



"Stephen Eric Davidson especially helped me understand the pride of present-day Loyalists. His work on the Loyalists past is a model for genealogists, for he adds human details and family stories to the "begat, begat, begat" of traditional genealogies. "

– Thomas B. Allen, *Tories: Fighting for the King in America's First Civil War*

"Every now and then, a true gem crosses the path of the family researcher. A jewel that not only sparkles with new information, but also has the luster of being – well, just – entertaining. ... *Burdens of Loyalty* is an easy and entertaining book – more personal in nature than scholarly, but within its 200+ pages, the reader will find wonderful insights to the life and troubles of a family finding itself pitted against friends and neighbors and, ultimately, ending up on the losing side of the conflict. The story of the Loyalists after the War is largely unknown. The tales of blacklisting hardships, of resettlement, of the need to begin life anew in a foreign land leave the reader with a renewed appreciation for the fortitude of our ancestors."

– Mike Lyon, president of the Lyon Families Association of America

"Stephen Davidson sets his purpose for creating this book ... in his foreword: "... a more accurate retelling of the Loyalist story for the general reader, one that reveals the many aspects of the refugee experience across class lines, is long overdue." The first eight chapters clearly establish the background of conflict in "America's First Civil War." Davidson describes global tensions translated into community divisions between Patriot and Tory in Connecticut. Using his own family history as the anchor for reporting the social struggles around Lloyd's Neck, Redding, Stamford and Long Island, the author, in conversational tones, brings the amateur historian and the genealogist "up to speed" as he connects past and present history, landmarks and events of interest to the reader. ... Starting out as a family story and personal search for family, Davidson's work certainly puts a three-dimensional perspective on the dry facts of history. Because he takes pains to set the historical background for the revolutionary times, this ... book is worth your time to read."

– Grietje R. McBride, book reviewer for *The Loyalist Gazette*



THE BURDENS OF LOYALTY: REFUGEE TALES FROM THE FIRST AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

STEPHEN ERIC DAVIDSON

The BURDENS *of* LOYALTY

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