

# Memoir of Colonel Joel Stone

A United Empire Loyalist and the  
Founder of Gananoque

By

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Reprinted from Ontario Historical Society Papers and Records, Vol. XVIII

XIII.

MEMOIR OF COLONEL JOEL STONE, A UNITED EMPIRE  
LOYALIST AND THE FOUNDER OF GANANOQUE.

BY JUDGE HERBERT S. McDONALD, BROCKVILLE.

In June, 1884, at the meeting held at Adolphustown, to celebrate the centennial of the first settlement of Upper Canada by the United Empire Loyalists, one of the speakers intimated that the celebration had been set on foot in order (to use the words of Dr. Ryerson) "to do at least a modicum of justice to the memory of a Canadian Ancestry whose heroic deeds and unswerving Christian patriotism form a patent of nobility, more to be valued by their descendants than the coronets of many a modern nobleman." Concurring entirely in the truth of the tribute to those who may justly be called the forefathers of the great Province of Ontario, it is at once a pleasure and a privilege to be permitted to prepare a memoir of one among them who risked life and sacrificed property for loyalty to his king and country.

It is impossible for us at this remote period of time to enter into the feelings and to appreciate the conduct and action of those who are known as United Empire Loyalists. It has been so much the habit to have the virtue of true patriotism accorded to the American revolutionists and to have the loyalists, under the name of Tories, depicted as men who were false to their country and cruel and cowardly in their actions, that many even of the descendants of the latter have not known the truth of the matter. For this state of things United States writers have been largely responsible, and the thanks of the Canadian people are justly due to the lamented late Reverend Dr. Egerton Ryerson, for having in his work entitled "The Loyalists of America and their Times" done justice to the loyalists and exposed the cruelty and injustice with which they were treated.

Dr. Ryerson says: "From the beginning the Loyalists were deprived of the freedom of the press, freedom of assemblage, and under an espionage universal, sleepless, malignant, subjecting the Loyalists to every species of insult, to arrest and imprisonment at any moment, and to the sacrifice and confiscation of their property."

And again: "The Americans inaugurated their Declaration of Independence by enacting that all adherents to connection with the mother country were rebels and traitors; they followed the recognition of Independence by England by exiling such adherents from their territories. But while this wretched policy depleted the United States of some of their best blood, it laid the foundation of the settlement and institutions of the then almost unknown and wilderness provinces which have since become the widespread, free and prosperous Dominion of Canada."

Joel Stone was born in the Town of Guilford in the County of New Haven, and (then), Province of Connecticut, on the 7th day of August,

1749. A number of the original settlers of Guilford came from England in a ship which sailed from London on the 20th May, 1639, and arrived at New Haven about the 1st July in that year. During the voyage a covenant was entered into which may well be transcribed to these pages:

"June 1st, 1639, WE, whose names are hereunder written intending by God's gracious permission to plant ourselves in New England, and, if it may be, in the southern part of Quinpyack, we do faithfully promise each to, each for ourselves and our families and those belonging to us that we will, the Lord assisting us, sit down and join ourselves together in one entire plantation and be helpful each to the other in any common walk according to every man's ability and as need shall require and we promise not to desert each other on the plantation but with the consent of the rest or the greater part of the company who have entered into this engagement. As to the gathering ourselves together in a Church and the choice of officers and members to be joined together in that way we do refer ourselves until such time as it shall please God to settle us in our plantation.

"In witness Whereof we subscribe our hands this 1st day of June, 1639.

"Robert Kitchell, Francis Bushnell, William Lute, John Jordan, John Hoadly, Richard Guthridge, William Parmaley, John Mephon, Abm. Cruttenden, William Halle, Henry Kingsworth, Thomas Cooke, John Bishop, Brother of Lt. Governor Bishop of New Haven, William Crittenden, Thomas Jones, (Wm. & Jno. Stone, Brothers), William Plane, Jno. Housegrove, William Dudley, Thomas Norton, Francis Chatfield, Thomas Naish, Henry Dowde, Rev'd. Henry Whitfield.

"Of their arrival in Connecticut, of a meeting which was held by the people of New Haven for prayer and thanksgiving for their safe arrival," an account was given in a letter from the Rev. M. Davenport, of New Haven, to Lady Vere, Countess of Oxford.

William Stone, one of the two brothers above named who signed the covenant, died 16th November, 1683. His son William died on the 20th March, 1712, leaving a son Stephen, who was born on the 1st March, 1690, and married on the 9th December, 1711, Elizabeth Leeming, a daughter of one Christopher Leeming who came to East or South Hampton, Long Island, about 1640. Stephen Stone died 24th December, 1753. His son Stephen was born at Guilford, 13th August, 1721, and married for his first wife Rebecca Bishop, daughter of Stephen Bishop, and a descendant of the John Bishop who signed the covenant above mentioned. Of this marriage, Joel Stone, the subject of our memoir, was one of the issue. Stephen Stone survived his first wife (who died in 1769), was married to one Deliverance Chapman and died at Litchfield, Connecticut, in the month of September. He and his family had removed to Litchfield on the 23rd of April, 1751, when Joel was less than two years of age. Of this removal to Litchfield, Joel speaks in a narrative, and says of his father that there "by indefatigable labour and industry he improved a competency in land of which he was proprietor."

Of the early life of Joel Stone we have not any record further than that, in the narrative above referred to, he says that he remained at home with his father, in the improvement of the estate, until he was twenty-one years of age, when he proposed to try his fortune in a line of business more agreeable to his inclinations, and with his father's approbation entered

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on a branch of the mercantile trade, travelled to several places in North America, and returned in about three months with a considerable property. So great had been his success that he was induced with his father's consent, in 1774, to enter into a partnership with a merchant named Jabez Bacon, of Woodbury, in the County of Litchfield. From a copy of the partnership articles, which has been preserved, it would appear that Jabez Bacon and Joel Stone "joined themselves to be co-partners together, or traders in company, in the business of Merchandising and all things thereto belonging; and, also in buying, selling, vending and retailing of all sorts of goods, wares and commodities whatsoever, which said co-partnership is to continue from this First day of February, 1774, for and during unto the full end of six years from thence next ensuing." The partnership did not expire by effluxion of time, for long before the end of the six years the Revolutionary War had broken out and the Junior partner had found employment of quite a different character from that for which the partnership was formed and carried on. But while the business continued it appears to have flourished for Mr. Stone in his narrative says: "I soon had the happiness to discover myself in the confidence and esteem of my neighbours and the public in general. By dint of an unwearied diligence and a close application to trade I found the number of my friends and customers daily increasing and a fair prospect of long happiness arose to my sanguine mind in one of the most desirable situations beneath the best of laws, and the most excellent government in the Universe."

It is quite unnecessary in a narrative such as this to enter upon the causes or discuss the events which led to the revolt of the colonies and the declaration of their independence as the United States of America. We only have to do with them in so far as they affected the subject of our memoir, and he appears soon to have experienced their effects. He says:

"But alas! the dreadful commotions that commenced about this period quickly involved that once happy country in all the dreadful horrors of an unnatural war, and filling the pleasant land with desolation and blood removed all my fair prospects of future blessings; yet amidst all that anarchy and rage I was fixed in my resolves, rather to forego all I could call my property in the world than flinch from my duty as a subject to the best of sovereigns; sooner to perish in the general calamity than abet in the least degree the enemies of the British Constitution."

Entertaining such sentiments as those above stated and with the public mind in the state in which it then was, it may be readily supposed that his life became a disturbed one.

In the year 1775 being suspected of unfriendliness to the provincial or continental party he was cited to appear before a Committee and was accused of having supplied the people whom they called "Tories" with sundry articles of provisions, and with having supported and assisted the British prisoners confined in Connecticut. It was with much difficulty that he at that time escaped a very severe prosecution at the hand of the emissaries of Congress. His aged father appears to have occupied much the same position as Joel for we are told that he was repeatedly imprisoned, threatened, and harassed "for his steady perseverance in maintaining with all his ability the true liberty of his country and just cause of his rightful Sovereign."

At length, in the year 1776, Joel Stone discovered that it was perfectly impracticable for him any longer to conceal his sentiments. The agents of Congress having peremptorily urged him to declare without further hesitation whether he would immediately take up arms himself against the British Government or procure a substitute, he could no longer avoid giving a positive reply. His resolution not to take the step which was required of him was unalterable, both because he detested to do so, and because what was required of him had been repeatedly deemed an act of rebellion by the public proclamations of General Howe. Having received his reply the leaders of the party to which he was opposed informed him that his conduct would undergo the strictest scrutiny and that he might expect from those in authority and an incensed public the utmost severity to his person. In consequence he determined in his own mind to withdraw as soon as possible from Connecticut and go to New York, designing upon his arrival there to join the British forces and use all his influence in favour of his king. Before he could carry his design into execution a warrant was issued for his apprehension by order of the agents of Congress, and he having become apprised of this, and that men were actually on their way to his house, packed up his books and bills and delivered them to a friend to secrete, and leaving a sister who had lived with him for some time in charge of his household effects, took flight upon horseback, and the night being a dark one had the good fortune to elude those who were searching for him and escaped. The party seeking him was attended by a tumultuous mob who surrounded the premises, and vented their resentment upon his sister. Using language the most opprobrious, they broke every lock in the house and seized all the property they could discover.

Mr. Stone made his way to New York, which was then in the possession of the British forces. When or how he arrived there we cannot tell, but it became his residence for a period of several years. From his own statement it would appear that he took up arms and served the king from the 20th June, 1777, until the evacuation of New York. He first became a volunteer in Governor Wentworth's command, and his service as such appears to have been purely of a gratuitous character, for he received no remuneration, nor indeed did any of the volunteers in that command, until after he had ceased to be attached to it. By a commission or warrant bearing date the 15th day of April, 1778, he was authorized and empowered by Gabriel G. Ludlow, Esquire, Colonel of the third battalion of Brigadier-General Delancey's Brigade to recruit able-bodied men, not less in number than fifty-four (including those recruited by the subalterns in his company) to serve His Majesty in that battalion for "two years or during the present rebellion in North America," under the command of his Excellency, Sir William Howe, or under the commander-in-chief of His Majesty's forces for the time being, and was further authorized and empowered to inform the men that upon their being mustered and approved they should receive five dollars bounty, and the same pay, clothing, provisions, and other necessaries as the British troops then had. Having gone to Huntington, Long Island, to recruit men he was surprised, while asleep, on the 12th May, 1778, by a company of whale-boat men and carried to Fairfield, Connecticut, and there committed to close custody upon a charge of high treason. While in prison he was subjected to abuse, being informed that he should be

hanged as a traitor. On the 23rd July, 1778, he escaped from what he calls "that town of horror" and with great difficulty arrived on Long Island again on the 30th of that month.

On the 3rd of August he was seized with a severe fever which nearly proved fatal, and on his recovery from it went to sea for several months, and his health by this means was re-established. He returned to New York and entered into a mercantile business.

By commission dated the second day of February, 1780, he was appointed by James Pattison, Esq.,\* Major General of His Majesty's forces, Commandant of New York, etc., etc., etc., to be second lieutenant of Company No. 22 of the City Militia, of which company Willett Taylor had been appointed Captain. On the 9th March, 1780, Mr. Stone received a captain's commission to command a company of militia, and commanded the same until the king's troops left New York, without receiving any pay or compensation whatever.

In reference to his services generally in behalf of his king it may be of interest here to quote a certificate subsequently given by General Lym, who was, we believe, at one time Governor of the State of New York:

"I do certify that Mr. Joel Stone came into the king's lines at New York from the colony of Connecticut early in the American War—was employed in recruiting the provincial corps, and conducted himself as a faithful, loyal subject—therefore particularly recommend him to the consideration of Government."

"Given under my hand in Upper Grosvenor Street, this 23rd of January, 1784."

Nor must we judge only of Mr. Stone's loyalty by the services he rendered to his king but also by the sacrifices which he made. We have already seen that on the night on which he made his escape every lock in his house was broken and all the property which could then be discovered was seized. But his enemies were by no means satisfied with their actions or with having driven him from the colony, and steps were taken to confiscate his estate.

It would appear as regarded personal property, that by the statute law of Connecticut the "select men" of any Township from which any person absented and joined the British army were directed to represent such person and the state of his property to a Justice of the Peace, who then had power to issue a warrant to a constable to seize and hold all the absentee's goods and chattels and make returns to the County Court which was to adjudicate in the matter, and might issue an order to the said constable to sell the property so seized for the use and benefit of the State. By another statute, provision was made for the sale of real estates of such absentees.

Upon the representation of select men of Woodbury in the County of Litchfield, to Daniel Sherman, Esquire, a Justice of the Peace, for the said County, against Joel Stone, showing that he was inimical to the States of America and did sometime in the month of December then last (1776) join the army of the King of Great Britain, and had ever since continued under the protection of the said King's chief commander at or near New York, and that he had an estate in goods and chattels in said Woodbury

\*The letters of Gen. James Pattison, while he was commandant in the City of New York, appeared in the volume for 1875, of the New York Historical Society.

which was forfeited by force and effect of the statute law of that State to the State of Connecticut, a warrant was issued by the said Sherman, apparently on the 7th day of January, 1777, to seize and hold all the goods, etc., of the said Joel. At a County Court holden at Litchfield in and for the County of the same name on the fourth Tuesday of March, 1777, it was found that the property in the goods seized was Mr. Stone's and judgment was given that they should be sold for the use of the State and that an execution should be issued according to law, which was done on the 22d April, 1777. At the same Court, enquiry was made as to the truth of an information of the select men of Washington in Litchfield County against Joel Stone for joining the enemies of the United States and upon the evidence produced judgment was given that his estate was forfeit and an order was made to dispose of the same according to law.

Under the judgment as to personal property and the execution issued thereupon, one Enos Mitchell, a constable, appears to have sold such personal property and according to his return the avails amounted to the sum of £491 6s. 9d. lawful money of the State of Connecticut (viz.), at the rate of twenty-eight shillings for an English guinea or six shillings for a Spanish milled dollar, and he paid the sum so realized to the Treasury of the State.

It would appear that under the judgment of the County Court, proceedings were subsequently taken in the Court of Probate as if Mr. Stone was deceased. Indeed, in an inventory of his estate he is described as "politically deceased."

At a Court of Probate held at Woodbury, June 18, 1779, administration of Joel Stone's estate was granted unto one Daniel W. Brinsmade, sufficient bonds having been given. A commission was granted to certain persons, one of their duties apparently having been to appraise the value of the estate. Under date of the 28th day of June, 1779, Jonathan Fornand and Ebenezer Clark, Jr., stated that they had appraised to the best of their judgment under oath. They appraised at the rate of twenty-eight shillings for a guinea or six shillings for a Spanish milled dollar, or at the rate of silver at  $\frac{6}{8}$  per  $\text{oz}$  gold in the same proportion, and it would appear that they valued the estate at £359 10s. 4d., of which £354 13s. 0d. was the value of real estate. How they came to deal with personalty (which they did to the extent of an appraised amount of £4 17s. 4d.) we do not know, unless they found some items which had escaped Enos Mitchell in his seizure and sale. In making the valuation of land which had been conveyed to Mr. Stone and his partner, Jabez Bacon, hereinbefore named, one-half was valued. Claims were allowed by the Commissioners against the estate to the amount of £61 7s. 9d. Let it not be supposed that this sum was allowed to creditors of Joel Stone. No; for it is said the greatest part of it was paid as wages to the people who hunted Mr. Stone around the country just before his departure to join the British Army, and as costs incurred by those who proceeded against the estate. But notwithstanding the vigilance and zeal of those who took these proceedings, there was one valuable piece of real estate situated in the Township of Winchester containing about 250 acres in which Mr. Stone had a one-half interest with his partner Bacon, hereinbefore referred to, of which they had no knowledge, as the deed was not registered. Samuel Talcott, Jr., of Hartford, had sold the land to Mr. Stone on 12th September, 1776, for £500, and had

received his money. But when afterward discovered, as the forfeiture was of the estate of Joel Stone, it was contended that this piece of land or his interest therein was included in it. According to Mr. Stone's own statement it would appear that previous to the War the firm of Bacon & Stone had a capital of £12,000 Stg. in stock, and that in addition to the value of the property confiscated or forfeited as above mentioned (amounting to about £11,000) his books, bonds, etc., were confiscated, thus adding to the amount of his loss.

The statements as to the mode of procedure required to obtain forfeiture of property of absentees, and as to the particular proceedings had in Mr. Stone's case, may seem somewhat uninteresting, but we believe some persons will find them of interest, and any narrative which failed to furnish a statement of Mr. Stone's losses would be incomplete.

During his residence in New York, Mr. Stone's time appears not to have been so fully occupied by his military and business duties as to prevent his forming social ties and eventually the still closer relations of married life. On the 23d of March, 1780, he was married to Leah Moore, daughter of William Moore, of New York, and May his wife, the officiating clergyman having been the Reverend Charles Inglis, then Rector of Trinity Church, New York, afterward of London, England, and eventually the first Bishop of the Church of England in what is now British North America. Mr. Inglis was appointed to the See of Nova Scotia in or about the year 1787, and the centenary of his appointment or consecration was duly celebrated at Halifax, in 1887. There is in existence an affidavit to which he was one of the deponents, sworn at the Guild Hall, London, 27th February, 1784, before Robert Peckham, Mayor, in which Mr. Inglis deposes that on the 23d day of March, 1780, the said Joel Stone was married by him to Leah Moore. The father of the bride was a mariner by occupation and appears to have been absent from New York at the time of the marriage, for in a letter written by him to Mr. Stone dated at Lisbon, 21st February, 1782, he acknowledges the receipt of a letter dated 26th January, 1781, informing him of the marriage and says: "as it was with the consent of my late consort you have also mine." Further in this old time letter he mentions having heard of the death of his own wife, speaking of which he says: "the greatest shock I ever felt in my life and such a loss as I shall ever have reason to sympathize for with you all who have lost the best of mothers and I the only comfort I had left in this world." He then goes on to say that he had written to Mr. Van Dorn (presumably his agent) and desired him to leave his furniture with Mr. Stone for the use of his daughter till he should hear further from him, and that he should not charge him anything for the first year after they were married, and to allow and pay to him out of the rents of his houses, etc., one hundred pounds per annum till he heard further from him and says: "which is all that can be done in the present circumstances, and rest assured that you will always find in me a real friend and affectionate parent." Further on he mentions that he had heard by letter from Mr. Van Dorn that Leah (Mrs. Stone) has brought her husband a fine son and made him a grandpapa, and that although he does not know the baby's name Mr. Stone must "insinuate" to him that he has a grandpapa who will always love him and his mamma and papa. The references to this letter and the quotations from it may seem somewhat



lengthy, but let us remember that it was written over one hundred years ago and that its kindly thoughts and sentiments, perhaps sometimes clothed in language a trifle old fashioned, possess an interest all their own and give evidence of having been the outcome of a gentle heart.

Three children appear to have been born to Mr. Stone and his wife Leah. Of these, the eldest was named William Moore and is the one referred to in his grandfather's letter above mentioned. The date of his birth is uncertain, but it certainly occurred previous to 21st February, 1782. Another son named Lewis was born on 9th April, 1784, and died in infancy or childhood. A daughter named Mary was the third of these children and grew to woman's estate and married as will hereafter appear.

After the evacuation of New York by the British and in or after the month of July, 1783, Joel Stone sailed for England. The primary object of his going appears to have been that he might, upon his wife's behalf, recover a legacy to which she was entitled under the will of her deceased uncle, Commodore John Moore, formerly of Bombay in the East Indies, and at one time in the Honourable Company's service. This John Moore appears to have been in marine service for over 30 years and to have acquired a very large property, including at least three slaves, one boy named Paris and two girls named respectively Mary and Clarinda.

Sometime previous to July, 1780, Mr. Moore had determined to return from India to Europe. At or about that time Senhor Manuel Jose Mochado de Sampago, of Lisbon, had arrived at Bombay in the East Indies and had brought letters of recommendation to some English gentlemen there from some of the English merchants at Lisbon. His object was to purchase in India a ship and to lade it with a cargo fit for the Lisbon market, and he depended on being supplied with the funds for this purpose by the English in India, who being then—as is presumed owing to war between Great Britain and France—deprived of the means of remitting their fortunes by bills on the English in East India, were glad to procure good bills payable in Europe though drawn by foreign merchants.

Senhor Sampago became acquainted with Mr. John Moore, and as the latter was desirous of remitting his fortune to Europe and was the possessor of a ship called the *Virgin Dove* a connection arose between him and the Senhor which resulted in his selling to the latter his ship and advancing to him sundry sums to enable him to purchase a cargo, in return for which it was agreed that the Senhor should draw bills of exchange on some responsible merchant of Lisbon but payable in London. On these terms Mr. John Moore was to advance as far as the sum of 160,000 rupees and the Senhor having occasion for more money applied to other parties and took up in all at Bombay to the amount of 2,041,000 rupees, for which he drew different bills of exchange in favour of the different persons from whom he had received money at Bombay on sundry merchants at Lisbon payable in London at the house of Mayne & Graham, bankers, in Jermyn Street at the rate of two shillings and five pence per rupee.

Mr. Moore had determined to return to Europe and had arranged with Senhor Sampago to take his passage with him on board the ship which he had sold him. His health was then not very good but between that time and the month of July, 1780, it became so much worse that prudence required some provision to be made in case of his death on board of ship before reaching Lisbon.

It had been arranged between him and Senhor Sampago that Mr. William Moore, father-in-law of Mr. Stone, was to have the command of the *Virgin Dove* and he accordingly did command her during a short trip from Bombay down the Malabar Coast and back, but previous to the sailing of the ship to Europe the two brothers had a disagreement which led to the command of the ship being taken from the latter. It was then agreed that Senhor Sampago although totally ignorant of marine affairs should take command and appear both as owner and captain. But inasmuch as in case of a passenger's death the Captain would take charge of his papers and effects unless some arrangement was made to the contrary, and as under this rule Senhor Sampago would, in case of Mr. Moore's death, become possessed of the bill he had himself drawn, and of a mortgage on the ship and cargo granted in case the bills drawn by him should not be accepted or paid, Mr Moore thought it prudent to secure the services of an old acquaintance named Farmer, who was to embark with him in the same ship for Lisbon on his way to England, to represent the interests of his estate in case of his death during the voyage. He did die, and as it would appear before the ship reached the Cape of Good Hope. The Captain was ignorant of sea affairs, the chief officer, a Portuguese, was little better and would have run the ship on rocks the very night before reaching the Cape of Good Hope had not Mr. Farmer perceived that he was wrong and called upon a passenger named William Harcastle, who had been a chief mate on the *Grafton* (Indiaman), and who totally altered the course of the vessel, and the only remaining officer was a young man who would not pretend to undertake navigating the ship. Mr. John Moore had with great trouble formed a crew of Europeans made up of deserters from the Company's vessels, from the garrison at Bombay, and other runaways, who knowing that the ship had formerly belonged to him and that he governed in everything, looked on him as the real commander of the ship. After his death and previous to the arrival of the ship at the Cape they had expressed great dissatisfaction with the treatment they received from Captain Sampago, who had curtailed them in their supply of liquor. Provisions ran short and many threatened if they met with any other ship on the passage to seize the boats and desert. They were quieted by Mr. Farmer and Mr. Harcastle who desired them to exercise patience until their arrival at the Cape when all would go well. Mr. Farmer spoke to Sampago who promised to satisfy them by ample supplies at the Cape. Instead of this he went on shore himself and neglected to send off supplies to the ship. The crew grew mutinous and one or two deserted. Sampago went on board to look into matters and becoming angered he struck one or two of the people. Instantly and in his presence they seized the boats, quitted the ship and divided themselves some on shore and some on board the British fleet then lying at the Cape. The boatswain and one or two indifferent hands were left, but the crew was virtually gone and the ship unable to sail until a new crew should be obtained; and to add to the difficulty of the situation, Mr. Harcastle, who was anxious to reach England as soon as possible, decided to take passage on another ship. Mr. Farmer resolved to take the same course, and would perhaps have done so, had he not reflected on what the consequences might be to the Moore estate (possibly involving a loss to the heirs of above £18,000 Sterling), if he left this ship while in the helpless condition in which it then was.

The causes of risk were various. The principal one was the risk of capture by the French. To avoid this it was material that the ship should be considered to be Portuguese. Already with a view to this the name had been changed from *Virgin Dove* to *Nossa Senhora De Arrabida*, and a pass had been procured from the Governor of Goa. But in some way it had become known at the Cape that the ship had been English and had been bought since the commencement of the war. This was ground enough for the French to seize and detain her, for an edict of the King of France warranted his officers to seize all ships purchased from the English since the war commenced, and had the *Virgin Dove*, otherwise the *Arrabida* been so seized, the matter would have been one of dispute between the Courts of France and Portugal, which might have been long in course of settlement, and meantime the insurers would have declined paying the insurance money on the ground that there being no war between France and Portugal there was not any proper capture but a mere detention of the vessel to be determined by application to the French authorities. At this time Commodore Barber with three English ships of the line and a convoy of twelve Indiamen was returning from India, and unless a crew could be got from them the ship would probably have to remain at the Cape until from among some of the Dutch, Danes or Swedes returning from China to Europe in the following February or March, such crew could be obtained. It was now October and such a long detention meant not only additional risk but also the incurring of great expense in providing for the passengers on the ship, and this expense would have to be met from Mr. Moore's estate, at any rate to some extent, as he had undertaken to convey some, if not all, of these passengers to London. Under these circumstances Mr. Farmer deemed it prudent to secure the services of Mr. Hardcastle as Master, as he was capable of navigating the ship and understood how to procure a crew. Senhor Sampago demurred to being at the expense of paying Mr. Hardcastle, and as a matter of prudence Mr. Farmer deemed it better to pay a portion of it. Mr. Hardcastle was engaged, a crew was obtained, the ship sailed with the English fleet and reached Lisbon in safety. It is quite possible that had this course not been pursued there would have been a heavy loss to the estate of Mr. Moore.

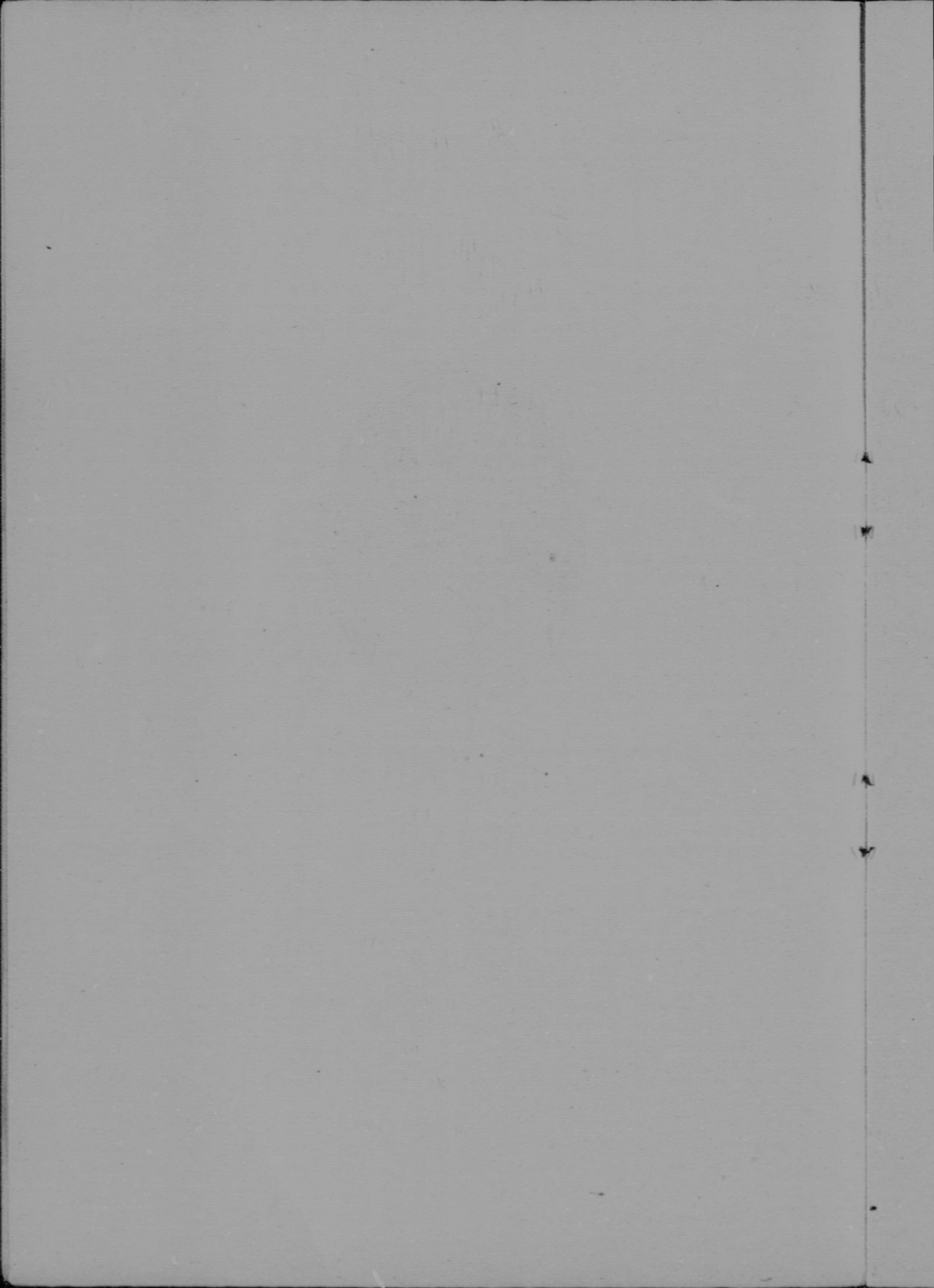
It may be asked why should these particulars be given at such length in a memoir of Joel Stone? The answer is that they are, at this period of over one hundred years after, interesting in themselves as an incident, and that they are intimately connected with one of the matters which caused Mr. Stone to go to England.

He arrived in London on the 23rd day of December, 1783, after a long and tedious passage, during which he was very seasick by turns for eighteen or twenty days. The affairs of the Moore estate were thrown into Chancery by Mr. John Blackburn, one of the executors, and as Mr. Stone had to attend to his wife's interest in it, and had also a claim of his own for losses incurred by his loyal adhesion to the British cause to press upon the Government, his stay in England was probably much longer than he had intended. From the draft of a letter to his wife dated in 1784, we learn that he had private lodgings with Mr. S. Stott, shoe and boot maker, No. 20 Snow Hill, and he informs Mrs. Stone that Mr. and Mrs. Stott present their compliments to her and are often enquiring after her, and



COL. JOEL STONE.

b. in Guilford, Connecticut, Aug. 7, 1749.  
d. in Gananoque, Nov. 20, 1833.



the little boy; they often hear him mentioned; that they have a pretty family of children and appear to be wealthy and he believes he shall lodge there until he leaves London which he seems to have hoped might be soon. Also in the same letter he speaks of coming out to some part of America, and says he hopes to settle with his family, presumably for life, as he has not altered his opinion of England since he left New York, although he enjoys the blessings of health.

From a statement made in one of his papers or letters it would appear that his solicitors were Messrs. King, Empey & Spillan, No. 9 Cloak Lane. It might be of interest to know whether such a firm name still exists, for of course the individuals who then composed it must have long since passed away. His agent was Charles Cook, No. 98 Wardour Street, Soho, and in the same document in which he is mentioned, reference is made to W. Graves, No. 10 Symonds Inn, Chancery Lane, a Master in Chancery and member of the House of Commons; W. Scape, Tooks Court, Carristor (query Cursitor) Street; Brassel and Wm. Herne, No. 41 Paternoster Row; Frederick Pegaw, No. 11 Mark Lane; Mr. Lansom, No. 16 London Street; and Wm. Sandell, No. 28 Princess Street.

During 1784 he took steps to bring before the Commissioners appointed by Parliament, his claims for compensation for losses sustained by him owing to the confiscation of his property, and in a memorial dated 9th July, 1784, he asked for an immediate hearing. At this time he had removed from Snow Hill to a house called the Boot in the Foundling Hospital Fields.

In a letter to his wife dated 15th July, 1784, he congratulates her on her safe delivery on the 9th April of a fine boy and repeats his most anxious wishes and endeavours for her health and happiness, and refers to a small trunk containing presents which he is sending to her. From a list subjoined it would appear that of these presents a fan and a pair of shoes are the gift of Miss Louisa Moore, and that he is sending 28 yards of Calico at five shillings the yard, a table cloth, 6 pocket handkerchiefs, 1 India silk handkerchief, 1 pair of shoe buckles, a miniature, and some other articles to his wife, a pair of plated shoe buckles to his elder son, and a coral for the baby boy. He tells her that he presents the miniature picture wishing it fully to supply the place of a ring she unfortunately has lost. It may be remarked that this miniature is still in existence and in the possession of his grandson's widow, herself a lady well on in years, and that from it has been obtained a photograph of wonderful distinctness and clearness (and now reproduced in connection with this article).

At length on the 24th August, 1784, he had a hearing before the Commissioners, and appears to have entertained the idea that he could after that get away to America, for in a letter to his father-in-law, dated 5th September, 1784, he says: "I had my hearing before the Commissioners 24th and 25th August, I had proposed to take my passage in the *Skinner*, Capt. Cummins, to New York, but believe she will sail before I can hear from you, which I wish if possible to do, and to effect some plan for future provision for myself and dear family before I go, which with the assistance of my wife's property hope I shall be able to do." But there seems to have been in the matter of his wife's legacy the proverbial delay in Chancery proceedings, for from a letter written at the New York Coffee House, London, on the

2nd August, 1786 (nearly two years after the date of the letter last named), and addressed to John Blackburn, he speaks of a final settlement having been prevented owing to some mistake which he says he trusts will be rectified during the next term, and announces his expectation of going on board the *Providence* packet then at Gravesend, and bound for Quebec that day with a view of settling himself in that country (presumably meaning Canada).

Previous to this, and in the month of April, 1786, he had been introduced to William Smith, late Chief Justice of New York, and who was going out with Sir Guy Carleton as Chief Justice of Canada, and that gentleman most kindly proposed that Mrs. Stone should join Mrs. Smith, and under her care, and that of Mr. Livingston who was accompanying her, go to Canada where her husband hoped to meet her. This offer Mr. Stone most gratefully accepted.

In a letter to his wife dated the 1st August, 1786, he informs her that he is to go on board the *Providence*, Captain Lithbee, the next day bound for Quebec and Montreal, and that all his effects and clothes are on board, well insured. He informs her of the delay in the Chancery proceedings and refers to her proceeding to Canada at the time Mr. Smith's family go. It is probable that Mrs. Stone went with Mrs. Smith when that lady journeyed to join her husband. As before stated, Mr. Smith was going out to Canada as Chief Justice. In M. M. Bagg's work entitled "*The Pioneers of Utica*" (at page 650), it is said of him that he adhered to the Crown during the War of Independence, and was afterwards Chief Justice of the Province of Quebec, in the City of which name he died in the latter part of the year 1793.

Before we pass from that part of Mr. Stone's memoir which refers to his visit to England, it may be well to mention in connection with the matter of his claim before the commissioners, that under date of 31st January, 1788, he writes that in the previous October he had received a letter from his agent in London informing him that he was permanently provided for as a military pensioner with the rank of Captain at £40 per annum from the 24th June, 1786.

We presume that he went on board the *Providence* (packet) at Gravesend on the 2nd August, 1786, according to his intentions, and sailed for Quebec, for in a letter or memorial to Governor Wentworth dated at Quebec, 27th October, 1786, he says: "I arrived here the 6th inst. from London, where I have been since the evacuation of New York." What induced Mr. Stone to come to Quebec instead of going to Nova Scotia as he appears at one time to have contemplated, we do not know. It would appear that he was acquainted with some parties who had settled in the latter Province (which, until 1784, included what is now New Brunswick), for we find two letters written to him, apparently with a view of furnishing him with information as to the country. Of these one is from J. Tomlinson, Jr., written from Camp Managonish, River St. John, Nova Scotia, and dated August 18th, 1783, while the other is from Anthony Reece, written from Carleton, St. John, and dated July 25th, 1784.

CAMP MANAGONISH, RIVER ST. JOHN,  
NOVA SCOTIA, Aug. 18, 1783.

"Dear Sir: I thank you for your letter of the 27th of July, which I received the 10th instant. The one you mention to have wrote before has not come to hand. I am happy to learn the welfare of you and yours, and much obliged by your kind wishes for mine. So Mrs. Stone is gone to Connecticut to see her new relations. Why did not you attend her and introduce her yourself? Show her that country and all those fine prospects you were obliged to abandon. What less than your fear of further persecution and abuse from the hands of your cruel and relentless countrymen could have prevented you. Nothing I am sure. I have recently heard the cursed spirit of persecution still prevailed. Oh discord! discord! how long wilt thou continue to distract with thy baneful and sooty influence the unworthy descendants of Britain to the utter extinction of all the noble virtues, of justice, and humanity. It is not enough that the din of war should summon up the resentments and clarion forth the fury of man, but must the golden winged messenger of peace be insulted also with the most untimely and revengeful persecution? Surely you will not regret, my friend, but rather rejoice at the prospect of taking leave of an ungrateful country which experience has taught us has long been in a state of total anarchy and void of every principle of justice. Here is an asylum of freedom and safety not only for you, but for all our loyal American friends, and well worthy their acceptance; and were the prospects here a thousand times less than they are, who among the noble sons of honest loyalty would not sooner accept them, than deign to ask or condescend to receive protection (longer than entitled to demand it from the treaty of peace to settle and adjust their affairs), from the hands of men who have so cruelly and unjustly robbed them of their just rights and drove them from all their connexions? I presume no one will ever have cause to envy the boasted freedom of the American States with all their ill-gotten possessions. I am willing for my part they should enjoy that portion of happiness allotted them without becoming a sharer in any part with them, trusting rather to that experienced happy government under which I was born, and have enjoyed with my fellow subjects in general so many unrivalled blessings.

"You ask me to inform you particulars of this country; what part of it will be best for business, etc. I am too little acquainted with the province in general to give particular descriptions of it. I have not been on the east side of the Bay of Fundy, and the most I have seen of the country on this side lies on the River St. John. This river is beautiful and affords a good navigation from 50 to 100 miles up. The country around is extremely pleasant and fertile, and I have no doubt will soon be a well settled part of this province. Accounts from the east side of the bay, which no doubt you have seen as well as I, speak highly of the harbours, soil and advantages there. Indeed everybody, whether from ignorance or an unaccountable attachment to the particular part of the country they happen to have a prospect of settling on (no matter what), conclude themselves more lucky than their neighbours at 50 miles distant from them—a proof of the propriety of the old proverb—every one thinks his own geese swans. Where trade will be best I cannot pretend to say at present. I have no doubt there will be a great run of business at several different



ports in this province in a very short time. As I am determined to settle on the River St. John no doubt my wish is it may become the most flourishing part of this country. If I did not think it the best I should not have resolved to have settled on it. (Apply the proverb and welcome.)

I presume, as you ask my information of this country at this period, you can have no idea of leaving New York this year, conscious that you must have in mind that a few weeks (at least) are necessary in this new world to make provision for a cold winter which will soon stagger upon us, and I tremble lest too many of our friends should be overtaken while they are unprovided with necessary shelter. Although everything is pushed forward here with an emulating spirit of industry, everything cannot be accomplished which perhaps will be necessary.

"To convince you we are not deprived of society or all its gay amusements, I must tell you that three evenings ago we had a most agreeable ball at this place. Our music appeared to have the same influence which it used to inspire in our native walk, and the lady appeared as gaily decorated. Why should we attribute as misfortune to leave New York or Connecticut for Nova Scotia or any other country, while we still enjoy and carry along with us the only valuable blessing of life, the society of our friends, the necessary comforts of life, and the blessings of a happy government. For my part I conceive no difference (so the climate is healthy and my friends are with me), whether I were to live in the Antipodes or where I am,

I am, sir,

Your obedient and humble servant,

(Signed) J. TOMLINSON, JR.

"P.S.—My respects to Mrs. Stone and other friends be pleased to communicate.

"Captain Stone:"

"CARLETON, ST. JOHN, July 25, 1784.

"Dear Sir: Your kind letter dated March 19th I received, which gave me great pleasure in hearing of my friend Stone's health, which blessing I hope kind heaven may bestow on you until your hopes and cares are ended. Our little family are well, and as for my boy he is the admiration of the whole place, for a finer child I never beheld, not that it is mine, but because everybody says so. But here I must stop, and according to your wish inform you of St. John. The situation is formed somewhat like New York, for on the east and west side is formed two large towns, that on the eastern side much larger than that on the western side. The town on the east side goes by the name of Parr Town. The amount of buildings is 1,500 and daily increasing. That on the west side by the name of Carleton; the amount of buildings is 370 houses, and are also increasing daily, and these towns are all built since my arrival at the place. The beauty of their situations you can form no idea of, nor is it possible for me to describe it to you. But I hope in a short time that I shall have the pleasure of seeing you in our flourishing town where you will be a better judge of the place.

"The land up the River St. John, in general, is equal to any that ever I saw in all my travels, and the navigation very good for upwards of 85 miles, except just at the entrance of the river a small fall where you cannot go through only once on the flood tide, but after you get through, it is nothing to proceed, as there is no tide after you get 15 miles through the falls. Commerce is just beginning to flourish, as everybody is striving to do something. But upon the whole, in my weak judgment of the place, St. John will be the capital of Nova Scotia, as there is a large back country to support the towns, which in time must make the place rich. And as for fish, in the spring the place abounds with cod, salmon, herring and other fish we catch until July, and then there is no more fish in the harbour that season. So now I have told you as much of St. John as I well know. This will come by a mast ship which makes 19 since last summer. My dear friend, I must beg that you will not neglect writing often to me, for a few lines from you will always be acceptable to your old friend, and you may depend upon hearing from me often. I have now to wish you joy of the birth of your second son, which I heard you have got, and may God prosper you and their healths, together with your dear consort's; that you may all be a blessing to each other, is the sincere wish of, dear sir,

"Your friend and well wisher,

"(Signed) ANTHONY REECE.

"P.S.--Mrs. Reece's kind compliments to you, and she says she hopes if you come to Nova Scotia that St. John will be the place you pitch upon, as she likes to be with her old friends and acquaintances. Nancy wishes you well. She is married to Mr. Cox, and lives 85 miles up the river. Adieu; God bless you.

"(Signed) A. REECE.

Mr. Joel Stone."

We do not know the extent of Mr. Stone's investigations before he decided upon a place of settlement, but in a memorial dated at Quebec, 14th February, 1787, and addressed to Brig.-General Hope, Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec, etc., etc., in Council, he states that he wishes now to fix himself and family in New Johnstown Township No. 2, and asks that an order be granted him to take up and possess the same quantity of his Majesty's ungranted lands as are usually given to the Captains in His Majesty's established regiments, together with the usual quantity of such lands to his wife, Leah, and son William M. Stone, and also for an order for three of His Majesty's batteaux, well manned, to assist in carrying his effects from Montreal to the said Township as soon as the ensuing spring should open. In a letter to General Hope, written in the same month of February, he applies, in addition to an order for the land, for such utensils and provisions as are necessary to effect his settlement at the said Township. He does not appear to have awaited the opening of navigation for from a letter written to his brother-in-law, Lewis Moore, and dated 3d April, 1787, we learn that he arrived at New Johnstown with his family on the 16th March, 1787, in good health.

New Johnstown, now Cornwall, in the County of Stormont, appears to have taken its name either from Sir John Johnson or from Johnstown in the State of New York. In a very old map dated the 1st November, 1786, designated "A plan of part of the new settlements on the north bank of the south-west branch of the St. Lawrence River, commencing near Point au Bodett or Lake St. Francis and extending westerly along the said north bank to the west boundary of Township No. 5 laid down from the latest surveys and observations by Patrick McNiff," and which is said to belong to the Sir John Johnson papers, and to be in the possession of D. B. MacLennan, Esq., Barrister, of Cornwall, the present site of the Town of Cornwall, or of a portion of it, is laid down as Johnstown. It appears to lie between Township lot 6 on the east and 13 on the west, and shows two points named respectively Pt. Mallim and L. Pt. Maliver. At the west side of the Town plot, Patrick McNiff seems to have owned land, and it is believed this now forms a portion of the estate of the late William Mattici.

From the historical atlas of the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, published by H. Belden & Co., (1879), we learn that at the close of the Revolutionary War, Sir John Johnson's regiment, about 800 strong, was at Isle Aux Noix, a fortified post at the northern extremity of Lake Champlain. The men having determined to settle in Canada, surveyors were sent up the St. Lawrence to survey townships along the river in the present Counties of Stormont and Dundas. The wives and families of the soldiers came from the Mohawk Valley to Whitehall where they were met and conveyed in boats to Isle Aux Noix late in the fall of 1783. After spending the winter in barracks they ascended the St. Lawrence in the summer of 1784 in batteaux and arrived at the present site of Cornwall, where they found a settlement recently formed of loyalists who had rendezvoused at the Isle of Jesus some time before, making their way to their new home in the woods. At Cornwall the loyalists had their farms allotted to them on the lottery principle, i.e., each one would draw from a hat or box a slip of paper on which was marked the number of a lot, and of the lot so drawn he became the owner. Each soldier received a grant of one hundred acres fronting on the river, and two hundred acres at a point within the County in which he located, removed from the stream.

In a letter to his father written from Montreal and dated 3d September, 1787, Joel Stone speaks of the tenure under which land shall be held. He says he had been led to believe before he left London that it would be upon a free socage, but found upon his arrival in Canada that this mode of tenure was powerfully opposed by a majority in the Council, and doubted whether that principal point could be obtained, and says: "at least I consider it a very principal point, having the strongest antipathy against the French tenure of holding lands under seignior, by which tenure every man is in reality a tenant to his seignior or lord." (More than half a century after these words were written by Mr. Stone the seigniorial tenure in Canada was abolished.) In the same letter he says that every man who can prove himself friendly to the king and Constitution of Great Britain, during the late rebellion, will be able to obtain a grant of at least 100 acres to a single man, 200 acres to each master of a family, 50 acres for his wife and each child, and that much larger quantities are granted to those "who

have supported rank or any superior character in life." He further says that as some of his friends and former acquaintances may wish to come to settle from the reports and favourable description he must give, he thought it his duty to endeavour fully to satisfy himself in those principal points before he wrote, and being satisfied, he will briefly assure them he never saw "so valuable a country of land, taking so large a tract together" as is now given away by the king to such persons as before mentioned.

In the same letter he says that he has fixed himself in a Town called Cornwall about 70 miles from Montreal up the river, which place was lately called New Johnstown, and has purchased some land and is endeavouring to complete a dwelling and still house which he is building there, and that he has or is to draw at least eight hundred or a thousand acres of land from Government.

Judging from what he says about having purchased land, and from the contents of a draft letter dated 25th April, 1787, it is more than probable that when Joel Stone arrived at New Johnstown, or Cornwall, all the farm lots had been located.

In the last mentioned letter he says that not having been able to find any lands unlocated nearer, he has laid out and located 500 acres on the River Gananoque, agreeable to a survey to which he refers, but also wishes to take possession of a six-acre lot No. 24 in Township No. 3, which was drawn by Michael and Jacob Dinyer, and which had become vacant by their absenting themselves to settle in Schoharie in the United States, without having made improvements. He appears to have been anxious that his survey of the land at the River Gananoque should not be shown until it was assured that he could by that means secure it.

At one stage of his dealings with, or application for, the Gananoque property, he appears to have been associated with Mr. Daniel Jones, who was, like himself, a United Empire Loyalist, and who previous to leaving the United States, or the country since and now known as such, had resided, at any rate occasionally, at Glens Falls in the State of New York, and owned a part of the great water power there. He was one of a family of Welsh descent and composed of seven brothers and one sister. The latter married an English officer and removed to England. Of the brothers, Jonathan Jones was the eldest. His occupation was that of a millwright, but he became a captain of engineers in the British service, and appears after the close of the Revolutionary War to have removed to Halifax, and to have received half pay during his life. John Jones, the second son, lived for a time near Fort Edward, and was subsequently a captain in the British service, and received half pay until his decease. Thomas Jones was also a captain in the same service and was killed near Oswego during the war. Dunham Jones died previously to the commencement of the Revolution.

Solomon Jones acted as an assistant surgeon in the British army, and after the peace settled in Canada, in the vicinity of what is now the Town of Prescott, and died at the age of sixty-five years. David Jones was a lieutenant in the King's service. He was betrothed to Jane McCrea, who was killed under the most painful circumstances on the 27th July, 1777, at or near Fort Edward. The engagement had been made before the commencement of the Revolutionary War, and supposing that the struggle

would not be a lengthy one the lovers concluded to defer their marriage until it was over. But it soon appearing that the war would probably be of long continuance, it was arranged that Lieutenant Jones and Miss McCrea should meet at a house situate between the camps of the two armies, and not far from Fort Edward, and there be united in marriage by a clergyman. In pursuance of this arrangement Miss McCrea left her residence and proceeded alone in the direction of the appointed place of meeting. Scouting parties of the Indians being frequently out, it was feared by Mr. Jones that she might be intercepted by some of these, and thus become alarmed if not injured, and his solicitude for her safety was so great that he procured the services of an intelligent chief in whom he had confidence to keep watch over her, at such a distance as not to create alarm in her mind, and yet near enough to render her assistance in case of need. It so happened that she was discovered by one of the Indian scouting parties who made her a prisoner, but without any intention of doing her personal injury. The friendly chief approached the party for the purpose of affording her protection. A dispute arose amongst the captors as to which of them should have the honour of taking Miss McCrea into the British camp as a prisoner, and an Indian then recently from the North-West in order to settle the quarrel and to gratify his own savage propensity, drew his tomahawk and killed her before the friendly chief could interfere for her protection. He appears also to have taken off her scalp. The tragic and melancholy occurrence created a strong sensation in the British camp, and cast a gloom over the mind of her lover from which he never recovered; and in fact he was never known by the members of his family to smile afterward. After peace was concluded in 1783, he settled not far from Prescott, and lived with his brother Solomon above-mentioned until his death, which occurred suddenly, as was supposed from his having been overheated, but quite possibly from an affection of the heart.\*

Of the seven Jones brothers, Daniel appears, with the exception of Dunham, to have been the only one who did not enter the King's service. But this did not secure him from persecution at the hands of the Revolutionary party. He had purchased a large tract of land in the Township of Kingsbury, and having gone down the Hudson River to make payment of a sum of money for part of this land, it was reported by persons hostile to him that he had gone to hold communication with the enemy. He sought safety in flight, and his personal property, which was large, was taken and converted to the use of the American service, and his real estate was subsequently confiscated by the State of New York. He came to Canada and eventually settled in Elizabethtown and within the limits of the present Town of Brockville, where he died in 1820. He had several daughters, and two sons, named respectively David and Daniel, who entered the profession of the law. Daniel was knighted at St. James Palace, London, in 1836, by King William the Fourth, and died soon after. David was for many years Registrar of the County of Leeds and died at his residence in Brockville in June, 1870.

By an instrument dated the 20th April, 1787, signed by Messrs. Jones and Stone, it is stated that they have been viewing and locating lands on the River Gananoque jointly, and have agreed that whatever advantages

\*See also Ontario Historical Society. "Papers and Records." Vol. XII. p. 29.

might thereafter arise from the mill places on the said river should be held jointly between them, whether the said mill places might be obtained by the said location of one or the other or both of them. Mr. Stone appears to have forwarded Mr. Jones' application to a Mr. Delaney for recommendation by him, and after that had been obtained, the papers, surveys and letters were to be forwarded to Mr. Isaac Ogden of Quebec to make the application. But a rival applicant appeared in the person of Sir John Johnson, and there appears to have been some delay and also considerable danger that Sir John would carry the day. In a letter from Mr. Stone to Mr. Jones dated at Cornwall, 31st January, 1789, he says he has received a letter from Mr. Ogden, his agent in Quebec, who informs him that Sir John Johnson is determined to have the land they have surveyed at Gananoque, and that Mr. Ogden is apprehensive it will not be in his power to secure it to them. Mr. Stone says that in consequence he will set out the next morning for Quebec, and is determined to prosecute the business, and, in case he is "cast there," is determined still to seek for justice in England. He begs Mr. Jones to write to him at Quebec and let him know what he determines upon, and should he wish to join him in the prosecution he will need to send him more money. That he himself will begin the prosecution with ten guineas, and provided Mr. Jones puts in that sum and from time to time supplies him with cash to the amount of one-half of the expenses that may accrue, he will prosecute the business for their joint benefit, otherwise for himself only, and he asks to be informed of Mr. Jones' decision with all possible speed. It would appear that the latter gentleman for some reason withdrew from the negotiation or application, and we believe that the rival claims to the Gananoque property and water power including much of the present flourishing Town of Gananoque, were settled by a division between the claimants, Mr. Stone obtaining the west side of the river and Sir John Johnson the east, the boundaries running to the centre of the stream.

In a letter dated at Cornwall on the 29th March, 1789, and addressed to Mr. John Wilson, tinman, Montreal, Mr. Stone says the appearance of want in that quarter is every day more alarming, in consequence of which he encloses an order in his favor for £5 Halifax currency drawn by Mr. James Lynch on Messrs. Elliot & Forsyth, merchants of Montreal, and wishes Mr. Wilson to purchase for him four barrels of flour, two barrels of pork, and one-half cwt. of rice, but before doing so to call upon Col. Rankin with his best respects to himself and family, and learn of him if he has purchased any provisions for him, and if so to let that be in part of what he is to purchase for him, and to pay him for the same, and also to pay Captain Brennan five dollars due to him. He leaves the matter of price to Mr. Wilson's discretion, and says if he has an opportunity so that he can possibly send him any part thereof, particularly one barrel of flour, before the ice is out, he will oblige him. He also desires him to retain the remaining part of the money until further orders, but in a postscript asks him to pay 40/ or £3 to Mr. Finley Fisher, the school master, for his little boy's schooling, etc.

In the year 1791 Mr. Stone visited Connecticut and took with him his two children, William and Mary, whom he placed at school in Hartford. His wife Leah appears to have died subsequently to April, 1791, and (as is supposed) in 1793.

In 1800, 1801, or 1802 he appears still to have owned property in Cornwall, and to have been corresponding with one Dr. James Johnson in reference to it.

In or about 1792 or 1793, Mr. Stone appears to have settled in Gananoque. In a letter dated at that place on the 2d February, 1793, in that year, and addressed to His Excellency, Governor Simcoe, he says: "Permit me to inform your Excellency that I recovered my health sometime in November last from a fever I took at the head of Lake Ontario last July, since which I am commissioned to build a schooner of 40 tons burthen on my premises here. She is to sail out of this river and is to be called the *Leeds Trader*, and I expect will sail by the first of July next.

"I have erected a log hut for the convenience of the workmen, and hope in the course of this year to build for my own convenience, and stores for the public, and by that means to have it in my power to make some acknowledgment for the civility I have received, and the obligations I feel myself under to your Excellency."

According to a statement said to have been made in 1854 by one Mrs. Charlotte Jameson, then the oldest inhabitant of Gananoque, Joel Stone was the first white person who ever resided on the peninsula on the west side of the Gananoque River. He was landed from a French batteau and left alone. He raised a white handkerchief on a pole and a man living on an island saw it and sent off two Indians in a canoe to relieve the distressed traveller. They took him over to the island where a Frenchman named Cary, an uncle of Mrs. Jameson, lived alone in a hut. Eventually Mr. Stone and Cary removed to the mainland and the latter kept a house of public entertainment. The only mode of conveyance for travellers was by open boat, and the only bread to be obtained was hard biscuits. For Mr. Stone and for travellers they kept a kind called King's Biscuit, while for others they provided navy biscuit. They kept two cows and exchanged the milk with the batteau men for biscuit, and exchanged the latter again with the Indians for fish, venison, game, and wild fruit. Cary had been formerly a waiter and knew how to cook for and wait upon gentlemen, so that they were tolerably comfortable. One day when they were all absent, the building and all Mr. Stone's effects were burned, and this was the means of breaking up their family arrangements, as Cary took a farm two miles above Gananoque at Jameson's or Sheriff's Point, and lived there with his sister Mrs. Sheriff and his little girl, afterward Mrs. Jameson.

After having been five or six years a widower, Mr. Stone in 1798 made a proposal of marriage to a widow lady named Abigail Dayton, then residing in the Township of Burford in Upper Canada, but who had previously resided at or near New Milford, Connecticut. Her maiden name was Abigail Cogswell, and according to Leavitt's History of Leeds and Grenville, page 126, she was born at Preston, Connecticut, 13th August, 1750. Of her "foremothers" there are preserved the names of Judy Perkins, Hannah Brown, and Sarah Cogswell. A napkin made (woven) by Judy Perkins with her name on it, and now over two hundred years old, is still in existence and in the possession of a great granddaughter of Abigail Cogswell.

Abigail was a daughter of John Cogswell, who in an early day went to Wyoming, on the Susquehanna River, where he purchased a tract of

land for which he paid and returned home. Not long after he heard of the rapid settling of North Carolina and "made an adventure" to that part of America and there died. In course of time the news of his death reached his family, and his son, a young man, set out to take possession of the land at or on which his father died. He was accompanied by a friend (a kinsman) and a faithful dog. Time passed on and in the course of a few months the family were joyfully surprised to see their old friend "Lion," the dog, enter the house one summer day just as evening was closing in. They all rushed out expecting to see Lion's master or that he would shortly appear, but alas! he was never more to return, and in far off North Carolina the father and son slept side by side.

A few days after the kinsman who had accompanied young Coggswell returned and related that the poor dog was missed immediately after his master's funeral. Thus it was evident that he had started alone for home, and had successfully accomplished his journey, during which he had had to traverse hundreds of miles. This was in or about the year 1754, when Abigail was only about four years of age. She was brought up in the care of a pious and exemplary grandmother, who trained and disciplined her young mind. At an early age she was impressed with a sense of religious things, but subsequently lost much of those impressions, until some years after her marriage it pleased God effectually to awaken her, and she was subsequently instrumental, under God, in bringing both her first and second husbands to Christ.

Miss Coggswell was married on the 8th April, 1770, to her first husband, Abraham Dayton, whose grandfather and father were also respectively named Abraham. The father married one Abia Bansley by whom he had several children. He was an officer in the British service and as such was upon the Plains of Abraham, near Quebec, under command of General Wolfe.

It would appear from his writings that Abraham Dayton, the husband of Abigail Coggswell, was one of the Society of Friends commonly called Quakers. He is said to have remained loyal to the King during the Revolutionary War. On the thirteenth day of the seventh month (13th July), 1787, and some years after the close of the war, he left New Milford, Connecticut, and set out to explore the western country to fix a settlement for the Friends. He first went to see Peter Miller's land at the head of the Juniata, then crossed the Alleghany near Fort Pitt, but finding no satisfaction returned and arrived at New Milford the eighth day of the ninth month (8th September). In 1788 he appears to have journeyed to Suffield and Granville, and at some time to Harpersfield, and Hudson. He settled at or near Cayuga Lake, and built mills, but subsequently finding things uncomfortable resolved to settle in the King's dominions and removed to Canada, as is supposed between 1790 and 1795 and settled in the Township of Burford, on the Grand River. It is said he was promised by Governor Simcoe a tract of land if he would bring a certain number of settlers to that part of the province. How far this was carried out is not known, but he appears not to have survived long after his settling in Burford, and to have died of consumption. Some little time previous to his death, two men named Fairchild—father and son—(one of whom was a Baptist preacher) happened to come to Mr. Dayton's house. They owned a mill about twenty-five miles away toward Lake Erie. Mrs. Dayton went



outside the house to speak with them and asked them to saw four cherry boards for her and put them to season. (These were intended for Mr. Dayton's coffin.) When she re-entered the house her husband asked her what she had been saying to them and she told him. He said he ought to have thought of it himself. After his death two men were sent on horseback to get the boards and brought them, holding one under each arm, and John Eaton, a carpenter, made the coffin.

Shortly before his death, Mr. Dayton said to her "you have been a mother—a wife—a sister—and a friend." She supported him in her arms when he died and folded his arms and closed his eyes. It would appear from an entry in his family bible that he departed this life on 1st March, 1797, at Burford, he being then in the 52d year of his age.

A brother of Mr. Abraham Dayton named Nathan had settled at Gananoque, and in all probability it was from him or some member of his family that Mr. Stone learned of the death of Abraham. He waited until a year and a day had elapsed after that event, and then made an offer of marriage to the widow. The letters which passed between them both before and after marriage, or some of them, have been preserved, and may well form a part of Mr. Stone's memoir; and they are therefore published (not as exact copies in every respect, but virtually so, to all intents and purposes).

LEEDS NEAR KINGSTON,

30th March, 1798.

Madam:

I hope you will have the goodness to excuse this abrupt address to you—and suffer me to assure you that I am actuated by honorable and sincere motives in this proposition of M.— to you, and that from the knowledge I have of your character and situation since you resided in New Milford, I have to beg you will inform me, and in case you are not engaged I shall presume to wait on you in person for the purposes here hinted.

When you resided in New Milford I resided in Judea, a parish of Woodbury and had the pleasure to supply Mr. Dayton with many articles of goods, etc., etc., etc.

I saw Mr. Nathan Dayton and his family a few days past. They are all well and desire to be remembered kindly to you. I have consulted Mr. and Mrs. Dayton on the subject of this letter. They have recommended the proposal and say they hope it may meet your approbation, and have desired me to make use of their names.

I am sincerely,

Your very humble servant,

(Signed) JOEL STONE.

Mrs. Abigail Dayton.

LEEDS AT THE RIVER CADANOGHQUA,

NEAR KINGSTON, 13th April, 1798.

Madam:

Will you have the goodness to excuse whatever may appear impetuous in this second address to you, before I have had time to receive an answer to the first.

I have lived a widower five or six years past and am now determined to marry—provided I can find a person whose age, character, inclinations, etc., promise to add happiness to both. You are the person I have fixed my hopes upon—and pray Madam be kind enough candidly to inform me if you are married or engaged to marry. If not I shall take the liberty to come in person to see you and endeavor to convince you that our lives may be more happy together during the remainder of our time in this transitory world. And be assured that you are the first and only person I have ever (directly or indirectly) made any proposals of this nature to since I have been a widower.

I have two children—one a boy about 17 years (he is with me); the other a girl living with my sister in Connecticut.

I am most sincerely,

Your obedient humble servant,

(Signed) JOEL STONE.

Mrs. Abigail Dayton.

BURFORD, May the 28th, 1798.

Sir:

I received your letter the 22d of this instant, which causes me to write to you to let you know that I am not engaged to anyone, and I know not what to say for I have almost concluded in my own mind not to change my condition, for the world appears to be in a great tumult, and I am now free from any engagement to anyone, therefore I have no one to please but myself. I lost a tender companion, which I do not forget. There is no one that knows the loss of a kind friend but those that experience it. Therefore if you think it proper to form any further acquaintance on the subject by the lines which I have wrote to you, act your own pleasure, etc., etc.

Please to give my kind love to brother Nathan and his family. Tell them that brother Reuben lives with me and is like to be a cripple all his days. My daughter is well. I desire them to write to me the first opportunity.

So I subscribe myself a friend to all sincere, true hearted, and upright souls.

(Signed) ABIGAIL DAYTON

Mr. Joel Stone.

BURFORD, the 15th of June, 1798.

Sir:

I received your letter of the 30th of last March the 20th of May last, which causes me to write to you to let you know my present situation.

I am unfortunately left without a companion in the world and the loss of a kind friend is not easily to be erased out of my mind. I understand you are in the same situation for which I think you can sympathize with me.

I would further inform you that I have received another letter from you the tenth of this instant, and by examining the contents of your applications I have thought it most expedient to answer you on the subject of so weighty and important consequence. I would inform you that at the present I am not engaged to any person and had almost concluded never to change my present situation, but after solemnly contemplating upon the subject I would inform you that if you have a mind to pay me a visit the fore part of this fall I have not any just objection to make, so you can act your pleasure about it. As I have had some acquaintance with you formerly, I have not so much occasion to take up so much time in consideration before I can give an answer.

Please to remember me to my brother Nathan and family. Tell them that at the present we are all well and I am very desirous to see them.

So I have the honour to subscribe myself your, etc.,

(Signed) ABIGAIL DAYTON.

To Mr. Joel Stone, Esq.,  
Leeds, near Kingston.

LEEDS, 25th September, 1798.

Madam:

I duly received your very judicious answer to my two former letters dated at Burford, 15th June last, and assure you I am much disappointed to find myself in duty bound to write again, as I fully expected to have seen you in person before this time. I must inform you that I have been very ill with the Lake fever. Since I received your favor, on finding myself recovering I was fortunate enough to engage a man worthy of the trust to take charge of my raft to Montreal, in order that I might still cross the Lake this season. The person who was to take charge of my raft is now taken very ill, and I am obliged to go to Montreal (as the proceeding of my raft is indispensable).

It is now uncertain whether I shall be able to return soon enough to cross the Lake this season. Provided I can possibly return soon enough you may depend on seeing me this season. If not I shall endeavor to proceed in the winter—but Madam, I cannot wish that my promises and disappointments should stand in the way, provided you should have a good offer from another. I only trust in your good sense, that you will not accept a very crooked stick—until I can have the pleasure to see you.

Your brother Nathan and family are well, and Nathan says he intends to see you this season himself if possible.

I am, Madam, yours sincerely,

(Signed) JOEL STONE.

Mrs. Abigail Dayton.

KINGSTON, 23d May, 1799.

Dear Madam:

I this day arrived in Kingston and have barely time (before the vessel sails) to inform you that it is totally out of my power to be gone from home until the latter end of June next. I did expect the pleasure to receive a line from you, in answer to my letter to you dated the fore part of February last, which I sent in charge of a Mr. Kilborn to be delivered with his own hand.

I am, very sincerely,

(Signed) JOEL STONE.

To the Widow Abigail Dayton.

The exact date of their marriage is not known, but it must have taken place between the date of the letter last above contained and the early part of September in the same year, for in a letter dated at Kingston, 5th September, 1799, and addressed to her as Mrs. Abigail Stone, at River Cadanoughqua, (which must be the same as Ganarioque) he says:

My Dear:

I forgot to inform you that Mr. Reuben Sherwood, Surveyor, agreed to survey the land whereon I live, at my request and to be at my house for that purpose on this day. I beg you will order Alexander McDonald and endeavor to get one hand more—Rosback, Gray, Loyd or one of Landon's boys, and Billy to assist him, as he will want three men with him. Roach and Sheriff will work at the chimney, but in case you cannot furnish Mr. Sherwood with three hands otherwise, Roach must go with him, and let the plowing be until I return.

I am your affectionate,

(Signed) JOEL STONE.

Mr. Stone appears to have been engaged in both milling and mercantile business, and also to have engaged in farming, and his wife appears to have been to him a true help-mate. Under date of 7th August, 1800, he writes to her from Montreal:

My Dear:

I expect this will be delivered to you by Mr. Marcus Hulings. He will leave a bill of boards and plank with you such as he will want next spring. I wish him and his father to be attended to if convenience will permit.

I gained health fast for several days past until this time, am not so well. I drank a pint of beer yesterday for the first time since I was in Town. The consequence is I have had an unpleasant night and day, but am getting somewhat easier. Mr. John Gray, Merchant, has returned from Upper Canada. He says that you had recovered your health in some measure, that he did not call on you, but that he was at the red house and in the mill on his way down. God be pleased that your health may be restored, my dear, I hope may be the case.

I yesterday sold four cribs of my boards and I hope soon to sell the whole, but at a very low rate indeed. But boards are not falling now—they are rather gaining, and my health will not as yet permit me to travel. But I hope that may be the case soon, and that I may be able also to settle my business. Also tell Billy to procure timothy seed and clover seed if possible and let that field be well stocked down to grass, whatever is or is not put into it, and tell him to apply to Mr. Nathan Dayton for seed wheat, and let it be well and effectually harrowed, and sowed with wheat and grass seed—all that is not or cannot be sowed with turnips and timothy.

Tell Bean and Holsted by all means to push the mill, cut all the boards and plank they possibly can, and remember that after a storm comes a calm. Let us not fail to be prepared with dishes, when it may rain.

I am, my dear,

Your most affectionate,

(Signed) JOEL STONE.

And under date 6th July, 1801, he also writes to her from Montreal:

My Dear:

I received your letter dated the next day after I left home, 17th June, about three days past, by mere accident. I mark well the contents thereof, approve of what you have done, and must, with pleasure, submit to your own wisdom to do as you think best until I can get home, which I do not intend shall be long; but I have not yet been able to deliver any of my boards and plank. Andrew, William and David will set off to-morrow morning with the boat loaded with the following packages and articles agreeable to the enclosed bills:

One large cask wine, two large trunks, one small trunk, the box or chest, two barrels, two kegs (one best Madeira wine, one cider vinegar), one cask nails, two small bales, one shovel, one spade. Enclosed I send you four keys, one to each of the trunks, and one to the chest. Please to be careful in unpacking the pork barrel. It has a bottle of castor oil and a phial of pikery roped up in the blankets.

In the barrels and in your chest you will find a number of the articles we had on board the raft, two or three axes, etc., and you will find tobacco and snuff (viz.), two lbs. snuff only; also Bohea tea in one of the casks, and Hyson tea in one of the large trunks. The Bohea tea is 6/ per lb. in case you sell any, and the tobacco 3/. Please to put the tobacco in some moist place. The other articles I have marked the price to sell at in the bills in my own hand writing. I need not caution you to sell for cash only, except where we owe and to pay for what we must buy. The large cask of wine may be very good to drink as wine and water, and you may sell it at 5/ per gallon if you can, but I bought it with a view of making vinegar only. I gave 1/0 per gallon for it. The articles in the large trunk where the Hyson tea is are not marked, nor is the bill sent. You will find Turlington's drops in the trunk where the Hyson tea is, which you may sell at 5/ per bottle, but those in the pork barrel, large phials, keep for your own use.

You will set the people at work as you find most necessary until I get home. I must, if possible, bring down another raft this season. Old Mr. Chaple will be up again as soon as he has done visiting his friends.

I am, my dear in great haste, with a very bad pen and ink and my best exertions.

Your most affectionate,

(Signed) JOEL STONE.

Mr. Stone was also at an early day Collector of His Majesty's Customs at Gananoque, and it is more than probable that he was the first one appointed at that place. The duties were not probably very onerous, and William Moore, whose birth in 1781 has been already referred to, and who is called "Billy" in some of his father's letters, appears to have acted as a deputy collector of customs. There was a tariff, of which a copy is subjoined. It was certainly not as extensive a one as is in force now.

By a commission dated the 2nd January, 1809, and given under the hand and seal of His Excellency, Francis Gore, Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada, Mr. Stone was appointed a colonel in the second regiment of militia in the County of Leeds, which rank he held during the memorable war of 1812-14, and appears during it to have been in command at Gananoque. In September, 1812, a body of United States soldiery under the command of one Forsyth made an attack upon the place, and one of the soldiers fired a shot into Col. Stone's house with the result of wounding Mrs. Stone in the thigh. So great was her fortitude that she did not mention her wound, probably for fear of alarming the women who were with her, nor did they become aware of it until they saw the blood running from her shoe. Forsyth's raid was an inglorious one, apparently quite worthy of the man, and Col. Wm. F. Coffin in his book on the war of 1812 describes it.

Colonel Stone reported this affair to his superior officer, Colonel Lethbridge, then in command at Prescott, and under date of the 21st September, 1812, that officer wrote him as follows:

"I am extremely concerned at the report you have made in your letter of yesterday of the successful attack made by the American vessels on the port of Gananoque, and though there can be no excuse for the devastations committed by the enemy, yet I cannot help inferring from the tenor of your letter that some omission of necessary vigilance must have occurred, and it is my particular desire that you will distinctly state what number of officers by name—non-commissioned officers—and private men were present at the port when the attack on the part of the enemy (occurred). After my orders to have the flank companies completed to the establishment provided by law, I presume the force at Gananoque must have been considerable, unless your detachment to assist in guarding the batteaux to Kingston was very large indeed. Of the numbers sent on this service you will be pleased to inform me. I hardly know how your losses can be supplied. I regret much to find that the least injury should have been sustained by Mrs. Stone.

"I am in hopes to hear more particulars of this unpleasant affair and that the post can be still held with increased energy.

"In the possibility of your express to Kingston being intercepted I sent from this an express to Col. Vincent by way of the back concessions.

It is not in my power to furnish any succor to your post from hence. The disaster is not without a remedy, and I trust that should any similar attempt be made in future it will end in the disgrace of the assailants. I have as yet received no rolls of the flank companies, agreeable to my circular letter of the 9th inst.

"I have this day sent down an officer on purpose to Montreal to procure the necessary equipment—such as shoes, pantaloons, jackets and watch coats.

I have the honor to be,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) R. D. LETHBRIDGE, *Colonel I.F.O.*"

"You will be pleased to send as soon as possible an accurate return of the arms, ammunition, and flints that have been received by the 2d Batt. Leeds Militia from the public."

It would appear that Col. Stone deemed it expedient that a block-house should be built at Gananoque, and under date 19th October, 1812, Mr. Richard Cartwright (grandfather of the late Sir Richard Cartwright), wrote him from Kingston as follows:

Dear Sir:

I wish your block-house had been thought of earlier and mentioned to Colonel Vincent when you were on the spot. He is alarmed at the expense, and indeed I think that the same purpose might be answered at a much cheaper rate. What is there to prevent the men themselves from throwing up a building of round logs that would be equally strong and warm, though it would not look so well? By making it double and filling it in with earth and sod this would be completely effected. The nails and glass would be cheerfully furnished. But in times like these it is expected that the people of the country will do as much as they can for their own protection.

We have obtained an important victory but it has cost us dear. We have lost our heroic Governor, who fell at the head of the 2d flank company of the 49th Regiment in ascending the hill at Queenstown. The invaders to a man have been killed or taken. Major General Wadsworth, many officers and about a thousand men are our prisoners. It is not known how many were killed. The fighting continued near seven hours when the Americans were completely surrounded and called for quarters. Many of them must, of course, have fallen. The General and his aide-de-camp, Lt.-Col. McDonell, are the only officers slain on our side, and their loss spreads a gloom over our triumphs. The militia are said to have behaved well on this trying occasion, and I hope their noble example will have a proper effect in every other part of the Province. This affair took place on the 14th. The Americans landed at Queenstown before daylight, and at some part above the mountain, as it is called, where it was supposed to be impracticable to cross the river, and which was in consequence unguarded.

Yours truly,

(Signed) RICHARD CARTWRIGHT.

After having retained his military command for several years, Colonel Stone tendered his resignation which was accepted and the following general order issued:

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

YORK, 10th January, 1822.

His Excellency, the Lieutenant-Governor, is pleased to accept the resignation of Colonel Stone of the 2d Regiment of Leeds Militia.

His Excellency upon this occasion is pleased to declare in general orders, the high sense he entertains of the services of Colonel Stone who for a period of forty years has served his King and country with exemplary fidelity, and his regret that advanced age should deprive the Militia of the Province of so good and so zealous an officer.

In transmitting this order Colonel James Fitzgibbon wrote as follows:

Dear Colonel:

Col. Coffin is anxious that you should receive a copy of this order without delay. The post is going out and I cannot find the Colonel to add his signature; I therefore send it without rather than lose the post, and remain dear Colonel.

Truly yours,

(Signed) JAMES FITZGIBBON.

Upon this occasion the militia residing within the Townships of Burgess and Elmsley were formed into a regiment to be styled the third regiment of Leeds Militia, and Captain Jonas Jones (afterward the Honourable Mr. Justice Jonas Jones), was appointed Lieutenant-Colonel thereof, while Captain Charles Jones, (then or afterward the Honourable Charles Jones), was appointed Colonel of the second regiment *vice* Stone resigned.

Mr. Stone was a commissioner of the peace or justice of the peace for many years, and for a time was Chairman of the Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the Johnstown District. He was also one of the commissioners for the District of Johnstown for administering the oath to half pay officers.

In 1812 he was returning officer at an election of a member for the County of Leeds to the Assembly of Upper Canada. Upon this occasion Livius P. Sherwood (afterward the Honourable Mr. Justice Sherwood) was returned, and the indenture of election, which bears date 2nd June, 1812, was executed by Joel Stone, Samuel Simmon, (or Seaman), John Kincaid, John McNeil, Joshua Adams, James Breakenridge, Robert McLean, and Livius P. Sherwood.

In March, 1819, a Land Board was appointed for each of the Districts, and that for the District of Johnstown was composed of Solomon Jones, Chairman, Joel Stone, Charles Jones, Adiel Sherwood and Dr. E. Hubble. The members of the Board were empowered to locate any emigrants or other persons desirous of becoming a settler in the respective District on a lot of 100 acres under such limitations, restrictions and rules as from time to time might be made for the government of said Boards by any order in concert.



It has been already mentioned that Mr. Stone had three children by his first marriage, one of whom died in infancy, while the other two—a son and daughter, attained maturity. This son is the one for whose schooling, as we have already seen, he requested Mr. John Wilson to pay Mr. Finley Fisher, the school-master 40/ or £3, and who was seventeen years of age when his father wrote to Mrs. Dayton in April, 1798. He appears to have acted as a collector of customs in Gananoque, and is said to have died of consumption at that place in 1809.

The daughter, who was named Mary, in the year 1811 married Charles McDonald, who had settled at Gananoque in or about the year 1810. He was the son of one John McDonald and his wife Emily Cameron, both at one time of Blair Athol, Perthshire, Scotland, and who emigrated to America in or about the year 1787, and settled at Athol, Warren County, New York.

Charles McDonald appears to have been an active man of business and built a saw and grist mill, and in 1812 opened at Gananoque a general store for the supply of the inhabitants of the adjacent country with dry goods, groceries, hardware, and crockery, in exchange for the products of the country; these consisting largely of square pine, oak, and elm timber, saw logs and staves with some potash. Pork, beef, hay, oats, and wheat were not produced in sufficient quantities to fully supply the demand for the shanty men engaged in lumbering during the winter.

In 1817, John McDonald, a merchant of Troy, New York (and afterward the Honourable John McDonald of Gananoque), joined his brother Charles, and the well known firm of C. & J. McDonald was formed. Their business rapidly increased until it controlled the greater part of the lumber trade of the Gananoque River, and its tributaries. Money being scarce, the whole of this trade was carried on upon credit, and the books of the firm not only bore the names of almost the entire community, but also recorded the transactions of each with the firm and also with his neighbours.

In 1825 Colin McDonald, another brother became a member of the firm, which was henceforth known as C. & J. McDonald & Co. It may be of interest to state that among others who were at one time in the employ of this firm, were Mr. J. J. C. Abbott afterward the Honourable J. J. C. Abbott of Montreal, Senator, a distinguished lawyer, Government leader in the Senate, and Premier of Canada, and Mr. John Macdonald, afterward the Honourable John Macdonald, of Toronto, Senator, one of the merchant princes of Canada, and a gentleman who was foremost in all Christian and charitable work.

Charles McDonald died in 1826 and his wife Mary some years subsequently. Of their marriage were born two daughters who died in infancy, and three sons, of whom one is William Stone Macdonald, Esq., of Blinkbonny, Gananoque.

Of Mr. Joel Stone's religious life in his early years we have not much, if any, information, although he is believed to have been a member of the Church of England. The clergymen of that community were, in the early part of this century, few in number in what was then Upper Canada. Indeed, from the Quebec Almanac of 1810 it would appear that at that time in the Province of Upper and Lower Canada there were (including the Bishop of Quebec and the Chaplain to the garrison at Quebec), only

some fifteen or sixteen clergymen, of whom there were in Upper Canada, at Kingston, Rev. Dr. Stuart; at York, Rev. Mr. Stuart; at Niagara, Rev. Mr. Addison; at Fredericksburg and Ernest Town, Rev. Mr. Langhorne; at Cornwall, Rev. Mr. (after Bishop) Strachan; and at Sandwich, Rev. Mr. Pollard; while at the same time there were but three clergymen of the Church of Scotland in the two provinces, viz., the Rev. Alexander Spark, D.D., at Quebec, the Rev. Mr. Somerville at Montreal, and the Rev. John Bethune at New Oswegatchie.

The Methodists were among the early pioneers of the country and Mr. Stone's second wife was a member of that communion. Their house was a home and a stopping place for the preachers and ministers, who travelled backward and forward, and it would appear that the Rev. Thomas Whitehead, Elder Ryan, and the Reverend Thaddeus Osgood were among those who visited Joel Stone and his wife. It has been already stated that the latter was the means of bringing her first and second husbands to Christ, and in a letter by her to her daughter, Mrs. Abia Mallory, and dated 20th November, 1818, informs her that the Colonel has joined the Methodists.

The following extracts from letters written by Col. Stone afford some evidence of his spiritual state. Writing to his sister, Hannah Levingworth, on 13th March, 1821, after his return from a journey, he says: "The more I reflect, the more thankful I feel to the Fountain of all Good that my health and strength has been preserved throughout my whole tour, which has afforded me so great consolation, in once more seeing in time three (of my) own dear sisters, one brother, four brothers-in-law, with the greater part of their respective families, also the greater part of the families of my departed sisters. May it be a means of renewing in us all a full determination to persevere in performing the duties and embracing the great privileges allotted to each of us here on earth, in that only way whereby we may justly obtain a hope of a much more joyful meeting in peace before our great and awful judge, there to join with one accord and sing praises to the Lamb that taketh away the sins of the world, forevermore."

And in a letter to his brother Lemah Stone, dated 15th February, 1823, he says: "Dear brother, it gives us real consolation to have reason (from the tenor of your letter) to hope you are seeking the only way for future bliss, through the Blessed Mediator. May you obtain justification and sanctification through that faith which worketh true repentance into perfect love for our blessed Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ; and in order that you may free your mind from tradition and prejudice even for or against the Methodist, I beg leave to recommend a small book entitled 'A True and Complete Portraiture of Methodism.' It may cost a dollar, and permit me to beg as a favor you will purchase it and read it carefully once through."

In October or November, 1833, Col. Stone was attacked by a severe cold which, at his then great age, proved to be fatal; and he died at his residence at Gananoque on the 20th November, 1833. His death was a great blow to his wife, and it is said that some of the stern fortitude displayed on a previous occasion appeared to be gone. She survived him nearly ten years, and died at Gananoque, after a short illness, on the 4th day of August, 1843, at the age of nearly 93 years.

Of her it has been written by one who knew her well that "by her death her extensive family connection lost their safe and wise counsellor, the church lost a pillar, and an ornament, the widow and orphan lost a protector, and one that was often a safe depository of their little fortunes, or any valuable papers, the poor lost a warm friend, and heaven received a beautiful spirit, purified by the trials of life."

About four miles from Gananoque, on the front road to Kingston, and near the beautiful River St. Lawrence, is the Willow Bank Cemetery. Within it are interred the mortal remains of Joel Stone and Abigail his wife, and there shall they rest until the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God, and the dead in Christ shall rise and shall be caught up together with those who shall be Christ's at His coming, in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air, and so shall ever be with the Lord.