak a report had been circulated that the men insisted they should be put back. The officers were roused up, as it was supposed a mutiny was likely to take place. Each officer had a faithful servant upon whom he could depend upon such a trying occasion, which, together with an assurance from a great num-



DANIEL O'CONNOR, Q. C. Aged 25.

ber of the men, emboldened us to be able to put down this early attempt at insubordination Accordingly the Colonel, with other officers, addressed the men who were all called upon deck and demanded the cause of their complaints, if they had any to make, as he was ready to afford any relief in his power where it was needful, and punish any offender who merited it. They told him they had no reason to complain; that they were perfectly satisfied with their situation, but did not like to go in that ship, her being still in a leaky state. The Captain told them that the ship was perfectly safe, and that they need not apprehend any danger on that account. Breakfast being now ready, all hands went down to dispose of it, and as a matter of course the sayings and doings of the morning was the all-absorbing topic of conversation. It was said that some of the sailors were at the bottom of the whole plot. By this time we were clear of the channel and taking a western course in strong expectations of having no further trouble during our voyage; but from this delusion we were soon relieved.

At about two o'clock on the same day, when mostly all the officers were in the cabin playing cards, etc., they were summoned to appear on the quarter-deck as quickly as possible and arm themselves as well as they could. The scene that ensued baffles description. Pistols, swords, muskets, bayonets, etc., were eagerly sought after, and in about two minutes we were all at the post assigned to us fully prepared for action, with the exception of a Lieut. Walsh from the County Limerick, who feigned sick, thinking himself much safer below.

The mutineers were not in the meantime inactive. Knowing that a quantity of muskets was on board, some searched the hold in expectation of finding them there, but were disappointed. The mutiny was not general, and if we had tried to put them down we could have done so, but not without bloodshed. The officers stood upon the quarter-deck, while those who demanded to be put back were at the forecastle : those who did not join them remained below.



ANNA O'CONNOR. Wife of D. O'Connor, Q.C., and Niece of Right Rev'd Dr. Magin, Bishop of Derry. Died in 1867.

In this dilemma, it was considered prudent to hold a council, consisting of the Colonel, Lieut.-Colonel, Major and the Captain of the ship, when it was decided to put back to Belfast Lough, and there put on shore every man who wished to go, sooner than sail any farther with such scoundrels, some of whom were heard to say they would throw every officer overboard if their demands were not complied with. This was a queer Christmas day with us.

The word "boutship" was given. It was now drawing towards night, and before the following morning several light houses again appeared in view, and as the day cleared up, and having a favorable breeze, we calculated upon soon getting rid of our troublesome companions. We got into Belfast Lough at about 1 o'clock, and as soon as we cast anchor the long boat was put out, and the disaffected sent on shore, having first stripped them of any clothing that had been furnished them. They numbered about forty. Having lost some of my memorandums, I cannot exactly tell the number.

We were not long here when a revenue cutter came along side to demand the ship's papers and know our business, which was of course explained to the satisfaction of the officer, who recommended that a survey should be taken of the ship, which was assented to on the part of our Captain. The following day up comes from Belfast some four or five gentlemen, who, after examining her most minutely, gave their opinion, viz. : that the ship should be put into a dry dock and there overhauled and repaired before she should proceed upon her voyage. We remained a whole week in the Lough or River before we got up to the city, living very comfortably, and learning our exercise from some of the old soldiers yet remaining with us.

On the 2nd January, 1820, we entered the harbor of Belfast, and on the following day the officers and men disembarked and were quartered in the town in order that the vessel should be emptied and put in dry dock for examination and repair, if any was required. This being done, she was declared sea worthy and hauled out of dock, when our crew, with the assistance of some of the soldiers, commenced reloading her with



DANIEL O'CONNOR, Q. C. Aged 50.



CATHARINE WILLIS. Niece of Monsignore Quin, Vicar General of New York. Wife of D. O'Connor, Q.C. Age 18. the stores which had been taken out of a few days before.

At this time the news from South America was of a conflicting and contradictory nature; some of the newspapers giving a flattering account of the proceedings of the patriots and the army under Genl. Bolivar, while others gave a contrary version, particularly a paper published in Dublin called CARRICK'S MORNING POST. However, notwithstanding all these reports for and against our future prospects, our determination to proceed remained unaltered. We got more recruits to replace those that left us; fresh stores were supplied, and were nearly ready to sail once more for our destination, when in comes to Belfast a ship direct from the West indies, with some four or five officers belonging to the unfortunate Irish Legion, one of whom was the son of Counsellor McNally, who was fortunate enough to work his passage home in the capacity of ship's cook.

The distressing tale of these gentlemen, not only of their own sufferings, but also that of a number of their companions, staggered and dampened our enthusiasm at last. The glittering prospects which heretofore shone so bright and dazzling before our imagination, now fades away like the gloomy phantom of a vision leaving only the shadow behind. What to do under such circumstances was next to be considered. A meeting of the officers was called, when a resolution was unanimously passed to the following effect :

THAT, as the commandant at Margiratta had made no provision for the reception and accommodation of several corps of the Irish Legion landing there previous to their descent upon the Spanish main, as was promised them, and being otherwise badly treated as has been alearly proved by the representation of those officers who had lately returned from that quarter; THEY, the officers of the 1st Light Infantry would proceed no farther upon the present expedition, until such time as the Republic of New Granada and Venezuela, in whose service they had engaged, would render them that accommodation and respectful attention to which they were justly entitled upon their arrival in that country.



CATHARINE WILLIS. Wife of D. O'Connor, Q.C. Age 35. Died in 1898.

A document embracing the purport of this resolution was made out showing that we were not actuated by any cowardly motives, and that we were impelled to take this step only to avoid certain defeat and discomforture in endeavoring to accomplish the object we had in view. This document was drawn out by Lieut. Wall, signed by all present, and sent to THE MORNING POST for publication.

The Lieut. Wall here alluded to was a young man possessing great talent as a writer and as a speaker. He received his education at Carlow College, and received minor orders for the church; but unluckily he gave up the Bible for the sword.

Our campaign being thus brought to a premature close, and nothing more to be done than for every officer, non-comissioned officer and private to wend his way home the best way he could, I shall continue my narrative a little further. The "Nicholi Poliwitch" now nearly ready to sail was immediately abandoned by all on board, except the crew. Col. Power, Lieut.-Col. Young and one or two officers more remaining in Belfast to hear from Gen. D'Evereux who was still in Dublin. The principal part of the officers left Belfast for their respective homes by the mail coach on the morning of the 15th February, arrived in Dublin the following night and waited upon their old General the following day, who received us kindly and regretted very much the step we had taken for which he could not blame us, and as he intended going out himself immediately, he would delay the ship some two or three weeks, when he hoped we would then all join him. He sailed from Belfast about the time he said he would, with as many officers and men as were disposed to go with him. Among the number was Lieut-Col. Power, Lieut.-Col. Young and Capt. Brannigan. They arrived safely at their destination, but did not succeed, as the former forebodings were woefully realized. The Genl. made his exit to New York, while Col. Power, Capt. Brannigan and others succeeded in getting back to Ireland.

Amidst all these disasters some of my countrymen succeeded. The name of the Republic was changed to what it is now, "The Republic of Columbia." O'Leary became a General



CHARLES O'CONNOR. Son of D. O'CONNOR; Q.C. Age 14.

and was afterwards plenipotentiary to the Court of London, after the independence of the Republic was acknowledged. Bolivar, after freeing his country from Spanish tyranny was badly used by his people and died of a broken heart.

The South American Patriot service was now considered not much inferior in its disastrous results to the celebrated South Sea bubble. In its origin it was countenanced by some of the first rank in Society. A great number of young men from all parts of Ireland had joined it, with the sanction and support of their parents. Several British officers on half pay had also joined it. The ladies of Dublin supplied mostly all the regiments with green flags of the most costly description and presented at public meetings.

But alas! in the short space of one year it brought many a fine young fellow to death or desolation and mourning into the bosom of many a family for the loss of their child, whose bones perhaps lay bleaching before the rays of a tropical sun; or if he still lived, it was most likely as a wanderer upon a foreign shore with no paternal hand to relieve his sufferings or soothe his woes.

I conclude my history so far, by stating that I left Dublin on the 17th and arrived at my mother's house on the 18th February, 1820, in good health but not in good spirits, after encountering in the brief space of eight months a series of troubles and disappointments, my finances exhausted and my future prospects completely blasted.

Being now back again to Darrinlar, and all those ideas of my former vainglory having now vanished from before my eyes like a shadow, I thought I should not remain long inactively lounging among my friends, and although my funds were exhausted, I said I would recommence business once more in Clonmel. I communicated my desire to my poor mother, whose affection for me still remained unabated. She consented and gave me a small sum of money to commence with. I then rented a small shop in Dublin street where I resumed my former occupation but upon a much smaller scale, which was very hurtful to my feelings.





Several of my friends and old customers visited me in my new establishment, who used occasionally to take advantage of putting me in mind of my then position in society to what it heretofore had been, accompanied with sarcastic and humiliating jokes at the expense of my feelings, which were anything but agreeable to me.

Nearly twelve months had passed over me in this manner, when the wife of my cousin Michael O'Connor, who was then residing in Savannah, called upon me, stating that she intended going out to him, and pressed me very hard to go with her as a guardian to herself and family of seven children, with a promise of paying my passage, and an assurance that her husband upon our arrival there would remunerate me handsomely, and that I should be better off than ever.

When I had resided in Johnson street, my cousin Michael carried on an extensive business in Cashel, a town within twelve miles of Clonmel, from whence he had emigrated to Savannah, and where it was reported he was doing remarkably well. Having sent home some money to his wife, she decided upon going out to him, although he did not require her to do so at that time.

Thinking that the chances were against my raising myself in Clonmel to my former degree of respectability, and my cousin being at all times previous to his leaving Ireland a very respectable man, and apparently very fond of me, I accepted the offer made by his wife, upon condition that I should pay my own passage, and decided upon giving up my little establishment and try my fortune once more in attempting to obtain a more honorable position in society in a foreign clime than I was likely to attain in my native land.

I soon brought my business to a close and made the necessary arrangements for our departure, and after taking leave of my good mother, to whose tender breast I had caused much pain, and whose fortitude was once more put to the test, I parted with her more grieved at the many causes I gave her to lament and condemn my indiscretion, than any reverse in my own fortune.



DANIEL O'CONNOR, Jr Son of D. O'Connor, Q.C. Age 17.

I took my departure on the night of the 11th February, 1821, accompanied by three of my brothers as far as the mail coach office, Clonmel, within a mile of which, at a place called the Quarry, we were attacked by a gang of robbers, who perhaps thought they would relieve me of the small sum of money I had about me. Seeing my brothers armed, and knowing them to be ugly customers to deal with under such circumstances, they cleared off the road and fired one shot at us from behind the fence which did us no injury. We then proceeded on our journey without any further interruption, talking over the subject of this attack at the very outset of this my second attempt in endeavoring to better my fortune beyond the seas. They observed that destiny still appeared against me, and that it was likely I would not succeed. Not being a predestinarian, I paid no attention to such prognostications.

Having arrived at the coach office, and having taken leave of my dear brothers, whom I thought I should never see again, I took my seat on the coach, started at one o'clock and arrived in Cork the next morning at 10 o'clock, where I had joined Mrs. O'Connor and her children.

Having remained five days in that city, we removed to Passage, where we engaged our passage on board the ship "Athens," bound for Baltimore.

This vessel being in dock under repair was delayed longer than was promised us. I remonstrated with the captain upon the propriety of paying for our board while thus detained, who only laughed at such a demand. I then applied to the supercargo, who lodged in Cork, and was put off with fine promises. Considering the large family I had in charge, I thought I should not be thus defeated in my just claim. I made application to the Mayor of the city, who gave me such a letter to the supercargo, that he made such a reduction in our passage money as satisfied me pretty well.

On the 17th of March the ship was hauled out of dock. I went on board of her that night; a great storm arose before day, and for want of ballast on board to keep her stiff



DANIEL O'CONNOR, Jr. Son of D. O'Connor, Q.C. Age 25.



ODILE STECKEL. Wife of Daniel O'Connor, Jr., and her daughter Pauline.

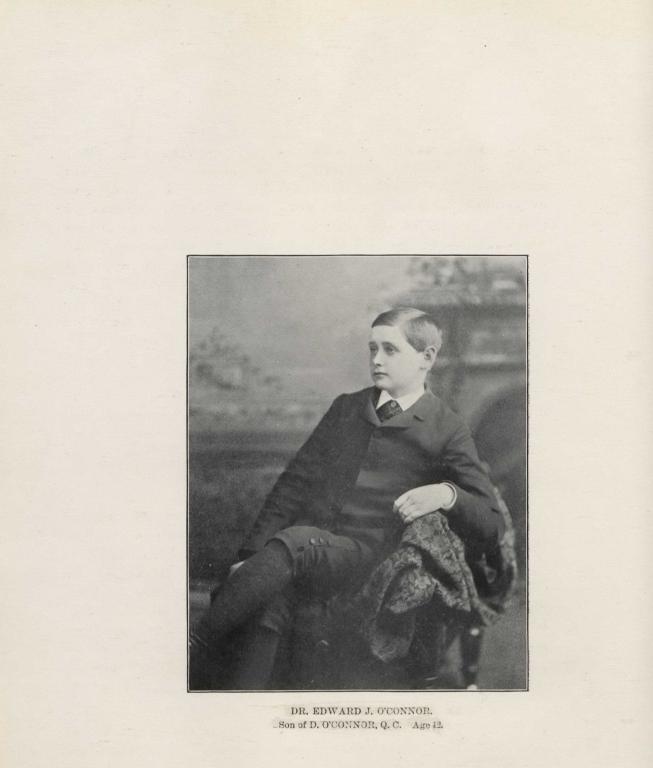
in the water, it was miraculous how she escaped being turned over. The captain, who was on shore that night taking his Patrick's pot, attempted to get on board, but could not succeed; however, the following morning became calm and all was right. On the 25th, at 3 o'clock p.m., we set sail for St. Ubes, in Portugal, to take in a cargo of salt on our way. The weather being favorable we soon got to the cove of Cork, and had the advantage of viewing the beautiful and romantic scenery of that place; passed by Caroline and Camden Forts, and by night we found ourselves entering the broad Atlantic. Besides the family I had in charge, there were other respectable passengers, in all about thirty, most of whom retired to their respective berths at an early hour.

We got along tolerably well until the Tuesday night after we had set sail, when a stiff breeze sprung up which continued until it became a perfect gale. The seas ran mountains high and matters assumed rather a serious aspect, in consequence of the ship taking in a good deal of water and the pumps becoming choked. They were repeatedly cleared, and as often choked again, which caused no 'small share of uneasiness to all on board, sailing at the same time at the rate of from nine to ten knots an hour. The captain now decided upon making the nearest port as soon as possible. On Thursday our pumps were put into tolerable good order. On Friday we descried the Spanish mountains and next day in sight of Portugal.

In consequence of the ship being still in a leaky state, the captain, whose name was John Creagh, and Mr. Price, the supercargo, considering it dangerous to take in a cargo of salt, gave up the idea of putting into St. Ubes, decided upon steering direct for Baltimote by the Azores.

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We tacked about and set off with a fair wind, the ship getting much tighter by this time, and arrived at Saint Mary's, one of the Azore Islands belonging to the Portuguese on the 13th April, where we got refreshments at a very dear rate, wine excepted. The fat of this little place, like mostly all others in the possession of Catholic monarchs, belongs to the clergy.



Priests, friars, monks and nuns are there in abundance. They have a good church and other religious houses there. A great scarcity of soap prevailed there at that time. They would give us as much wine as a person would wish to carry with him for a single pound of that article. Only four of the passengers were allowed to go on shore. I was of that number. We were waited upon by the Governor's son and an officer of the guards, who very politely invited us to Government House. The Governor's son spoke the English language and rendered us every assistance in procuring such necessaries as we stood in need of. Previous to our leaving, the Governor's so expressed a wish to see our ship, but previous to his reaching her in a small boat, our Captain gave orders to steer off.

On the 13th we picked up a barrel of flour which was divided among the passengers, and was much wanted at that time being just out of that article. It had not received much damage, though the barrel looked as if it had been in the water a long time.

On Sunday the 29th we had experienced very bad weather; nothing but destruction seemed to await us. Having a young priest on board, some of the women were so terrified by the storm, that they requested his spiritual assistance to prepare them for death which appeared to them inevitable. He complied with their request and was quite attentive to them during the remainder of the voyage. Next day all was calm, but the swells very high. The following night there was very great lightning which continued until morning; mostly all the passengers remaining on deck with countenances fully expressive of the agitation of their minds.

At half past ten o'clock we sounded and found ourselves in fifteen fathoms of water and within sixteen miles of the American shore. Not wishing to get nearer to it until morning, we turned back a few miles, but when daylight appeared, we tacked about and made towards Cape Henry, where we arrived at six o'clock in the evening, thus making the voyage from land to land in 37 days.



DR. E. J. O'CONNOR. Son of D. O'Connor, Q.C. Age 27.



MARY EVELYN FOGARTY. Wife of Dr. E. J. O'Connor. Age 18 On the 1st May, we entered the Chesapeake Bay, which is 180 miles from its mouth up to the city of Baltimore. On entering it we found the air very disagreeable and thought it unwholesome. The sailors told us the bad smell proceeded from the land which is covered with various sorts of wood. We were delayed six days in the bay by head winds and calms.

On Monday the 7th at 1 o'clock p.m., I put my foot on the American shore in the City of Baltimore. When landed, the vast number of blacks whom I saw appeared very extraordinary to me and my fellow passengers for the first time. Next day I got our baggage out of the ship, after having procured the necessary permit from the custom House.

Having thus arrived safely with Mrs. O'Connor and family, and having procured comfortable lodgings for them, our next object was to proceed to Savannah; but being informed by several persons that it would be almost certain destruction for us to attempt living there during the summer, and more particularly not being inured to the climate on account of the sickness that generally rages there every summer, I advised Mrs. O'Connor not to take her family to such a sickly place until her husband would be aware of her arrival in this country, and offered to go myself in order to apprise him of her arrival and concert matters for her future comfort, to which she consented.

I sailed for Savannah Monday, the 14th May on board the Sloop "Good Hope," and arrived there on Tuesday the 22nd, after a tolerable good voyage.

From the flattering accounts received from time to time of him, I fancied when I got on shore I would have no difficulty in finding out my cousin Michael's house, thinking I would see his name emblazoned over the door of some large establishment in some of the principal streets; and after passing through every street of any note I could get no tidings of him, and at last I found myself in the suburbs, and having inquired of some blacks whom I met if they knew of such a person living in the city I was answered in the affirmative and they pointed out to me the direction in which he lived. At last



WILLIAM J. O'CONNOR. Son of D. O Connor, Q.C. Age 12.

I found it out, and to my great disappointment, I found him living in a small establishment. He received me cheerfully as I expected he would, and promised to procure me a situation if I would wait until about the 1st of November following, when the sickly season, (which was then setting in) would be over.

After having showed me all the curiosities of the city and the new burying-ground of sixteen acres, opened the year before, and in which 1100 persons were buried the year before, I said to myself if I stop here much longer it will be very easy to provide a situation for me, as I fear before the 1st of November, I would be in the 16 acres. So I made up my mind not to remain there, and told my cousin I would go back again to Baltimore.

Having made arrangements for my departure, he gave me some money for his wife, with instructions to have her remain in Baltimore during the summer, and that he would be with her by the latter end of August following.

I sailed from Savannah on board the ship "Frederick," and arrived in Baltimore on the 2nd June. When I went to the lodgings where I left Mrs. O'Connor, I was very much surprised at being informed of her departure with her family for Savannah during my absence, nothwithstanding the many promises she made to await my return, or some instructions from her husband as to her further movements. However, she did not go far when they were sent back again by the captain with whom they sailed, he being informed that he would be fined fifty dollars for every European emigrant\* he would land in Savannah after the 1st June.

On the 3rd I wrote to my cousin, informing him of my safe return to Baltimore, and of Mrs. O'Connor's departure from thence during my absence, and on the 6th I again wrote informing him of her return and requested he would lose no time in alleviating the distressed state of this poor woman in a strange land with her seven helpless children.

Under these circumstances, I thought I would not remain any longer in Baltimore, and determined to go to St. John,



WM. J. O'CONNOR. Son of D. O Connor, Q.C. Age 21.

New Brunswick, where I expected to meet my sister and her husband James Tobin, who emigrated to North America two or three years before. During the voyage I had an opportunity of seeing the city of Norfolk, etc., and the State of Virginia.

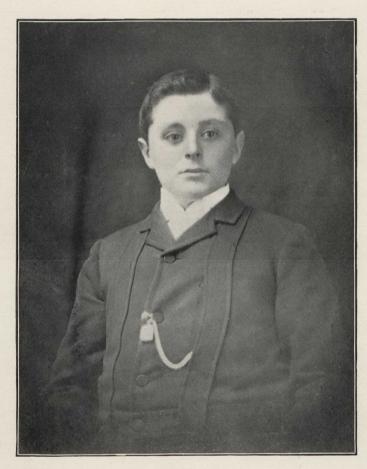
After having arrived at St. John in August following, I saw my sister and brother-in-law, with whom I spent the winter, in expectation that I could get a respectable situation, but did not succeed. When spring opened I thought I should wend my way back again to old Ireland by the first opportunity. Hearing of a ship loading with timber at St. Andrews for Waterford, I took passage in a small schooner, and after arriving there I found out that the ship was loading at a place called Diggidiquash, fourteen miles up the river. On the following morning I stepped out and got back to St. Andrews in the evening, after having narrowly escaped being burned in passing through a great fire then raging along the road.

The day following the ship dropped down to St. Andrews, and I got a passage in her for Bristol, where I arrived after a pleasant passage of four weeks. I had to remain there for a few days, and finally got to Waterford by the Hibernia Packet and from thence to Dorrinlara, my mother's place, the following day with only one dollar in my pocket, and was well received as the prodigal son.

In a short time afterwards I commenced a small grocery business in the village of Kilsheelan, where I got acquainted with my wife, then Miss Power, or more generally called the Maid of the Mill, her father being the proprietor of the only mill then in that place. After some few months' acquaintance we got married on the 5th October, 1824, and received the sum of £200 to enable us to get along.

Not content with our situation, I made up my mind to give up the small concern we occupied and try my fortune once more in America.

We sailed from Waterford after taking a long farewell of our friends and relations, and arrived in Quebec on the 30th May, 1826; got to Montreal on the 5th June following,



JOHN FERGUS O'CONNOR. Son of D. O'Connor, Q.C. Age 12.

where we remained a few days; from thence to Kingston in Upper Canada, where we rented a respectable house and commenced business; but owing to the depression of trade in consequence of the very low price of timber, we gave up the business with the intention of going to the United States. Got over to Sackett's Harbor; from thence we took passage in a small schooner bound for Rochester where we remained a few days thinking we would settle there, but business was as bad as in Kingston. Before leaving Kingston, the place being rather unhealthy at the time, we enjoyed good health all through, and seeing no cheering prospects open to our view, we determined once more upon returning towards the land of our forefathers, that green little island where real hospitality prevails.

Having determined on returning to Ireland, I wrote to Richard to give up his situation on the 3rd October and return to Kingston.

The great influx of people into Rochester from all parts of the country, made houses to let so scarce and house rent so remarkably high, that I could not procure a suitable house for me to carry on business.

Having had a letter of recommendation to a gentleman in Utica, I determined on going there. Having put my baggage on board a canal boat, we left Rochester on the 25th, and arrived at Utica after three days' travelling along the Erie Canal, a distance of 161 miles.

Here I introduced myself to my namesake of the firm of O'Connor, McDonough & Co., who treated me remarkably well upon finding that I was formerly a lieutenant in the 1st Regt. of Light Infantry, South American service, under the command of Genl. D'Evereux, a county Wexford man, who I believe was the senior partner of the establishment.

My namesake offered me my choice of two good houses, and as many goods as I might want. I fancied that it would be running too great a risk, seeing nearly all sorts of business overdone, and to obtain a license there, I should have to take the oath of allegiance to qualify me as a citizen and to abjure my



JOHN FERGUS O'CONNOR. R.M.C., Kingston. Son of D. O'Connor, Q.C. Aged 20.

allegiance to Great Britain. This I would not do at all hazards.

Finding myself disappointed here as well as in other places, I resolved upon returning to Canada. Being within 100 miles of Albany, I thought I should go there to see my sister and brother-in-law. Accordingly I left my wife and child at a respectable hotel in Utica, and took my passage in a canal boat, and arrived at Schenectady on the night of the 30th October, where I took lodgings, and the following day I took the stage, and after a drive of three hours I arrived at Albany, where I met Mrs. O'Connor and child.

The following day we sailed from Rochester for Sackett's Harbor on board the schooner "Woolsey," where we arrived after having had a severe and dangerous passage. Had it not been for the cleverness of an old gentleman, a passenger on board who understood more about navigation than the Captain, we would have been all drowned. At daylight it became tolerably calm, and when I ventured on deck, I found that one of my chests was broken and two barrels of salt which I had on board, were washed over by the waves.

Having got ashore at Sackett's Harbor, we set up at the most respectable hotel in town called the "Stone House," kept by an American who treated us with much civility and attention; and after remaining there two days we went on board the packet bound for Kingston, where we arrived after a very quick passage of five hours, November 17th, 1826.

After some few days I rented a fine stone house where I commenced business in the grocery line, but finding it did not do well, we decided upon returning to Ireland.

With this view I made arrangements to go on board a barge for Montreal by the St. Lawrence; but through the influence of Geo. McLean, Esq., an Irishman, we decided at his suggestion to go down by the Rideau River on our way home, in order that I might have a chance of settling myself there. He said he would accompany me, but he got sick about the time we were to start, consequently I had to try it on my own hook.



HENRY WILLIS O'CONNOR. Son of D. O'Connor, Q.C. Age 8. We left Kingston by the steamer and arrived at Prescott the following day, where we remained a few days to make out a land road conveyance. Having hired a span of horses and a good waggon, we started from Prescott and arrived at Clothier's Mill (now called Kemptville) the following morning. After stopping there about two days, we succeeded in hiring a small boat to carry us down the River Rideau.

We got on board this little boat not much bigger than a canoe, but well conducted by two young men, who did all they could to make our passage agreeable.

We arrived at the head of Long Island a little before nightfall. After paying these two young men for their services, they returned for home after seeing us located in a poor, open shanty, at that time occupied by an old man who was making pea soup, of whom we asked permission to allow us to stop for the night, when he replied that we had as good a right to stop there as he had, it being a shanty made for the purpose of accommodating all persons wishing to make use of it.

The next morning we got on board a crib of timber, and in a short time we passed over the Long Island Rapids, where we took leave of each other in solemn silence, thinking it was all over with us. However, we got through after hard knocking over the rocks.

Being Sunday the raft having got through so safely we stopped until the following morning, when after a few hours, we got to the Black Rapids, which we found a rough and dangerous place to get through; however, we succeeded and in a few hours after landed at Capt. Wilson's Bay (as then called).

Mrs. Wilson hearing of our situation, sent her servants to bring our little furniture, etc., on shore, with instructions to have us go down to the house where we were hospitably received. The Captain not being at home, and the house being small, she fixed a bed for us in the kitchen, where we slept quite comfortably.

I must not forget observing here that when Mrs. O'Connor got off of the crib of timber, she said were she only to



HENRY WILLIS O'CONNOR. Son of D. O'Connor, Q.C. Age 13. have ten acres of the land upon which she landed she would never go an inch farther.

The following day we hired a horse and cart to convey us to the canal with our little furniture. We took leave of Mrs. Wilson, who pressed us to remain until the Captain would return. We did not proceed far when the horse got tired and the cart broke down, owing to the badness of the road, if it could be called one. Mrs. O'Connor took the child in her arms and walked along the best way she could, while the driver and I had to get the horse and cart along the best way we could, until we got to Billings' farm, where a ferry scow was kept to convey passengers across the Rideau. There was nobody there at the time but a few women, who did not wish to attempt ferrying us across. In this predicament we lay on the bank for some time, when a farmer on the other side named Mr. Dow came across in his canoe, and kindly brought us across to his house, together with our . bed, etc. When we started for the canal on foot, a distance of three miles through a bush road. I carried the child on my back, while Mrs. O'Connor carried the umbrella, etc. Having met a large number of persons going out to work, we sat upon a log thinking from our appearance they would pass by without hardly saying a word to us, which they accordingly did.

We then proceeded on our journey and made our way through the woods to the place where the outlet of the canal was to be located, subsequently called By-town—after Col. By, Commandant Royal Engineers, and put up for the night at the little stopping place kept by Nicholas Sparks.

Mr. and Mrs. Sparks received us very kindly and made us as comfortable as could be expected under the circumstances—shortly after our arrival, I had an interview with Col. By, who pressed me very hard to stay and gave me every encouragement to do so. He at once allotted to me building Lot No. 31 on the North side of Wellington street, then all bush and stumps. Mrs. O'Connor was so wearied with travelling and its discomforts that she was quite willing to give the



FAMILY GROUP TAKEN IN 1890.

John F. O'Connor. D. O'Connor, Q.C. Cath. Willis O'Connor. Dr. E. J. O'Connor. Charles O'Connor. H. Willis O'Connor.

place a trial. In fact, for myself, I clearly saw that the great expenditure of money in the building of the canal would likely make the place an important point for trade and commerce; and by casting my lot in this part of Canada I might do well and make a comfortable home. Nevertheless I cherished the fond hope that in a few years I would again return to Ireland for good and end my days there. Having got the lot, I at once set about clearing and making it ready for a building. I employed men to cut down the timber and take out the stumps. In doing this, they cut down a very fine curley maple tree, and thinking it a pity to burn up, what appeared to me, to be so valuable. I had a few large logs put aside to dry. Intending to have it cut up and made into furniture at some future time. Afterwards in 1832, I engaged a cabinet maker from Kingston to make a sideboard out of it. This he did, and I have it now in my dining room and intend to keep it and hand it down to my children as a memento of our first arrival at By-town in May, 1827.

After the lot was cleared up I had a small but comfortable building erected, and again entered actively in business pursuits. In all my undertakings I received every encouragement from Col. By and was successful beyond my most sanguine expectations.

The educated class being very few, the excellent education that I received gave me many advantages, and I soon formed an intimate acquaintance not only with the Col. but with all the Imperial officers in charge of the canal in after years. This made our residence in By-town, and our home a pleasant one; I soon gained the goodwill and esteem of the towns people generally, and was one of the first Justices of the Peace and Judge of the Court of Requests appointed by the Government. I took a leading part in all matters affecting the interests of the community and became one of the prominent citizens of the town. Our friendship with Mr. and Mrs. Sparks and the family continued uninterrupted and when he divided his farm (Lot C in concession C of Nepean), into town lots he named one of the principal streets "O'Connor street" after me.



TESSIE FREIL. Daughter of Henry J. Friel and Mary Ann Friel.

As years rolled by, all desire to return to Ireland ceased, being quite happy and contented with our position and surroundings.

In regard to our children, our first born died soon after our arrival. In 1827 a daughter, Mary Ann was born, being the first child born in By-town. Subsequently we had the following children:

> Charles, John. Daniel, Margaret, Roderick Edward. Catharine.

Mary Ann married Henry James Friel, a journalist and politician.

Charles looks after my business affairs and assists me in discharging the duties of my office as Treasurer of the County of Carleton (formerly District of Dalhousie) which position I have held since June, 1842

John has entered the church.

Daniel entered the legal profession.

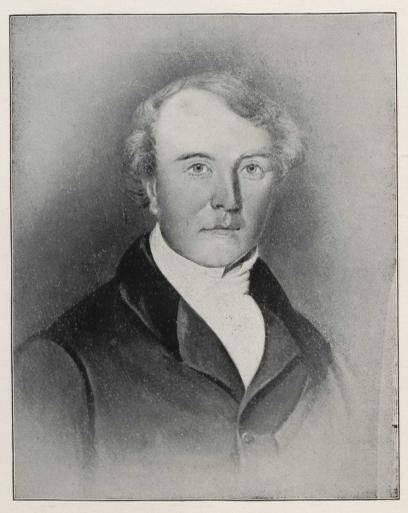
Margaret died at the age of 21, unmarried.

Roderick Edward entered Journalism in partnership with Henry James Friel.

Catharine is unmarried.

I now hand down these memoirs to my children with the hope and trust that they and their children will maintain the credit and good name of the family, as well in times to come as I and their mother have done in the past.

## DANIEL O'CONNOR.



RIGHT REV'D DR. MAGIN. Bishop of Derry, Ireland. in 1847.



SUSAN KEENAN. Grand Niece of Dr. Magin.

## FREE AND INDEPENDENT ELC-TORS OF THE COUNTY OF RUSSELL.

GENTLEMEN :

Allow me to assure you of my unfeigned acknowledgement of gratitude and respect for your kind and disinterested support during the late election; for, notwithstanding the decided advantage my honorable opponent had over me, in having the election held at New Edinburgh, where he has extensive mills, plenty of money at his command, and supported by some of the most wealthy and respectable persons in this part of the country, he had but a majority of seven votes over me, after a contest of six days. With all these advantages over me, together with the defection of some of my own countrymen, whom I have strong reason to suspect were influenced in their opposition to me through religious bigotry and corruption, I had to retire from the hustings wholly satisfied that I had done my duty honorably and constitutionally, and that you had done yours. It gives me infinite satisfaction to find that after all the turmoil that usually attends an election, that not a word or gesture has been used that would reflect disgrace on freemen or gentlemen. By such conduct we may expect to be victorious. Had I exerted my influence in time according to the advice of my friends, I might have had a majority of twenty or thirty votes. I can proudly say the Irish did their duty nobly, with some few exceptions; and, when a similar opportunity presents itself again, I hope they shall find a liberal Irishman, better qualified than I am, standing forth as an advocate of the rights and privileges of all classes of His Majesty's subjects in this Province.

I am Gentlemen,

Your faithful and devoted friend,

## DANIEL O'CONNOR.

October, 1834.



MONSIGNORE QUINN. Vicar General and Rector of St. Patrick's Cathedral of New York. Died in 1887.



CORNELIUS BERMINGHAM.

Setcreary's Office, Kingston, 6th May, 1842.

SIR,

I have the honor, by command of the Governor General, to acquaint you that His Excellency has had under consideration the application and recommendations of the various candidates for office in the Dalhousie District, and that he has been pleased to direct me to offer you the appointment of treasurer.

You will therefore be pleased, at your earliest convenience, to acquaint me whether it will suit your views to accept of the office in question.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient and humble servant,

"W. S. HARRISON."

#### DANIEL O'CONNOR, ESQ.



SARAH WILLIS. Niece of Monsignore Quinn, wife of Cornelius Birmingham of Pittsburgh, Pa.

(Seal.)

# CHARLES BAGOT

#### PROVINCE OF CANADA.

VICTORIA, by the grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, QUEEN, Defender of the faith, etc., etc.

To all to whom these presents shall come,

### GREETING :

WHEREAS, in and by a certain Act of the Parliament of our Province of Canada, passed in the fourth and fifth years of our reign, intituled, "An Act to provide for the better internal Government of that part of this Province which formerly constituted the Province of Upper Canada, by the establishment of local or municipal authorities therein," it is amongst other things in effect enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Person Administering the Government of our said Province, to appoint in each of the districts of that part of our said Province formerly upper Canada, one fit and proper person to be and to be called the District Treasurer,



E. O. P. RONAYNE.



MARY WILLIS. Niece of Monsignore Quinn, wife of Ed. P. Ronayne.

for the purposes of the said Act, and to hold his office during our pleasure, the said person having first given good and sufficient security, to be ascertained and determined by our said Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Person Administering the Government, for the due execution of the said office of Treasurer, and for the faithful accounting of all monies that may come into his hands by virtue of the said office.

NOW KNOW YE therefore, that DANIEL O'CONNOR, of Bytown, in the District of Dalhousie, Esquire, having given good and sufficient security, as is required by the said Act, we having full confidence in the loyalty, integrity and ability, of him the said DANIEL O'CONNOR, have constituted and appointed, and do by these presents, and by virtue of the power vested in us by the said Act, constitute and appoint him the said DANIEL O'CONNOR to be our DISTRICT TREASURER, of and for the District of Dalhousie, of that part of our said Province formerly Upper Canada, to have, hold, exercise and enjoy, the rights, powers and authorities, by the said Act vested in the Office of District Treasurer, of the said District, together with all the privileges, advantages and emoluments, thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining unto him the said DANIEL O'CONNOR.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, we have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent, and the Great Seal of our said Province of Canada to be hereunto affixed.

Witness our right, trusty and well-beloved Sir Charles Bagot, G. C. B., one of our Most Honorable Privy Council, Governor General of British North America, and Captain General and Governor-in-Chief in and over our Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and the Island of Prince Edward and Vice Admiral of the same, etc., etc., at Kingston, this twenty-second day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-two, and in the sixth year of our reign.

" C.B."

By Command : "JAMES HOPKIRK." Assistant Secretary.

# Secretary's Office, (West). Kingston, 18th June, 1842.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst., transmitting a bond executed by you as Treasurer of the Dalhousie District. In reply I beg to refer you to a communication from this office, dated the 10th inst., relating to a blank form of bond sent to the warden of the district to be executed by you, which you will have the goodness so to do.

I also beg to acknowledge the receipt of  $\pounds 2$ , but the above letter will have also informed you of the amount of the fee on your commission, which it being under the Great Seal, is  $\pounds 7$ . The balance you will therefore have the goodness to remit.

Your bond is returned herewith.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient and humble servant,

"W. S. HARRISON."

### DANIEL O'CONNOR, ESQ.

Treasurer,

Bytown.

## Secretary's Office,

#### Kingston, June 23rd, '42.

SIR,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of £7, being the fee in full on your commission, as treasurer of the Dalhousie District.

In the absence of the warden, I now forward you a blank bond, which you will have the goodness to execute. The same persons as were in the one you sent will answer, as they were approved of by the warden. I will forward your commission the moment I, receive it, but it must be dated at the same time as your bond, which you can antedate if you think proper. The Act, you will see, makes it imperative on the Government to approve the security first.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

## "T. DOUGLAS HARRINGTON."

#### DANIEL O'CONNOR, ESQ.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that we, DANIEL O'CONNOR, of Bytown, Treasurer of the District of Dalhousie ; NICHOLAS SPARKS, of Bytown, in said District, Esquire; and CHARLES SPARROW, Esq., of the same place, are held and firmly bound to our Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria, her heirs and successors, in the several sums following that is to say, the said Daniel O'Connor in the sum of one thousand pounds, the said Nicholas Sparks in the sum of five hundred pounds, and the said Charles Sparrow in the sum of five hundred pounds to be paid to our Sovereign Lady the Queen her heirs and successors, for which payment to be well and truly made, we bind ourselves severally and respectively and each of us, his heirs, executors and administrators, firmly by these presents. SEALED with our seals and dated at Bytown this fourteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-two.

THE CONDITION OF THIS OBLIGATION IS SUCH, that if the above-bounden DANIEL O'CONNOR shall well and faithfully discharge and perform the duties of treasurer for the said district, and shall faithfully account for and pay over to the persons entitled to receive the same, whatever sum or sums of money may come into his hands by virtue of the said office ; and also shall render true accounts to the district auditors appointed for the said district within the time and times prescribed by, and in terms of a certain Act of the 4th and 5th Victoria, Cap. 10, intituled "An Act to provide for the better internal Government of that part of the Province which formerly constituted the Province of Upper Canada by the establishment of Local or Municipal authorities therein," then this obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and effect.

SIGNED AND SEALED

in presence of : " A. J. CHRISTIE." " WM. TAYLOR." "DANIEL O'CONNOR," (Seal). "N. SPARKS," " "CHAS. SPARROW." "

39

HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONORABLE JAMES, EARL OF ELGIN AND KINCARDINE, GOVERNOR GENERAL OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA, AND CAPTAIN GENERAL AND GOVERNOR IN CHIEF, IN AND OVER THE PROVINCES OF CANADA, NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK, AND THE ISLAND OF PRINCE EDWARD, AND VICE-ADMIRAL OF THE SAME, ETC., ETC.

#### To DANIEL O'CONNOR, ESQUIRE,

#### GREETING :

REPOSING special confidence in your loyalty, courage and good conduct, I do hereby constitute and appoint you during pleasure to be Captain in the Fourth Battalion of Carleton Militia, taking rank and precedence from the seventeenth day of March, one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of Captain, by exercising and well disciplining the Inferior Officers and men of the said Militia. And I do hereby command them to obey you as their Captain. And you are to observe and follow all such orders and directions as you shall from time to time receive from me, or any other of your superior officers, according to law.

GIVEN under my hand and office seal, at Montreal, this fourteenth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, and in the eleventh year of Her Majesty's Reign.

### "ELGIN AND KINCARDINE."

By Command,

### "HOMER YOUNG."

Colonel.

Adjt.-Genl., Militia.

HIS EXCELLENCY SIR EDMUND WALKER HEAD, BAR-ONET, GOVERNOR GENERAL OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA, AND CAP-TAIN-GENERAL AND GOVERNOR IN CHIEF, IN AND OVER THE PROV-INCES OF CANADA, NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK, AND THE ISLAND OF PRINCE EDWARD, AND VICE-ADMIRAL OF THE SAME, ETC., ETC.

#### To CHARLES O'CONNOR, Gentlemen,

#### GREETING :

REPOSING special confidence in your loyalty, courage and good conduct, I do hereby constitute and appoint you, during pleasure, to be Ensign in the Fourth Battalion of Carleton Militia, taking rank and precedence from the seventh day of February, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six. You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of Ensign of the said Battalion. And I do hereby command them to obey you as their Ensign. And you are to observe and follow all such orders and directions as you shall from time to time receive from me, or any other of your Superior Officers, according to law.

GIVEN under my hand and office seal, at Toronto, this nineteenth day of April, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six, and in the nineteenth year of Her Majesty's reign.

#### "EDMUND HEAD."

#### By Command,

de Wittenburg, Col.

Adjt.-General.

# POLL BOOK

## of the First Election held in the County of Russell in 1831,

The County of Russell, in the Ottawa District, became first entitled to representation in the Provincial Parliament of Upper Canada in 1834.

The first Election was held at New Edinburgh in October of that year. The candidates being Thomas McKay, of that place, and Daniel O'Connor, of Bytown. After a contest lasting six days Mr. McKay was elected by a majority of seven votes.

A Copy of the Poll Book in Mr. O'Connor's hand writing was found among his papers. As an interesting relic of those days, and of the electors who voted it is given underneath in full. The returning officer was Simon Frazer of Bytown.

No. of Votes	NAMES OF VOTERS.	TOWNSHIP.	Lot.	CON.	NAMES OF CANDIDATES.		REMARKS.
					Daniel O'Connor	Thos. McKay	
1	John O'Brien	Glocester on the Rideau	S. half 12	3	O'Connor		
2	Edward McAvoy	do	N. half 12	3	do		
3	Jas. Otterson	do	1	2	do		
4	Jas. Graham	do	L	A	do		
	Patrick Collins	. do	Half 9	2	do		
6	Timothy Collins	do	Half 9	2	do		
7	Michael Murray	do	S. half 19		do		
8	Peter Skiffinton	Osgood	3	5	do		
9	Terrence McGee	Glocester	S. half 27		do		
10	Patrick Magee	do	W.half 27	5	do		
$11 \\ 12$	William Stackpole	do	S. half 25		do		
12	John Freeman Thos. Codd.	do	14	3	do		
15	Pohent Comble	Osgood	W half 18		do		
14	Robert Gamble	Glocester in the	17	2&3	do		
15	Moses Doyle	Gore	20	2		•	
	John Burchel	do	20	43	do		
17	James Doyle	do Osgood	$\frac{21}{20}$		do do		
18	Philip Lowrey	Glocester on the			do do		
10		Rideau	D. W. 4 10	0	do		
19	Wm. Thompson	do	N. H. 20	3	do		
20	John Savage	Glocester in the	14			McKay.	
		Gore.					
21	John Halpin	do	14	3	do		
22	Hector McPheal	Glocester on the	3	2	No. of Concession, Name	do	
~~		Ottawa					
23	Richard Daly		21	5	do		
~		Rideau		100			
24	David Dunning		25	1		do	
0-		Ottawa					
25	Patrick Skifferton	Osgood	2	5	do		
26	William Nowlan		4	3	do		
07	18	Rideau	22	-			
27	James Finley	do	20	5	do		
28	Patrick Ryan	Clarence	Half 8	4	do		

			_				Contraction of the second
No. of Votes	NAMES OF VOTERS.	Township.	Lot.	CON.	NAMES OF CANDIDATES.		REMARKS.
					D O'Connor	T McKay	
29	John Foran	Glocester on the Rideau		3	O'Connor		
30	Robert Bratton	do	17	5		McKay.	
31 32	Alex. McDonald Peter Tomkins		25	8 3	do	do	
33 34	Joseph Kinsela Daniel Coughlan	Cumberland Glocester on the	H. 14	1 1	do do		
35	Braddish Billings					do	
36	John Cuningham	Gore Glocester on the Rideau	17	3	do		
37	Alexander Forbes	Glocester on the Ottawa	9	1		do	
38 39	Joseph Combs James Anderson	do Glocester on the	15 2	$\frac{2}{4}$	do do		a the second
$40 \\ 41 \\ 42$	Elisha F. Looks Thos. Mulcoy William York	Osgood	$\begin{array}{c}10\\22\\21\end{array}$	4 8 9	do do	do	
43 44	John Farling Donald McArthur	do Glocester in the	20 7	9	do	do	
45 46	William Casserley Michael Spiers	Glocester on the	$\begin{array}{c} 23\\ 26\end{array}$	9 1	do	do	Rear of East half
47 48	Jas. Johnson Jas. Baley	Ottawa Osgood Glocester on the Ottawa	4 5	5 1	do	do	
49	William Moore	Glocester on the Rideau	11	1	do		
50 51 52 53 54	Walter Beckworth Richard Hall Peter Tobin Samuel Lowney Edward Wood	$\begin{array}{c} Cumberland. \ \\ Osgood \\ do \\ do \\ do \\ do \\ \ldots \\ do \\ \end{array}$	4 19 30 17 30	1 9 9 9 6	do do do do	do	
57 58	Isaac Cross John Frost William Clegg	Rideau Osgood Cumberland	12 18 10 N. H. 17	5 5 4 2	do	ao	Sworn East half Swore that the deed was made this day but in possession 12 months.
59 60	Thos. Pellan		S. H. 1 NH12&13	2	do	do.	Jointly sworn as joint prop's,
a strange	Gidean and Z. Humh- stead David Dole		5				Jointly sworn as joint prop's.
62			The second second second second	1		do	
$\begin{array}{c} 64 \\ 65 \end{array}$	Alexander McLaren Edward Whiteside John Rodney Joseph Quinlan	Osgood do		$ \begin{array}{c} 1\\ 8\\ 9\\ 4 \end{array} $	do	do do do	On the Ottawa
67 68 69 70 71 72	Jas, Tobin John Dow John McNabb Duncan Cameron Adam McCrostie John Edwards Peter McEwen	Osgood do do do do Clarence.	$ \begin{array}{c} 21 \\ 37 \\ 28 \\ W. H 25 \\ 23 \\ E. H. 14 \\ 31 \end{array} $	11 10 8 9 6 1 9	do	do do do do do do	Sworn do do do do

-				Carlo and	and the second second		and the second second second second
No, of Voters	NAMES OF VOTERS.	TOWNSHIP.	Lor.	CON.	NAMES OF CANDIDATES.		REMARKS.
				-	D O'Connon	T Mallar	
					D O'Connor	I MCKay	
74	John Edwards	Osgood	22	3		McKay.	
75	William Green	Glocester	23	2	O'Connor	1.	S'd but not con.
76 77	Donald McLarn Alex. Dow	do	37	9 7		do do	Sworn
78	Daniel Campbell	do	31	8		do	do
79	David O'Meara		W. H. 20		do		
00	Nicholag Egan	Rideau Clarence.	14	1		do	011
80 81	Nicholas Egar William Anderson	Glocester on the	5	3		do	Old survey Sworn
U.		Rideau		1			~ HOIM
82	Peter McNabb		37	5		do	do
83 84	John Symes Duncan McNabb	Clarence	.9 39	$\begin{vmatrix} 1\\ 9 \end{vmatrix}$	The States	do do	do Sworn,sold but
84 85	Peter Cassidy	Glocester on the	7	1	do	uo	not conveyed
00		Rideau					
86	Leonard Wood		E. H. 35	5		do	Sworn
87 88	John Froste, sen Robert Scott		W. H. 18 7	3 5 4		do do	do do
89	Arch'd Looks		11	4		do	do
90	James Johnson	Glocester on the	25	4		do	
91	Honey Sime	Rideau Cumberland	25	1		do	
91 92	Henry Sims Henry Mathews		25 D	5		do	
93	Valentine Starbuck	Glocester in the	5	5		do	Life lease
~	Tas Tabasas	Gore				1	x
94	Jas. Johnson	Rideau	9			do	In gore betw'n 2 & 3 Con.
95	Hugh McKenny	do	30	4	do		
96	William Dohany	do	1 17	2	do		Sworn, S. half
97 98	Thos. Brady William Downey	Glocester on the	15 30	25	do do		Sworn Sworn, rear hf.
00	William Downey	Rideau			au		Sworn, rear m.
99	Andrew Gamble	do	17	in	do		Westhalf, con- veyed yest'day
100	Clements Bradly	do	5		eb't'n2&3 ore	do	Sworn
101	Thos. Jenkins	do	1 4		ore	do	West half
102	Robert Bailey	Glocester on the	<b>2</b> 6	3		do	East half
103	Alex. Jas. Christie	Ottawa	10	6	O'Connor	do	Sworn
105	Alex, Jas, Onrisule	Rideau	10	0	O Connor		
104	John Martin	Cambridge	9	4		do	
105	Chas. Laws		W. H. 20	3 3		do	
106	Phillip Cahill	Ottawa Glocester on the	N. Q. 2	3	do		
		Rideau			- uo		
	James Lang	Cambridge	6	.4		do	do
108 109	William Maston Jas. Johnston		$\begin{array}{c} 27\\ 15\end{array}$	1 in	do	do	Between 2nd
109	Jas. Jonnston	Rideau	10	go'e	A second s		and 3rd Con.
110	John McDougal		35	1		do	
111	Thos. Dowe		36	9		do	
$112 \\ 113$	Patrick Lyons Alex. McNabb		W. H. 7 W. H. 3	$2 \frac{4}{8}$		do do	
113	William Doctor		W. H. 3			do	
115	Jas. Edwards	Clarence	5	1		do	
116	John Cameron	Glocester on the	26	2		do	
117	John Roe	Clarence	6	1	do		
118	Alex. Anderson	do	10	1	A CONTRACTOR	do	Sworn
119	Hugh Finley			3	do		
		Rideau	1		I and the second		

No. of Voters	NAME OF VOTERS.	Township.	Lot.	CON.	NAMES OF CANDIDATES.		REMARKS.
					D O'Connor	T McKay	
120	Patrick Mulligan	Glocester on the Rideau	11	4		McKay.	
121	Lyman Perkins.	Osgood	25	4	O'Connor		
122 123	Arch'd McDonell Aleq. Urquart	do Glocester on the Ottawa	20 26	$\begin{array}{c} 6\\ 1 \end{array}$		do do	West half of the rear.
124	John Johnson	Glocester on the Rideau	S. H. 23	4		do	
125	John HicKey.	do	A	G	do		
126 127	William McLarne William Johnson	Glocester on the Rideau	27 N. H. 23	84		do do	Rear half Sworn
128	James Coughlan	do	1 of 14	1	do		Sworn, North- East quarter
129	James Richie Paul Glasford	do	R. H. 22	37		do	And quarter
130 131	Joseph Laflame	Usgood	E. H. 24 30	1	)	do do	
132	Arch'd Campbell		42	5		do	
133	John Dermud.		40	4		do	
134	Duncan Campbell		39	3		do	Sworn
135	John McDonell		19	6		do	do
136	Duncan McDonell		S. H. 23	8	A. AND ST.	do	
137	William Smith		12	in g		do	
138	Thos. Kennedy		W. H. 32		do		do
139	Hugh Dempsey	Glocester	N. H. 14	ın g	ore	do	Purchased of Colin Trembel whohad no con
140	William Dole	Cumberland	S. Salara	1		do	veycanceinhis own right.
141	George Patterson	Glocester on the Rideau	⅓ of 15	2	do		East qr.
142	James Duncan		$\frac{1}{2}$ of 9	4		do	
143	Daniel Carrol		S. H. 13		do		Sworn
144	William O'Connor	Rideau	N. H. 7	45	do		
144	Chas. White	Osgood			do		do
110		Rideau.	iiuni or o	6	uu		uo
146	George Simes	Glocester on the Ottawa	S. H. 10	6		do	do
147	George Lang		29	4		do	
148	John Evans	Osgood,	41	3	The second	do	
	Timothy O'Connor	Rideau		4	te do	do	Sworn
150	John Cooney	do	19	5	do		Sworn S-Wqr.
151	Michael Cooney		19	5	- do		Sworn N-E qr
152	William Mercen		19	5	do		East qr. Sworn
153	Edward Mulcoy		Half 17	5	do		Sworn
154 155	Richard O'Connor Joseph Johnson,.	Glocester on the	23 23	$\begin{vmatrix} 2\\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	do do		
100	obsepti oonnson,	Ottawa	40	4	uo		

Total number of votes polled 155, viz. : for McKay 81, for O'Connor 74, leaving a majority of 7 votes in favor of the former, who was declared duly elected after a tedious contest of six days, October 12th, 1834.

# COPY OF LEASE

# FROM COL. BY TO DANIEL O'CONNOR

OF

# LOT NO. 30, NORTH SIDE OF WELLINGTON ST., IN BY-TOWN,

DATED 30 APRIL, 1832.

## "By-town, Upper Canada, 30th April, 1832.

"I, Daniel O'Connor do hereby agree for myself my heirs and assigns to pay annually on the first May, one pound sterling money to John By, Lieut.-Colonel, Royal Engineers, or to such person or persons as may hereafter from time to time be duly authorized to receive the same, for the privilege of occupying a space of ground sixty-six feet in front by one hundred and ninety-eight feet in depth marked on the plan Lot No. 30, Wellington Street, Bytown, District of Bathurst and Province of Upper Canada. And I, Daniel O'Connor do also agree for myself, my heirs or assigns, that all buildings, fences or erections of any kind, or whatever improvement may be made from time to time on the said Lot No. 30, Wellington Street, By-town, shall be kept in good repair, so that at the expiration of this agreement, which is to be binding on all parties from the 30th April, 1832, to the 30th April, 1862, the buildings, etc., erected on the said lot No. 30, Wellington Street, By-town, shall be in good repair.

It is further agreed between the said parties that at the expiration of this lease, that it shall be renewed again for thirty years thereafter and for every succeeding thirty years, that is to say if the conditions of the original lease are complied with.

And further should government think proper to raise the rent on said lot No. 30, Wellington Street, By-town, after the expiration of the first period, that it shall not exceed one fourth advance on the original rent, and so to advance one fourth upon every successive period of thirty years."

"Signed and Sealed in

presence of

(Signed) JOHN BY

Lt.-Col., R. Eng'rs,

Signed, WM. McQUEEN, ANGUS MCGILLIVRAY.

Com., Rideau Canal, L. S.

(Signed) DANIEL O'CONNOR, L. S.