

# Rebel Tory or Loyalist Patriot?

## Daniel York in the American Revolution and a Brief History of the York family of Lennox and Addington County, Ontario

by Rob Fisher

Most of the Yorks of Lennox and Addington County, Ontario, Canada are descended from Daniel York, an American who moved across the border from New York state in 1806 to settle there in Richmond township. Many of these Americans like Daniel who settled in Ontario between 1790 and 1810 are known as “late loyalists” although the expression is not particularly appropriate. Land was growing scarce in New York but plenty of good land still remained in sparsely populated Ontario. The search for farm land motivated the late loyalists, not loyalty to the British Crown or principles, and Daniel was likely no different in this regard. Daniel York lived in turbulent times. New York and Ontario were battlefields twice during his lifetime: the American Revolution, 1775 to 1783, and the War of 1812 from 1812 to 1815. War and the quest for land shaped his life, and fortunately for us, resulted in a rich historical record which tells us virtually all we know about him.

Daniel York was born in 1762 and baptised 5 September 1762 in the Dutch Reformed Church in Albany, New York. His parents were David York and Susanna Grennel, but his mother’s surname also appears in church records spelled as Grell, Grellner, Creller or Kreller, and Creller was a common name in the area.<sup>1</sup> His younger sibling David York was baptised in the Dutch Reformed Church in Schaghticoke, Rensselaer County, New York, in 1777.<sup>2</sup> Evidence from Daniel York’s comrades in the revolutionary war, however, attests that the Yorks lived in the town of Hoosick, upriver from Schaghticoke (both towns are on the Hoosic River which flows into the Hudson River above Troy). Jacob Bauer stated “I knew Daniel York from my infancy as we were both born in said Hoosick and lived as neighbours together before the war of the Revolution ... I lived on the one side of Hoosick River and said Daniel York on the

opposite side and the River was the line between us we lived near each other".<sup>3</sup> There might not have been a church in Hoosick in 1762 making the trip to the nearby towns of Albany or Schaghticoke for the baptism a necessity.

When Daniel York was thirteen in 1775, the American Revolution broke out, pitting patriotic Americans against their neighbours, the loyal Americans, and the British. We have a lot of information about Daniel York in the revolutionary war, some of which is contradictory. He fought for both sides. He fought for the patriots in the New York State militia and the Rensselaer County militia, and fought with a loyalist regiment known as the "Loyal Rangers" or "Jessup's Rangers". This is perhaps not as surprising or unusual as it seems given his age and the changing fortunes of the tides of war in upstate New York. Most of the evidence for his service with the patriots comes from his revolutionary war pension file, submitted after his death, but the weight of evidence within the file concerning his patriotic service is incontrovertible. It also provides some brief glimpses of his wartime experiences. Daniel York served in the New York State militia or "levies" in 1782, as what were called "nine months men", and between May and November 1779 for which there are also surviving pay records. At other he times he was active in the Rensselaer County militia. Isaac Cumming, then 83, recalled that during 1782 Daniel York had served nine months with him in Colonel Marenus Willet's regiment, but in different companies; York was in Captain James Cannon's company. Both were discharged at the same time in the beginning of January 1783. He said simply, "Daniel York was a very active soldier during said nine months".<sup>4</sup>

Isaac Sedore of Camden, Ontario, had known Daniel York before the war, their families being connected by marriage, during the war, and after the war when they settled together in Upper Canada in Lennox and Addington County. Then aged 96, Sedore testified that "in the year Burgoyne was taken [1777] this Deponent served among the rangers and they was ordered out & went to Saratoga and this Deponent there fell in Company with said Daniel York and they had a Ball and a Dance together at this Meeting but this Deponent cannot state the officers names said Daniel served

under but believes he was under the Militia then – and in the year 1782 this Deponent served under Capt. Hewit and Col. Weisinvelt and was Called out to the north to Saratoga and to Ballstown & the Mohawk to fight the Indians & Tories and this Deponent says he fell in Company with said Daniel York at Saratoga & Ballstown as said Daniel served under Col. Willet under the nine months men as...the two Regiments met and moved together for some time”. Sedore concluded simply that York was a poor but honest man, and a “brave good soldier”.<sup>5</sup> Aaron Buck, of Herkimer County, but who had relatives living in Hoosick near Daniel York, recalled his wartime experiences: “Daniel served also on numerous occasions and different expeditions scouting etc. at the different Posts along the Hudson River and various other places during the greater part of said war. Said Daniel was an active man a true whig and a brave faithful and good soldier during said war & rendered a vast amount of service in said Militia”.<sup>6</sup>

His old Hoosick neighbour, Jacob Bauer, also had recollections of their service together: “in the year 1778 was on a scout under Captain Bradt in the fall of this year to Fort Edward and Daniel York served with me in this scout”. Their shared hardships on scouting missions against the British left an impact on Bauer: “I remember well said Daniel York was thinly clothed and stood on Guard & was very Cold and I took his place & relieved him we was together afterwards on scouts....we have laid in the woods many nights cold & wet our Clothes froze to our bodies we have seen hard times and suffered much during said war both, myself, and said Daniel York while on duty.” Bauer recalled also that Daniel had served under Colonel Willet near the end of the war “along the Valley of the Mohawk up through Schenectady”. Like most of the other deponents, all aged men now, he testified “Said Daniel York was the only Daniel York that resided in Hoosick and the only Daniel York I ever knew in the war of the Revolution”.<sup>7</sup>

The depositions reveal a straightforward narrative of patriotic service with the New York state and county militias between 1777 and 1782. But at some point late in the war, perhaps about 1781, Daniel York enlisted with a loyalist regiment called the

“Loyal Rangers”, also known as Jessup’s Rangers, which were commanded by Major Edward Jessup. Daniel York served in the company of Captain John W. Meyers for two years, a period which overlaps with his New York service, until the end of the war when he was honourably discharged at the dissolution of the regiment. As a result of his service, his name appears in the loyalist lists in the Haldimand papers.<sup>8</sup> Lest we believe this was a different Daniel York, the deponents clearly testified that they knew only one Daniel York and his identity is confirmed by matching the information in his 1818 and 1831 petitions for land in recognition of his loyalist service with the information in the application for his U.S. revolutionary war pension.<sup>9</sup>

The record of his loyalist service is much more scant. In his 1831 petition for land, Daniel York declared in “the in the war between Great Britain and her revolted Colonies in North America, your Petitioner joined the Royal Army and Served two years in Canada in a Corps called the loyal rangers, Commanded by Major Edward Jessup and that at the close of the said War in the Year 1783, your Petitioner was honourably discharged at the disbanding of the Corps”.<sup>10</sup> After his honourable discharge, he returned to visit his family in New York where he married and remained. But what goes unsaid, is how his service of two years in Jessup’s Loyal Rangers, from 1781 to 1783, squares with his service of nine months in the New York state levies from April to December 1782. Faulty memory could be at play. All of the testimony for his service with New York’s “nine months men” comes from witnesses who were in their 80s – or older. There is a considerable weight of testimony, however, at least 6 or 7 men, but they might have been coached by Daniel or his children. Daniel’s service in the state militia might have been instead in the year 1780. The New York Muster Books and Pay Lists have an entry for him dated 31 December 1780 – or is it 1782? The digit on the microfilm, maddeningly, is not very clear.<sup>11</sup>

The motivation for his enlistment in the loyalist regiment after years of service in New York state and county militia is also a mystery, and likely always will be. Was he compelled to enlist at gun point as a captured prisoner? Was he given the choice of serving in a loyalist regiment or becoming a prisoner of war? The British prison ships

were notorious death traps—as were the American prisons like the old mines used in Connecticut. We do know that during the war these types of decisions were sometimes inflicted upon captured enemy soldiers. Was the pay better, or maybe they at least got paid? Was Daniel York's motivation ideological? Had he come to have doubts about the patriotic cause which he had embraced when so young? Had actions committed by his fellow patriots turned him against the cause? Did he seek the affections of a young woman on loyalist leanings? Whatever the motivation, it appears that neither his comrades in the loyalists nor his comrades in the patriots bore him any ill will forty years later for his dual service. Many men on both sides testified on his behalf in support of his loyalist service and in support of his American service in his petitions to the Crown and the U.S. government.

After the final defeat of the British forces and the Treaty of Paris in 1783, Daniel, then 21, returned to his home in Hoosick, New York, rather than settle in British territory like the loyalists who sought refuge in Canada and Nova Scotia. In his subsequent petition for land, he said that returned to the United States and married there.<sup>12</sup> We do not know the full name of his wife but the one baptism record found for one of their children says her name is "Polly" – often a derivative of Mary.<sup>13</sup> We have much less information on this part of his life but brief glimpses can be found in the depositions. James Van Worst, of Schenectady, New York, recalled that, after the war, Daniel had lived in Hoosick, and then Fort Stanwix [now Rome, New York], and then moved to Sheffield township in Canada. "Daniel York came back on a visit after some time after he had moved to Canada as aforesaid, and Deponent then saw the said Daniel York at the said City of Schenectady"<sup>14</sup> John Burk, of Neskayunn, New York, recalled that "after the said Daniel York had lived in Canada for some time he came back on a visit and Deponent then saw and conversed with him...at the City of Albany and the said Daniel then told Deponent that he was then living in Sheffield in Canada".<sup>15</sup>

During the 1790s, Daniel York joined a group of forty Americans, headed by Hugh Finlay who petitioned for land in Stanbridge township, Lower Canada (Quebec)

near the Quebec-Vermont border. The proposed list for the township of Stanbridge (p. 41639) included Daniel York of St. Armand. Among the other names were Peter Craller and Philip Craller, brothers of Susannah Creller (Daniel York's mother) according to the Kreller-Creller family website. The testimony reads (p.41640) "Being personally acquainted with all of the names in the within list proposed for the within township, we know them to be Loyalists, and as such we humbly beg leave to recommend them to His Excellency and Council.", 22 July 1795. But Daniel York decided not to settle in Quebec. His name no longer appears in an updated list of 18 March 1796 and another document (p. 41685) specifically states that Daniel York (and a few others) had been approved by His Excellency the Governor and Council, but were "not coming forward to settle in the township of Stanbridge".<sup>16</sup>

The 1800 census for the town of Rome in Oneida County, New York, confirms that Daniel York resided there in that year. His family included one male aged 26-44 (himself), one female aged 26-44 (his wife), 1 male and 1 female aged 10-15, and 3 sons and 1 female under 10 years old.<sup>17</sup> Records from that time refer to him as a labourer, implying that he did not own land. Land in New York was becoming scarcer in these days which led many Americans to cross the border into Upper Canada in search of cheap or free land. In spite of the earlier arrival of the loyalists, the fledgling colony still had vast tracts of unoccupied land. As the frontier in North America moved westward, a frequent practice was to squat upon unoccupied land, to make improvements like clearing the trees and building a log cabin, and then petition the government for the grant of the land, lease, or sale at a low price. Daniel moved into Upper Canada in 1806 with his wife and eight children, and settled in Richmond township near Napanee, on lot 23 in the fifth concession, on the advice of local assemblyman Thomas Dorland. In spite of Dorland's support, Daniel never obtained formal title to this land, perhaps because it was a clergy reserve.<sup>18</sup>

The clergy reserves were controversial. In every township multiple lots had been set aside for the support of a Protestant clergy. Anglicans wished to use them to create a state church with official clergy ensconced in every township like the Church of

England in England. Methodists, Baptists and Presbyterians wished the land to be sold to support public schools or for the benefit of all Protestant clergy. Almost everyone viewed the vacant lots as a barrier to the development of the townships and colony. Daniel's title to this vacant land was challenged eventually by an "emigrant pedlar" named Richard Whitelock who had obtained a lease from the Crown for this lot, apparently in February 1817. The government did not wish to sell or grant these clergy reserves at this point but rather lease them to settlers to raise funds. Matters between Daniel and Richard Whitelock came to a head in May 1818. Daniel York petitioned the Governor of the province on 14 May 1818, that he had...

"come to the township of Richmond in the Upper Province of Canada and being in distressing circumstances through sickness and poverty and having a wife and ten children, six sons and four daughters, was obliged to settle on a waste lot number twenty-three in the fifth concession in the said township of Richmond and has built a house and barn and cleared eleven acres on the said lot and being so very poor was never able to apply to Government for a title, your petitioner with three of his sons have done their duty the late war faithfully. Now your petitioner is disturbed in his possession and ordered off the premises by a man named Whitelock who says he has obtained a Lease of the said Lot and your petitioner prays that he may not be disturbed in his possession and is willing to become subject to the rents in that case required by Government".

The veracity of his petition was attested to by the signatures of fourteen friends and neighbours, dated 16 May 1818 at Ernestown: Thomas Empey J.P., Captain George Fralick, John Fralick, Lewis Fralig, John Gordanier, Henry Gordanier, Joseph Pringle, and Andrew [T]immons J.P., Thomas V. D. Bogart, William Vander Bogart, Joseph Willoughby, Nathan Denison, Alexander Thompson, and Abel Goule.<sup>19</sup>

Richard Whitelock in turn counter-petitioned in Kingston on 19 May 1818 that he had applied to Mr. Ridout for a lot of land of the Clergy reserves as a lease lot, but on applying for lot awarded to him, "I found a person of the name of York in possession

who refused delivering it to me....the man (York) who is in possession of the Lot refuses to quit without being ordered off by the Sherriff and I have not the means of affording that expense".<sup>20</sup>

The ultimate decision by the Crown Lands committee of the Executive Council went against Daniel York, for on 28 May 1818, he again petitioned the Crown, but this time in reference to an ungranted lot in Camden East township in a petition that made reference to the loss of his farm in Richmond. Stating that he was 56 years of age, born in the province of New York, and had a wife and ten children, he petitioned...

"That during the American Rebellion he served His Majesty in Jessup's Corps of Rangers, and did his duty in defence of this Province during the late War [War of 1812]. That some years ago he settled on the reserved Lot no. 23 in the 5<sup>th</sup> Concession of Richmond under the encouragement of Thomas Dorland Esq., then a member of the Assembly, and others and was led to believe a Lease would be obtained in his name. That Mr. Dorland nor any of the persons he [employed] ever made application and the lot has been leased to one Richard Whitelock who threatens to eject your Petitioner and refuses to allow him any thing whatever for his Building or Improvement of eleven acres. Under these circumstances your Petitioner is desirous of leasing for Settlement the [reserved] lot no. 12 in the 5<sup>th</sup> Concession of East Camden. Wherefore he prays that your Honor would be pleased to [grant] him a lease of said lot under the existing Regulations. Your Petitioner humbly offering Wm. McLean of Richmond, Yeoman, as the Surety for the due payment of the lease"<sup>21</sup>

It does not appear that he settled on this lot in Camden East, which annotations by officials suggest was reserved by the Crown for timber.

Daniel York petitioned again for land on 28 November 1830 with respect to the north 28 acres of lot 20 in the fifth concession of Richmond township, another clergy reserve. The Crown Lands authorities again refused his petition. Realizing that his lack of formal loyalist status conspired against him, he tried another tack in 1831, petitioning



the Government of Upper Canada to have his name entered in the United Empire Loyalist List.

Having his name entered in the U. E. list would entitle him and his offspring to grants of land from the Crown. It was clear that he did not meet the qualifications and the Department of Crown Lands rejected his petition. Although he had served in a loyalist regiment during the war, and had a letter of reference to that effect from Captain Meyers, his return to the United States after 1783 disqualified him from formal status as a "United Empire Loyalist". For this reason, those emigrants from the United States like Daniel, though sometimes called "late loyalists", are not entitled to full "U. E." status. Regulations had been adopted which required that loyalists must have been resident in British territory on or before 28 July 1798 in order to qualify for United Empire Loyalist status. Still, Daniel York's petition dated 12 April 1831 at Ernestown, provides a wealth of information about him:

"Your Petitioner was born in the Year 1762 in the City of Albany in the late Province of New York, that in the war between Great Britain and her revolted Colonies in North America, your Petitioner joined the Royal Army and Served two years in Canada in a Corps called the loyal rangers, Commanded by Major Edward Jessup and that at the close of the said War in the Year 1783, your Petitioner was honourably discharged at the disbanding of the Corps after being discharged your petitioner Returned to the visit his relations in the United States, where he Married and Returned to this Province with his family consisting of a wife and Eight Children in the year 1806 and has Continued to reside in this province ever since, that during the late war with United States of America, your Petitioner with three of his sons did duty in defence of the Province, that your Petitioner has never received any lands or order for lands from the Crown. Your Petitioner therefore Humbly Prays that your Excellency will be pleased to order his Name to be inserted on the U. E. List and Grant him Such portion of the Waste Lands of the Crown as to Your Excellency

shall seem [merited].”

Daniel York signed the petition with his mark, an “X”, in front of Justice of the Peace Isaac Fraser.<sup>22</sup>

Lacking further evidence of a land grant or formal acquisition of land, I believe Daniel York ultimately squatted on another lot in the northwestern corner of Camden East township or southwestern corner of Sheffield township, near the present-day intersection of Highway 41 and McLaughlin Road at the hamlet of “Ingle”. The 1878 atlas of Lennox and Addington County shows many of his descendants occupying lots in this area where those two townships corner with Richmond and Hungerford townships. Township maps from 1878 show lots nearby in the hands of F. H. York, Joshua York, John York, David York, Hiram York, and others who were descendants of Daniel’s sons Frederick York and Richard York.<sup>23</sup> Many of these descendants are buried in the York Burial Ground on Highway 41 at the intersection with McLaughlin Road.<sup>24</sup> By the time of his last petitions in the 1830s, Daniel would have been almost 70 years old. We know from the application of his children for the funds due to Daniel from the Government of the United States under its legislation creating pensions for revolutionary war service that Daniel York died 24 June 1846 in Sheffield township, Lennox and Addington County.<sup>25</sup> He was probably buried in a grave, now unmarked, in the above-mentioned York Burial Ground.

To collect his pension, his children had to prove beyond a reasonable doubt his death, age at death, and that he left no widow, and they therefore produced irrefutable documentation which provides some additional details about his life. Mrs. Prichard Williams, his “attending physician” in his last illness, testified in December 1848, “I am now and long have been a Doctress, in the said County and District, that I was well acquainted with Daniel York deceased who lived and died in the township of Sheffield....and I officiated during his illness and likewise attended his funeral. I knew the said Daniel York well, and also his family....at the said day of his Death was an aged man and could not be less than eighty seven or near that”. Rev. Zebediah Mills, who was related to Daniel through the marriage of their children, Sarah Eliza Mills and

Marinus Gilbert York, declared "I am now & long have been a preacher of the Gospel in said County & District, that I was well acquainted with Daniel York deceased who lived and died in the Township of Sheffield...and I officiated at the funeral & Preached his funeral Sermon. I knew the said Daniel York well, as I also did his family. He left no widow him surviving, but a number of children. I do further depose and say that the said Daniel York was always reputed, in the neighborhood where he lived, to have been a Soldier of the United States during the War of the Revolution. The said Daniel York was a very aged man & could not be less if not more than eighty seven years of age at the said day of his death." The clinching testimony, however, came from Neil Miller, who made the coffin: "I am now and have long been a carpenter and coffin maker that I was well acquainted with Daniel York deceased who lived and died in the township of Sheffield....I officiated as a coffin maker and attended his funeral, I knew the said Daniel York well, as I also did his family. He left no widow him surviving, but a number of children".<sup>26</sup> No one could dispute that Daniel was truly dead!

The court at Oswego, New York in 1850 ruled that Daniel York's heirs were entitled to receive his pension, payable from 4 March 1831 to when he died, 24 June 1846, at a rate of \$24.58 per annum, "In recognition of his service as a private in the Regiment of New York in the line for 7 months and 11 days, inscribed on the roll of Albany". The seven surviving children were Frederick York, Richard York, Susannah Van Blaricum, Hannah Sedore, Eliza Storm, Mary Dafoe, and Gilbert York, all of whom resided in Sheffield, Camden, and Richmond townships in Lennox and Addington County. Sadly, Daniel York never benefitted from it himself. But, as his eldest son Frederick York explained in his declaration to the court at Oswego: "Sometime previous to his [Daniel's] death he employed an agent to collect the necessary testimony in order to obtain his said pension but being afflicted with disease and for the last years of his life very infirm he was unable to take the necessary journey to the United States in order to have his papers made out and executed. The papers of proof collected were never forwarded on to the Department and owing to the infirmities of Body of Declarant's said father, he was unable to take the necessary course & bear the fatigues of so long a

journey. He died therefore without asserting his claim".<sup>27</sup>

### **Children of Daniel and Polly York**

Identifying the children of Daniel York had long been a problem for York family researchers but Cora Reid and Meryl Fisher had gone a long way toward identifying many of them in the absence of direct confirmation. Daniel does not appear to have had any of his children baptised after 1793; the date of the baptism of Eliza in New York state. There were a lot of Yorks in Lennox and Addington County, however. Most of these Yorks identified themselves in the 1851 and later censuses as Methodists of German ancestry, leading researchers to suspect that many or most were related and descended from Daniel York. Indeed, the appearance of unusual given names in different lines of the family, like "Marinus Gilbert" and "Frederick Haner", also argued that they were closely related. Daniel's Ontario land petitions stated that he had come to Ontario in 1806 with his wife and eight children, and later in 1818 he stated that he had ten children, six sons and four daughters.<sup>28</sup> From this we might presume that he had eight children born in New York and two born after his arrival in Upper Canada in 1806. The 1800 census of Rome, New York showed that he had two children born between 1785 and 1790, and four born between 1791 and 1800. Together with the petitions, this evidence suggests that he had four children born after 1800, two before 1806 in New York and two after 1806 in Ontario. Although we must consider that children who died young might not be counted in the census or factor in the numbers provided in his land petitions.

Recent documentary discoveries by York researchers have greatly clarified this picture. Unfortunately we only have records of birth or baptism for two of his children—both recent discoveries. Agathe Lafrance found an adult baptism for Marinus Gilbert York, 11 January 1839, by a Methodist Episcopal minister out of Adolphustown, shortly before his marriage to Sarah Eliza Mills of Hungerford township. The register of baptisms stated that his date of birth was 19 December 1811 and his parents were

Daniel and Polly York.<sup>29</sup> Marinus Gilbert or “M. G.” was apparently their youngest child if this year of birth is to be believed. Post-1860 census records suggest that Marinus Gilbert York’s year of birth was between 1807 and 1809, and that he was born in Ontario.<sup>30</sup> Marinus is a Dutch name, and rather unusual, but Daniel had served under Col. Marinus Willet in the New York state militia–no specific person named “Marinus Gilbert” has come to light. The other baptism comes from New York state, where Eliza York was baptised in 1793 in Oneida County, daughter of Daniel York and Mrs. Daniel York.<sup>31</sup> But she may have died young because another Eliza was apparently born about 1805.

But the discovery by Sharon Spears of the application for Daniel York’s revolutionary war pension in a U.S. archival file, identified the seven surviving children by name who had submitted the application:

Frederick York [b. 1789]

Richard York [b. 1800]

Susannah Van Blaricum

Hannah Sedore [b. 1796]

Eliza Storm [b. 1805]

Mary Dafoe

Gilbert York [b.1808]

This considerably clarified the York family picture. But there are still some other children who died before the pension application was submitted, and one who had moved away, and was assumed dead by his siblings who had remained behind in Lennox and Addington.

### **Definite Children of Daniel and Polly York (8)**

Frederick York, ca. 1789-aft. 1861

Frederick York was born about 1789 in New York according an 1828 record, though his stated age of 78 in the 1861 census would give him a date of birth of 1783. He married Dencehey Blonden See in Ernestown, 23 June 1812.<sup>32</sup> He served in the militia in the War of 1812 and signed the Ernestown address to Lt-Gov. Peregrine Maitland as reported in the *Kingston Chronicle* of 29 January 1819.<sup>33</sup> His wife Blonden York petitioned the Crown for land as a United Empire Loyalist descendant in 1817, from Ernestown.<sup>34</sup> By the 1820s or 1830s however Frederick York was living in Camden East township. They had eleven children. In 1861, Frederick York appeared in his last census with his second wife Eliza and their one child.

#### Benjamin York, ca. 1791- ca. 1840s

Land petitions in 1842 provide the name of Benjamin as another son of Daniel York.<sup>35</sup> He was not mentioned in the pension application ca. 1847 and had probably died by then. Benjamin York married Joan Hayes in Camden East township on 7 February 1814.<sup>36</sup> Local records point to at least three sons Daniel, David, and Benjamin James though the latter two may have been with a second wife named Hester or Esther. Benjamin York is also mentioned in conjunction with militia service in the War of 1812, and land grants in 1826 and 1847.

#### Susannah York

Her married name was Susannah Van Blaricum, and she was still living in 1846, but little else is known about her. There were some Van Blaricums or Van Blarcoms in the Lennox and Addington / Bay of Quinte area. Cora Reid has identified the family of a Peter Van Blaricum in Richmond township.

#### Eliza York, 1793-ca. 1800

She was born in Oneida Co., New York, and apparently died young because they had another daughter named Eliza born in 1805.

Hannah York, 1796-1875

Hannah York married Isaac Sedore, b. 1789, who was the son of the Isaac Sedore who had fought with Daniel York in the American Revolution and testified on his behalf in the pension application. Isaac and Hannah Sedore had six children

Richard York, 1800-1864

Richard York married Mary McLaughlin in 1824 and they lived in Sheffield township, not far from Frederick York. The McLaughlins were neighbours of Frederick York in Camden East. They had eleven children.

Eliza York, 1805-aft. 1861

Eliza York was born about 1805 in the United States according to Ontario census records, apparently the year before Daniel York came to Upper Canada. She married George Storrings about 1827, and they named their first son "Marinus Storrings". The Storrings lived in Sheffield township near the village of Tamworth. They had at least five children. The name sometimes appears as "Storm".

Mary York, 1808-aft. 1851

Mary York was born about 1808 and married Andrew or Henry Dafoe. They had a daughter Mary E. Dafoe born in 1846 in Sheffield township.

Marinus Gilbert York, 1811-1885

He married Sarah Eliza Mills about 1839 and their first child Frederick Haner York was born in 1840. They lived in Hungerford township near Tweed (Hastings Co.) until 1854 when they moved to the village of Flinton in Kaladar township. Sedore and Dafoe relatives also moved to Flinton when that community was opened up in the 1850s.

### **Probable Children of Daniel and Polly York (3)**

David York, ca. 1795-1832

He first appears in militia lists of the War of 1812 and married Peggy Scott at Camden on 26 February 1815. He was a resident of Richmond at the time.<sup>37</sup> He next appears as a signatory to the Sophiasburgh address to Lt-Gov Peregrine Maitland as reported in the *Kingston Chronicle and Gazette* on 26 March 1819.<sup>38</sup> Another record shows him still in the Lennox and Addington County in 1824. Legal records from his son Richard show that David York died in 1832 in Sophiasburgh township, Prince Edward County. It seems he was probably one of the six sons of Daniel York and one of the three who saw service in the War of 1812.

Gordon York, 1802-aft. 1871

Gordon York is another candidate for being one of the six sons of Daniel York. He was born in New York state about 1802 and was still living in 1871 in Georgina township, York County, Ontario. He married Dianah (surname unknown) in 1822, Deuchy McLaughlin on 31 May 1827, and later Sarah Ann Crittenden about 1842. He had at least eight children, including a son Daniel. His name does not appear on the pension application, however, as he had moved away from Lennox and Addington before 1846. He appears in the 1851 and 1871 censuses in York County, north of Toronto, and his third wife, Sarah Ann Crittenden, was from North Gwillimbury in York County.

### **Possible Children of Daniel and Polly York (1)**

Jane York, ca. 1790s-ca. 1820s

Jane York and Abraham Mildren of Fredericksburgh married 2 July 1821 at Ernestown.<sup>39</sup> There is no further record of them. Could she possibly have been



widowed and later married a Van Blaricum, and therefore be the Susannah Van Blaricum of the pension application? It seems possible though unlikely.

## End Notes

1. LDS Church, International Genealogical Index, Batch no. C506192, excerpted from the *Year Book of the Holland Society of New York*.
2. LDS Church, International Genealogical Index, Batch no. C510331, excerpted from *Dutch Reformed Church, Schaghticoke, Rensselaer, New York, births or christenings, 1752-1866*. Rensselaer County was set off from Albany County in 1792.
3. Daniel York, U.S. Revolutionary War Pension File, National Archives and Records Administration, Service in New York, file number S23.504.
4. Testimony of Isaac Cumming, Daniel York, U.S. Revolutionary War Pension File, National Archives and Records Administration, Service in New York, file number S23.504.
5. Testimony of Isaac Sedor, Daniel York, U.S. Revolutionary War Pension File, National Archives and Records Administration, Service in New York, file number S23.504.
6. Testimony of Aaron Buck, Daniel York, U.S. Revolutionary War Pension File, National Archives and Records Administration, Service in New York, file number S23.504.
7. Testimony of Jacob Bauer, Daniel York, U.S. Revolutionary War Pension File, National Archives and Records Administration, Service in New York, file number S23.504.
8. War Office Returns of Detachments and Companies of the Kings Rangers and Loyal Rangers in Lower Canada, 1783, Library and Archives of Canada, Microfilm Reel No. B-2867 (MG 11, W.O. 28/10), page 235.
9. Petition of Daniel York, 12 April 1831, Upper Canada Land Petitions; Library and Archives Canada, RG 1, L 3, Vol. 550(a), Y Bundle 17, 1831-1833.
10. Petition of Daniel York, 12 April 1831, Upper Canada Land Petitions; Library and Archives Canada, RG 1, L 3, Vol. 550(a), Y Bundle 17, 1831-1833.

11. Daniel York, U.S. Revolutionary War Pension File, National Archives and Records Administration, Service in New York, file number S23.504.
12. Petition of Daniel York, 12 April 1831, Upper Canada Land Petitions; Library and Archives Canada, RG 1, L 3, Vol. 550(a), Y Bundle 17, 1831-1833.
13. Baptism of Marinus Gilbert York, 11 January 1839, Napanee Methodist Episcopal Circuit baptismal register, United Church Archives, Toronto, microfilm reel LCM-93.
14. Testimony of James Van Worst, Daniel York, U.S. Revolutionary War Pension File, National Archives and Records Administration, Service in New York, file number S23.504.
15. Testimony of John Burk, Daniel York, U.S. Revolutionary War Pension File, National Archives and Records Administration, Service in New York, file number S23.504.
16. Lower Canada land petitions, Library and Archives Canada, microfilm C-2525, RG 1L 3L, Volume 84, pages 41637 to 41692. Note that these pages cover several documents that are not in chronological order.
17. 1800 Census of Rome, Oneida County, New York, Roll: M32 23, Page 215.
18. Petition of Daniel York, 28 May 1818, Upper Canada Land Petitions; Library and Archives Canada, RG 1, L 3, Vol. 552, Y Bundle Leases, 1801-1832.
19. Petition of Daniel York, 14 May 1818, Upper Canada Land Petitions; Library and Archives Canada, RG 1, L 3, Vol. 552, Y Bundle Leases, 1801-1832.
20. Petition of Richard Whitelock, 19 May 1818, Upper Canada Land Petitions; Library and Archives Canada, RG 1, L 3, Vol. 552, Y Bundle Leases, 1801-1832.
21. Petition of Daniel York, 28 May 1818, Upper Canada Land Petitions; Library and Archives Canada, RG 1, L 3, Vol. 552, Y Bundle Leases, 1801-1832.
22. Petition of Daniel York, 12 April 1831, Upper Canada Land Petitions; Library and Archives Canada, RG 1, L 3, Vol. 550(a), Y Bundle 17, 1831-1833
23. Historical Atlas of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington, 1878.
24. Grave stones, York Burial Ground, Sheffield township.
25. Daniel York, U.S. Revolutionary War Pension File, National Archives and Records Administration, Service in New York, file number S23.504.

26. Testimonies of Rev. Zebediah Mills, Mrs. Prichard Williams, and Neal Miller, before Neal Stewart, Justice of the Peace, 15 December 1848, U.S. Revolutionary War pension file.
27. Daniel York, U.S. Revolutionary War Pension File, National Archives and Records Administration, Service in New York, file number S23.504.
28. Ontario land petitions
29. Baptism of Marinus Gilbert York, 11 January 1839, Napanee Methodist Episcopal Circuit baptismal register, United Church Archives, Toronto, microfilm reel LCM-93.
30. 1861-1881 Censuses of Kaladar township.
31. LDS Church, International Genealogical Index, from a record submitted by a church member after 1991.
32. Register of Baptisms and Marriages, 1800-1841, of Robert McDowall, Presbyterian minister.
33. Kingston OGS Card Index, Kingston Public Library.
34. Upper Canada Land Petitions, Y11/8, volume 549, LAC, reel C-2980.
35. Archives of Ontario MS-691 Reel 68.
36. Register of Baptisms and Marriages, 1800-1841, of Robert McDowall, Presbyterian minister.
37. Register of Baptisms and Marriages, 1800-1841, of Robert McDowall, Presbyterian minister.
38. Kingston OGS Card Index, Kingston Public Library.
39. Register of Baptisms and Marriages, 1800-1841, of Robert McDowall, Presbyterian minister.