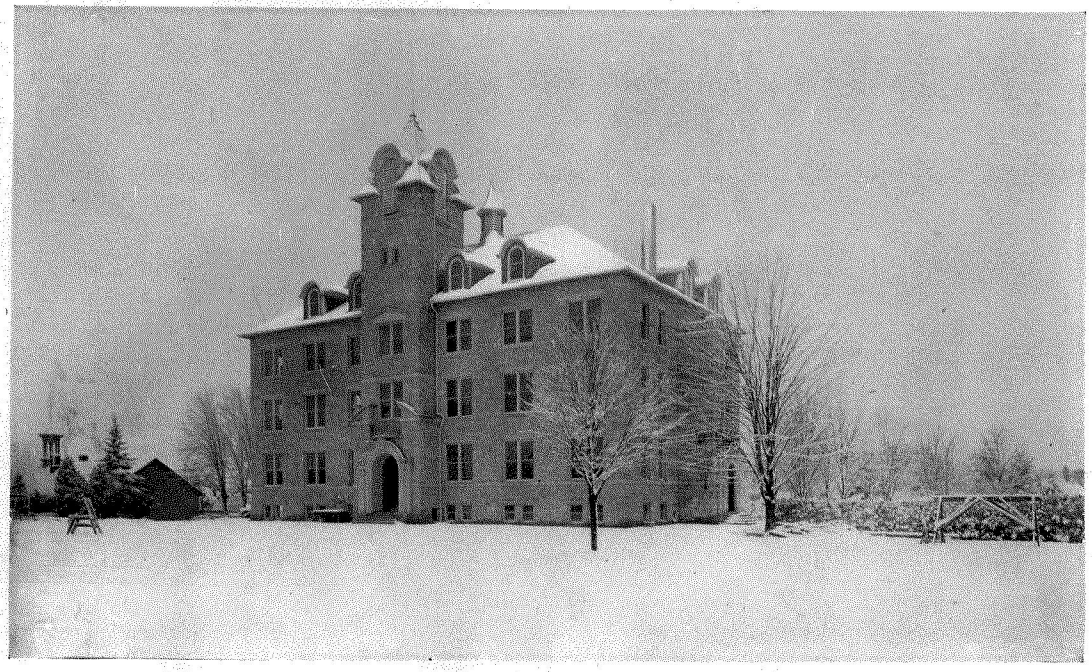
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# WATERLOO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NINETEEN TWENTY-FIVE



GALT COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE, 1906 TO 1924

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# WATERLOO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NINETEEN TWENTY-FIVE

PRODUCED BY
The United Press
LIMITED
TORONTO
CANADA

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1925

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J. N. MACKENDRICK

*Curator*

MISS K. POTTER

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## SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT, 1925

On November 13th, the Waterloo Historical Society closed the thirteenth year since its organization. This year the Annual Meeting was held in the Public Library in Galt, on November 5th. As the papers and addresses were of particular interest to the people of the city it was thought appropriate to hold the meeting there. The President, Rev. J. E. Lynn, presided.

Through a change in policy the Education Department has discontinued the grants to Historical Societies. It was feared that our resources would not permit us to print the usual report. However, we trust that satisfactory arrangements have been made to print the report as usual.

Substantial grants have been received from the County of Waterloo and the City of Kitchener. The towns of Elmira and Hespeler have also made grants through the efforts of our vice-presidents.

Following out a purpose had in mind for the past several years the Society this year placed a Memorial Tablet on the oldest church in the county, the First Mennonite Church, at the easterly end of King Street, Kitchener, which was the first church in southwestern Ontario, north of Dundas. This tablet was unveiled August 4th, during the week of the Kitchener Old Boys' Reunion, by Rev. J. E. Lynn, President of the Waterloo Historical Society. Bishop C. F. Derstine, Pastor of the church, gave an instructive address, and there was also a brief address by President W. H. Breithaupt, of the Ontario Historical Society. One-half of the cost of the tablet was contributed by members of the church. The inscription is as follows:

SITE OF THE
FIRST CHURCH IN WATERLOO COUNTY,
BUILT OF LOGS IN 1813,
BY BENJAMIN EBY, A BISHOP
OF THE MENNONITE CHURCH.
REPLACED BY FRAME BUILDING, 1834.
THE PRESENT CHURCH WAS BUILT IN 1902.
TABLET PLACED BY
THE WATERLOO HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
1925.

Work on the Waterloo Pioneers' Memorial, the first sod for which was turned at the Annual Meeting of the Ontario Historical Society in 1924, was begun early in the summer and carried out practically to the top of the masonry part. The design is a circular tower of field stone, to be surmounted above an observation platform, by a wooden spire. It is hoped to complete the memorial early next year.

Our thanks are again due the Kitchener Library Board for free use of the room for containing the Society's collection and holding our meetings.

A list of donations received by the Society during the year appears in the Report.

The postponed business meeting of the Annual Meeting was held in the Museum at five p.m. on Friday, December 4th.

The Officers were re-elected for 1926, viz.:

President.....Rev. J. E. Lynn
Vice-President.....C. A. Boehm
Secretary-Treasurer.....P. Fisher

LOCAL VICE-PRESIDENTS

Galt.....J. E. Kerr
Hespeler.....D. N. Panabaker
New Hamburg.....A. R. G. Smith
Elmira.....O. H. Vogt
St. Jacobs.....E. Richmond

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

W. J. Motz, J. N. MacKendrick, W. H. Breithaupt,
Miss B. M. Dunham.

MUSEUM AND PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

W. H. Breithaupt, Chairman
W. J. Motz, Miss B. M. Dunham

CURATOR

Miss K. Potter

## WATERLOO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### Financial Statement, 1925

Receipts:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Balance on hand, Jan. 1st, 1925 | | | $242 26 |
| Members' Fees | | $ 45 50 | |
| Life Memberships | | 19 00 | |
| Sale of Reports | | 24 80 | |
| Grants: County of Waterloo | $ 75 00 | | |
| City of Kitchener | 75 00 | | |
| Town of Elmira | 20 00 | | |
| Town of Hespeler | 20 00 | | |
| | | 190 00 | |
| Sundry Receipts: For Tablet | $ 35 00 | | |
| For Cut | 3 75 | | |
| | | 38 75 | |
| | | | 318 05 |
| | | | $560 31 |

Disbursements:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Printing 1924 Report | $190 00 | |
| Postage and Stationery | 14 28 | |
| Printing and Binding | 19 15 | |
| Curator | 30 00 | |
| Secretary | 40 00 | |
| Sundry | 20 30 | |
| Memorial Tablet, Mennonite Church | 68 25 | |
| | | 381 98 |
| Balance | | $178 33 |

Audited and found correct,

J. H. Wuest, Auditor.
P. Fisher, Secretary-Treasurer.

## PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS, 1925.

In the summer of the year 1925 an event of more than county or even provincial interest took place in the neighborhood of Orillia, Ont., when a monument was erected and dedicated to the memory and achievements of a notable Frenchman, namely, Samuel de Champlain. Seventeen years previous, there was held in the City of Quebec the tercentenary of the landing of Champlain and the founding of the city. It must have been a matter of great interest to those who attended either one or both of these functions. It may be possible that there were a few even of those so highly favoured, who would express their personal views of such events in the language of one who, under similar circumstances, exclaimed, "Why this waste?" or "Is it worth while?"

This leads us to enquire: What are some of the benefits derived or lessons to be learned from pillars erected on places which many think rightly should be remembered? We read in the Book of Joshua that a stone mound was set up in the bed of the Jordan to perpetuate the memory of an event in the national life of the Jews, viz., the end of their desert life and the place where they crossed the river to occupy the land covenanted to Abraham, the progenitor of their race.

The writer was unable to attend either of these historic events referred to above, but such monuments should challenge the thought, intensify the patriotism and stir the blood of our sons and daughters to make Canada a country to be loved and admired. The monumental facts of Christian nations are quite generally connected with the progress of truth, virtue and righteousness, and the heroes were guided largely by lofty motives and principles. Among the ideas thus preserved for us, we may mention the *idea of discovery*. This is set forth beautifully in the monument in Boston erected in honor of Leif Ericsson, the Norseman. The young Norseman looks out from the prow of his Viking ship. His eyes are shaded by his uplifted hand, his attitude is that of one ready to leap ashore. He sailed from Norway in 1001, nearly 500 years before Columbus sailed from Spain. Passing Greenland, he explored the coast of what is now Nova Scotia and the New England States. This monument was the gift of Miss Whitney to the City of Boston, which, with Baltimore, is called a monumental city. With many

others, it stands not merely to perpetuate the name of a hero, but to emphasize the sentiment of discovery which stimulated and directed Leif Ericsson, and was handed down to Columbus, Verrazzano, Jacques Cartier, Champlain, and to Peary of our own day. The same thought came to Franklin, respecting electricity, and was handed down to Edison of our own time. Discovery seeks to bring to view the things unseen, and its initial characteristic is faith. There is another monument found in many of the northern cities of the United States, the monument is called "The Emancipation Group." It represents Abraham Lincoln standing with hand outstretched over the colored slave and uttering the words that gave liberty to over four and one-half millions of enslaved humanity. There is an interesting monument erected on the grounds of Harvard University, which is called the "Ether Monument." The figure upon it is that of the "Good Samaritan," ministering to the man who fell among thieves. Reliefs carved in the pedestal represent the use of anæsthetics in surgery. On it is a quotation from Rev. xxi, 4, "Neither shall there be any more pain."

I must not omit a reference to a great educator, Horace Mann, who was pre-eminently and untiringly an educator, and as such extended his influence to our own Province of Ontario. You may see on the Normal School grounds, in Toronto, a statue erected to the memory and distinguished service of Dr. Egerton Ryerson, the man who filled a large place in Ontario Public School development. When appointed to office he visited the New England States, New York and New Jersey. He reported that the best system of secular schools that he had seen was that of Massachusetts, and gave Horace Mann due credit for his genius and success in completing the best system of secular education in the United States to-day. In May, 1896, the centennial of his birth was fittingly observed. In 1865 an attractive monument was erected and paid for by the pupils of public schools of the State of Massachusetts.

I referred above to a monument representing the emancipation of slaves. That will probably ever be regarded as the chief achievement in the United States of the past century. Occupying a very prominent place in that service to his country, we find the name of William Lloyd Garrison. He was the son of a poor widow, and at the age of thirteen was sent to learn a trade. He tried shoemaking and cabinet-making, but disliked both. He tried printing and said that he had discovered a trade that he liked. He was only a boy when he wrote articles for a newspaper, and was recognized as a coming journalist.

His great theme was emancipation. His efforts in the City of Boston were frowned upon by leading statesmen. He was denied the use of churches, yet he could not persuade himself that he was in the wrong. He started the *Liberator*, declared his convictions and was mobbed nearly every time he addressed the people on the streets and in the parks. He describes one of such experiences as follows: "The mob took after me and I was forced to run. They snatched my hat, they tore off my coat, and the vest followed. They tore off my shirt. Then they came to myself and the police rescued me." In the first number of the *Liberator* he wrote the following: "I am in earnest, I will not equivocate, I will not excuse, I will not retreat a single inch, and I will be heard." These manly sayings are engraved on his monument. He was one of the great prophets of modern times and lived to see the successful issue of his life's struggle. He sought emancipation only by moral means, disclaiming force in any form. Garrison's last days were crowned with universal recognition of his great work in educating the national conscience. That the civil war was a war of emancipation was largely because of that educated conscience, which made people in all parts of the United States come to feel that the institution of negro slavery was a blot that must be cleaned away, and the slogan which aroused the north found expression in the words of the great President: "No nation can exist and perpetuate itself half-slave and half-free."

Being a believer in the power and grace of Christianity, I cannot pass on without a reference to a monument standing on the campus of William's College; it is called "The Mills Mission Monument," and marks the spot where five young men, students of the college, were overtaken by a storm and sought shelter beside a haystack. They discussed the question of Christianity, enlarging its sphere of influence and service; and after discussion they formed a band to carry the gospel to the regions beyond. The names of this quintette are Mills, Richards, Robbins, Loomis and Green. The monument has a globe on top with the words: "The field is the world, the birthplace of American Foreign Missions, 1806."

I close with an imaginary visit to the Orillia monument of 1925, erected to recognize and perpetuate the memory and achievements of a great man, Samuel de Champlain, the man who easily stands first as an explorer, organizer, and, I hesitate not to add, missionary to the pagan natives of what was then known as Canada. When one recalls the hardships, jealousy, hostility, not only of enemies, but of his own countrymen, and

the success of his administration for twenty-five years under various and persistent difficulties, we cannot withhold our superlative praise and commendation which his life and service claim. He was a true patriot and regarded Canada as his home land. When he surrendered to Kirk and was being taken to England, he looked back to Quebec and exclaimed: "I am to be an exile from my country." This great explorer and statesman saw that it was a great opportunity to Christianize the pagan tribes that were brought into touch with him. Champlain brought with him in 1615, four Recollets, Jamay, D'Olbeau, Le Caron and Du Plessis. These men celebrated the first masses ever observed on Canadian soil. These were followed by Jesuit Fathers, whose lives were filled with service for the religious and civil advancement of the Indians among whom they labored. These devoted missionaries for twenty years subjected themselves to every kind of hardship and destitution, hoping to benefit and uplift the various Indian tribes. Shall we stand beside these monuments and contemplate what they stand for, and be unmoved and ungrateful? We have had our great men, statesmen, explorers, missionaries, writers and scientists, etc., who lived and served their generations, and contributed their best for the uplift of the race. Let us give them the honor and gratitude which is their due. They have "left footprints on the sands of time." Let us emulate their conduct and follow their steps.

# HISTORY OF THE GALT COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE, 1881–1914.

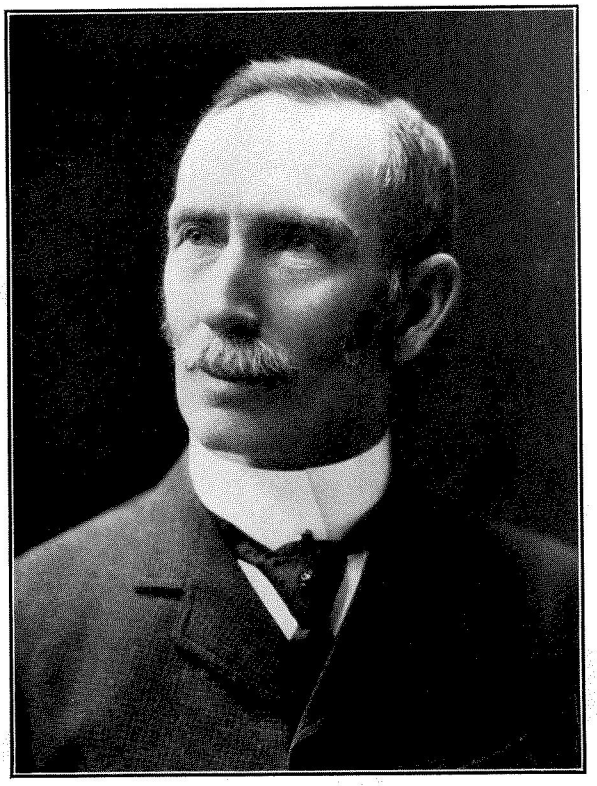
By Dr. Thos. Carscadden.*

The year 1881 marks the beginning of a new era in the history of the Galt Collegiate Institute. In that year the "Tassie Regime" came to an end. The late Dr. Tassie was practically the founder of the school, and for a period of twenty-eight years, 1853-1881, he was at the head of the most famous Grammar School in Ontario. Dr. Tassie was a great teacher and a stern disciplinarian, a remarkable man. He was a good sample of the "Old Dominie," who believed that the rod was the best remedy for indolence, indifference, listlessness and laziness.

The Tassie School was to a large extent a boarding school, and drew most of its pupils from the well-to-do classes in Canada and the United States, and in both countries old Tassie boys hold positions of prominence in the learned professions—in the pulpit, at the bar, on the bench and in the halls of legislation. Thus, the influence of the school was general and widely diffused, rather then local and concentrated. It prepared few boys and girls for public school teachers, and without good public schools you cannot have a high standard of intelligence in any locality, whether it be a township, a county, or a province. Besides, the Science of Education had advanced, and Dr. Tassie's methods of teaching and discipline were old-fashioned, and out-of-date; and as a result there was a general feeling in the town that a change was desirable. Accordingly, the whole staff of the Collegiate Institute resigned in June, 1881, and the Board selected a committee to visit some of the best High Schools of the province with the object of securing an able and progressive man for the principalship. The result was that the Board appointed Mr. John E. Bryant, M.A., Principal of Pickering College, as the Head Master of the Galt Collegiate Institute.

Mr. Bryant was an honor graduate in Mathematics of the University of Toronto, and was regarded as one of the best teachers and ablest organizers in our secondary schools, having done excellent work in the Whitby and Clinton High Schools

*See Biography of Dr. Carscadden in the Report for 1924 of the Waterloo Historical Society. Subsequently, in June, 1925, he received the honorary degree of LL.D. from Toronto University.



THOMAS CARSCADDEN, M.A.

THE FIRST GALT COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

and Pickering College. The Board gave Mr. Bryant a free hand in the choice of assistants, and the school re-opened in September, 1881, with an attendance of about seventy admitted High School pupils and a staff of four teachers: J. E. Bryant, M.A., Principal and Mathematical Master; Thomas Carscadden, M.A., English Master; D. S. Smith, M.A., Classical Master; and Noah Quance, B.A., Modern Languages Master.

The new Principal held liberal views of education, and the girls' High School, down town, was closed, the buildings sold, and the girls took their places in the class rooms of the Collegiate Institute with the boys, and received the same instruction. Soon a Commercial Department was added with W. G. Brown, B.A., at its head, and an Art Department with Mrs. Henry Miller as teacher of drawing and painting. A Literary and Musical Society was formed, and special encouragement was given to sports, and soon the school had good reason to be proud of its famous football team.

Early in 1884 the Hon. George W. Ross, Minister of Education, chose Mr. Bryant for the task of preparing a series of readers for the Province of Ontario. The Board gave Mr. Bryant leave of absence for this work, but before it was completed, he resigned the principalship because of an almost total loss of the sense of hearing. With deep regret on the part of the Board and the members of the staff, the resignation was accepted and Mr. Carscadden, who had acted as principal in Mr. Bryant's absence, was appointed principal, a position which he filled for the next thirty years.

The school building as it stood in 1881 formed a perfect cross, and was two-storeys in height. Only a part of the building had been fitted up for school purposes, viz.: four class-rooms, the principal's private room and a hat room for the boys.

As the attendance grew it was found necessary to turn the boys' hat room into a class room, and to accommodate the increasing number of pupils, the second storey of the section of the building stretching north and south was finished and made into two class-rooms. The whole of the building was now occupied. The old coal stoves that had supplied heat were discarded, and a hot-water system of heating was installed by the R. McDougall Company.

As the number of pupils increased, each high school Inspector on his visit called the attention of the Board to the overcrowded class-rooms, and the need of a physics room and a museum. Accordingly, the Board decided to erect a large addition, which would furnish space for many years of growth. Stewart and

Witton, a firm of Hamilton architects, were asked to prepare plans and specifications. The eastern wing of the old building was to be torn down; the new addition was to be three storeys high, stretching north and south with the main entrance facing North Water Street, and the material was to be stone, quarried from the school grounds bordering on the river bank.

The architects' plans were accepted by the Board, and approved by the Department of Education. The Board asked the Town Council for $35,000, the estimated cost of the addition, but the Council thought the ratepayers should be consulted, and accordingly a money by-law for that amount was submitted to a vote of the property owners, and was carried by a substantial majority. Tenders were then called for, and contracts let, and the work of erection began.

Meanwhile, the school moved out of the old building and took up quarters in the Town Hall and in the chamber over the market building, where it re-opened after the Easter holidays of 1905.

Such progress was made in the erection of the new building that the corner stone was publicly laid on July 1st, 1905, by Mr. David Spiers, Chairman of the Board.

It was soon evident that $35,000 would not complete the work, and at the August meeting of the Board it was resolved to ask the Town Council to submit a money by-law to the ratepayers to raise $30,000 to complete and equip the new building. The by-law was defeated, but the Board courageously continued to urge on the work, advertised for tenders and signed the contracts necessary for the completion of the structure. A few months later, the $30,000 by-law was again submitted to the ratepayers and was carried by a large majority. The building was completed and furnished, and the school re-opened in its new home the first week of September, 1906.

The Board that successfully carried through this somewhat formidable undertaking consisted of David Spiers, Chairman; Hugh McCulloch, Sr.; Dr. James S. Wardlaw, William H. Weaver, Thomas Hepburn, and the Rev. Robert E. Knowles. Mr. McCulloch generously donated a brass tablet, with the appropriate inscription, "This tablet is placed here in memory of the auspicious opening of this building, devoted to the pursuit of learning, on February 1st, 1907, which year marked the fiftieth anniversary of the incorporation of the Town of Galt," followed by the names of the members of the Board and the name of the Principal. The Hon. Dr. Pyne, Minister of Education, was the speaker on this interesting occasion.

The teaching staff at this time consisted of Thomas Carscadden, M.A., Principal and English Master; Ambrose DeGuerre, B.A., Mathematical Master; R. S. Hamilton, M.A., Science Master; A. E. Morrow, B.A., Classical Master; Miss J. W. Carter, Modern Languages; W. E. Evans, B.A., Commercial Master, and T. H. Bissonette, Jr., Master.

In May, 1907, the Ontario Government offered to establish an Agricultural Department in connection with the Galt Collegiate Institute. The honor of being the first Collegiate Institute to possess an agricultural department was gratefully accepted by the Board, and the Government appointed Frank C. Hart, B.Sc., Ag. as the head of that department.

The same year the Board decided to establish the departments of Manual Training and Household Science in connection with the school. Mr. Charles Yeo was appointed head of the Manual Training Department, and Miss Fanny A. Twiss head of the Household Science Department. For many years the fourth class in the Galt Public Schools had the advantage of training in these departments for one year before passing the entrance examination, and all Collegiate Institute pupils had to take the work while in the first and second forms.

September, 1899, saw the organization of the first Cadet Corps, under the instruction of Col. A. J. Oliver, who remained in charge until the following autumn. By this time, Mr. Evans had qualified as Cadet Instructor, and Cadet Corps No. 21 has carried on ever since that date, under the guidance of one of the school masters. It has grown and flourished, and many of the officers and men, who served with distinction in the Great War, learned here the first rudiments of military service.

In January, 1911, the Board appointed a permanent School Secretary whose duties are to keep a record of the names and ages of all pupils, the names, nationalities and occupations of their parents, the standing made in each subject by pupils in the term examinations and in the yearly departmental examinations and the occupation or profession that each pupil enters on leaving the school.

These details have become so numerous in schools that are combined Collegiate Institutes and Vocational Schools that one and even two assistant secretaries are necessary, especially when there are also several hundred pupils in the night classes, covering a wide range of subjects.

The Board appointed Miss K. F. Jaffray the first permanent secretary for the school, a position which she still fills. No better choice could have been made, for Miss Jaffray's retentive

memory, mastery of details and methodical arrangements of facts make her an ideal school secretary.

During the period of the Great War scores of letters went out from the Secretary's Office to the old boys at the front and their parents at home, and the school has a complete record of the 348 who enlisted, the promotions and honors they won, and the fields on which forty-eight of their number laid down their lives.

During the period with which I am dealing, many prominent citizens of Galt, other than those I have already named, served on the Collegiate Institute Board, and gave their best thought to promoting the cause of secondary education. Among these were the Rev. Dr. J. K. Smith, Rev. Dr. J. A. R. Dickson, the Hon. James Young, Adam Warnock, Thomas Todd, Dr. A. Hawk, J. N. MacKendrick and Wm. H. Lutz.

Several members of the teaching staff gave years of faithful labor to the school: Classical Masters—C. J. Logan, B.A., 21 years; A. E. Morrow, B.A., 7 years; Mathematical Masters—A. DeGuerre, B.A., 19 years; J. S. Cameron, B.A., 7 years; Science Masters—G. A. Smith, B.A., 6 years; W. Lochhead, B.A., 5 years; R. S. Hamilton, M.A., appointed in 1894, is still a member of the staff; Commercial Master—W. E. Evans, B.A., 22 years; Modern Language Teachers—A. W. Wright, B.A., 15 years; Miss J. W. Carter, M.A., appointed in 1901, is still at the head of this department.

During the thirty-three years of which I write a host of public school teachers have gone forth from the school, and hundreds of its graduates occupy positions in the learned professions, and in almost every other line of life. Among the most distinguished are the Rev. Canon Cody, the able rector of St. Paul's Anglican Church, Toronto, Chairman of the Board of Governors of the University of Toronto, and for some time the Honorable, the Minister of Education for the Province of Ontario; Major Duncan, Classical Professor in the University of Manitoba, who served with distinction in the Great War; Dr. A. W. Crawford, Professor of English Literature in the same university, the author of several able essays on the works of Tennyson and Shakespeare; Fred P. Gavin, B.A., for many years Principal of the Windsor Collegiate Institute, later, Inspector of Technical Schools, then Director of Technical Education, now Principal of the New Ontario Training College for technical teachers, Hamilton; Miss Donalda W. Dickie and Mrs. J. W. Garvin (Katherine Hale), who have made for themselves lasting names in the world of authorship.

These are a few out of many who have done and are doing credit to the old school.

SHERIFF A. S. ALLAN

# REMINISCENCES OF EARLY WATERLOO.

By A. S. Allan,

(*Sheriff of Wellington County.*)

The County of Waterloo, in 1842, was a part of the District of Wellington, which was composed of the Counties of Waterloo, Wellington and Grey, and the first meeting of the District Councillors was held in the Court House in Guelph on the 8th day of February, 1842. At that meeting Waterloo Township was represented by Jonathan B. Bowman, who lived near Blair, and by James Cowan, who lived near Galt. During the years 1850 and 1851 the united Council was called the Waterloo County Council, and the latter was the last year in which Waterloo, to which had been added Galt and North Dumfries, met in Guelph. At that meeting Dumfries was represented by Dr. McGeorge as Reeve and Duncan Fergusson as Deputy Reeve. Galt was represented by its Reeve, Absalom Shade. Jacob Hespeler was Reeve of Preston.

My father came to Canada from Scotland in the year 1843 and settled about a mile above Preston on the Berlin Road. It was there that I was born, on the 26th day of November, 1843. We were about a mile from Preston, Blair, Doon, Freeport and the first settlements on the Grand River, to which I am about to refer. At the beginning of the nineteenth century Waterloo was a dense forest. The finding of so many flint arrow heads on the plowed land along the Grand River was evidence of former occupants who not only occupied, but actually owned the land.

The first settlers from Pennsylvania arrived in Waterloo and settled on the banks of the Grand River in 1800, opposite from where the village of Doon now is. One of those early settlers was Joseph Sherk whom, and whose farm, I remember well. He had a cider mill on his farm and it was a great holiday to take the apples and get cider. I have fished up the river as far as the rear of his farm opposite Doon. On the adjoining farm farther up the river lived John Betzner, third son of Samuel Betzner. On his farm high above the river is a small cemetery in which Joseph Sherk, who died in 1855, and others are buried, and there a piece of land has been purchased on which is being built the monument to the early settlers. It is a commanding

position. I was privileged to be present there last year when the first sod was turned. I understand that the monument will not be completed this year.

The road past these farms crosses the river toward German Mills. Across the river there is a steep bank, and at one time I remember there was a bridge, but it was carried away and was never rebuilt.

Another of the early settlers that I knew very well was George Clemens who settled, in 1801, about a mile from Preston on the road leading from Preston to Breslau. Adjoining his farm there is a large Mennonite Meeting House, and near it was a cemetery, in which was a school house which Dr. Hodgins, in his History of Education, mentions as being opened in 1809, and as being the first public school built in the county and as being one and a half miles northeast of Preston. It was the first school that I attended, and that is how I knew George Clemens so well.

Between Doon and Blair the river sweeps around to near the road where we lived. On the top of the high bank of the river is an old cemetery in which George Clemens is buried. Near there was a distillery which I saw burn down about seventy-five years ago. On the opposite side of the river there was a large flat and the farm houses were on the Blair road. One spring I saw that flat covered with a raging torrent of ice and water. Just above Blair there was built a new bridge on the railway leading from Preston to Berlin. The torrent undermined one of the abutments, so that route was abandoned, and years later the present route was used from Galt to Berlin on the west side of the river.

On the Grand River about four miles from Kitchener is the village of Freeport, where there was a toll bridge and we knew the place by the name "Toll Bridge." Situated there, was the second school that I attended. At one time our teacher was Isaac Bowman, who, I believe, was head of the Academy that was established there later. The Brickers and Hilkers and others at that time left that neighborhood and went to Port Elgin, on Lake Huron. I remember a minister of the United Brethren, Rev. George Plowman. He was very much respected. The Waterloo Sanitarium is on the bank of the river opposite Freeport. I refrain from saying anything more about Freeport, as you have printed in your last Annual Report such a splendid account of Freeport and its neighborhood by Mr. M. G. Sherk. Many of the people that he mentions I knew fifteen years before his time.

About the year 1833, a number of families came from Aberdeen and settled in the Township of Woolwich, where now is the Village of Winterbourne. One of the families was James Davidson, my grandfather, who afterward went to Galt. Another family, also named Davidson, who lived on an adjoining farm, afterward went to Berlin. George became the first Sheriff of Waterloo, and his brother William became County Treasurer. I remember seeing both of them. Another family nearby was that of Andrew Geddes, who later was Crown Land Agent at Elora. His son John married my aunt, Mary Davidson, and Mrs. Geddes lived for many years in Galt. Another person that I knew long ago, and who was Presbyterian minister at Winterbourne for forty years, was Mr. Hamilton, who is now living in Guelph. Farther down the river was Conestoga. Charles Hendry lived there. His brother, William, became Manager of the Life Insurance Company in the Town of Waterloo, and I learn that Charles managed a fire insurance company. Farther down the river was the Eagle Tannery, owned by John and Sam Wissler. Sam founded the village of Salem, near Elora. I remember Peter N. Tagge, who was a prominent merchant at Bridgeport.

I attended school for some time in Preston. The first schoolhouse was a stone building in the rear of Klotz's Hotel, afterward in the new brick building. In the brick schoolhouse James Baikie was teacher, and he later went to Galt. Jacob Hespeler had a store and the Post Office opposite Klotz's Hotel. Some years afterward, he removed to New Hope and changed the name of that village to Hespeler. I remember the Erbs, Guggisbergs, Jacob Beck (the father of Sir Adam) and his partners, Clare and Wahn, and Dr. Folsom. Cornell's Hotel was where the Kress House now is. The mineral water was not then used as now, and we drank of it as we went to school. There is a brick schoolhouse about a mile south of Freeport, on the hill. It had replaced the old schoolhouse, which was the last one that I attended in Waterloo.

In 1845, Dr. Ryerson re-organized the school system. Upper Canada was composed of twenty-two districts and he appointed a superintendent for each district. My father was appointed for the Wellington District. He was I believe the only one who held the position for the whole district. There were local superintendents or inspectors for some municipalities. At that time there were no schools in the northern part of Wellington or in the County of Grey, but later my father went to Newash, near Owen Sound, where there was then an Indian

Village. My father was born in Aberdeen in 1787. He was an M.A. of Marshall College, Aberdeen, studied law for five years and practised for thirty-three years in the City of Aberdeen. In 1852 he was Inspector for Galt, Preston, and the townships of Waterloo and Woolwich. The following year the first meeting of the Board of Public Instruction was held in Berlin. I copy from Dr. Hodgins' Report of the schools in Waterloo:—Members were: the Reverend James Sims, Chairman; Alexander Allan, Secretary; Martin Rudolf, Otto Klotz and James Cavers. In 1852 Otto Klotz was for a time Clerk of Preston, but afterward my father was appointed Clerk and Treasurer. My father died in 1855 and was buried in the cemetery at the old Presbyterian Church on the hill, in which church he was an elder. The church has been taken down, and there is a pergola in which the tombstones of my father and brother are placed. When we drove to Galt we sometimes crossed the river at Blair. We called Blair the covered bridge; the bridge was from end to end covered with a roof like a barn. Some distance from Blair on the river side of the road, the first white inhabitant, named Dodge, had a shack. It is said that Mr. Dickson and Mr. Shade, when exploring Mr. Dickson's purchase in 1816, spent their first night in that shack. I knew well the person who afterward owned the farm, Mr. John Thompson, and they called their farm Cruickston Park. They sold to a Mr. Ashton, and after living for a short time near Roseville, they lived at Rosehill on the Blair Road. Ashton sold the farm to Mr. Wilks, who added more land and built the beautiful residence now owned by Miss Wilks. Ashton lived for a time in Preston, near where the Preston Springs Hotel is now, but before leaving the farm he built an immense barn on the hill and a brewery on the Blair Road.

We drove to Galt on Sundays to church and put up our pony at the Queen's Arms Hotel. Dr. Bayne had left the church on the hill the year I was born. I remember the Rev. Mr. Smith, and after him came the Rev. Hamilton Gibson. I always spent my holidays in Galt with my uncles and aunts, and went with them to Trinity Church. Dr. Boomer afterward married my aunt, Mrs. Shade. I remember some of the young men who assisted Dr. Boomer. There were: Mr. Dumoulin and Mr. Carmichael, both of whom afterward became Bishops; and there was Mr. McKenzie, who married Dr. Boomer's daughter, and lived in Brantford. Of Galt men, I remember Mr. Date, who had the axe factory; Mr. Esterbrook, who went to the U.S. and made the well-known Esterbrook steel pens; Adam Warnock and J. M. Fraser, who kept dry goods and

James Warnock, who was in hardware; Mr. Howell, Mr. Spiers, Goldie and McCulloch. I knew Mr. Hugh McCulloch well after I left Waterloo. Dr. Richardson was our family doctor. There were also, Dr. Seagram and his two nephews, Joseph and Edward. The last of the old guard that I knew in Galt were the Hon. James Young and Mr. R. S. Strong.

In an article in one of your Annual Reports I read of the streets of Galt, and I notice that they have named streets after, at least, four of my uncles. Davidson, the article says, was called after John Davidson, who was Postmaster; McKenzie, after William, who built Rosehill on the Blair road; Tassie Street, after Dr. Tassie; and Shade Street, after Absalom Shade, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1793 and came to Galt in 1816. I was eighteen years old when he died.

I remember when Peter Cook was killed. And when the boat went over the dam and several were drowned, one of whom was a cousin and also when my cousin, Absalom Davidson, was drowned. Any one who wants to know about Galt should read the Hon. James Young's Early History of Galt and Dumfries; and anyone who wishes to know of the early settlement of Waterloo should read "The Trail of the Conestoga," so well written by Miss Mabel Dunham.

I cannot close this article without telling of the high esteem in which my father held the early settlers of Waterloo, whom he knew so well, and for myself I wish to say it had an influence on my own life to be privileged to live, in my boyhood days, among the Mennonite people, who are exemplifying their quiet, consistent and Christian life by what they have done and are doing for their co-religionists from distracted Europe.

# GALT SIXTY YEARS AGO.

By Thomas Peck, Galt.

One afternoon, the latter part of December, 1923, when taking a walk in the eastern part of the City of Galt, and arriving at the top of the Central School Hill, to descend and cross to the western limits, a ruminating wayfarer observed a most beautiful picture unfolding in the western sky. The sun was sinking on the horizon, behind the range of hills from Shurley's woods, Victoria Park and the hills to the south as far as the stand-pipe, leaving the majestic pine trees standing out like sentinels, silhouetted against the ever changing tinted clouds in nature's gorgeous painting.

Down on Main Street there was found a crowd of pedestrians and automobiles patiently awaiting a chance to cross the various railway tracks. On the first track there was passing an electric car bound for the north, on the next a car was bound for the south, while on the third track a Canadian Northern passenger train was heading for Lake Huron. There were no bars or railway gates to protect this congested part of the city from accidents. No blame can be attached to our city fathers who had sought, time and again, relief from the Railway Commission, but their entreaties were always disregarded.

While waiting for the crossing to clear, visions upon visions loomed up, of sixty years ago, of this part of old Galt. There are endless tracks, freight yards, the C.P.R. offices, large freight sheds and a mammoth portable crane, where sixty years ago was seen a pond of water supplied by Mill Creek. North of Main Street there was a dense cedar swamp extending as far as Kerr Street, where the boys in early days built wigwams, cut pathways through the swamp and erected miniature bridges here and there with logs or a plank to make a short cut to school for the boys who lived at the upper end of Beverly Street. Many a time, through disobedience to a mother's warning not to take that pathway to school, more than one hopeful slipped off the log or plank into the muck and emerged from it black as Topsy, some parts even darker after the mother finished her chastisement.

As we turn our steps northward we behold the old stone building on Kerr Street, known as the late Colonel Peck's Malt House, with its two high kiln cupolas, which used to send forth

steam from malted barley being dried into malt for making beer; the property now being known as the Malleable Iron Works. In those days, from eighty thousand to one hundred thousand bushels of barley were converted in one season into malt, most of which was exported to New York, Philadelphia, Boston and Baltimore, some going to Montreal and to the old city of Quebec. Most of the barley came from the country surrounding Galt—from North and South Dumfries, Puslinch, Beverly, Wilmot and Waterloo Townships. In those days, barley constituted a big part of the farm crops which we do not find to-day. Why? Because the temperance wave practically killed the trade in that product and forced the farmers to raise other crops of much less value.

Visions of sixty years ago persist around Main Street crossing. A thriving industry was the old Victoria Wheel Works, erected by Thomas Todd about 1863 and for some years operated by him, then passed into the possession of Messrs. Young & Smith, who sold to Robert Scott in 1873. In 1882 the works were very badly damaged by fire, but were rebuilt and enlarged by Mr. Scott. The business was removed to the west side of the river, below the water works, in 1913.

We dip across the road at this point and find the Cater and Worth Marble Works and the Elliott Soap Works. The latter in early days was a brewery owned and run by a Mr. Whitney, who became renowned for the fine brown October ale he brewed, the qualities of which were known far and wide. Adjoining this building was the old pond, dotted here and there with stumps of the original forest trees which stuck up their noses several feet above the water and answered admirably for bonfires made by the boys to illuminate the ice area for skating. The only roof they had was the canopy of heaven, for in those days covered skating rinks were unknown. Note the change which has taken place in the last sixty winters. Instead of the famous old Main Street pond, we have railway tracks, switches, the Grand River railway station and the artificial channel for Mill Creek to chase its waters into the Grand River as of old. If Absalom Shade's spirit were to stalk round this old waterway and see what has been done to his plans for his mill and the raceway he made through his gardens to supply water to his bath house behind the old Imperial Hotel property, he certainly would be astounded at the transformation wrought during his long absence from the village he planted.

Do we awake from our vision and see, or is it imagery, that the railway bars or gates are raised and that the crossings are

safe to pass over? Yes, the coast is clear and across the tracks we make for the walk through the city down Main Street for the western hills. In doing so, we fail to see the old Stoddard Hotel, with its double verandah, where the farmers used to put up after delivering the wonderful sleigh loads of beech and maple cord wood which was the fuel used before coal arrived at our doors later. In the place of the old hotel, there looms up a big, red brick building, with a sign "Iroquois Hotel."

Further down the street there still stands the old stone cottage of the Allen family, built in 1844, which adjoined the famous blacksmith shop of the genial Jardine Brothers, both fine fellows of those days; on we go and find new stores and other buildings which add to a busy, hustling Main street, with automobiles parked from one end to the other and sidewalks congested with pedestrians, shoppers and ladies arrayed in gorgeous furs, chatting with their various friends, giving Galt a metropolitan air that our citizens should be proud of.

Arriving at the four corners of Water Street crossing, we quite naturally look for the old Waterloo House, where now stands the Bank of Montreal, the old hardware store of James Warnock, and the dry goods store of Frederick Guggisberg, afterward the firm of Woods and Taylor; and for the drug store of W. H. Lutz, where the Bank of Toronto now stands. Again we look for the old Gillespie drygoods store now occupied by the Canadian Bank of Commerce, and lastly for the Wilkins' clothing store, supplanted by the Imperial Bank. It is rather difficult in the dim darkness of these four unlighted money shrines to determine the wonderful change that has been accomplished at these ancient four corners.

Just a few steps further, on the edge of the Main Street bridge, we look for the stairway that used to lead down to the liquor store carried on below where the Waterloo Trust & Savings Co. office is now located. Johnnie Walker's best brand of Scotch was sold in this Venetian Liquor Emporium, and it is barely possible that the ghostly form of Johnnie Walker still stalks about the locality trying to ascertain why the sale of his inimitable wet goods has been interrupted.

In those days the floods of the Grand River had not reached the threatening stage of overflow and devastation we now experience with our spring freshets. The forests and swamps had not been cut down and, as a consequence, the snow and ice melted slowly. To-day, all is changed; the swamps and forests are gone, leaving the northern snows and ice exposed to the hot melting process of the sun and creating floods unheard of sixty years ago.

## Bank Burglary.

The old Gore Bank had a local branch in Galt, in the sixties. The office adjoined Miss Echlin's hat store, on South Water Street.

The bank door was reached by an open verandah extending from the street to the river wall along the south wall of the building. Upon entering this door there was found a capacious room for the transaction of business and a door leading to a small office for the manager, who, at that time, was John Davidson, one of Galt's early settlers.

There was a bold attempt to rob this bank in the early days of the eighteen sixties, while the first families of Galt were holding a ball in the Town Hall, with guests from Guelph, Berlin, Brantford, Paris and Woodstock; an event in those days that was looked forward to with much interest, as it was a swell affair in every particular. The ladies arranged the supper, which was a feast that would open the eyes of the present generation. The tables fairly groaned with everything good, including claret cup and punches, and everybody did full justice to the spread. The music was rendered by the 13th Battalion Corps, of Hamilton; the hall was decorated from floor to ceiling with flags, bunting of all colors, and with beautiful pictures loaned by the citizens. The stage was carpeted and furnished like a pretty drawing room to be used by those who did not dance, to play whist and to gaze upon the merry throng of dancers below.

The ball was again in full swing, after supper had been served, when across the waxed floor, a figure clad in overcoat and muffler was seen rushing through the maze of dancers to the manager of the bank. He whispered into the banker's ear the disconcerting news that burglars were in the bank. After a hurried apology to his fair partner, the manager, Mr. Davidson, took the arm of the strange guest and left the hall, whispering to several men to follow him quietly and quickly, and when they reached the dressing room they learned the object of the mission and the work they were to perform. Accompanied by the only constable in the town they lost no time in reaching the bank, where, however, the two burglars, who had been seen there, had taken alarm and escaped, before having had time to secure much booty. Both robbers were captured some weeks later, near Hamilton, and duly tried and convicted at the spring assizes in Berlin. One of them was the then notorious Bristol

Bill; the other was a man named Clews. Quite a number of Galt citizens and their wives attended the trial.

The person who first discovered the burglars was Mrs. Steve Wilkins, who, from across the street, it being a bright moonlight night, saw strangers on the verandah adjoining the bank, and promptly sent a messenger to the Town Hall, where her husband was at the dance.

## Twenty-fourth of May, Sixty Years Ago.

The Queen's Birthday was always a gala day and one of great rejoicing,—the main holiday of the year. Firemen of the old Galt Fire Brigade used to furnish splendid amusements and were the heroes of the day.

The advent of the day was always announced by a tremendous ringing of bells at six a.m. which, together with the explosion of innumerable firecrackers, left no doubt as to what was doing. Shortly after this hour the country people commenced pouring in, and then began the assembling of the firemen for the day's performance, starting with a grand parade at nine o'clock, in which were to be seen a big and little fire engine painted red, and trimmed with evergreen boughs, paper flowers, etc., while sitting on the engine boxes were the daughters of the firemen, dressed in white and colored ribbons, sashes and flowers, all looking most captivating to the youthful swain of the village. The engines were drawn by the firemen, dressed in red coats, white trousers and helmets, pulling on long ropes attached to the engines; next following came a troop of one hundred or more calithumpians, with occasionally a quaint float following up behind, and finally a band and other participants. This grand turnout, enjoyed by young and old alike, passed through the principal streets until it reached the old Cricket Grounds, now known as the C.P.R. hill, through which Rose Street passes, for a set programme of sports.

Those who loved the horse would wend their way up to the horse races on Sprague Road, where the course extended from the Hospital Hill to the old Kirk Hill, making a long, straight track; and what races they were! The best horses that could be got together were on the card; these included horses from the stables of Jack Scott, Joe Seagram, George Stevens, William Robinson and others. The races lasted all morning and were over at twelve o'clock, when another event used to take place at the noon hour on the hill of the Cricket Grounds.

The old cannon was taken every Queen's Birthday up to the Cricket Ground Hill and a royal salute given; which in those days was a big affair for the children. But on one occasion a fatal mishap occurred while giving the usual salute, resulting in the killing of two gunners, who were charging the gun, and blowing the arm off one of them clean across the old stump field, now known as Dickson Park and Park Avenue. This unfortunate accident put a stop to further gaiety that day and the cannon was taken back to the Square, where it has remained ever since as a mourner for its deed. It is now mounted on a concrete base with a brass tablet on the north side, giving the history of the gun, for which we have to thank the Daughters of the Empire.

The firemen always terminated their season's fun by giving a picnic for the public in August of each year in Tye's Bush, on the Grand River, the land that Dr. Harry MacKendrick utilized under a canvas cover for a number of years in his establishment of a ginseng industry, to supply the Chinese nation with favorite medicinal roots.

## A Faithful Musician; A Whole Orchestra.

Doubtless there are old timers left at this day who will remember a faithful musician who played for all the dances in the early sixties. This was blind Jimmie Muckle, who, although blind, was able to go about the streets of Galt alone, with comparative ease, just through instinct and the aid of a cane, which he dragged along the edge of the sidewalks. Many a barn-raising dance did Jimmie fiddle for; many a dance in various halls: He was also engaged for the dancing classes held in the old Caledonian Rooms over the Bank of Commerce, by Professor Robinson of Hamilton, who had classes once a week, in the afternoon from four to six o'clock for children, and in the evening for adults.

While fiddling, Jimmie always sat on a long wooden bench with his back glued to the wall, and kept time by beating his foot on the floor; while the dancing master occupied himself by shouting at his pupils who were not doing the steps correctly in the old fashioned quadrille, with its stately measure, as if it were the Parisian minuet. Dance after dance would be gone through until the last one, which all the pupils enjoyed more than any other, this being the old Sir Roger de Coverly. Jimmie would put much gusto and vim into tune and time, it being the last dance, the end of the lesson; after which, he would carefully

tuck away his violin in its shabby black case until the evening classes began. Jimmie did not go by dance programmes at parties. On the contrary, as soon as one dance was over he would shout: "Take partners for a polka, a waltz or redowa," as the spirit moved him, thus keeping the young people on the jump securing partners.

Those were the days when dancing was far more enjoyable than it is to-day, with the new fangled steps, such as the shuffle, tango, fox-trot, etc.

## The Founding of Cruickston Park.

In the beginning of the eighteen fifties, Great Britain had the emigration fever; some went to Australia for the lure of gold while others came to Canada for farming purposes.

There was one Englishman in particular, of good family in Great Britain, who determined upon testing the opportunities which Canada afforded. Arriving in New York, he came by railway to Hamilton, booked at the Royal Hotel, and, on meeting the proprietor, immediately formed a very favorable impression of him and they ultimately became fast friends. The proprietor then was one Dr. Taylor.

The young Englishman, with a view toward farming on an extensive scale, obtained from Dr. Taylor the desired information respecting the fertility of the soil and general lay of the land about Hamilton, Guelph and Galt. He took the stage coach for Galt; this was before the days of the Great Western Railway extension, where he booked at the Queen's Arms Hotel, on the Queen's Square, as William Ashton.

After looking over several sections of land and a number of farms that were for sale, he finally came upon the farm on Blair Road, now known as Cruickston Park, and immediately fell in love with it. Aside from the picturesqueness of the situation, it would be hard, indeed, to conceive of a more admirable location for farming on an extensive scale, as the whole place is surrounded by numerous fresh spring watercourses, indispensable for a stock farm, especially one of thoroughbreds. Mr. Ashton at once sensed these advantages, as well as the advantage of having an estate with such an exquisite setting.

He decided to choose this section of the country for his undertaking, acquired the property and set to build a pretentious Elizabethan home, somewhat after the style of an English manor house; also large, substantial barns, for the raising of

thoroughbred cattle, in addition to farming. Ultimately he decided to go also into the business of brewing beer, and built a brewery, which is still standing beside the ever-flowing spring which crosses the Blair Road and empties into the Grand River through the lower flats of pasturage land of the estate.

This latter venture was practically a failure and the business was closed down. Mr. Ashton was equally unsuccessful in the stock-breeding enterprise, and after having sustained heavy financial losses he decided to sell out, bag and baggage, and go to Virginia, in which state some of his relatives resided. The estate and fancy cattle were extensively advertised for sale by auction. Farmers from all over the country came to Cruickston Park to buy the fine cattle and pedigreed bulls.

When the sale was on, a fancy bull was brought from the big barn into the ring of the buyers, who were standing in the open, beneath the shadows of the large beech trees of the park. As the auctioneer was proclaiming qualities and pedigree a yard long, the man who was leading the bull by a long stock attached to a ring in its nose, was suddenly jerked by the animal, which had become frightened by the crowd, and he lost control. Before one could say Jack Robinson the bull was loose and the onlookers, realizing the situation, rushed for safety. The bull made one survey of the fleeing crowd and, after selecting the object of his choice, made a dash for his victim. The unfortunate subject took to his heels as fast as fate would allow him. He came to a beech tree, which he climbed with the agility of a cat being pursued by a dog, and seated himself on a limb sufficiently high from the ground to evade any further trouble from his infuriated pursuer. Sitting tight in his high-up seat, terrified by his narrow escape, he enjoyed the chase and capture of his foe. The fractious bull was caught and returned to the auction ring, and the sale proceeded; in the interim the crowd kept looking about for the missing man and when they espied Francis Lowell perched high up in a tree a mighty cheer and a roar of laughter rent the air. Mr. Lowell was owner of several farms in those days, and was particularly interested in buying stock at this sale. The sports around the ring shouted: "Come down, Frank, it is perfectly safe now." "Not on your word," replied Frank. "No, sir, not until that bull is sold and taken out of the ring will I descend," and he did not.

Some time afterward Cruickston Park fell into the hands of Matthew Wilks,* who more than doubled the size of the

*Mr. Ashton bought from Walter Gouinlock in December, 1853, and sold to Matthew Wilks in April, 1858.

original house Mr. Ashton had built, carrying out the same style of architecture; also adding more farm lands to the estate which grew to sixteen hundred or more acres, making it one of the finest estates in Canada.

The present estate has produced wonderful horses, also many cattle of renowned pedigrees, known all over the United States and Canada as of the Cruickston Park stock farm, in the County of Waterloo, Ontario. The grounds of the park surrounding the handsome old mansion are very attractive and interesting in many ways, especially the old forest of gigantic pine trees to the south, with a few pines still standing over 120 feet in height. As we walk through the park we soon reach the fine stables lately built by Miss Wilks, the old stables, built by Mr. Ashton in the eighteen fifties, having been destroyed by fire. On the estate is a beautiful old-fashioned kitchen garden enclosed by a stone wall ten feet in height, patterned after an English garden. You walk through the park to the garden gates, an arched gateway with heavy wooden doors, the latch is pressed down, you pass through and gaze on a pretty vista, into a glorious picture of flowers and vegetables in great profusion; the pathway from the gate leads to a round sunken water pool filled with lilies and rare gold fish. Nearby is an old garden seat which bids you rest and enjoy nature's charms.

### Absalom Shade Gives a Ball.

Part of the old Shade homestead, still standing after the Imperial Hotel fire of some years ago, left what was a large parlor, adjoining the large ball room Mr. Shade added to the original home. This ball room was handsomely finished and furnished with costly brocaded silk hangings, pretty flecked wall-paper, beautiful over-mantel and a gorgeous pier glass between two of the windows. A bronze and brass chandelier of much artistic beauty, hung in the centre of the ceiling, contained several dozen wax candles. All of these costly furnishings completing the handsome addition to the grand home of that early day, were imported from England.

In due time the opening of the new ball room was announced; invitations were sent out to Galt's four-hundred, setting forth that Mr. and Mrs. Shade requested the pleasure of their company on a certain date, at the formal opening of the new addition.

The fair Galtonians were exceedingly busy getting their dance frocks made, and the men were not far behind the ladies in excited preparation. New swallow-tail coats were ordered, old ones brushed up, while ties and gloves were in great demand.

At last the supreme evening arrived and what a gathering of the noble old regime of youth and beauty it witnessed. Grandsires and granddames in their gorgeous silk and satin gowns, lace caps, trimmed with artificial flowers and ribbons galore filled the handsomely furnished room which lent itself as a very gorgeous setting to the prettily gowned women.

Of course, in those days stately dances were in order, nevertheless several round dances were thrown in, such as the gallop, german, waltz, redowa and polka. When the fast dances began there was unforeseen hilarity. The gay whirl of the skirts created spiral currents of air that came in contact with the swell chandelier and the melted wax from the burning candles flew helter-skelter over the dancers. Many swallow-tailed coats were covered with wax snowflakes, while ladies received them on their bare arms and shoulders—the chandelier was hung too low. Notwithstanding this unexpected incident, the fun and dance continued until the step was completed, when the enjoyment of an excellent supper atoned for the misbehaviour of the wax candles.

The dance was carried on to the wee hours of the morning and after expressing their pleasure in the glorious time enjoyed at the instance of their host and hostess in the grand opening of the new ball room in Shade's mansion on Water Street South, the guests repaired to their respective homes. Absalom Shade died in 1862.

# THE EXILES OF 1838.*

By Fred Landon, M.A.,
London, Ont.

The outbreak of rebellion in 1837, as the culmination of abuses long existing in the province, is one of the ugliest portions of Ontario history. Though we condemn those who tried force to end these abuses, we must admit that the provocation was great, and so serene and judicious an authority as Lord Sydenham, first governor after the Union, was ready to admit that he was astonished that evil conditions had existed as long as they did without trouble. "Much as I dislike Yankee institutions and rule," he said, "I would not have fought against them, which thousands of these poor fellows, whom the Compact calls rebels, did, if it were only to keep up such a government as they got."

We are veering away from that harshness of an earlier day which so freely used the word "rebel." Toronto has not yet raised a monument to W. L. Mackenzie, but who knows what may happen when we reach the year 1937 and the centenary of the outbreak? The men of 1837 were not all honest, nor were they all dishonest. Opinions may vary with respect to Mackenzie or Papineau, but we can at least admit that they did something to make this Canada a better governed country, and if they need a monument—*si monumentum requiris, circumspice*—responsible government is their monument and a United Canada.

Mackenzie would be a far more admirable figure if it were not for his actions in 1838, when he became a petty trouble-breeder along the border, assisting in spreading in the United States a sad misconception of the outbreak of 1837. Thousands of people in the United States, particularly along the borders, believed that the Canadians were struggling for liberty, as their own forefathers had struggled against King George sixty years before, and they were eager to lend a hand to those apparently seeking the liberty they enjoyed. It was an utter misconception of the Canadian troubles, which were not an uprising against

*Summary of an address given before the Waterloo Historical Society and the County Canadian Club, at Kitchener, April 2nd, 1925.

the British Crown and the British Government, but against a clique which had fastened itself on the province and which regarded criticism of its actions as treasonable. For the border troubles of 1838, with their alarms and occasional fighting, Mackenzie cannot escape partial blame. His influence and that of others led men into aggressions of a foolish character, on the St. Lawrence River and along the Detroit River, and the sequel included military trials, hangings and banishments.

At the end of 1838 there was an attack made at Windsor, which is one of the most tragic of these border troubles. On the morning of December 4th a party of several hundred men, largely from the United States, crossed over from Detroit on a small steamer, the Champlain, and landing at Windsor, proceeded to burn and destroy property. They then marched south toward Sandwich, but encountered Colonel John Prince with a detachment of militia. In the fighting that ensued more than a score of the invaders were killed and over thirty taken prisoner. Four of these were shot by Colonel Prince at once and without trial, a high-handed proceeding which was later the subject of an official investigation. The main body of the invading force was scattered, and some were picked up wandering in the woods during the next few days. All who were taken prisoners were sent to London for trial before a military court.

Between December 27th, 1838, and January 19th, 1839, evidence was presented with respect to forty-four prisoners. The composition of the court was as follows:

President, Col. John Bostwick, 3rd Middlesex Militia.

Members: Col. James Winniett, 4th Oxford; Lt.-Col.J. B. Clench, 5th Middlesex; Lt.-Col. John B. Askin, unattached; Lt.-Col. George W. Whitehead, 4th Oxford; Lt.-Col. Wm. Brearley, 1st Oxford; Lt.-Col. Hon. P. B. DeBlaquiere, 3rd Oxford; Major Frederick Somers, 5th Middlesex; Major James Ingersoll, 5th Oxford; Major James Carrol, 1st Oxford; Captain Julius Talbot Airey, 1st Middlesex; Captain Edmund Deedes, 2nd Oxford; Captain Charles Purley, 4th Oxford.

Judge Advocate, Lt.-Col. Henry Sherwood, 2nd North York.

As a result of their deliberations, this military court acquitted one prisoner, Abraham Tiffany, but the other forty-three were all sentenced to be hanged. Four, however, were recommended to the merciful consideration of the Lieutenant-Governor.

Six of the forty-four were hanged in London between January 14th and February 4th. Their names are as follows:

Albert Clarke.
Daniel Davis Bedford.
Hiram Benjamin Lynn.
Joshua Gillan Doan.
Amos Perley.
Cornelius Cunningham.

Of the others, eighteen were transported to Van Dieman's Land, and nineteen were discharged, at a subsequent date, from custody. Of the experiences of those who were transported to Van Dieman's Land we know considerable, as several of the many sent away from Canada at this time later published their stories, and one at least of the group from London managed to keep a diary which remains as yet unpublished. The London prisoners left the jail in which they had been confined, on the morning of April 3rd, 1839, and were taken to Kingston, where they were locked up in Fort Henry. Late in September they were removed to Quebec and on board the ship Buffalo they left Canada early on the morning of September 28th. On this ship there were no less than 141 Canadian prisoners sentenced to transportation overseas. On the voyage one man, Asa Priest, died and was buried at sea. The island of Van Dieman's Land was sighted on February 8th, 1840, and the Upper Canada prisoners were landed on the 15th. Two days later they were visited by the Governor, Sir John Franklin, after which they were set to convict tasks. The Canadian party had included between forty and fifty French-Canadians, and these were taken on to New South Wales to serve out their time. The work set for those who remained in Van Dieman's Land was chiefly the repair and construction of roads. Linus W. Miller, in his "Notes of an Exile," says:

"The hardest work which we were made to perform was that of drawing stone in carts from the quarry to the road, a distance of nearly two miles. The road was uneven and half of the distance up hill. The carts, when loaded, would weigh at least a ton, the boxes being six feet long, four and a half feet wide and one and a half deep. Four to six persons were put to a cart and obliged to draw at least twelve loads each day. . . After working in this manner in the cold rain and snow from daylight till dark, half-naked and half-starved, we were turned like so many cattle into our cheerless huts, without fire, and not half enough bedding, to sleep in our wet clothing until another

day called us to toil and slavery. For seven weeks in succession my own clothing was not once dry; yet I was not troubled with a cold, or subject to any sickness. I was, however, greatly emaciated and felt that I could not long endure such horrible treatment. Those of the party who were not ill, or broken in spirit, became desperate, and bushranging and death were talked of as preferable to longer endurance."

Several of the prisoners succumbed to hardship or illness. By February, 1843, there were five dead in addition to Asa Priest, who had died at sea. The number of Upper Canada prisoners at that time was eighty. Three had made their escape aboard a whaler about a year previous and had reached the United States. Late in 1844 pardons were granted to a considerable number of the Canadian prisoners, twenty-eight of them leaving the island in January, 1845, aboard a whaler bound for the Sandwich Islands.

One of the exiles, whose diary remains, was pardoned in July, 1845, but was unable to secure a passage from the island until March, 1847, when he induced the captain of the U.S. whaler, "Young Eagle," to take him as a passenger for America. He was then in a sadly shattered state of health and died on June 13th, when the ship was off the island of Juan Fernandez in the South Pacific. He was buried at sea two days later. A few days later the ship foundered but the papers and diary of the unfortunate exile were saved and eventually placed in the hands of his family.

The story of the exiles of 1838 has little of the heroic in it. For the most part they were citizens of the United States who had interfered in Canadian affairs under arms, and their punishment they had brought upon themselves. There were some, however, who had acted in an honorable way and there were a few, including the unnamed diarist above, who had been caught in a net of circumstances which could not be satisfactorily explained. The records of the London trial are preserved at the Archives in Ottawa, and reading the evidence presented does not in every case impress the propriety of the sentence of death imposed. It is true that the death sentence was imposed in but six cases out of over forty, but transportation, with all the horrors of a convict settlement, was a terrible punishment. Even when pardon was given, the unhappy exile was left without means of returning to his own land many thousand miles away. Some of the exiles from Canada never returned.

There is a considerable amount of material available on the subject of these exiles, but no connected account of their experiences has yet been produced. The following are the better known narratives of life in Van Dieman's Land:

Recollections of Life in Van Dieman's Land; by William Gates, Lockport, 1850.

Letters from Van Dieman's Land; by Benjamin Wait, Buffalo, 1843.

Notes of an Exile to Van Dieman's Land; by Linus W. Miller, Fredonia, N.Y., 1846.

Narrative and Recollections of Van Dieman's Land During a Three Years' captivity of Stephen S. Wright; by Caleb Lyon, of Lyonsdale, N.Y., 1844.

Seven Years of My Life, or a Narrative of a Patriot Exile; by Robert Marsh, Buffalo, 1847.

The Exile's Return, or Narrative of Samuel Snow; Cleveland, 1846.

Copies of the first three of these narratives are to be found in the Toronto Public Library, the university libraries of the province and probably elsewhere. The narrative by Robert Marsh is a rare volume, one known copy being in the private collection of Dr. Frank H. Severance, Secretary of the Buffalo Historical Society. He has, however, provided an excellent summary of the book with a sketch of Marsh in his "Old Trails on the Niagara Frontier," pages 159-180.

Those who may be interested in pursuing the subject further will consult the bibliography of "Books of the political prisoners and exiles of 1838," by Dr. J. Davis Barnett, of the University of Western Ontario, printed in the Papers and Records of the Ontario Historical Society, Volume XVI, and also the extensive bibliography of sources of information relating to the Rebellion of 1837-38, issued by the Public Library of Toronto in 1924. These will indicate extensive sources which are available in the larger libraries of the province, or which may be consulted in special historical collections.

Sir Adam Beck

# BIOGRAPHY.

## SIR ADAM BECK.

By Arthur C. Carty,
London, Ont.

The death of Sir Adam Beck, philanthropist and statesman, at his London, Ont., residence, "Headley," on Saturday evening, August 15th, 1925, terminated the spectacular career of one of the most distinguished of native Canadians,—a man whose achievements in twenty-five years of public life are generally regarded as without counterpart in the annals of his country.

Though assailed at times during his life for alleged dictatorship and arrogance of method, his death swept aside all political bias and brought to his memory tributes such as have seldom been paid to a Canadian in any generation. His demise was the subject of comment and regret not alone in Canada, but in Great Britain also, and throughout the United States, where his fame as the world's most eminent exponent of municipal ownership had spread.

Thus Waterloo County, in which Sir Adam was born and raised, became the focal point of his biographers, and thus is the Waterloo Historical Society well justified in adding a brief review of his career to those which already have been published anent the pioneer German families from whence he sprang.

Sir Adam was born at Baden, Ont., June 20th, 1857, the fourth child of Jacob Beck and his wife, Charlotte Hespeler. President W. H. Breithaupt, of the Waterloo Historical Society, in his address on "Some Settlers of Waterloo County," published in the first annual report in 1913, provides an invaluable retrospect of Beck's ancestry, republication of which may be permissible here.

His grandfather, George Hespeler, never emigrated from Germany, but one of the sons, Jacob Hespeler, Sir Adam's mother's brother, was a man of great prominence in the pioneer affairs of Waterloo County.

Of him the following sketch is given in Mr. Breithaupt's notes on Waterloo pioneers: "Jacob Hespeler came to Preston about 1835. He was born in Ehningen, Wurtemberg, in 1809, and educated in Nancy, France. Of an adventurous and enterprising spirit, he left home at an early age and spent a number of years in the United States, in various occupations, among others that of fur trading, in what was then far western territory, the State of Illinois, where he was active at Chicago, then just beginning in importance. In Preston, Hespeler was first in a general store business with one Yoeste, a Jew, who apparently was a fugitive from Philadelphia, and was pursued and arrested. Later Yoeste was again in business in Preston. Hespeler continued alone, soon built a larger store and a dwelling house, and considerably extended his business, having also later a mill, a distillery and a vinegar factory in Preston. He tried to procure from John Erb a mill site near the Grand River, and had come to an agreement of purchase with Erb, whose wife would, however, not sign the deed except on conditions not acceptable to Hespeler. He decided to pursue opportunities elsewhere. He at one time tried to get a foothold in Bridgeport, but also without success. In 1845 he secured a water privilege in the village of New Hope, from Abraham C. Clemens, and soon proceeded to build a grist mill and began other manufactures, which all thrived greatly. Hespeler continued in business both in Preston and New Hope for some time. In Mackay's Canadian Directory, published by John Lovell in Montreal in 1851, he is given in Preston as a storekeeper, proprietor of the grist mill, distillery and vinegar works, postmaster and magistrate, and in New Hope as proprietor of grist and saw mills and cooperage. About 1857 the name of New Hope was changed to Hespeler, as we know it now. Mr. Hespeler died in 1881, having practically retired from business years before."

Mayor D. N. Panabaker's sketch of Hespeler, published in 1922 by the Waterloo Historical Society, adds the further interesting fact that Hespeler as a fur trader represented the interests of John Jacob Astor and subsequently of the Hudson Bay Company. Sir Adam had family precedent for his entrance into public life in the unsuccessful attempt of his uncle to gain election from his riding as Conservative candidate in the general elections for the sixth parliament of Canada, held six years prior to Confederation, in 1861. Mr. Hespeler had been actively identified with the opening up of the Great Western Railway and was accused in that campaign of using his connection with the railway enterprise to further his own advantage. He boldly met the charges laid against him, and showed that his

acts had been designed to bring the railway through the territory in the progress of which he was most interested.

Of Sir Adam's father, President Breithaupt's sketch relates as follows: "Jacob Beck, (born grand duchy of Baden, 1816), an enterprising young German, came to Waterloo County in 1837, from Schnectady, N.Y., having come from Germany the year before. He had invented a peculiar water wheel, described as of small size and large power, which soon gave him an enviable reputation. Starting a small foundry in the village of New Hope, he soon transferred to Preston, and built a foundry on the premises later owned by Peter E. Shantz, where he did a rapidly increasing business. Unfortunately a fire completely destroyed his foundry and rendered the proprietor penniless, as he had no insurance. Thanks to the liberality of neighbors a sufficient sum was raised by subscription to enable Mr. Beck to start anew, and to have a larger plant than that destroyed by the fire. He soon had a large staff selling his stoves, etc., in Western Canada. With increasing success he enlarged his premises and took into partnership two of his assistants, John Clare and Valentine Wahn. For improving the water power of Robert Hunt, proprietor of the woollen mills in the village, Mr. Beck obtained the privilege to build a saw mill on Hunt's property, which he carried on for some time. Beck evolved a project for a waterpower canal leading from the Speed River dam and supplying power to mills and factories along it, such was the confidence in those days in the plentiful flow of the river. The scheme for the power canal did not find support. Beck became displeased with Preston, and dissolved partnership with Clare and Wahn, Wahn continuing the foundry. He located a good waterpower in Wilmot township, at a place he called Baden, where, beginning in 1856, he soon established a foundry and grist mill and did a flourishing business. Lovell's Canada Directory of 1857 gives Beck as postmaster at Baden, miller, founder and machinist. Mr. Beck died in 1906."

To this may be added the further fact that Sir Adam's grandfather, Frederick Beck, a miller, disturbed by the growing strength of the Prussian political viewpoint, to which he was opposed, had emigrated with his family from Weiler, Baden, Germany, in 1825. The family, after two years spent principally in the vicinity of Schnectady, N.Y., had left Jacob articled to a physician in Troy, N.Y., and had proceeded into Canada to settle at the village of Doon. Jacob completed his seven-year course with the Troy physician before rejoining his family. He had become well established in Waterloo in the

ensuing years, and during the boom of 1852 and later, that attended the construction of the Grand Trunk Railway through Western Ontario, he subdivided a farm, sold lots, developed a community and founded the village of Baden.

Adam was born there at the family home and continued with his parents until his fourteenth year, when he was sent to Dr. Tassie's school at Galt. He had received his primary education in a public school in Baden, and after leaving Dr. Tassie's, finished his scholastic work at Rockwood Academy, another school of famous traditions, where James J. Hill, the railway magnate, spent his youth.

Sir Adam's early life can scarcely be claimed to have been attended by a fair fortune. He engaged with his father in the iron foundry and milling business in Baden for a time in 1878 and 1879. Subsequently he removed the little plant to Galt, where he commenced the veneering of thin lumber and the manufacture of boxes. He removed to London in 1884 for the purpose of gaining closer contact with the cigar manufacturing trade, which had then begun to afford an important market for his cigar boxes. For a time in Galt and London he worked his own plant, filed his own saws and delivered his finished product in a hand cart. Steadily, however, his enterprise developed and at the time of his death the Beck Manufacturing Company conducted, in addition to the head office in London, branch factories at Montreal, Toronto and Hamilton.

Sir Adam's entrance into the political field began in London in 1901 with his election to the Hospital Trust, a body charged with the management of Victoria Hospital, a municipal institution. There he interested himself in a general reorganization that became the subject of a spirited controversy in which he took a strong stand against the involuntary submission of poor patients to clinical examinations for the benefit of medical students. Sir Adam's position struck a popular chord and, in 1902, 1903 and 1904, he was honored with the mayoralty. In the first year of his mayoralty term he was honored also with election to represent London in the Provincial Legislature, from which point of political vantage he was able to marshall and stimulate the demand then awakening in various parts of Western Ontario, and especially in Waterloo County, for the development and widespread distribution of Niagara Hydro-Electric power. Sir Adam was appointed a commissioner, in 1903, to investigate the possibilities of the Niagara power scheme and in May, 1906, on the basis of the resultant report, introduced a bill in the Ontario Legislature creating the Ontario

Hydro-Electric Power Commission. He was named chairman of the new body and continued in that office until his death. Under his guidance and leadership twelve principal cities and towns between Toronto and London embarked in the enterprise of building up a co-operative, municipally-owned, electrical distribution system. Under the original plan, which had its inception in 1910, power was bought at wholesale from plants already existing at Niagara Falls and was distributed at cost by the Hydro-Electric Power Commission to the participating municipalities. The reduction in power prices was revolutionary and from the beginning success attended the undertaking. Other municipalities clamored for admittance to the pioneer group and were accepted without discrimination until at the time of Sir Adam's death the investment had grown to the colossal sum of $262,000,000, more than four hundred cities, towns and villages, and even townships and "rural power districts," were in the enjoyment of the use of more than three-quarters of a million horsepower.

The little power canal of Jacob Beck, the pioneer in Waterloo, found history's repetition in Sir Adam's greatest undertaking, the gigantic Queenston-Chippewa power canal, built by night and day effort through the war and post war years at a cost of more than $80,000,000. Just as the original hydro-distribution line, carrying 110,000 volts on steel towers, showed the world the way in long distance transmission of electricity, the Chippewa project became the cynosure of the engineering world, with turbine generators and other features greater than man had ever made before.

The fact that Sir Adam's Canadianism dated back the better part of a century, that he personally devoted himself with sincerity and good effect to the support of the Empire's cause, or that he had faithfully kept the trust the people had reposed in him, did not save him from malicious attack when Britain and Germany unsheathed the sword. Sir Adam as an honorary colonel, gazetted in 1912, and chief of the Canadian Remount Service, personally supervised the purchase of thousands of horses for army service. To insure the best results he visited the West front to study army remount requirements, gave the pick of his stables to the leader of the Canadian division, and returned to Ottawa, uncashed, all checks issued to him for the pay and allowances of his rank. In London he ranked as the most generous of all contributors to patriotic causes.

The growth of the Hydro-Electric Power System engaged so great a part of Sir Adam's time that for many years prior to his death he lived in Toronto from Monday until Friday, and spent only the week ends at his home in London. Thus he became intimately associated with the public enterprises of the provincial capital. During the campaign preceding the provincial general election in 1919 he remained in Toronto, where he conceived high public interests to be at stake, and returned to London on the eve of the election to find his personal strength undermined. Dr. H. A. Stevenson, a physician whose many beneficences, in the practise of his profession, had endeared him to the hearts of thousands of people, had been placed in the field as the Liberal nominee. In addition to this powerful opposition, Sir Adam found himself accused as a German in the malignant post-war atmosphere, and assailed likewise by those who frankly said that his work had become so provincial in scope that London had lost local representation. Sir Adam was defeated, and with the resultant loss of political prestige returned to Toronto to find that opponents of municipal ownership had centred upon him a barrage such as had never before been experienced by any man in public life in Ontario. The new provincial administration set up the Gregory Commission to probe the hydro system and especially the Chippewa development. The years of sniping unquestionably sapped the seemingly indomitable energy of the hydro knight, and when the people of London re-elected him in 1923, it was noticed that he had suddenly grown old. The death of Lady Beck (Oct. 17th, 1921), at the height of these assaults, bereft him of a helpmeet who had been his interested support and counsellor in all his enterprises.

In all of his public and patriotic activities she had maintained the most intimate association. She shared with Sir Adam a keen appreciation of good horses and appeared with him to capture many prizes at the great horse shows of Canada and the United States, as well as Great Britain. Their home-bred entries represented the Dominion in the International Horse Show, Olympia, London, England, and carried off championships in 1907, 1909 and 1913. Sir Adam was honored with election to the directorate of the International in 1911, and he also held similar positions with the National Horse Show Association of America.

They were presented at court during the reign of King Edward VII, in 1909, and in 1914 Sir Adam was created a Knight Bachelor by King George V. Sir Adam was appointed

a minister without portfolio in the Whitney Cabinet in 1905, and was similarly honored with the return of the Ferguson administration, following the defeat of the U.F.O. Government in 1923.

Despite the fact that Sir Adam's provincial activities earned for him the cognomen of "the human dynamo," he found time simultaneously to carry forward a rather extraordinary public programme in his home city, London. There he entered into a campaign to preserve the city's pure spring domestic water supply, and under a personal guarantee defeated a river water scheme and created the Beck Artesian Well system in 1909. To provide London with an independent route to Lake Erie, thus to gain the advantages of water competition in the fixing of freight rates, he carried through the plan for the electrification and municipalization of the London and Port Stanley Railway in 1915. This scheme was at first intended to serve as an example, and ultimately as an integral link in a projected system of publicly-owned hydro-radial railways. The revolutionary change in economic conditions brought about by the increased use of private motor cars, the development of motor trucks and motor busses, and the incidental creation of a widespread system of paved provincial highways caused the abandonment of this undertaking.

Though these great enterprises were close to the heart of the power knight, nothing was so dear to him as the Queen Alexandra Sanatorium for the tuberculous, the establishment of which was brought about by Sir Adam and Lady Beck after the recovery of their own little daughter from "a severe illness." This institution, founded in 1910 at Byron village, five miles west of London, attained a place of incalculable importance during the World War, when hundreds of gassed and infected soldiers were returned from overseas. Under the supervision of Sir Adam, who continued in the presidency from its establishment until his death, the sanatorium grew to be a million dollar institution, with a record of having treated nearly 4,000 civilian and military patients. Little had been heard of the sanatorium in a provincial way during Sir Adam's life, but in response to his death-bed appeal the people of the province, not long after his demise, subscribed $500,000 as the Beck Memorial Endowment for the maintenance, in perpetuity, of poor sufferers from tuberculosis. The fund is also to be used to sustain a vigorous continuance of important research activities carried on at the sanatorium laboratories.

Lady Beck, who was a daughter of the late C. J. Ottaway, barrister, of the Inner Temple, London, Eng., became Sir Adam's bride in September, 1898. Her mother, by a second marriage, Mrs. Crerar, was for many years socially prominent in Hamilton, Ont. Lady Beck was an accomplished vocalist, President of the Western Ontario Red Cross Society during the World War, and President of the Ladies' Advisory Board of the Queen Alexandra Sanatorium.

Their only child, Marion, born at London during the first year of Sir Adam's mayoral term at London, is now Mrs. J. Strathearn Hay, of Toronto.

The final illness of Sir Adam compelled him to seek a vacation in the autumn of 1924. He proceeded to Aiken, S.C., intending to spend a few weeks as the guest of his friend Dr. John L. Todd of Montreal, who had a winter residence there. Dr. Todd, however, soon recognized the serious impairment of Sir Adam's health, and caused him to proceed without delay to Johns Hopkins Hospital at Baltimore. There the trouble was proven to be pernicious anaemia, and a series of blood transfusions were carried out during the next few months. Sir Adam returned to London in the spring, fully aware that he must conserve his strength, but despite this fact he made a vigorous re-entry into municipal affairs, and soon after suffered a relapse that ended in his death on August 15th. Sir Adam, though he had commenced life with comparatively little, left an estate of more than $600,000. His wife also was substantially wealthy in her own right.

Of Sir Adam Beck, on the personal side, it may be said that he was a man of extraordinary vitality; a magnificent fighter, a gladiator in the political arena; a strenuous and convincing platform speaker when dealing with the public ownership and operation of public utilities; an adroit and resourceful adversary in any cause that he espoused. He had an amazing capacity for work, and in that light was something of a hard driver. Finally, of Sir Adam it must be said that he was a man of incorruptible integrity. Nearly all of his stupendous public undertakings were built upon the public conviction that the administration of the people's money was safe in his hands.

## DR. JOHN BEATTIE CROZIER.
(Supplemental.)

The 1923 Annual Report of the Waterloo Historical Society contained a biography of Dr. John Beattie Crozier, a native of Galt. The following, contributed by the Right Honorable T. P. O'Connor, M.P., to the London *Times* of September 27th, 1925, is additional. It was republished in the Galt *Reporter*, November 12th, 1925.

"Many years ago, when I was a young and penniless journalist, I used to meet at 'Cogers' Hall' or the 'Green Dragon'—a great rendezvous for young men of the time, especially if they were down on their luck—a young man whose appearance alone was sufficiently striking and winning to demand your attention and your regard. He was very tall—about six feet two, very thin, with a perfectly well-balanced physique, a very handsome face—long and thin, with a well-shaped nose, and, above all, with eyes of almost dazzling brilliancy. He turned out to be a Canadian of Scotch descent, a medical man who had just taken his degree and was starting on the perilous path of the medical profession in London.

"He had two good strokes of luck in these early and trying years; he got the job of medical attendant to a wealthy man with violent heart disease; and one of the conditions was that he should receive a legacy of £1,000 on his patient's death. He managed to keep the patient alive for several years; but when death came, he duly got his legacy. His second great piece of luck was to marry the most devoted wife a man ever had. He set up practice in the far West of London. His name was J. Beattie Crozier, and he was born in the town of Galt in Canada, and brought up by a very strict mother in the sternest and narrowest Presbyterian creed. He soon got quite a good practice, and ought to have ended as one of the great specialists of Harley street, and, in fact, he could have been a specialist in anything. Apart from his general knowledge of the profession, he gave particular study to the eyes and the ears, to skin diseases, to every form almost of human malady.

"And then he was caught in the whirlwind of a great idea and a great purpose. He formed the opinion that, like Herbert Spencer, and other great psychologists, he had

found the key to the riddle of human history and life. He produced book after book—which had a limited sale; it is true, but among the finest minds. General Younghusband told me once that when he went on his historic expedition to Thibet, he took with him one of Crozier's books as a travelling companion. Crozier was, of course, an evolutionist, and read history with that fundamental theory as his guide. He worked at these books of his night and day for forty years, he read thousands of volumes, and ultimately he ceased to develop his practice and remained a general practitioner all his life, but his great task brought him almost to blindness, to heart disease, and to moderate poverty. His wife sacrificed herself to the great task of her husband with the same reckless disinterestedness; read for him and wrote for him till she, too, became almost blind —and then died; he ultimately succumbed to heart disease. He lived in his genteel poverty, was partly relieved by a small pension from the government—which Lord Balfour, at my request, slightly increased—and, in his far-off suburban residence, awaited death with serenity.

"It is a daughter of this old brilliant friend of mine, with a history so tragic and at the same time so noble, who has just written to me to say she is going to get married on the last day of this month. Gladys Crozier is certainly a worthy daughter of such a father. When he died I told her I would make strong and I hoped successful efforts to have a portion of his pension awarded to her as the daughter of a man who had contributed so much to science and literature. Just as I was about to succeed she wrote to me a letter saying that she preferred to depend entirely on her own work as a journalist, and faced bravely thus her difficult future. She has always been particularly dear to me because of her striking resemblance to her father and to her mother; and though I do not think any man in the world good enough for her, I think she has found a worthy man in Mr. Clifford Smith. He is a prominent man in the world of art; he was one of the original members of the National Art Collections Fund, and is a very active member of the Burlington Fine Arts Club; he is official visitor to Chequers on behalf of the Victoria and Albert Museum, and by arrangement with the director he supervises the works of art in the house in consultation with the Secretary of the Trust. He is also one of the governors of the Sulgrave Manor Board, of which Lord Lee of Fareham (the donor of Chequers to the nation) is chairman."

## DONATIONS, 1925.

Large framed photograph of J. Y. Shantz. Presented by Mrs. D. B. Detweiler, Kitchener.

The Laborer's Friend and the Corn Laws, April 1, 1840. Donated by Geo. Turnbull, Kitchener.

Framed photograph, Grand River Canoeing Club, 1880.

Rangers' Football Club, nine group photos, 1880-1904.

Rangers' Football Club, framed Badges and Medals. Donated by D. Forsyth, B.A., Beamsville.

Photograph, Friedensfest der Deutschen in Canada, 1871. Donated by William Rittinger, Kitchener.

Berlin High School Football Club, 1879-80, Member's Ticket. Donated by Wm. Motz, Kitchener.

Remains of a door post hollowed out by the African white ant. When the destructive work is complete the post still appears perfect on the surface; if grasped in the hand it collapses in this condition. Presented by the Rev. Ira Sherk, Jebba, Nigeria, West Africa, through Jacob B. Shantz, Kitchener.

Rules adopted by the Galt Building Society, Established 1848.

Menu of complimentary dinner tendered to the Waterloo Members of the Canadian Contingents, South African War, Imperial Hotel, Galt, Feb. 5, 1901.

History of the British Union Jack for Soldiers and Civilian Teachers and Pupils, etc., Christmas, 1917.

First Annual Report of the Shareholders of the Galt Building Society, from May 30th, 1848, to May 1st, 1849.

Commission: William Jaffray to be a notary public, 1860.

Garfield's last letter, facsimile, Aug. 11th, 1881. Donated by J. P. Jaffray, Galt.

Pair of old style harness hames, from Beauvoir, Miss., formerly belonging to Jefferson Davis, President Southern Confederacy, by courtesy of Geo. C. H. Lang. Donated by Robt. Nahrgang, Royal Oak, Mich.

Wellington Fire Insurance Company: a Historical Review, 1840. Donated by W. H. Buscombe.

Kitchener & Waterloo Directories, 1922-23, 1924-25. Donated by Louis Breithaupt Estate.

## EXCHANGE LIST

Brant Historical Society.
Burton Historical Collection, Detroit Public Library.
Canadian Historical Association.
Commission of Conservation (Reports), Ottawa.
Elgin Historical and Scientific Institute.
Essex Historical Society.
Huron Institute (Collingwood).
Library of Congress (Reports), Washington, D.C.
London and Middlesex Historical Society.
Minnesota Historical Society.
Niagara Historical Society.
Ontario Historical Society.
Ontario Land Surveyors' Association.
Thunder Bay Historical Society.
United Empire Loyalists' Association.
Wentworth Historical Society.
Women's Canadian Historical Society, Ottawa.
York Pioneer and Historical Society.