

Title:	Military appointment of George Ridout to the rank of Lieutenant in the Flank Company of the Third Regiment of the York Militia, 1812		
Creator:	Isaac Brock		
Dates of Material:	June 30, 1812	Record Group Number:	RG 402
Summary of Contents:	<p>This is the military commission appointing George Ridout to the rank of Lieutenant in the Flank Company of the Third Regiment of the York Militia. It was issued by Isaac Brock, President Administering the Government of Upper Canada and Major General Commanding his Majesty's forces therein on June 29, 1812. It is signed by Brock in the lower right corner and includes a red wax seal in the upper left corner. The Flank Company was composed of selected volunteers who could be fully outfitted with muskets and ammunition. In a letter to his brother Thomas, George wrote of his impending promotion, "I am to be promoted to a Lieutenant in the Grenadier Company which is a Flank Compy. [abbr.] composed of picked men nearly of a size and who are tolerably well disciplined." (Thomas Ridout Family Fonds, 25 June 1812, F43, Archives of Ontario; Robert Malcomson, <i>Capital in Flames: The American Attack On York, 1813</i>, Montreal: Robin Brass Studio, 2008, p. 23.)</p>		
Physical Description / Condition:	20 x 32 cm.		
Other Notes:	<p>George Ridout (1791-1871) was a member of the York volunteers during the War of 1812. He served as 3rd lieutenant in the grenadier company of the York militia, fought in the Battle of Queenston Heights, and was taken prisoner of war in April, 1813 when the Americans occupied York. Ridout studied law, and was admitted to the bar in January 1813. He was an active member of the Law Society of Upper Canada, becoming a bencher in 1820, serving as treasurer for several years, and assisting in the development of the library. In 1828 he was appointed judge of the Niagara District Court and reappointed in 1832. In 1836, Sir Francis Bond Head, Lieutenant-Governor, charged Ridout with insult to the person and office of the Lieutenant Governor and disloyalty to the policies of the crown, and dismissed him from his offices. Ridout denied the charges and was eventually ordered to be reinstated by Lord Glenelg, the colonial secretary. Sir Francis Bond Head refused to do so, and instead chose to resign.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Source: Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online http://www.biographi.ca/009004-119.01-e.php?&id_nbr=5230 retrieved 23/09/2012</p>		
Location:	Brock University Archives		

Source Information:	Material was acquired from Dr. Alexander Bain and family, 2009.		
Described by:	Chantal Cameron	Date:	March 2012