

NATHANIEL COFFIN

Nathaniel Coffin was born in Boston on the 20th February, 1766, and died in Toronto in 1846, aged 80, and was appointed a Land Surveyor in July, 1790.

He was the sixth child of John Coffin and Isabella Child, of Boston.

John Coffin was born at Boston, 19th August, 1729, and married the 5th December, 1758, and died in Quebec 28th September, 1808.

The brothers and sisters of Nathaniel Coffin were as follows: John, born 1760, died in 1837 in Quebec; William, born 1761, died 1836; Thomas, born 1762, died in 1841 at Three Rivers, he was Police Provost at Quebec; Isabella, born 1763; Francis, born 1764, died 1835; Anne, born 1769; James, born 1771, died 1835 at Quebec; Charles, born 1773; George, born 1774; Margaret, born 1779.

See W. S. Stapleton's "Gatherings Towards a Genealogy of the Coffin Family," Boston. Clapp, 1896, page 44.

There is an interesting foot note about Nathaniel Coffin's family (especially his father and his eldest brother) in W. F. Coffin's "1812, The War and Its Moral." A Canadian Chronicle, Montreal, Lovell.

Among the descendants of the Coffins then (1864), living in Canada, are Mrs. Hamilton, of Quebec, mother of Robert Hamilton and the Hon. John Hamilton, of Hawkesbury, Ont. Colonel Hamilton, of the Dominion Archives, Ottawa, and Mr. W. H. C. Carrier, in the Citizen Building, Ottawa, are descendants.

There is an interesting tradition of the Coffin Family narrated in "Records concerning the House of Baldwin Coffin Parker," compiled by Alfred Cook Miller, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.

Nathaniel Coffin was appointed Deputy Adjutant-General of the Militia of Upper Canada, on the 4th January, 1813, and held that post for 24 years. He signed the applications of many of the Loyalists for Grants of land. He was a member of many survey parties, with headquarters at Quebec and Kingston, surveying lands for the Loyalists. A photo of him will be published when found.