

WAR OF 1812 MILITIA SERVICE RECORDS FOR THE  
DESCENDANTS OF ADAM YOUNG (1717-1790):  
Haldimand County (2<sup>nd</sup> Lincoln Militia) and  
Wentworth County (5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Militia), Ontario, Canada

By

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**Introduction:** Included here are the records of service in the Lincoln Militia by men with the Young surname who are descendants of Adam Young (1717-1790) of the Grand River. At the time most resided in Haldimand and Wentworth Counties (then known as Lincoln County). The available records are incomplete and at times confusing, the latter due in part to the fact that many records were not created until 6 or more years after the end of the War. The main source for this information is the RG9 IB7 Volumes 22 to 26 Muster Rolls on microfilm T-10385 to T-10387 from the National Archives in Ottawa. These records can be accessed online via the digitization programme of the National Archives and found by clicking on the following link:

<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/microform-digitization/006003-110.02-e.php?&q2=35&interval=50&sk=0&&PHPSESSID=jcd0mprmtpm9v6j68it3fsma2>

Thanks to Bill Young of Niagara Falls for bringing these online records to the author's attention. The data used in the present study is largely taken from the author's transcripts of the above records using the microfilm reels available in the 1990s, and verified and expanded using the online version.

The information is organized by the surviving sons of Adam Young (1717-1790), which include Daniel and Henry, their sons, then the sons of the eldest son of Adam, John. John died sometime in early 1812, not living to see his sons and eldest grandson having to fight against the American descendants of the Rebel enemies he fought for 7 years, before having all of his lands in New York confiscated by the enemies of the King. It is interesting that John's executors published a notice about claims on the estate the same day as the news of the Battle of Queenston Heights was published (Niagara Bee, 24 October 1812, digital copy, Brock University).

**Upper Canadian Militia Overview:** The best reference for this subject is Gray (1995). Based on the Militia Act of Upper Canada 1793 through various amendments, all those males between the ages of 16 and 60 were required to answer the call to appear for militia training (e.g., marching, musket firing) once a year on the King's Birthday of 4 June, or the day after if it fell on a Sunday. As war with the USA loomed, there were increasingly severe consequences for non compliance (generally fines). Each man was registered in the "Sedentary Militia", which was termed the "Embodied Militia" when called up for duty. They should appear on a roster from the designated location proximal to their place of residence (although there was a fair bit of shifting from one unit to another, e.g., 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Militia to the 2<sup>nd</sup> York Militia). There were up to 10 Battalion Companies and

two Flank Companies per Regiment (e.g., for the 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Militia), led by a Colonel or Lieutenant Colonel (Field Officer); with a Captain, Lieutenant, and Ensign (Company Officers) for each Company. Officers held commissions from the Crown, and the date determined seniority. Non – Commissioned Officers (typically appointed by the Captain) included two or more Sergeants of various grades (e.g., Sergeant – Major). There do not appear to have been Corporals in the Lincoln Militia. There were, according to regulations, between 30 and 80 “rank and file” (Privates). Companies were often broken into “detachments” of anywhere from a handful of men to 20 or more (sometimes combined Companies), depending on need. Also, unless the whole Regiment was called up, only about one third to two thirds of the men would be subject to draft, and in theory only after all other men had served would the same individual be called up again. Hence the Companies were often not at full strength. Clearly this did not apply to Officers and Non Commissioned Officers who were typically seen on each and every existing muster roll.

The focus on the present study is on the 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Militia (largely Ancaster, Barton, and Flamborough Townships), and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lincoln Militia (Niagara, although Captain Charles Askin’s Company was drawn from Point Abino on Lake Erie, Canboro, and the Lower Grand River region in Indian Territory).

In May 1812, Brock made provisions for the establishment of, *Flank Companies ... to have constantly in readiness, a force composed of loyal, brave and respectable young men, so far instructed as to enable the Government on any emergency to engraft such portion of the Militia as may be necessary on a stock capable of giving aid in forming them for military service* (NHS, 43, 1812). There was the 1<sup>st</sup> Flank Company of Captain Samuel Hatt, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Flank Company of Captain James Durand for the 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Militia. The Captain would select those men he thought would be active, honest, loyal, brave, etc. They would be the first called up when there was a perceived need (e.g., to accompany General Brock to Detroit). When the Flank Companies were disbanded in February 1813, most men joined a local Battalion Company or the more regular “Incorporated Corps”, “Provincial Corps” (e.g., Merritt’s Dragoons), or “Militia Volunteers” for a predetermined contract period.

Those men who served in a Flank Company for 6 months were entitled to a land grant known as the “Prince Regent’s Bounty”. In practice, as long as an officer in the Flank Company was willing to sign that the Private served for this period (often “officially” stated to be from 1 June to 31 December) this Certificate would suffice irrespective of the records (which were poorly kept or not at all until assembled years later). The author has not been able to locate documents pertaining to actual specific land grants (they do not appear to be in the Upper Canada Land Petitions), only the Certificates of entitlement have surfaced (NA, RG9 IB4; Lauber, 1995). In addition there were pensions issued to veterans who were severely wounded, and to the widows of those who died in service.

Other “rewards” included the General Service Medal issued in 1848 for those who served at Chrysler’s Farm or Detroit, and made a specific application. In 1875, apparently emulating their American counterparts, surviving veterans were entitled to a one time

grant of say 9 Halifax pounds – again only to those who applied. The records of the latter were put in the newspaper (e.g., Hamilton Record) with a brief description of the war service as described by the veteran.

Hence all males within the above age limits should be found in the militia records unless illness or disability prevented them from appearing at muster – or unless they sent a substitute. War was declared 18 June 1812.

What follows cannot be said to be a comprehensive compilation of each and every muster for each Young descendant. Probably most are covered in the surviving records, and all references to any Young were examined in the comprehensive list compiled by the Niagara Historical Society Museum (Hemmings, 2012). Unfortunately, with some individuals, they appear to have “moved around” a bit within Regiments. Generally, however, most men in the rosters of the 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Militia Regiments are those from Barton, Ancaster, and Flamborough (East and West) Townships, and are generally found in the Company of Captain Daniel Young, or detachments from his Company. Those from the Grand River appear to have served only in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lincoln Militia, generally in the Company of Captain Charles Askin, but on occasion the Company of Captain John Rowe. This unit became highly irregular after 1812.

As noted above, the Niagara Historical Society and Museum has a complete summary listing of all of the men who served in a particular Regiment of the Lincoln Militia (this document will be installed on their website in due course), including a list of all those who served for a time in the Flank Companies and thus eligible for Land Grants if the time was 6 months or more (see Gray, 1995). There is no Young found in the lists of those killed, wounded, taken prisoner to the US, or the list of pensioners (largely widows or those incapacitated).

Although of late there has been a tendency to downplay the role of the militia (in some cases outright ignore it) in the defense of Upper Canada, in reality 3 of 5 men defending the Province were from the militia. A look at the “Casualty” lists confirms that the militia sometimes bore the brunt of the action, or at least to the same percentage as the British soldiers.

**Battles, Skirmishes, and Sieges 1812 – 1814:** Unfortunately few muster rolls give the location of the Regiment at the time of muster and service. This must often be inferred from a knowledge (e.g., sources such as Cruikshank) of whether the Regiment or individual was known to have served in a particular battle or skirmish or other action. Part of the problem is that the British establishment, including officers in the Regular British forces, tended to focus on the Regulars and seldom even give a nod to any role played by the militia – or if so the militia unit is seldom named. Although the Cruikshank work is of limited use in relation to the Canadian militia it does include primary source documents relating to each encounter with the enemy. The 9 volume series of documents relating to the War of 1812 compiled by Cruikshank can be obtained in hardcopy reprint, or online via the following link:

<http://archive.org/search.php?query=creator%3A%22Cruikshank%2C+E.+A.+%28Ernest+Alexander%29%2C+1854-1939%22>

What follows is a list of battles or skirmishes that the Young men may have been engaged in:

### 1812

16 Aug – Taking of Fort Detroit by General Isaac Brock  
13 Oct – Battle of Queenston  
28 Nov – Battle of Frenchman’s Creek

### 1813

27 May – Battle of Fort George  
6 Jun – Battle of Stoney Creek  
8 Jun – Battle of the Forty  
24 Jun – Battle of Beaver Dams  
11 Jul – Battle of Black Rock  
19 Dec – Battle of Fort Niagara  
30 Dec – (Second) Battle of Black Rock

### 1814

3 Jul - Battle of Fort Erie  
5 Jul – Battle of Chippewa  
25 Jul – Battle of Lundy’s Lane  
1 Aug to 23 Sept – Siege of Fort Erie  
3 Aug – Action at Black Rock  
19 Oct – Battle of Lyon’s Creek / Cook’s Mill  
5 Nov – McArthur’s Raid, Brantford

**Duplicate Names and Identification Issues:** Muster rolls generally do not give clues as to the specific identity of an individual – that must also be inferred, in this case by knowing who was residing where and when via wills, and land records. For example one vexing example is the Peter Young who served with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lincoln Militia. He could be the son of Captain Daniel Young of Barton Township, Wentworth County; or the son of Henry Young who is noted as being of Ancaster in 1798 and in 1840 at the time of his death. Both Peters are known to have resided during their lifetimes, after the War of 1812, along the Grand River. However in the Captain Charles Askin’s muster rosters for his Company of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lincoln Militia (encompassing the area of the Lower Grand River) there is a Peter Young and a Henry Young. It is only via the discovery of Peter’s land petition of 25 January 1816, that the mystery is solved. Here Peter noted his residence as *the Grand River County of Haldimand, Yeoman*; and furthermore that he is *the Son of Henry Young formerly of Ancaster but now of the Grand River in the County of Haldimand aforesaid, a U.E. Loyalist*. If there are two John Youngs in a roster, one will

usually have a middle initial, or be listed as “Junior” meaning the younger of the two. This is only a factor in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lincoln rosters where we have Sergeant John Young (the son of Lt. John Young 1742 to 1812). Also here is Private John Young Junior, who is the eldest son of Abraham Young (the eldest son of Lt. John Young), who is also in the rosters.

One of the probable series of entries which involve a Henry, George, David and John Young, who are likely the sons (first two) and nephews (latter two) of Captain Daniel Young involve those who were paroled (allowed to return home on the honour system where they agreed not to participate in further battles until exchanged with a soldier on the American side) on the day of the Battle of Fort George. On 27 May 1813 at Fort George, the above individuals with the Young surname were captured and paroled by the American General Dearborn. The entry does not give the unit in which the individual was enrolled, but it was clearly a local militia unit. Hence the evidence suggests that as with large numbers of Americans (e.g., at Detroit and the Battle of Queenston Heights), the above Youngs were captured and subject to parole – although this is not sufficiently clear as to identification but they may well be members of our family and noted below.

**Primary Source Documents - Lost Records and Errors:** It must be noted that the pay lists for July, August, and to some extent September for the Niagara District have not survived (Gray, 1995, p. 287) so it is unknown what actions the men of Daniel’s Company (or those of adjacent units) were involved in, if any, during this time period. There could be other gaps at dates other than the above, it is simply not possible to be sure. Also, errors are to be expected, especially in the documents that were created 8 or more years after the end of the War in 1814. Here we find quirks in spelling, and mistakes in given names and surnames. While this is to be expected, it can play havoc for those attempting to find flawless data. Thus, we will have to accept that what follows may be somewhat flawed or incomplete.

In addition to the sources noted above, a key reference is the newspaper clipping, published in 1875, where survivors of the War of 1812 outlined their wartime service. One Jacob Hagle stated that he was in Captain Daniel Young’s Company throughout the War, having been recruited in Barton Township. He said that he was at the Battles of Black Rock and Fort Erie, and that he, *had the rim of his hat shot off* (Hamilton Daily Spectator, 4 October 1875). A check of Young’s rosters shows Jacob Hagle in some but not all rosters.

So with an awareness that the following may not be entirely spot on as to whether an individual saw action in a particular battle or skirmish, the author offers this work with the belief that it is in general correct, and that any mistakes will be corrected in due course.

### **War of 1812 Service of the Youngs of Wentworth County and the Grand River:**

What follows is the War of 1812 service of the members of the Young family (descendants of Adam Young of the Grand River). Those men listed in the 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Militia (Barton Township and surrounds) will be noted first, followed by those who are

listed as having served in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lincoln Militia (Lower Grand River). All will include name, dates of birth and death, parent's names, and Revolutionary War Service if applicable. Then the roster information will be outlined, including rank, name, dates of service, number of days service, and remarks if any. This will be followed for each person with an assessment of the probable or known participation in a specific action on a specific date. The present work will be continually updated.

The author applied to the Ontario Genealogical Society for membership in the War of 1812 Society by documenting descent from Private Abraham Young of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lincoln Militia, and Captain Daniel Young of the 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Militia. The applications were successful and the particulars can be seen here:

[www.davidkfaux.org/files/LineageSocieties.pdf](http://www.davidkfaux.org/files/LineageSocieties.pdf)

The author is also a descendant of Sergeant Henry Young and Sergeant George Young of the 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Militia (thanks to multiple cousin marriages).

### **5<sup>th</sup> LINCOLN MILITIA, Lieut. Col. Andrew Bradt, Major Richard Hatt**

- 1) **DANIEL YOUNG** (1755 – 1835). Son of Adam Young and Catharine Elizabeth Schremling. Ranger in the Six Nations Indian Department 1777, Sergeant in Butler's Rangers 1777 to 1784. Commission dated 2 January 1809.

Captain of a Battalion Company of the 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Militia throughout the War.



*Uniform of a Captain in the Upper Canadian Militia*

## **1812**

17 Oct to 24 Oct, 8 days  
25 Oct to 24 Nov, 31 days, on 25 Oct “at Niagara”  
25 Nov to 16 Dec, 22 days

The Battle of Queenston Heights took place on the 13<sup>th</sup> of Oct, and it is likely that Daniel’s unit was called up to help protect against a subsequent invasion on the Niagara frontier. On 28 Nov the Battle of Frenchman’s Creek occurred, it being recorded that Major Hatt and detachments of his Regiment were there. The Battle of Black Rock took place 30 Dec and it is known that some Lincoln Militia were present (Lawrence Furry of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Lincoln receiving multiple wounds). It will take further research to determine whether this is the Battle of Black Rock noted by Private Jacob Hagle, and if so Captain Daniel’s Company was here despite the lack of a muster roll for that time period.

## **1813**

22 Mar to 24 May, 65 days  
25 May to 24 Jun, 31 days  
25 Jun to 31 Jul, 101 days (including the above)  
17 Sep to 24 Oct, 38 days  
\* 25 Oct to 24 Nov, 31 days

Perhaps the bombardment of Ft. Erie via Black Rock beginning on 17 Mar led to the call up to service. On the 27<sup>th</sup> May the Americans captured Fort George, and in addition the British abandoned Ft. Erie and retreated to Burlington Heights. The Battle of Stoney Creek happened on the 6<sup>th</sup> Jun, and on the 8<sup>th</sup> of that month was the skirmish at 40 Mile Creek.

The muster roll of Daniel Young’s Company for 22 Mar to 24 Aug 1813 shows that Ensign John Bradt was taken as a prisoner of war on the 7<sup>th</sup> of June, but Gray (1995, p. 253) gives the date of capture as the 10<sup>th</sup> June. The Prisoner of War List (Hemmings, 2012) shows an Ensign John Brandt of the Canadian Militia, taken 10 June 1813 by Major Forsyth at 12 Mile Creek (and taken to prison in Pittsfield, MA). Clearly Daniel’s unit was at the engagement at 12 Mile Creek in the American retreat from the Battle of Stoney Creek (6 Jun), and the Battle of the Forty (8 Jun) – in which Daniel’s Company likely played a role – although this is not proven.

What does seem to be validated is the statement of one of Daniel’s men, Jacob Haegle, that his unit participated in the Battle of Black Rock. This event took place on the 11<sup>th</sup> of July 1813 with 40 rank and file of the Lincoln Militia plus officers participating.

Later in 1813 the blockade of American held Ft. George was begun and continued until 9 Oct when the British retreated to Burlington Heights. Daniel was likely a participant in some or of these actions. The present author will continue seeking evidence as to what

role each Young family ancestor played in the specific events of the campaigns on the Niagara frontier.

## **1814**

19 Jun to 24 Jul, 36 days

25 Jul to 29 Jul, 5 days

\* 25 to 30 Aug, 6 days

14 Oct to 11 Nov, 30 days

On 25 July the Battle of Lundy's Lane was fought. Casualties of the 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln included Major Hatt who was severely wounded, as well as three soldiers also wounded. One of these soldiers wounded at Lundy's Lane was Peter McKee (Gray, 1995, p. 271) of Captain Daniel Young's Company. He was on the muster roll for 25 Jul to 29 Jul, along with Capt. Daniel, Sgts. Henry and George, and Pvt. Frederick Young (the latter enumerated on the list next to Peter McKee). Hence all of these men were at the Battle of Lundy's Lane and saw action. General Drummond released the militia after retreating to establish quarters at Queenston – which would tally with the service of Daniel's Company ending on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

On 3 Aug the Battle of Black Rock took place. As noted above, Jacob Hagle who was a Private in Daniel Young's Company reported many years later that he was at the Battle of Black Rock and Fort Erie. It is not clear which event he was referring to since there was more than one "event" at Black Rock and at Ft. Erie. The latter likely refers to the Siege of Ft. Erie from 5 Aug to 30 Oct in 1814. Considering the dates that many of his "Detachment" mustered at the lines, 5 Nov, it is likely that Daniel, his sons, and many of their kin rushed to Brantford to assist the few British Regulars and Six Nations awaiting the crossing of McArthur's troops over the Grand. The latter were repulsed, but a number of the Mohawk defenders, such as "Doctor" Henry Aaron Hill Kenwendeshon and Chief David Davids Karaghkontye, were seriously wounded.

The author's compilation of Daniel's service is in accord with that of Bill Young of Welland, with the exception that the author missed the service of Daniel between 19 and 24 July. Bill Young added the days of service and it would appear that Daniel Young served a total of 304 days – which is a substantial portion of the two and a half years that the War of 1812 lasted.

\* Some muster rosters may have gone missing, and some unreported until later. On 15 November 1815, Daniel reported to the Board established to investigate the claims of that he and his Company were owed monies for the above dates in 1813, and 1814.

- 2) **DANIEL YOUNG, Jr.** (1782 to ??). Eldest son of Daniel Young and Elizabeth Windecker.



In 1804, officers of the west riding of Lincoln were organized in two regiments. Officers of the first included Colonel Peter Hare, Lieut. Col. Andrew Bradt, and Major Richard Hatt, as well as Captain Daniel Young. Among the Ensigns were ..... Ephraim Land, Daniel Young, Jr., Benjamin Lockwood ..... No further record of Daniel Jr. can be found in any source after this date.



*Uniform of Private in 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Militia (Hemmings, 2012)*

- 3) **PETER YOUNG** (1784 to 1846). Second son of Daniel Young and Elizabeth Windecker.

There is a significant problem in identifying where Peter Young is to be found during the period encompassing the War of 1812. Land records put him in the Trafalgar area (York County) before the War (e.g., 1806), and along the Grand River after the War (e.g., 1832). The Peter Young who served in the Lincoln Militia (2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment) was the Peter (1784 to 1822) son of Daniel's brother Henry Young and Phoebe Van Every (see above) who was murdered at the home of his cousin John Young in 1822. Later William P. Young of Canboro claimed possession of the lands of his father Peter, son of Henry Young, apparently along the Grand River.

If Peter was residing at Trafalgar pre War of 1812, as Bill Young has determined (although the specific dates are not known as yet), there is one entry for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of York Militia, Document 300, that may be of interest. Here a Detachment under Capts. Saml. Ryckman, James Mordon, and Wm. Thompson served with 11 Privates, including a Peter Young. Peter served from 25 Apr to 24 Jun, 61 days. He would appear to be a candidate for Peter the son of Daniel. Also there was a Peter Young who served in a

F flank Company of the 1<sup>st</sup> Lincoln Militia – but his relationship to our family cannot be determined without checking the original records which do not appear to have been microfilmed (at least in 1996 when the author last checked).

Bill Young of Welland, a descendant of Peter the son of Daniel, is attempting to sort of the identity of his ancestor during the War of 1812. The militia record of Peter Young of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lincoln Militia will be detailed later when the latter Regiment is discussed.

- 4) **HENRY YOUNG** (1787 to circa 1861). Third son of Daniel Young and Elizabeth Windecker.

The records clearly indicate that in the opening days of the War, Henry served in a Flank Company, and was a participant in two key actions of the year 1812.

## 1812

The following information applies to not just Henry, but also 5 other Youngs who served in a Flank Company. In a letter of 10 March 1920 from the Adjunct General of the Militia to Col. Thos. Clark of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lincoln Militia, the former spells out the requirements for the land grants, the so called “Prince’s Bounty” (original in Niagara Historical Society Museum). An individual who served in the First Flank Company (it would appear either the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup>, but that needs to be verified) would obtain a certificate from his commanding officer attesting that the applicant conforms to the requirement of having served from June to December. Specifically, *Beginning in 1820, Militiamen upon due certification, who fought in the War of 1812 - 1814 were entitled to land grants in recognition of their services with the First Flank Companies (who) received permission to locate on the Waste Lands of the Crown. Volunteers of the Flank Companies who served as privates were given land grants of 100 acres for a six month term of service.*

On 14 Aug 1824 (10 years after the end of the War) the following certificate was written:

*Certificate by Capt. James Durand Flank Co. 5<sup>th</sup> LM & Andrew Bradt Late Lt. Col. Comd 5 Regiment of Lincoln Militia*

*I do hereby certify that Henry Young of the Township of Barton Yeoman actually served as a Private in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Flank Company on the fifth Regiment of Lincoln Militia then commanded by Lieut. Colonel Bradt, between the first day of June 1812, and the thirty first day of December 1812 (pp. 244-246).*

It would appear that Durand was generous by a couple of months since by October Henry is recorded as serving in his father’s Company as a Sergeant.

Whatever Company Henry served in, it seems likely that he had to approach Durand for the certificate since in 1816, Captain Samuel Hatt had left the area and took up residence in Chambly, Quebec.

There is apparent confusion seen in a roster composed circa 1824, which lists Capt. Samuel Hatt's First Flank Company for 1812. The muster roster shows:

3. Private David Young - "of Barton"
65. Private David Young – "Joined Merritt's Dragoons in July 1812"

Since there was only one David Young of record, it is likely that #3 above should read "Henry Young – of Barton".

In another roster, apparently written considerably later (1820 or later), of those in Captain Samuel Hatt's 1<sup>st</sup> Flank Company "on Service in the year 1812", followed by a list of the same for Captain James Durand's 2<sup>nd</sup> Flank Company, the last name on the list of the latter (clearly a later addition to the earlier record) is:

- (83.) Private Henry Young, and in the Remarks column, "See Capt. Durand's letter 26 July '24".

So he was only added due to Durand's letter. Every other Young who served in a Flank Company appears properly in the records of the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Flank Companies, with only Henry Young being added in after the fact (years later), yet there are two Privates with the name David Young in Hatt's First Flank Company. This again suggests that the David Young "of Barton" was the Henry Young "of Barton" who applied for a Certificate in order to make his land claim. As will be noted later, David Young who transferred to Merritt's Dragoons in July 1812 was from Ancaster as per his Certificate.

Since it appears that Henry Young was serving in Hatt's Company, and was in service from the 1<sup>st</sup> of June, then it is highly probable that Henry (b. 1787) was with Hatt's Company during the taking of Detroit 16 August 1812 by General Isaac Brock – perhaps the single most important event in showing the "uncommitted" that the British could indeed defend Canada, and that defending one's home against the invader was a noble cause. Even if he was in Durand's Company, this unit was also at Detroit. Gray (1995) lists those in both Flank Companies who received General Service Medals for action at Detroit – there being about equal numbers from each Flank unit who applied in 1848 (it seems that only relatively few bothered to apply – or knew about the option).

While it is very rare to find anything substantive on the participation of any particular militia group, some bits and pieces can be assembled to tell at least a partial story. Fortunately one William McCay, a volunteer in Hatt's Company wrote a diary in which he described his trip with his unit from Queenston over a bumpy road to Fort Erie, and from the mouth of the Grand River, which they rowed across on the 7<sup>th</sup> August 1812. At that point they rowed about 40 miles to Patterson's Creek where they met up with other militia units, sleeping in the open. Two men of the Company deserted (James Bycraft and Harvey Thorne – only the former being listed in the roster) in the morning. On the 8<sup>th</sup> they rowed to Long Point where the next day they met General Brock. After a rather harrowing boat trip (still rowing) they made it to Fort Malden on 14 August, where they were fitted out with any gear damaged during the voyage. The rest of the story can be

found in any book on the War of 1812 – the story of Brock’s triumph. It was Brock’s assessment of the militia that, *Their conduct throughout excited my admiration*. This and further information is found in Harvey (1912). As a sidebar, McCay’s Diary, apparently found only at a Windor museum, should be read in its entirety.

Both Hatt’s Company, and that of Durand, were with Brock at the Battle of Queenston Heights according to John Norton’s Diary, and 9 of the 100 or so present were wounded in action, with two dying of their wounds (Gray, 1995; Malcolmson, 2003, p. 271). To illustrate why one should not take the wording of any Government markers, even a National Monument, uncritically, the one at Vrooman’s Point tells of the role of Hatt’s Company being pivotal to the winning of the Battle of Queenston Heights with their defense of Vrooman’s Battery (Vrooman’s Point, north of Queenston), which did significant damage to the Americans crossing the River and those scaling the heights. The author has stood on the heights where the Vrooman battery was situated and it is a very long way to the landing place beyond Queenston town, and to the heights. It is impossible to see how any early 19<sup>th</sup> Century artillery shots from Vrooman’s Point could reach either location. This is precisely what Lieutenant McLean of Cameron’s 3<sup>rd</sup> York Militia told General Brock when asked why they were not firing. The records show that Captain Cameron of the 3<sup>rd</sup> York Militia with 15 men manned the Vrooman’s Point battery (Malcolmson, 2003, p. 147, 274). The available sources show that both Hatt and Durand’s Flank Companies of the 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Militia, as well as the 2<sup>nd</sup> York Flank under John Chisholm, and the Lincoln Artillery under J. Ball were stationed at Queenston on the morning of the 13<sup>th</sup> of October with the 3rd Division under Captain James Dennis of the 49<sup>th</sup> Foot Regiment (whose painting of the Battle presents a unique first hand view of the events). Hatt’s unit was no where near Vrooman’s Point. This was the division who first engaged the Americans as they arrived on the shore from Hamilton’s Cover at the north end of Queenston to the landing below the Heights (Malcolmson, 2003, pp. 273-274). It is a mystery how the Government researchers could have made such an egregious mistake, and now “forever” erroneous information will be provided to all who tour the Queenston battle sites.

According to one key source, *On the morning of the Battle of Queenston, Hatt’s Company, 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln, was the only force at Queenston* (Harvey, 1912, p.84). A sentry noted the American’s crossing the River and roused the men, with Hatt’s Company causing extensive casualties to the invading army.

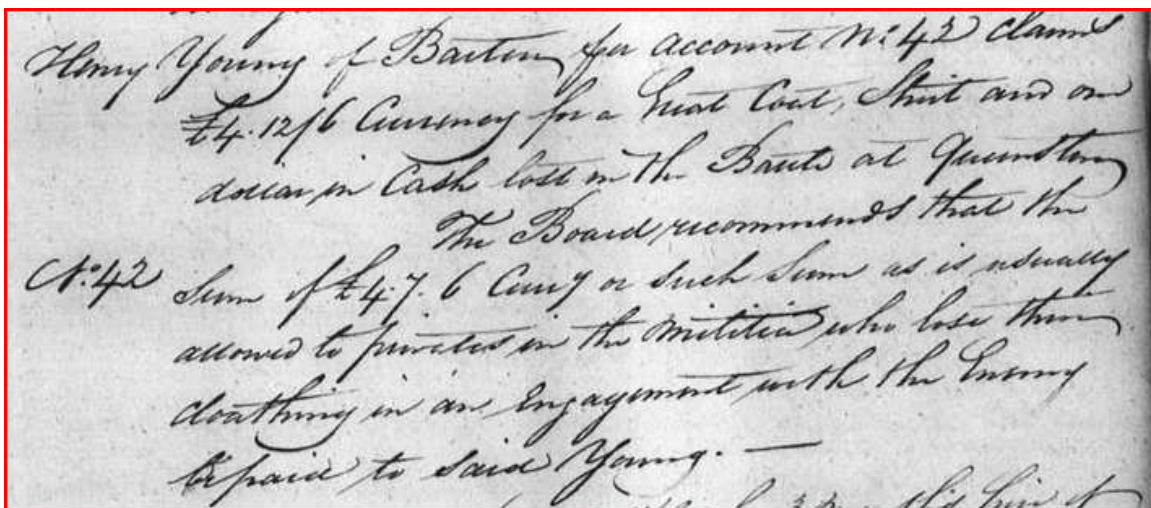
Captain John Norton who led the Six Nations warrior into action, arrived after Brock had been killed. He spoke of how the Flank Companies of the 49th had not only suffered severely in the recent action with him, but from, *their Encounter early in the morning prior to our arrival, - I shall endeavour to relate from report as correctly as possible* (p.309). He confirmed that it was the 49<sup>th</sup> (and the Militia supporting them) *who discovered the Enemy at their first Landing, and opened such a heavy fire upon them as completely checked their advance for a considerable time* but some American troops had scaled the Heights whereupon Brock arriving on the scene, while rallying the troops, was killed. Then, *this gallant band, enraged at the loss of their brave Commander, inclined to the right, and having ascended the hill again, attacked the Enemy until forced to*

retreat with both Flank Commanders, Dennis and Williams, wounded. Norton then reported that, *The Militia Flank Companies attached to the Troops, - were commanded by Captains Hatt, Durand, and Chism – the length of time they maintained their positions against a formidable Body of the Enemy which attacked them in the strongest encomium on both the officers & men engaged* (pp.309-310). Hence the Militia Flank units accompanied Brock, and took part in the subsequent charge up the hill prior to the arrival of reinforcements. Any book on the War of 1812 describes the Battle of Queenston in some detail, but to date Malcolmson's (2003) is the definitive study, and Norton's Diary (1816) is based on personal observations of an active participant, and the reports he obtained from others who were present early in the day before he arrived.

As seen above, the above roster data contains some inconsistencies, and it may be wondered if the reference is to Durand's Company or Hatt's Company, although taken as a whole it would seem that Henry Young (b. 1787) was in Captain Hatt's Flank Company of the Lincoln Militia before joining that of his father, and irrespective, did see action at the Battle of Queenston Heights.

What is not clear is the uniform worn by Henry on this and other occasions. If he was at Detroit, he was issued a worn out red coat of the 41<sup>st</sup> Regiment, and was also the case at Queenston. The author has yet to find a document that indicates specifically whether sergeants of the militia wore British red coats and accoutrements – a subject for later study.

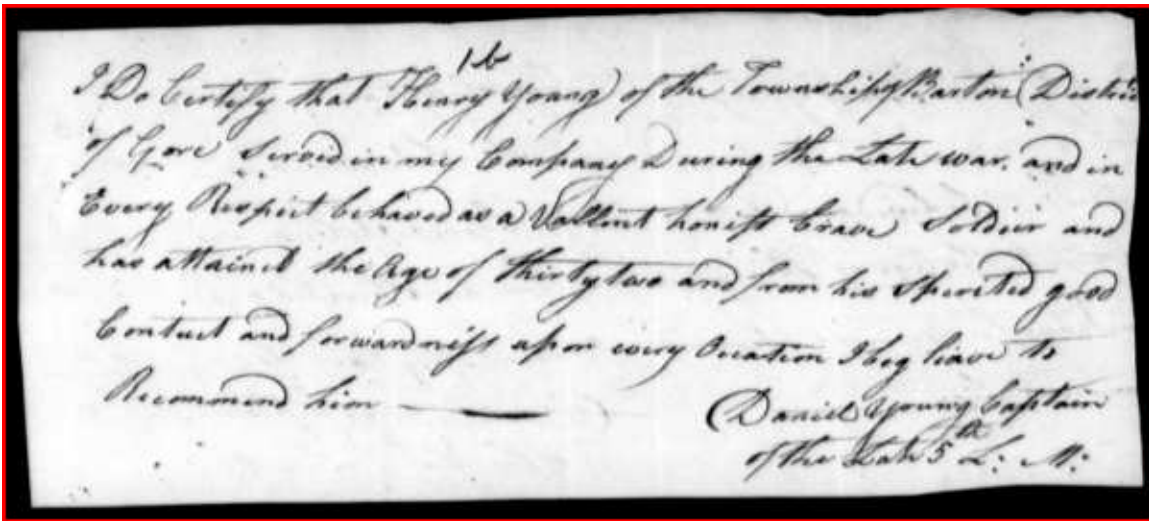
As proof of the above, after the War *Henry Young of Barton* submitted a claim (No. 42) for the *loss of a Great Coat, Shirt and one dollar in cash lost in the Battle at Queenston* - total claim 4 Pounds, 12 Shillings & 6 Pence. He was allowed the sum of 4 Pounds, 7 Shilling and 6 Pence as that was *such sum as is usually allowed to privates in the Militia who lose their clothing in an engagement with the Enemy* (thanks to Thomas Nelson for locating this information).



Henry Young of Barton for account No. 42 claimed  
£4.12/6 Currency for a Great Coat, Shirt and one  
dollar in Cash lost in the Battle at Queenston  
The Board recommends that the  
No. 42 sum of £4.7.6 Currency or such sum as is usually  
allowed to privates in the Militia who lose their  
clothing in an engagement with the Enemy  
be paid to said Young.

The fact that Henry did his duty in the defense of the Province during the late War was attested to by Richard Beasley when Henry applied for land as the son of an enrolled U.E.

Loyalist, and by Daniel Young late Capt of the 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Militia when Henry's wife Rachel also applied for land as the daughter of a Loyalist. The latter provides a certificate signed by Daniel Young Captain of the late 5<sup>th</sup> L.M. and reads: *I do certify that Henry Young of the Township of Barton District of Gore Served in my Company During the Late war and in Every Respect behaved as a Vallint honest brave Soldier ..... and from his Spirited good Conduct and forwardness upon every Occasion I beg leave to Recommend him* (Upper Canada Land Petitions).



*I do certify that Henry <sup>1<sup>st</sup></sup> Young of the Township of Barton District of Gore Served in my Company During the Late war, and in Every Respect behaved as a Vallint honest brave Soldier and has attained the Age of thirty two and from his Spirited good Conduct and forwardness upon every Occasion I beg leave to Recommend him ————— Daniel Young Captain of the late 5<sup>th</sup> L.M.*

The matter becomes entirely clear by 17 Oct 1812, 4 days after the Battle of Queenston Heights, when Henry Young begins to appear consistently in his father's rosters.

Commanding Officer: Captain Daniel Young.

From the first entry Henry's rank is Sergeant until late 1813 when he received a promotion to Quarter Master Sergeant.

### 1812

17 Oct to 24 Oct, 8 days

25 Oct to 24 Nov, 31 days

25 Nov to 16 Dec, 22 days

See the entry for Captain Daniel Young for the probable or possible battles that Henry would have been involved in during this and later intervals – as well as at Detroit and Queenston Heights per the information above.

### 1813

Detachment under Major Richard Hatt and Ensign David Kerns

Sergeant Henry Young, 8 Feb to 18 Feb, 11 days

During this interval “early February” the Americans assembled at Buffalo and it was believed there would be an attempt to cross the Lake on the ice. There was a call up of “spirited young men” to join the Flank Companies at Chippewa to meet the challenge and were stationed along the Erie shore, but shortly disbanded as the threat diminished.

Captain Daniel Young’s Company

Sergeant Henry Young

25 May to 24 Jun, 34 days, “on duty”  
17 Oct to 24 Oct, 8 days  
25 Oct to 24 Nov, 31 days  
25 Nov to 24 Dec  
25 Jun to 13 July, (with above) 49 days

Sgt. Henry Young

21 Sep to 24 Oct 34 days  
15 Nov to 24 Nov, 10 days (Detachment with brother Sgt. George Young)

Qr Mr Sergt. Young

17 Sept to 24 Oct, 38 days

### **1814**

Captain Daniel Young’s Company

Sergeant Henry Young

20 Jun to 24 Jul, 35 days  
25 Jul to 29 Jul  
20 Sep to 30 Aug (with above, 16 days)  
13 Oct to 11 Nov, 30 days

Detachment:

Sergeant Henry Young

25 Jun to 24 Sep, 31 days

7th Lincoln Regt. Militia  
 Roster of Captain Daniel Young's company from the 25<sup>th</sup>  
 July to the 30 August 1814 both days Inclusive

Rank	Name	Period to which payment is Due		M <sup>o</sup>	D <sup>y</sup>	Amount of money paid			Penalty
		From	To			£	s	d	
Capt	Daniel Young	25 July	29 July	5	10/6	2	6	2 1/2	
Leut	Joseph House	25 July	29 July	31	6/6	8	12	1/2	
Ensign	David Mason	25 July	29 July	5	5/3	1	16	9 1/2	
Private	Henry Young	25 July	29 July	16	1/4	1	1	4	
	George Young	25 July	29 July	5	1/4		6	8	
	Richard Young	25 July	29 July	31	6		4	6	
	Colver A. New	25 July	29 July	5			2	6	
	Salisbury	25 July	29 July	0			4	-	
	Adam Richard	25 July	29 July	5			2	6	
	Peter Richard	"	"	5			2	6	
	John New	"	"	5			2	6	
	Henry Kiteon	25 July	29 July	0			4	-	
	Ephraim Carter	25 July	29 July	5			2	6	
	Simon Beatt	"	"	5			2	6	
	Thomas Black	5 Aug	6 Aug	2			1	-	
	Abel Brown	"	"	2			1	-	
	Wm Gathrough	"	"	2			1	-	
	Rev <sup>d</sup> Beatt	21 Aug	23 Aug	4			2	-	
	Stephen Kiteon	"	"	4			2	-	
	Isaac Leckwood	"	"	4			2	-	
	John Smith	"	"	4			2	-	
	John Richardson	"	"	4			2	-	

8-10-5-06  
 Certified by Daniel Young Capt 5<sup>th</sup> Lt 5<sup>th</sup>  
 Lt Col - Isaac New - Major - Lincoln Militia

Roster of the Company of Captain Daniel Young 25 Jul to 30 Aug 1814



Detachment under Captain Daniel Young and Sergeant Major Abraham Secord:

Q. Mr. S. Henry Young, 13 Oct to 11 Nov, 30 days. Please refer to the entry for Daniel Young to assess what action Henry and the others below saw.

5. **GEORGE YOUNG** (1795 to circa 1861). Son of Daniel Young and Elizabeth Windecker.

The other George Young (always known as George I / J Young) was not residing in Barton Township, but rather the State of New York, until after the War of 1812.

## **1812**

George Young of the 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Militia was in a Flank Company in 1812 (pp. 237-238), although he is not found on the roster for either unit (pp.239-240). In addition there is a George Young who was a member of a Flank Company of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Lincoln Militia – but without checking the original records for this individual (pp. 237-238) it is unknown if he is George, the son of Daniel. At any rate he transferred to his father's Company a few days after the Battle of Queenston.

Captain Daniel Young's Company:

Private George Young

17 Oct to 24 Oct, 8 days  
25 Oct to 24 Nov, 31 days  
25 Nov to 16 Dec, 22 days

## **1813**

Detachment under Major Richard Hatt

Private George Young

10 Feb to 18 Feb, 9 days

Captain Daniel Young's Company

Private George Young

25 Apr to 24 May  
14 Jul to 31 Jul, (and above) 48 days  
25 May to 24 June, 31 days

Sergeant George Young

Michael Showers Company

28 Aug to 2 Sep, 6 days

Captain Daniel Young's Company

16 Oct to 24 Oct, 9 days

Detachment

15 Nov to 24 Nov, 10 days (with brother Henry Young)

Reference to the records of the 2<sup>nd</sup> York Militia (the unit most proximal to the 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln), we find a Detachment under Ensign Henry Beasley, with 10 Sergeants including:

10. Sgt. George Young, 14 Dec to 20 Dec, 7 days

### **1814**

Captain John McEwan's Company 4<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Militia

? Private George Young, 19 to 30 Jun, 12 days, Government Employ

Detachment under Major Abraham Secord

Sergeant George Young, 25 Jun to 24 Sep, 31 days

Detachment under Lieut. Ephraim Land

Sergeant George Young, 10 Sep to 24 Sep, 5 days

Captain Daniel Young's Company

20 June to 24 July, 35 days

25 Jul to 29 Jul, 5 days

16 Oct to 24 Oct, 9 days

13 Oct to 11 Nov, 30 days

6. **FREDERICK YOUNG** (1794 to circa 1831). Son of Daniel Young and Elizabeth Windecker.

The only individual with whom this Frederick might be confused is Frederick Young of NJ who emigrated about 1806. This man, who owned a farm on the Barton – Ancaster line, would have been too old for militia service, since he appears to have been born about 1745. To make things more complicated, Frederick son of Daniel married

Catherine a daughter of Frederick Young from NJ and appears to have resided with or near his in laws in the area of Barton – Ancaster along Mohawk Road. It should be noted that what follows is somewhat incomplete since Frederick at times served in Lincoln Militia regiments the contents of which the present author did not transcribe.

### **1812**

Captain Daniel Young's Company

Private Fredr Young

25 Sep to 24 Oct, 10 days (not known which of the days in this interval George served)

### **1813**

Captain Charles Depew's Co. 5<sup>th</sup> L.M. stationed at Burlington Heights

Rank and File Frederick Young

17 Sep to 26 Sep, 10 days

### **1814**

Detachment under Sgt. Major Abraham Secord

Private Frederick Young, 25 Jun to 24 Sep, 18 days

Detachment under Lieut. Ephraim Land

Private Frederick Young, 10 Sep to 24 Sep, 15 days

Captain Daniel Young's Company

Rank and File Frederick Young

20 Jun to 24 Jul, 35 days

25 Jul to 29 Jul

23 Aug to 25 Aug (with above) 9 days

5 Nov to 11 Nov, 7 days (it is interesting that in this muster listed immediately after Frederick were his Windecker cousins Frederick Windecker and Stephen Kitson.

Capt. Daniel Young's Detachment under Sergeant Major Abraham Secord

Private Frederic Young, 5 Nov to 11 Nov, 7 days (duplicate of above date)

7. **ADAM YOUNG** (circa 1793 to 1830). Son of Daniel Young and Elizabeth

Windecker.

Adam appears to have resided in the northern part of Barton Township, perhaps below the Mountain in what was to become the City of Hamilton. Thus he is to be found in Lincoln Militia rosters relating to that geographical area. Hence a comprehensive record of the service of Adam will require a much more thorough search of all the musters of the 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Militia and adjacent areas.

### 1812

Captain James Durand's 2<sup>nd</sup> Flank Company – “on Service in the year 1812”.

Private Adam Young (Certificate found pp. 202-203).

### 1813

Captain Daniel Young's Company

Rank and File (Private) Adam Young

21 Sep to 24 Oct, 34 days

### 1814

Detachment under Sgt. Major Abraham Secord

Private Adam Young, 25 Jun to 24 Sep, 18 days

8. **HENRY YOUNG** (1762 to circa 1840). Son of Adam Young and Catherine Elizabeth Schremling.

For the known (more certain) information relative to Henry (b. 1762), see the section on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lincoln below. It is not known if he also served in another unit. One such possible unit was William Hamilton Merritt's Provincial Light Dragoons. It is known that Henry's son David served for a time in this unit (July 1812 for 7 to 8 months according to an affidavit from Captain James Durand). There is a “disturbing” letter sent by Lieut. Charles Ingersoll of the Oxford Provincial Light Dragoons to W.H. Merritt, Yeigh's, Burford, 20<sup>th</sup> April 1814 wherein Ingersoll stated that, *I am very sorry to report to you that Henry Young deserted last night from Oxford down the river with his horse and all his appointments. He got so far down before I rec'd intelligence of it that it was impossible for me to overtake him.* The entry does not explicitly state that this Henry Young was a member of Merritt's Troop, he may have belonged to Ingersoll's Troop, although the wording suggests the former. The letter seems to suggest that Young was a member of Merritt's Company, and it appears that Young went with the traitor Westbrook, a resident of Oxford, who the same evening had taken a British or militia

officer (Tewsley) prisoner, and left word that he would return soon with some Indians to Oxford – to presumably cause havoc among the loyal citizens in the area.

The Merritt rosters appear to be haphazard. Thus the matter is not clear, and due caution should be exercised in assessing if Henry (b. 1762) is the person noted above. Henry was residing on the Grand River in 1812, but could have returned to Ancaster later where his sons David and John H. Young were residing (before taking up residence in Middlesex County after the death of their father).

The available rosters appear entirely inadequate, and, as with the Flank Companies, often composed 6 years after the War had ended. The author was able to locate a few scattered records in addition to the “comprehensive” one.

In the Nominal Return of Captain Wm. Hamilton Merritt’s Troop Provincial Light Dragoons

Service from 25 April 1813 to 24 March 1815 there are no Youngs in the roster. See the entries under David Young below for others.

In the list composed about 1820 or later, entries in the Remarks column indicate that the list includes those who served at any time from 1812 to 1814. Here is found:

11. Private Henry Young.

However David Young was known to have served in this unit (see below) and is not included in this record, so it might be surmised that number 11. Private Henry Young should be David Young?? Since no location is given for this Henry Young he could have been from another Young family in the Niagara Peninsula. This is a very vexing problem that will be of particular interest to the descendants of Henry in attempting to sort things out.

9. **DAVID YOUNG** (1786 to 1864). Son of Henry Young and Phoebe Van Every.

## **1812**

A copy made in 1824 of the general muster rolls for the Flank Companies of the 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Militia “on service in the year 1812” includes:

Captain Samuel Hatt’s Company

3. Private David [Henry?] Young, “of Barton”
65. Private David Young, “Joined Merritt’s Dragoons in July 1812”

A certificate composed in 1824 stated that, *David Young of Ancaster served as a Sergeant in the first flank of the 5<sup>th</sup> L.M. commanded by Lt. Col. Andrew Bradt, between 28 June 1812 and 1 January 1813. Served 8 weeks, transferred to Major Merritts’*

*Provincial Dragoons as Sergeant and farrier and served here about 7 months*  
(Certificates pp. 220-225 for 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln; pp. 226-228 for Provincial Light Dragoons).

In the rosters of Major Merritt's Troop of Niagara Light Dragoons, on Service from the 1<sup>st</sup> May to the 24<sup>th</sup> December 1812 is:

1. Farrier David Young – "on paylists 25 Sep to 24 Oct as Private" (copy 19 June 1820)

Captain Samuel Hatt 1<sup>st</sup> Flank Company 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Militia

Ordered to escort the stores, forwarded from York to Amherstberg and went under the Conduct of Ensign Kerns as far as Oxford (1812?).

Rank and File (duplicate of the above entry)

Detachment – Capt. Daniel Young's – Lieut. Ephraim Land

Private David Young, 10 Sep to 24 Sep, 15 days

Note: In the 1824 copy of records, a Henry Young is listed among the Privates in Merritt's Dragoons, but the context shows that this was a clerical error (or one that memory has distorted), since it is clear that David Young is the one who was serving with the Dragoons.

In a "Nominal Return of Capt Richard Duncan Fraser's Troop of Provincial Light Dragoons, on service during the late War is (but this group was from Johnstown in the Eastern District:

48. Private David Young

### **1813**

Capt. Israel Dawdy's Co. of 5<sup>th</sup> L.M.

Rank and File David Young, 23 Jul to 24 Jul, 3 days

Lieut. Col. Andrew Bradt

Rank and File, David Young, 20 Jun to 24 Jul, 3 days

Capt. Charles DePew's Co. 5<sup>th</sup> L.M.

Rank and File David Young

17 Sep to 6 Oct, 20 days

6 Oct to 20 Oct, 10 days

Among those in a Detachment under three Captains of the 2<sup>nd</sup> York Militia, including Saml. Ryckman, is found: 93. Private David Young, 3 Dec to 9 Dec, 7 days

## **1814**

The Niagara Provincial Light Dragoons served from 24 Apr 1813 to 24 Oct 1814 with William Hamilton Merritt being Captain until wounded and discharged 24 Oct 1814. However in this roster we find only Private Henry Young – who via a clerical error could have been David Young. See Henry Young (b. 1762) above for further details.

10. **JOHN [H.] YOUNG** (1797 to 1883). Son of Henry Young and Phoebe Van Every.

John appears to have resided in Ancaster or close by in Barton (northern portion) and is often found in same unit as his brother David. In order to compile a complete record it will be necessary to ensure that all companies of the 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Militia have been checked, as well as those adjacent (e.g., 4<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Militia), however John Young is a very common name and if too far afield, it is likely another unrelated John Young that is recorded in the documents (as is the John Young that appears occasionally in the rosters of the 2<sup>nd</sup> York Militia).

## **1812**

Captain James Durand 2<sup>nd</sup> Flank Company “on Service in the year 1812”

Private John Young ----- (Certificate pp. 274-280)

Captain Daniel Young’s Company

Rank and File John Young

17 Oct to 24 Oct, 8 days

24 Sep to 24 Nov

25 Oct to 24 Nov, 31 days

25 Nov to 16 Dec (most of the Privates “deserted” during this period, meaning choosing to return home for sundry reasons – especially if no emergency)

## **1813**

Captain Daniel Young’s Company

Rank and File John Young, 11 Jul to 16 Jul, 7 days

Capt. Israel Dawdy's Company 5<sup>th</sup> L.M.

Rank and File John Young, 23 Jul to 24 Jul, 3 days

Capt. Charles Depew's Co. 5<sup>th</sup> L.M. stationed at Burlington Heights

Rank and File John Young ----- sick not on duty

## **1814**

Detachment Sergeants

John Young, 25 Jun to 24 Sep, 31 days

Sergt. John Young, 13 Oct to 30 Oct, 18 days

Detachment from Capt. Daniel Young under (Sergt.?) Major Abraham Secord

13 Oct to 30 Oct, 18 days (duplicate of above).

## **2<sup>nd</sup> LINCOLN MILITIA, Captain Charles Askin**

This unit appears to be "irregular" in that by 1813 it was reduced to a shadow of its former size. Irving (2008) notes that this Company was drawn from Canboro and Haldimand. Actual inspection of the names shows that the initial rosters include all of the Lower Grand River, but no further north than the "Nelles Settlement". Irving notes that *this troop was reduced to a Cornet, a Troop Sft. Major, a Sergeant, 2 Corporals, and 18 Privates, the Captain and Lieutenant being discontinued*. A Coronet is a mounted Ensign. Apparently on 24 October 1814 the name changed, and it was placed under the "Quartermaster General". This history of this Company is altogether confusing.

1. **HENRY YOUNG** (1762 to about 1840). Son of Adam Young and Catherine Elizabeth Schremling.

As noted above, the petition of his son Peter Young of the Grand River in 1816 states that Henry Young, formerly of Ancaster, was also residing on the Grand River.

## **1812**

Private Henry Young

9 Nov to 24 Nov, 16 days

25 Nov to 14 Dec (Henry was among the majority of the Company who "deserted", or elected to return to their farms).

2. **PETER YOUNG** (1794 to 1822). Son of Henry Young and Phoebe Van Every.



## 1812

Private Peter Young

25 Oct to 24 Nov, 31 days

25 Nov to 14 Dec, “deserted” (the vast majority of the men appear to have returned to their farms at this time)

## 1813

Detachment under Capt. John Row stationed at Fort Erie:  
Pvte. Peter Young, 6 May to 24 May, 19 days

Captain Charles Askins Company:

Private Young Peter, 25 May to 27 May, 3 days

## 1814

Captain Askin’s Company was led by Lieut. Christian McDonnel to 5 July, then Ensign John Fraligh

Private Peter Young

13 Jul to 22 Jul, 10 days

Note: Peter was not in service during the Battle of Chippewa 5 Jul or the Battle of Lundy’s Lane 25 Jul.

3. **ABRAHAM YOUNG** (1766 to 1817). Son of Lt. John Young and Catharine Hill.

## 1812

Private Abram Young

25 Oct to 24 Nov, 31 days

25 Nov to 14 Dec, “deserted” along with the majority of men, for reasons that are unknown at this time.

## 1813

In a document that is torn, there is an entry among the list of Privates showing number 17 (torn) Abraham, 6 May to 24 May, 19 days, “on duty”. This would appear to be

Abraham Young, but the evidence is not conclusive. On 10 May the major forts were evacuated by the British troops, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lincoln dismantled the installations at Chippewa and Queenston.

There are no other muster rolls for Captain Charles Askin's Company during this year. The latter appears to have been given other duties (e.g., Commisary) and his Company seems to have been left rudderless until 1814 when reduced to a handful of men.

However, based on the correspondence of Charles Askin, specifically noted as a Captain in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lincoln Militia, it would appear that he, and likely some members of his Company, were involved in the entire action in June, from Burlington Heights to Stony Creek, to the Battle of 40 Creek and the skirmishing all the way to Fort George (Elliott, 2009). It would appear that the only way to determine the specifics here is to research the original copies of his papers and records in the National Archives and Library.

## **1814**

Lieut. Christian McDonnel until 5 July, then Ensign John Fraligh

Private Abraham Young

26 June to 27 July, 32 days

Note: On 22 June the Enemy was assembling and a few days later the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lincoln mustered at Chippewa. Abraham was among the first arrivals. Abraham has the distinction of having fought in both the Battles of Chippewa (5 July), and the Battle of Lundy's Lane (25 July). During the former contest, of the 19 officers and men present, Lieut Christian McDonnel, his son Alexr McDonnel, Jas. Forsythe (brother in law to Abraham Young) were killed. Samuel Weir was wounded, and Abraham Nelles was taken prisoner. The diary of a participant, Samuel Birdsall, adds a personal touch via his words as follows, *In 1813 (sic) I was in the Chippewa Battle as a volunteer, the only battle I witnessed, being anxious to witness the scene of a war fight. I was fully satisfied afterward not to volunteer again immediately. On commencement of the fight, our Lieutenant McDonald fell and his son fell, each within my reach. I was between them. I saw both fall at the same moment, and many others during the engagement, but my own time had not come. I retreated with the residue of our army to quarters unhurt.* These casualties put Askin's Company in the group which suffered the most severe casualties (and is recognized in a plaque on the stone monument placed on the Battlefield site) of any militia unit during the War.

Abraham Young was one of 16 men of this unit who served at the Battle of Lundy's Lane (25 July). Abraham is one of only 8 men who served for the full duration of the muster, and the only member of the Young family to serve in both battles. The question is whether he elected or was selected for this service. If the latter, then what reasons?

4. **JOHN YOUNG, Jr.** (1790 to circa 1848). Son of Abraham Young and Eleanor Dennis.

**1812**

Private John Young Junr

25 Oct to 24 Nov, 31 days

25 Nov to 14 Dec., “deserted” along with most of those in the company.

**1813**

In a torn record, among the Privates who served 12 May to 24 May, 13 days, was Private 16. (torn) Junr. John. There being no other John Junr in the other musters, this is most probably John Young Junior.

**1814**

Among a 16 man detachment, stationed at Fort George, was:

Private John Young Senr. (sic), 18 Jun to 25 Jun, 8 days (with uncle John Young)

Seldom is it possible to know the reason that a detachment was formed, in other words its purpose. However when comparing the above to the original Charles Askins Papers, John Young and John Young Junr were among a group of, “Men to go in the Gun Boats”.

Company under the command of Lieut. Christian McDonnel until 5 July, then Ensign John Fraligh

Private John Young Junior

13 Jul to 27 Jul, 15 days

Note: John Young Junior saw action during the Battle of Lundy’s Lane.

5. **JOHN YOUNG** (1772 to 1851). Son of Lt. John Young and Catharine Hill.

**1812**

Private John Young

25 Oct to 24 Nov, 31 days

25 Nov to 14 Dec, “deserted” along with most of the Company.

**1813**

Stationed at Fort Erie under Capt. John Row

Sgt. John Young, 20 May to 24 May, 5 days

Captain Charles Askin's Company

Sgt. John Young, 25 May to 27 May, 3 days

Muster Roll of Captain Charles Askers  
 Company of the 2<sup>d</sup> Lincoln Militia on Duty in  
 the 2<sup>d</sup> Riding of the County Lincoln from  
 the 26<sup>th</sup> of June to the 27<sup>th</sup> of July 1814. (both Days Inclusive)

Rank & Names	Amount			Remarks			
	Days	Pay	Grants	Days	Pay	Grants	
Christian Dowl East	10	0	10	4	0	0	Wounded at Chippawa
John Fraleigh Esq	8	2	18	5	2	15	Wounded at Chippawa
John Young Esq	2	0	5	1	0	0	
Samuel Bellis	2	0	15	1	0	0	
W. G. L. Martin Esq	26	2	32	2	0	0	
John Cook	2	0	7	1	0	0	
Joseph Smith	26	2	32	2	0	0	
Conradus Pundberg	26	2	32	2	0	0	
John Blair	2	0	32	1	0	0	
John Bell	2	0	32	1	0	0	
James Buchanan	2	0	32	1	0	0	
John H. Council	2	0	32	1	0	0	
Black H. Council	2	0	32	1	0	0	
James Forsyth	2	0	32	1	0	0	
Samuel Hill	2	0	32	1	0	0	
John Bennett	10	0	15	1	0	0	Wounded at Chippawa
Joseph Smith	26	2	32	2	0	0	
Thomas Smith	26	2	32	2	0	0	
Joseph Young	13	0	10	1	0	0	
John Young Esq	2	0	15	1	0	0	Prisoner
William Bell	2	0	15	1	0	0	
William H. Council	10	0	15	1	0	0	
John Blair	2	0	15	1	0	0	
John Lumsden	2	0	15	1	0	0	
James Buchanan	2	0	15	1	0	0	
John Young	2	0	15	1	0	0	
David Lumsden	10	0	15	1	0	0	
John H. Council	2	0	15	1	0	0	
William Bell	2	0	15	1	0	0	
William H. Council	2	0	15	1	0	0	
John Blair	2	0	15	1	0	0	

I Certify that the above is a true and correct  
 Muster Roll of the 2<sup>d</sup> Lincoln Militia on Duty in  
 the 2<sup>d</sup> Riding of the County Lincoln from  
 the 26<sup>th</sup> of June to the 27<sup>th</sup> of July 1814.  
 Charles Askers  
 Captain

John Fraleigh Esq  
 2<sup>d</sup> Riding of the County Lincoln  
 1814

Muster Roll of Captain Charles Askers's Company 26 June to 27 July 1814

## **1814**

Detachment stationed at Fort George, or “Men to go in the Gun Boats”

Sergt John Young, 23 Jun to 25 Jun, 3 days (with nephew John Young Junr.)

Company under Lieut. Christian McDonnel to 5 July, then Ensign John Fraligh

13 Jul to 27 Jul, 15 days

Note: John Young saw action at the Battle of Lundy’s Lane.

6. **JOSEPH YOUNG** (1782 to 1845). Son of Lt. John Young and Catharine Hill.

## **1812**

Private Joseph Young

25 Oct to 24 Nov, 31 days

2 Dec to 14 Dec, 13 days

## **1813**

The only record surviving from this era is torn, and it is unclear as to whether Joseph would have been found in this document.

## **1814**

In Company led by Lieut. Christian McDonnel to 5 July, then Ensign John Fraligh

Private Joseph Young

13 July to 22 July, 10 days

Note: Based on the above dates Joseph did not arrive until after the Battle of Chippewa, and left 3 days before the Battle of Lundy’s Lane. He likely served in the skirmishing between the battles.

As an addendum, I think it important to consider how participation in such a bloody and personal War affected each of the above men. It is likely that some would have experienced post - traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and experienced its consequent effect on their post – War lives.

It can be said with authority that the Young’s served their country with distinction, and there is only tentative evidence of one having deserted, whether to the enemy or to return home is unknown. All served in virtually every muster call of the 2<sup>nd</sup> (those residing on

the Grand River), even when their Company had been reduced to a contingent of 18 men; or the 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Militia (those residing in what is today Hamilton or Ancaster). They did their duty as Canadians in assisting the British in defending their families and their farms against a foreign invader. In the process they helped to create Canada as a Nation, distinct from their American neighbour to the south.

24 June 2013

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