

MEMORANDUM

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



NOTE DE SERVICE

GOUVERNEMENT DU CANADA

FROM
DE

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF CANADA

TO
A

Mr. Dennis R. McCarthy

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION - DE SÉCURITÉ

OUR FILE - NÉRÉFÉRENCE

YOUR FILE - VÉRÉFÉRENCE

DATE

SUBJECT H.M.S. LIMNADE; H.M. Snow HALDIMAND; H.M. Snow SENECA
SUJET

A search of the various indexes and other logical sources in our custody produced the following references to the vessels in which you are interested:

1. The HALDIMAND and SENECA are described in a return of armed vessels on Lake Ontario dated 1779 and are mentioned in a return of the Naval Department on Lake Ontario for the same year. (RG 8, C Series, Volume 722A, pp. 32-33 and 46-47, Reel C-3242).
2. There is a "List and description of the Iron Ordnance on Board his Majesty's Snow HALDIMAND 13 July 1779, and a similar list for SENECA 17 July 1779 (RG 8, "C" Series, Volume 722A, pp. 62-65, Reel C-3242)
3. There is a blank page from the muster book of the HALDIMAND. (RG 8, "C" Series, Volume 722A, p. 81).
4. A series of letters from Joseph Bambury at Kingston to Captain Le Maistre throw some light on the activity of the SENECA in 1789 and 1790. On 17 August 1789 he wrote that the SENECA had sprung a leak and had to be hove down (RG 8, "C" Series, Volume 511, p. 4, Reel C-3044-3045). On 21 August he reported that he had had to replace her mast which was rotten. He also stated that in his opinion, the season of 1789 was the last one in which she would be serviceable. (Ibid. p: 5). On 5 October 1789, he wrote to complain that she had been detained at Niagara (Ibid., p. 7), and later on 16 November he stated that she had been ordered to Carleton Island to take on ordnance stores (Ibid., p. 9). Finally on 29 June 1790 he stated that the SENECA had sailed with the first division of the 5th Regiment on 21 June (Ibid., p. 18).
5. There are also references to a private vessel, the schooner SENECA which was taken into the government service during the War of 1812 and was sunk by cannon fire off Fort Niagara. Whether or not this could be the same vessel, re-rigged, is impossible to establish. (RG 8, "C" Series, Volume 89, p. 14, Reel C-2646-2647; Volume 734, p. 144, Reel C-3244; Volume 1203, pp. 41, 42 and 44, Reel C-3519).
6. On 27 July 1789, J. Bambury wrote Captain Le Maistre, informing him that the boatswain of the LIMNADE had lost his arm as the result of an accident during the celebration of the King's recovery. (RG 8, "C" Series, Volume 511, p. 3, Reel C-3044-45).

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