## **Daniel Lightheart**

## Information for the Loyalist Directory

With revisions contributed by Lynn McAlister

Feb. 1, 2019

Surname :	Lightheart
Given name :	Daniel
<u>Rank :</u>	'soldier'
Where Resettled :	Midland District - Adolphustown, Ernestown, Darlington, <del>Ontario, Canada</del> Upper Canada
Status as Loyalist :	Proven
Proof of Loyalty :	UEL List; land petitions and land grants; Loyalist regiment muster rolls
Notes (Expunged, Sus- pended, Reinstated) :	
Regiment :	Jessup's Corps (King's Loyal Americans, later the Loyal Rangers) <sup>1</sup>
Enlistment Date :	20 July 1777 (during Burgoyne's campaign) <sup>2</sup>
Date & Place of Birth:	Abt. 1761, <sup>3</sup> Dutchess or Albany Co., Colony of New York <sup>4</sup>
Settled before war :	Stillwater, Albany Co. (now Saratoga Co.), NY <sup>5</sup>
Date & Place of Death:	probably 1804 Darlington Twp., Durham, Upper Canada <sup>6</sup>
Place of Burial :	Unknown. (The Daniel Lightheart buried in Snyder's Cemetery, Chinguacousy, Peel, Ontario, is this Daniel's 9-year-old grandson, who died in 1846. <sup>7</sup> )
Wife Name :	Rachel Sarah Burk <sup>8</sup> . Married at Christ Church, Sorel Richelieu, Quebec
Children :	Mary, Francis, Elizabeth, Phebe, Daniel, & John (d. as infant), all baptised in Sorel, Que.; Jacob, Isaac & William, all born in Upper Canada <sup>9</sup>
Biography :	
Proven Descendants :	Victoria Branch 2013.09.09 (Ronald Weston); Victoria 2013.09.09 (Ronald Alfred [Weston] Wingfield)
Military Info :	Probably about 16 when he joined Burgoyne's campaign. He spent most of that campaign as a guide serving under Fraser. Fled to Quebec after Saratoga; served with Jessup's there until the Loyal Rangers disbanded in December 1783. In the summer of 1781 he was 'on secret service'. <sup>10</sup>
Loyalist Genealogy :	Doherty names the Lighthearts among the Beekman Patent families whose Loyalist leanings compelled them to move to Albany County in the lead-up to war. <sup>11</sup> Daniel's father (Daniel senior) was briefly a prisoner of the rebels <sup>12</sup> but ultimately remained in the U.S. <sup>13</sup> His brother John also served with Jessup's. <sup>14</sup> Daniel's son Daniel (3 <sup>rd</sup> ) took the Oath of Allegiance and is listed with the Durham Militia in 1812. <sup>15</sup>

<u>Family History :</u>	Grandparents arrived in NY with the Palatine immigration of 1710 <sup>16</sup> and settled on the Beekman Patent in Dutchess Co. about 1716. The family is on record there until at least the late 1750s. <sup>17</sup> In 1766 Daniel's parents were living in Albany County <sup>18</sup> , and by 1776 Daniel and his brother were renting a farm in Stillwater. <sup>19</sup> Their father had a farm nearby. This area was the site of several critical battles during the Burgoyne campaign. Daniel started his own family in Sorel and hoped to remain there <sup>20</sup> ; eventually they moved to Adolphustown <sup>21</sup> before finally settling in Darlington - where several of them (including Daniel) appear in court records convicted of assault in an ongoing feud with another family! <sup>22</sup> Some of their descendants remain in the Darlington area; the youngest son, William, moved his family to Collingwood and they ended up in Hamilton; another line headed west. At least one of the daughters appears to have moved with her husband to the US and died in Michigan.
Family Genealogy :	Daniel Lighth(e)art, UEL - son of Johann Daniel Lighthar(d)t (b. NY, m. Marytje Heens) - son of Johann Bernhardt, aka Bernd ('Barent') Lickhart/Lieckthert/ Lueckhardt/Lichthardt (b. Germany [?Baden], m. Anna Justina)
Sources :	Information submitted by Ronald Weston (volunteer Sandy McNamara); Lynn McAlister
Reserved :	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Appendix B, copy of old U. E. List preserved in the Crown Lands Department at Toronto, *Centennial of the Settlement of Upper Canada by the United Empire Loyalists*... (Toronto: 1885); Memorial of Daniel Lighthart in the County of Albany and the Township of Stillwater. *Claims, American Loyalists, 1785-1788 Minute Book, Halifax and Nova Scotia*, Public Record office reference A.O. 12/98 (Public Record Office, London). 5-6 July 1787; G. K. Watt, *A Service History and Master Roll of Major Edward Jessup's Loyal Rangers* (Carleton Place, Ont.: 2017), p. 168. <sup>2</sup> Memorial of Daniel Lighthart, 5-7 July 1787; Watt, ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> No birth record has been found. "Return of the Country, Age, Size and time of Service of the Non-Commission'd Officer, Drummers & Privates of Capt. Jonathon Jones' Compy. Loyal Rangers for 1<sup>st</sup> Jany. 1782" states that he is 20 years old at that time (Watt, p. 168).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Several on-line trees give Susquehannah as Daniel's birthplace, but none of them say where they got that information, and so far I have found no evidence whatsoever connecting this Lightheart family with Pennsylvania. They are easily traceable in New York from 1710 to about 1780. (The little work I've done on Daniel's wife leads me to think *her* family might have been in Pennsylvania - maybe that's where the idea originated?)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Memorial of Daniel Lighthart, 5-7 July 1787; Watts, p. 168.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Daniel disappears from the records after 1804 and that seems to be the generally accepted date for his death, but I have found no evidence one way or the other. There is no death record I have been able to locate, and nobody seems to know where he's buried.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Dale and Ann Sampson Ward, recorders: *Snyder's Methodist Cemetery transcripts* (Halton-Peel branch, Ontario Genealogical Society), 1989, 2004: "Daniel died Dec 22 1846 aged 9 yrs 3 mos 18 das, son of Wm. & Mary Lightheart".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> The name is universally accepted, but there is no marriage record that I could find. Baptismal records for Daniel's children give their mother's name as Rachel Lighth(e)art; his eldest daughter, in the published genealogy of her husband's family, is said to be the child of Daniel and Sarah Burke Lightheart (F. O. Conant, *History and Genealogy* 

of the Conant Family, https://archive.org/details/historygenealogy00cona/page/n4, p. 326). Various members of the Burk family are on record in close connection with Daniel's family in Upper Canada.

<sup>9</sup> Information about the children based on baptismal records and (in some cases) census returns.

<sup>10</sup> Memorial of Daniel Lighthart, 5-7 July 1787; Watt, p. 168.

<sup>11</sup> F. Doherty, *Settlers of the Beekman Patent* (Pleasant Valley, NY: 1990), vol. I, p. 558.

<sup>12</sup> New York in the Revolution as Colony and State: A Compilation of Documents and Records from the Office of the State Comptroller, Vol. II (J. B. Lyon Company, 1904), pp. 232, 239; Daniel's memorial also states that his father had been imprisoned by the rebels.

<sup>13</sup> The 1786 application of Daniel Lighthart Senior for a grant of land as a loyalist was rejected because he was resident in New York, according to Peter Coldham (*American Migrations, 1765-1799,* Genealogical Publishing Company, 2000, p. 275).

<sup>14</sup> Watt, p. 168.

<sup>15</sup> J. T. Coleman, *History of the Early Settlement of Bowmanville and Vicinity* (Bowmanville, Durham County, Ontario: 1875), pp. 9-10.

<sup>16</sup> Henry Z. Jones, *The Palatine Families of New York* (Universal City, Ca.: 1985), pp. 563-64; *Documentary History of the State of New York*, vol. III, p. 564; W. A. Knittle, *Early Eighteenth Century Palatine Emigration* (Philadelphia: 1937), pp. 267, 287, 296.

<sup>17</sup> Doherty, *Settlers*, vol. I, pp. 378, 558; vol. 8, p. 165; "Abstracts of Wills on File in the Surrogate's Office, city of New York", vol. VI (1760-1766), in *Collections of The New-York Historical Society for the year 1897* (New York: 1898): will of Catherine Pawling, pp. 305-7.

<sup>18</sup> Doherty, *Settlers*, vol. I, p. 558; *U.S., Dutch Reformed Church Records in Selected States, 1639-1989,* Ancestry.com (Holland Society of New York; New York, New York; Schenectady, Berne, and Schaghticoke, Book 5), p. 167.

<sup>19</sup> Memorial of Daniel Lighthart, 5-7 July 1787.

<sup>20</sup> The Petition of . . . Daniel Lighthart . . . and others, Resident in and near the Parish of Sorel, *Lower Canada Land Papers* (Public Archives Canada, RG 1 L 3, Vol. 140).

<sup>21</sup> "A Return of the Inhabitants of Adolphustown, April 14, 1797", Ontario Bureau of Industries, transcribed by Linda Herman (http://my.tbaytel.net/bmartin/adolph02.htm).

<sup>22</sup> Susan Dawson Lewthwaite, "Law and Authority in Upper Canada: The Justices of the Peace in the Newcastle District, 1803-1840", PhD thesis, University of Toronto, 2001, pp. 112-13; "The King vs Daniel Lighthart, Francis Lighthart, Rachel Lighthart, Pheobe Lighthart", Court of Quarter Sessions, 1802, in E. C. Guillet, *The Valley of the Trent* (Toronto: 1957), p. 290.

## <u>Sources</u>

## Sources for information about Daniel Lightheart, UEL (Lynn McAlister – January 2019)

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