TWENTY FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

of the

WATERLOO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NINETEEN THIRTY-SIX

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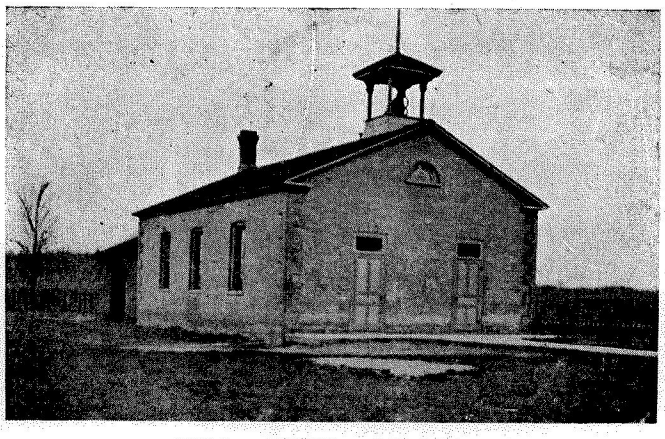

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1936

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

The 24th annual meeting of the Waterloo Historical Society was held in the Y.M.C.A. building, Kitchener, on Friday evening, October 30th, 1936. Mr. D. N. Panabaker, the President, occupied the Chair.

The program consisted of the President's address on "Times of 80 Years Ago," a paper by Mr. O. Hamilton, "New Hamburg," presented as an historical sketch of the early history of New Hamburg, and a paper presented by Major M. S. Boehm, Toronto, on the Boehm Family, pioneers of early Ontario days.

A list of the officers of the Society for 1937 appears elsewhere in the report.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 1936

Receipts:		
Balance on hand at Dec. 31st, 1935		$ 95.73
Sales of Reports	$ 7.35	
Members' Fees	18.50	
Bank Interest	1.30	
Grants	245.00	
		272.15
		$367.88
Disbursements:		
Binding	$26.50	
Printing	4.32	
Curator	25.25	
Janitor	19.00	
Museum	98.00	
		173.07
Balance		$194.81

Audited and found correct.

E. HERNER, Auditor

P. FISHER, Secretary-Treasurer.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

EIGHTY YEARS AGO — D. N. Pannabaker

Four years ago, I was privileged to present a paper for publication in our Annual Report, containing some details of the events in Canadian History and the activities of our County of Waterloo which pertained to the year 1853, at which time Waterloo County was established as a Municipal unit as it still continues.

Perhaps I am presumptious in asking you who are present at this annual meeting, to look back again with me over the bridge of those eighty-odd years, so that we may delineate for ourselves a sketch of the events of that fifth decade of the 19th century.

Our object would be two-fold; not only to get glimpses of the prevailing conditions of that time, but also by comparison, to note what progress we have made in the eight decades which have elapsed since.

May I revert to the closing paragraph of my previous address?

Referring to the year 1853, I stated that a student of those times would find in the Parliamentary activities of Canada discussions and enactments concerning very important questions—Sectarian Schools, The Clergy Reserves, Increased Parliamentary Representation, Customs Duties, Currency, Weights and Measures, Revision of Federal Laws, Repeal of Usury Laws, Abolition of Courts of Chancery and numerous other important social and financial bills, as well as the chartering of great corporations to provide extensive means of transportation by railway and water, including such unprecedented undertakings in this country as the building of a suspension bridge over the Niagara River and the greater Victoria (tubular) bridge over the St. Lawrence.

I further stated that one who studied those times would also find that the citizens of Waterloo County were alive and awake to those far-reaching questions and enterprizes of the times and were doing their share to further the 'business of living' as they understood it.

In our effort on the present occasion to look back as I have suggested to those distant scenes, I know it is going to be difficult to concentrate on any one of the interesting features, for the horizon is so broad and the various scenes

so involved that if we engage ourselves in one direction we will be missing something of equal or greater importance in another direction.

If we sense as we should the expanding or broadening outlook of the people then engaged in the 'business of living' as we have called it, we cannot confine ourselves to Waterloo County activities or those of Canada, but we must expand our view to include practically world-wide events. For as the result of the development of telegraph facilities and newspapers our citizens undoubtedly were then beginning to think in broader terms than ever before and if we were disposed to ignore the relationships or reactions of those world-wide events to or upon our local county activities we would find we had no warrant for such an attitude.

One reference would no doubt make this quite clear but the examples could be multiplied over and over.

Look, if you will, at the clouds gathering over Europe in 1853, which eventually broke out in the Crimean War, engaging as you know, Russia, Turkey, France and Great Britain, for the following three years.

Were we to ask if that distant event had a reaction on Canadian or Waterloo County enterprises, one answer would be found in the difficulty experienced right here in this county to obtain capital with which to pay for the labor and materials required in the construction of our railway lines then in progress of building. Great Britain required about $350,000,000 to finance the war, France about as much and a half more, and Russia twice as much as Great Britain; and money was scarce for other public enterprises.

Further light on our question is obtained by looking upon such scenes as that which took place upon the Mersey River at Liverpool of which one example must serve.

It is in 1854. Four steam-tenders carrying soldiers for the Crimea and their equipment are passing down stream to connect with the war transport ship "Niagara". They bear the names "Satellite" "Jackall" "Monkey" and "Badger". The regiment bands on board play "St. Patrick's Day in the Morning," Cheer Boys, Cheer" and other popular airs, and the National Anthem.

On their way down the river they pass three emigrant ships, one named the "Africa", about to embark for

Australia, the other two named "The Winchester" and "The Break of Day", for America, all crowded with emigrants.

Is it difficult to believe that many hundreds, even thousands of men who would have made good settlers on this side of the Atlantic, went to their death in the Crimea and were lost to this New World?

Let us also view other scenes in which the same transport ship—"The Niagara"—is one of those engaged in the thrilling peaceful enterprise destined eventually to bring distant worlds into closer contact—the laying of the first Atlantic cable.

Our scene changes to the year 1857. The first effort proves a failure, the cable snapped when "The Niagara," early in the month of August, had reached 380 miles from Valentia on the Irish coast, but like King Bruce's spider, after repeated disappointments, one year later to the exact day of the first departure from Ireland of the cable ships, the two ships "The Niagara" and the "Agamemmon," having this time spliced their cable in mid-ocean, and each started for opposite coasts, on August 5th, 1858, were able to notify each other through the cable that they had landed at their respective ports—one at Valentia Harbour the other at Trinity Bay, Newfoundland.

Would you measure the extent of local interest in this triumph read the full column report of the exciting demonstration held in this county, as contained in the Dumfries Reformer of August 25th, 1858, under the heading, "THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH" Public Celebration in Galt— The Holiday— Illumination— Torchlight Procession— Balloon Ascension— The Fire Works. This article describes the fluttering of flags throughout the town and on Galt's new Town Hall, where the Union Jack and the Stars and Stripes floated in the August breezes. We must omit here much of the detail, but notice the motto brilliantly showing in the windows of the Reformer office—Europe and America are United by Telegraph— "Glory to God in the Highest—on Earth, Peace—Good Will Toward Men."

See the monster balloon of variegated colours ascend above the great bonfires on the Market Square as the sun had passed below the horizon, the Galt band striking

up a stirring selection as the torches carried by the town firemen in gay colored uniforms are lighted and the march begins, afterwards concluded by a great public meeting in the new hall and fireworks witnessed by over a thousand villagers and folks from the countryside.

It is gratifying to us all that between Great Britain and the United States no declarations of war have ever passed through the Atlantic cables or in later years by wireless.

My further observations and comparisons, will be submitted under a number of common-place headings, dealing with such features of life as are within the knowledge of any reader of newspapers.

Had we more time, I should have included in these headings, such subjects as Education, Religion, Social Customs, Music, Superstitions, Finance and others, but these must be deferred for some future occasion.

May we first then, refer to

URBAN POPULATIONS IN QUEBEC AND ONTARIO

The drift of large masses of people to the cities in the past few decades, has been a matter of concern to economists. The following comparative table will perhaps confirm the extent of that drift. The growth of the manufacturing towns and cities of our own county in the period is noteworthy.

Population of Cities and Towns		in 1854	Approximately in 1934	
Montreal	(1851)	57,715	818,577	(1931)
Quebec	"	42,052	130,594	"
Toronto	"	30,775	631,207	"
Hamilton	"	14,112	155,547	"
London, Ontario	"	7,035	71,148	"
Kingston	"	11,697	23,439	"
Guelph	"	1,860	21,075	"
Galt	"	2,248	14,006	"
Kitchener (Berlin)	(1861)	1,956	30,793	"
Preston	(1851)	1,180	6,280	"
Hespeler (New Hope)	(1861)	604	2,752	"
Elmira	(1891)	1,069	2,170	"
New Hamburg	(1861)	868	1,436	"
Ayr	(1891)	1,040	804	"
Waterloo Town	(1861)	1,273	8,095	"

Reference to this subject of population, recalls to mind, the brave resolution passed by a Women's Rights Convention, held in the City of Cleveland in 1853, which was reported at that time as follows: "We do hereby proclaim that unless our rights are soon given us, we'll take immediate steps to stop the population."

It is perhaps unnecessary to say, that this resolution and movement has had no repercussions in this part of the world, so far as the vital statistics would indicate over the past eight decades.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Comparison of mortuary tables of the period we are considering with those of today, gives us reason to believe that despite the vast concentration of people in great cities which has taken place since that time, measures which have been taken to improve the sanitary conditions and control plagues, generally speaking, have not been without result in the decades as they have come and gone.

An indication of the ravages of plagues such as cholera which swept this section of the country, in a period somewhat earlier—one hundred years ago—is given in a book entitled The First Church of Beverly, by John A. Cornell, in which it is stated that, in preparation for the erection of the first church at Sheffield, the settlers had for two years gathered together a quantity of lumber for its erection, but that as a result of the cholera which swept the country at that time, this lumber had to be used for the making of coffins for those who died.

It was not until 1883 that the cholera bacillus was identified by Koch, the great German bacteriologist, and still so little was gained by this discovery that ten years later, a German city, (Hamburg) became what was called the City of the Dead, for the reason that of 16,956 persons attacked by the plague, 8,605 died, mostly within the space of a few weeks.

However the achievements of medical science in the more recent years, in this field of plague control, are too well known to need further comment here.

It is of interest to note that in the period we have been reviewing, about 80 years ago, at least five different systems of medical practice were in vogue, all more or less

conflicting and hostile to each other, but of which it would be safe to say, modern science has made adaptations from each of them. They were then known by the distinguishing names of "Thomsonian", "Hydropathic", "Homeopathic", "Allopathic" and "Eclectic".

It is said that one of the great doctors, it may have been Pasteur or Lord Lister, in attempting to satisfy himself of the actual merits of the dozen or more concoctions put together by practitioners of the Thomsonian school, (if it could be called a school,) which consisted of everything from toads to puppies' tails, found no healing virtue in any of them, until he devoted his attention to the one major constituent, in which the others were dissolved which was spirits of turpentine.

In Galt at the time we are speaking of particularly, Drs. Carson and Whiting advertised that they were using the German Reformed Principle of treatment of diseases; while Dr. Fenner who was then announcing his coming to New Hope (Hespeler) stated he operated under the American Reformed System. I have been unable to identify either of these as anything more than high-sounding names, probably considered as good advertising. Other means of appeal to the public, by the professional men, dentists, for instance, in those times, included that of giving the names of a half dozen or more clergymen and other prominent persons, near and far, as recommendations of character and ability.

HARDSHIPS AND ENDURANCE

Under date of Aug. 27th, 1853, the Ship Winchester, previously mentioned as an emigrant ship, was reported to have arrived at New York, having had 79 deaths at sea, in its passage from Liverpool.

This is one example of the experiences of hardship suffered in sea travel. Such instances might be multiplied a hundredfold. Scarcely a newspaper was issued without the news of some fresh sea tragedy having occurred—ships foundering, etc., etc.

That tragedy was not confined to the sea, however, is clear from numerous references to various calamitous accidents on land, and then particularly in railroad travel.

Reports from Australia repeatedly appeared of the untold sufferings of the gold hunters of that period, involving too a number of men who had left this part of the country, to join in the search for riches, many of them without success.

One Australian dispatch stated that the gold diggers were so pestered with mice, that cats were fetching as much as $12.00 each, on the Melbourne market. Other Australian market items, incident to the gold rush will be given under an appropriate heading.

LABOUR CONDITIONS

Conditions no longer familiar to us, with regard to labour existed in the earlier period we have been discussing.

One striking illustration of the system of apprenticeship then prevailing, is found in the list of court prosecutions in this county covering a four months' period in 1853, which was repeated in other similar reports—

Four apprentices were brought to trial for deserting their positions and served as much as one month in gaol, or were fined as high as £5.

Examples of wage rates are given in the following schedule in York Currency—Toronto, October 12th. 1853

	Per day.
Bricklayers	8s/9d. to 11s/3d.
Masons	8/6 10/
Stone Cutters	6/3 8/9
Joiners	6/3 8/9
Carpenters	6/2 7/6
Tinsmiths	6/3 6/10½
Painters	6/3 7/6
Hatters	6/3 8/9
Printers (compositors)	6/8
Printers (power press men)	7/6
Tailors (male)	5/ 6/3
Tailors (female)	1/3 2/6
Shoemakers	5/ 6/3
Upholsterers	6/3 7/6
Coopers	3/9 5/
Farm laborers (with board)	2/6 3/9
Day labqrers	3/ 5/

Boys and girls (12 to 14)	1/3	1/9
Dress makers (with board)	1/6	2/6
Railway laborers	5/	6/3
Needle women (with board)	1/3	2/6
Servant maids per month	7/6	25/
Servant men per month	50/	70/
Servant boys per month	20/	35/
Carters per load	1/3	1/10½

Other than stated no doubt this was day rate wages.

Feb. 7th. 1854—"A meeting of carpenters in Galt was held, the following report of which indicates an unsettled condition in various trades: "Carpenters and joiners of Galt met at Laven's hotel and resolved to petition their employers for an advance in wages of 1s. 6d. per day (making them 7s. 6d.) and we are happy to add that with one or two exceptions, their petitions were cordially acceded to. In consequence of the high price of provisions, the labor of almost every class of the community must increase in value, and we think that the carpenters asked nothing but was just. We see by a late SPECTATOR that the tailors of Hamilton are now on a strike, but whether they will receive the advance in their wages which they desire, we are unable to learn. As printers, like the rest of the community live on provisions, and have to pay for them as well as carpenters, tailors, etc., their "strike may soon be expected." The reader may make desired comparisons with current wage rates.

MARKETS

Under this heading I submit Galt market quotations for foodstuffs, etc. for August 1853 and for the same month in 1855 when the Crimean War was at its height, for sake of comparing war time prices hereabouts with those of a more normal period.

Galt Market Quotations	**Aug. 1853**	**Aug. 1855**
Wheat, per bush.	4s. to 4/4½	5/7½ to 7/6
Flour, per 100 lbs.	12/6	22/6 to 25/—
Potatoes, bush.	2/6 to 3/—	2/6 to 5/—
Tallow, lb.	6d.	7½d.
Butter, lb.	9½d.	9d.
Eggs, doz.	7½d.	7½d.
Pork, 100 lbs.	22/6d.	25/
Beef lb.	3½d. to 4d.	5d. to 6 d.

Mutton, lb.	same as beef.	
Turkeys, each	1/10½ to 3s.	3/— to 5/—
Ducks (per couple)	1/3	1/3

Australian Markets, 1853	**at Melbourne**	**at Hobart**
Fine Flour, per ton	£30— to £32—	£57—
Hay, per ton	£40—	£18
Potatoes, per cwt.	17s. to 20s.	14s.
Butter, per lb.	5s.	none quoted.
Coal, per ton		$30.00 to $35.00

The report stated bottled beer—Sought for—commands high price.

Port Wine—Enquired for—
Sherry— in fair request—
(An opportunity for 20th. Century bootleggers).

Cork, Ireland — Sept. 1853—

White Wheat Flour ..... per bbl. 30/9d. Sterling
Red Wheat Flour ..... per bbl. 29/6d. Sterling
(No mention of Irish whiskey).

New York — Sept. 1853—

Flour, per bbl.	$6.87
Michigan White Wheat, per bush.	$1.52 to $1.55
Ohio White Wheat	$1.44 to $1.58
Canadian White Wheat	$1.35 to $1.52

Present market quotations for comparison with the foregoing are omitted.

MANUFACTURING

The manufacturers of iron ware etc. in the early period—1853, and following years—featured

Large cook stoves—4 holes on front section and bake oven at rear on higher supports.

Potash and sugar kettles of large size.

Tea kettles, boilers and pots.

Also in machinery were carding machines and wool pickers.

Mill gearing; grist mills; saw mills; road scrapers; turning lathes for wood and iron work; steam engines; threshing machines.

(Bridge iron was then being imported from England).

Over 30 ships were under construction at Quebec in the winter of 1853.

An idea of the diversity of manufacturing in those times is gained from awards given Canadian makers, at Crystal Palace Exhibition, New York, 1853. (This is not fully representative). Some of these lines no doubt were hand made.

Two bronze medals for Berlin wool carpets—(Toronto and Hamilton).

Embroidery for furniture—one medal to Quebec manufacturer.

Lace caps and collars—one medal to Ontario manufacturer.

Counterpanes and knitted linen curtains—two medals.

Woollen night caps—one medal to Quebec manufacturer.

Knitted articles—cradle quilts etc. Two medals (Quebec).

Twilled blankets (best exhibited). Dundas make.

Dressed deer and moose skins—Indians of Loretto.

Leather from porpoise skin. Quebec make.

Earthenware—made in Quebec.

Sleighs.

Brantford make of threshing machines and separators. Ship building, (Canadian exhibit).

Exhibits of grasses and grain, and of Marine and Fisheries made up the remaining items which received bronze medals at this International Exhibition.

CLOTHING and BOOTS ETC.

The variety of manufactured cloth available hereabouts, is of interest. The following were represented in the stocks of Waterloo County Stores:

Broadcloth, Sattinetts, Doeskins, Alpaca, Red and White Flannel, Beavercloth, Pilots, Serges, Pink, Blue and Fancy Flannels, French Merinos, Druggets, Cobourgs,

Canadian Cloths, Lustres and in the finer goods—Muslins, Muslin Delaines, Oleans, Cashmeres, Poplins, Silks, Satines, Laces, etc.

There were also Scotch plaids and Gala plaids, and in furs, Grey Squirrel, Sable, Mink, Lion Skin, etc., are mentioned and the Buffalo Robes for rugs.

Buckskin, among the clothing material, was also in evidence.

Boots and shoes included those made of Canadian calf, French calf, Morocco, etc. Some of these were described as sewn and some pegged, India Rubber Shoes are also mentioned and Ladies' gaiters.

In head wear—for the Ladies—Bonnets, and hoods appear, and plaid shawls. For the men—Christy hats—and French silk velvet nap hats.

Prices of shoes ranged from $2.00 for gaiters, $2.25 for men's coarse boots, $3.00 for 2nd grade kip, $3.50 for best kip, $3.50 for 2nd grade Canadian calf skin, $4.00 for best Canadian calf, $4.50 for French calf, pegged, and $6.00 for Morocco and French sewed shoes.

GROCERY GOODS, ETC., INCLUDING LIQUOR

Among the items prominently featured in Grocery stocks, in those times, were Young Hyson tea, English Breakfast Souchong Tea, Old Java Coffee, Bright Muscovado Sugar, Wines and Liquors in wood and bottles, Tobacco.

This furnishes us with evidence of a considerable import trade from foreign countries, and the presence of liquors in grocery stocks, is striking and prompts the question, as to whether there was more havoc wrought by intoxicants when they thus flowed so freely, than under restricted sale.

It should be said that back in the fifties-period referred to, the State of Maine Liquor Prohibitory Law was being much spoken of in the Press of South Waterloo as a very desirable sort of legislation. It might further be said that the press of North Waterloo was not so enthusiastically in favor of it, generally speaking.

Also, I believe it is correct to say, that the news-

papers of those days, somewhat aided public sentiment against the folly of excessive drinking, by giving it a measure of ridicule, rather than generally advocating prohibition of liquor. I am of the opinion that this course was as effective as any.

TRANSPORTATION

(Inventive Achievement, etc.)

Railway building and its equipment is perhaps as familiar a guage of the engineering and inventive genius of the times as we could use.

Stream-line trains were not a feature of the early years we are reviewing.

The Hudson River Railway Co. in 1853 was bringing out a locomotive of over 30 tons weight, with 8 driving wheels and costing $11,000.00, capable of drawing 6 passenger cars and planned to make the trip from New York to Albany—144 miles, in 2½ hours. This was no doubt the up-to-the-minute achievement in engine building at that time in America.

Railway time tables are of some interest in this connection. Apparently the trains did not run at night to any extent. The newspaper references to early railway operation in Canada, indicate that the lines operated for perhaps a year or more without having the right of way protected with fences, which resulted in numerous serious wrecks of trains and injury and death to passengers by cattle coming on to the tracks; this is probably a reason that even the time tables on the main lines were mostly daylight schedules.

For example:—Through service Montreal to Portland was arranged leaving Montreal 3 p.m., arrive Sherbrooke 7.30 p.m. Leave Sherbrooke next morning 6.30 a.m., arrive Portland, Me., 3 p.m. The return service left Portland 1.15 p.m., arrived Sherbrooke 8.30 in the evening and left the next morning at 6.30, reaching Montreal at 11 a.m. The fare Montreal to Portland was $6.00.

These trains connected at Portland for Boston trains reaching Boston at 8 o'clock in the evening.

I do not mean to suggest that there were no night trains operating at that time, but I believe they were

using daylight to a large extent.

Chamber's Papers for The People, 12th Volume, referring to speeds of railway locomotives (1853) mentions a speed of 70 or 80 miles per hour and states that a cannon ball at its swiftest flight, travels only 4 times as fast as a train at 70 miles. The same article predicted much faster train travel when stronger materials and better modes of construction were developed. The writer made interesting poetical reference to this fast travel as follows: "For we see that through the ages one increasing purpose runs, and the thoughts of men are widened with the process of the suns."

Here again local interest in the "widening processes" of the times is enlightening. Note the following clipping from the Berlin Telegraph, September 1853, referring to the celebration at Berlin (now Kitchener) at the breaking of ground for the railway line. "Dr. Scott, (Warden), loaded the first wheelbarrow and Mr. Fergusson, M.P., wheeled it away." Commenting on the dinner held at Berlin Hotel the same evening, the writer said, "We have seen some jollifications in our time, but take it all in all, the dinner of Saturday, never had its equal in Berlin, if ever in Canada."

The shipbuilding achievements of the times would be another index of the status of inventive skill in the times of which we speak.

What was spoken of then as "a large steamer" was in January, 1854, being constructed for the Cunard Liverpool and New York service. Its dimensions were, length 365 feet (1 foot for each day of the year), beam 45 ft., weight 3,060 tons. Cylinders, 100 inches in diameter, stroke (for side wheels) 10 feet. This steamer was named "The Persia."

Further light on shipbuilding is contained in reference to Britain's naval strength in those days. Britain in Jan., 1854, had a total of 202 steam vessels with an aggregate horse power of 58,000. Of these 23 were screw propelled ships ranging from 250 to 700 h.p., carrying from 21 to 130 guns. There were 9 high powered paddle wheel vessels from 400 to 800 h.p. and with from 16 to 28 guns each and at that time 13 additional screw steamers were in the course of building.

In addition to the steam vessels in the British Navy as mentioned, there were over 260 other craft, evidently sailing-ships which brought the total navy up to 560,000 tons.

The mammoth Great Eastern steam ship, which proved to be too large for the power plants up to that time possible of construction, was a combination of paddle wheels and screw. The one thing which impresses me about this tremendous "Noah's ark" of the 19th Century, built in the 50's, is the fact that it is said to have had an electric light on its mast, which was supposed efficiently to light its way across the deep. This may have been of real practical use, when the great ship was finally made use of in laying the first cable actually to go into permanent trans-Atlantic service in the years 1865-6, the earlier cable already spoken of having been destroyed within a few weeks after it was laid by the use of current of higher tension than the insulation was capable of carrying.

Waterloo County was not very intimately associated with ocean-going enterprises in those times nor perhaps since in any very direct way, but we must not overlook the fact that had not railway service become established through this part of Canada when it did, there is little doubt that a canal system would have been developed up the Grand River, as this was a project which had received considerable notice.

It is perhaps not widely known in these days that transportation by way of the Grand River between Brantford and other places down its course represented such an amount of shipping as it did in early years. No doubt freight teamed from Waterloo County to Brantford made up some of this traffic. The commodities shipped down the Grand River to Dunnville and thence to Buffalo consisted mostly of squared timbers in pine but more largely of oak, sawn lumber, also logs, shingles, staves and fire wood and of food stuffs, wheat and the coarser grains, flour, mill feed, liquor and potatoes.

In the season 1854 and '55, over twenty million feet of lumber and over 400,000 bushels of wheat were shipped down the Grand River to Buffalo. The annual revenue from this service was as high as $100,000.00 in prosperous days, but the growing railway facilities for shipping

from all the small stations along the line, destroyed practically all this river transportation, and the plant which had cost hundreds of thousands of dollars, was eventually sold in 1875, or what was left of it, for one dollar.

The achievement which caused great joyfulness in Brantford when the canal constructed for a short distance down stream from that town was completed, became almost a forgotten plaything, figuratively, when the more convenient type of transportation took form. The old paddle wheel steamers, drawing three feet of water, named the "Red Jacket" and "The Queen," which alternately left Brantford at 7 o'clock in the morning and landed their passengers and freight in Buffalo about 24 hours later, if not hindered by too much wind so as to be drifted upon the shallow shore waters of the river, faded out of the landscape and their steam whistles were no longer heard.

These boats made about 111 calls and departures at Brantford in a season, and carried about 40 passengers along with the freight. There were two good state rooms and it is recorded that the food served was most excellent.

The record of scows' calls and departures from Brantford in the year 1850 is 824.

The canal, or a section of it at Brantford, still can be seen and Mohawk Lake still exists as about the only tangible result of this canal installation on the Grand River.

Interesting items might be presented illustrating the rivalry which developed in Waterloo County and in outside places in the early period of railway construction, as to the course the new lines should take and the places to be served. The routes decided upon eventually in some instances were attributed to certain graft and wire pulling. The route from Galt to the Georgian Bay and upper Lake Huron section was debated at length and the decision to pass through Preston and Hespeler to Guelph was strongly opposed by the Dumfries Reformer. The decision to serve Preston and Hespeler did not materialize until Preston had voted a municipal grant of ten thousand pounds, in the Galt & Guelph Railway Co. capitalization, with the proviso that the line would go

through that village and put a station there and the matter was not actually concluded until the contract was signed at 3 o'clock one January morning 1854 at Guelph, by which a company headed by General Orville Clark, an American, undertook for £112,000 to construct the road from Galt to Guelph, this price to include the cost of right of way, and the building of stations in the 4 places served. A strange condition was that there was no cash down payment required, the construction company taking municipal bonds and £50,000 in the Railway Company's bonds, with the railway company's guarantee of 6% on the bonds and half the profits of the road, in excess of 6%.

Jacob Hespeler's artistic hand in connection with the routeing of this line was referred to in an article on The History of the Town of Hespeler in our Report of the year 1922.

THE MECHANICS OF AGRICULTURE

Indicating the backward conditions on the farm and elsewhere when farm wagons were head liners.

The following report of a Provincial Exhibition held in Hamilton October 1853 is most interesting—

"Articles from Galt attracted much attention — Large crowds would be found from morning to night, gazing with admiration, on the lumber wagons exhibited, which with the beautiful case of tools exhibited by Mr. H. H. Date, were by a large number considered the **most interesting** part of the exhibition."

The wagons were made by Kay's and Todd and Fisher, respectively—Kay's won highest award and was sold for $300.00 to a gentleman from England who planned to exhibit it in New York City before shipping it to England. I think the names of the craftsmen on such an important early product of Waterloo County should be on record. The wood work was mostly made by Thomas Tineling and the iron work by Walter Brydon.

I might interject here the fact that we have in our Society Museum, examples of the tools made by Mr. H. H. Date referred to in the report of Hamilton Exhibition.

Other farm equipment, perhaps no less spectacular than the wagons, included no doubt, the threshing ma-

chines which in 1853 were developing into a type of stationary threshing cylinder with a shaker attachment at the rear to separate the straw from the grain and chaff. The latter were allowed to drop through an opening in the floor, to a fanning mill placed in the basement of the barn and belted to the cylinder shaft above. This was a machine, originally imported from England, and operated by horse power gins as they were called in the Old Country. The writer saw similar equipment in operation in Ireland in 1908.

These imported machines had to be improved or altered in some respects before they were suitable for use in Canada. The speed was too slow and the teeth in the cylinder and concave not set close enough to thresh out the heads of our grain in this country, so much more brittle in the straw, than in the more moist climate of Great Britain. Mr. Moffat, a farmer in Ancaster, had discovered this fault in the imported machine he had purchased and after that the machines imported or made locally were corrected in this respect.

Our Society has one of these threshing cylinders in its museum and if we had storage space, we could at any moment obtain a shaker attachment for the same and also a ten horse-power gin or sweep, to add to our museum collection.

These stationary machines were designed to place a threshing unit in possession of the farmers, so that they need not spend most of the winter time exchanging help with their neighbors, in the work of flailing the grain as formerly. The imported machines cost over £150 but the machines made locally to take their place cost less than $200.00. They were not, I judge, widely in use as early as the times to which I refer.

Up to that time the printer's Crest, used at the head of articles referring to agriculture, in the local papers, contained small cuts of plow, harrow, hoe, rake, fork, scythe, sickle, flail, sieve, and a sheaf of grain. I believe this represented the usual complement of farming equipment then.

However, the fact that the developing of harvesting machinery was becoming impressive and opening up prospects of better things for those engaged in farming,

is quite clear from a Prophetic Poem, which I quote in part, from a Dumfries Reformer issue of September 21st, 1853.

This would seem to contain a clear prophecy of the combine-harvester and thresher used now in Western Canada.

Unfortunately the name of the Poet is not available.

HARVEST SCENES IN DUMFRIES

Now, ever as the fields are shorn,
And studded thick with shocks of corn,
Comes and goes the labouring wain,
Groaning 'neath the loaded grain!
While, with heedful care alone
The stacker builds his lofty cone,
Until, complete, the tapering stack
Defies the tempest and the rack.
But yonder lo! what huge machine?
Drawn by steeds—at least sixteen—
Two by two, in lengthened line,
With even step their strength combine;
Four mounted drivers guide their course,
And win from each an equal force,
Here step upon the platform,
Where you can see it plain;
A sack hangs at the hopper,
And a steady stream runs in
And the tyer must be nimble
To be in time again.
See what the mighty "Harvester"
Does among the waving grain!
How with wide, majestic tread
Ever feeding, never fed,
It moves along the plain;
A waving field before it,
And stubble all behind—
The wheat gives to the sack,
The chaff unto the wind.

Agricultural Exhibitions—Local. Further indicating much room for development in effective equipment and high grade livestock.

A complete word picture of Galt's First County Ex-

hibition is contained in the Dumfries Reformer Sept. 29th, 1853. Township shows had been held earlier.

The County show was set up in two tents on this first occasion at the end of the Grand River bridge, I presume the West end.

A complete list of prize winners is found in the issue of the same weekly—October 5th, 1853.

Among the vegetables displayed were tomatoes and celery. Pails (of wood) made in Galt, were one of the real attractions. Sheep were in greater number than hogs in the exhibition, and were the most prominent class of the live stock shown.

The prizes offered for implements included among others—those for turnip drills, clover seed gatherer, clover-seed thresher, grain drill, horse-rake, reaping machine made in Canada; but there were none of these machines on exhibition. Possibly there were none made in Waterloo County at that time.

Mr. John Watson, of Ayr, was awarded first prize for his ploughs. Our Vice-President from that town, Miss Watson, will know that this is only one of many awards and medals won by the firm of Watson, through a long series of years.

The outstanding feature of the cattle show was a recently imported Ayrshire bull, from Scotland, brought to Waterloo County by Mr. White.

I have already made reference to the Provincial Exhibition in Hamilton of 1853.

It would seem that the Country was quite enthusiastic about such opportunities to exhibit, for the same year a greater Exhibition was staged in Montreal, (Sept. 27-8-9), called the Provincial Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition. $6,000.00 was said to be the value of the prizes.

Those interested in farming will be impressed with the range of livestock breeds in this show. There were no Holsteins—a breed which has since become so common in Canada. Durhams, Devons, Ayrshire and the Canadian or Alderney breeds were the only kind exhibited. Working oxen were of course a feature of the show.

In sheep—there were Leicesters, Southdowns, Cheviots, Merinos and Saxons. No mention of Shropshire or Oxford breeds which have since gained much favor. Lincoln coarse wooled sheep were also absent.

In swine—there were two kinds—large and small, and it would seem that in England at that time, swine breeders were initiating a movement to reduce the size of their hogs, which had evidently become of undesirable size for bacon purposes, a movement somewhat in line with the present system hereabouts for the production of good bacon hogs.

In horses there were also two varieties, draft and blood.

Farm products included those of dairy and poultry, and there was sugar of maple and beet.

Manufactured goods included woollens and flax articles, also manufactures of metal and wood, furniture and carriages.

The fine arts were represented and there were sections of ladies' work and Indian work.

The Township Fairs should have brief mention. The First Beverly Township Fair was held at Rockton on October 20th, 1853. This was evidently the birthday of what has since become known as The Worlds Fair, in this part of Ontario. The report of this first Rockton show stated that in some of its features it far out-stripped the County show at Galt.

Ploughing matches were also in vogue in those days. At one held on the 8th Concession of North Dumfries, the first prize was a plough, presented by Mr. John Watson of Ayr, already referred to. The second prize was cash £2/10s., and for boys' ploughing the first prize was £1/10s.

Other items of interest to farmers today, might be submitted; for example—

A variety of Indian corn or rather Egyptian corn growing on stems instead of cobs was being experimented with in Canada in the Fifties of last Century.

Australian wheat sowed here on October 15th, 1852,

yielded 32 bushels to the acre and was said to weigh 67 lbs. to the bushel.

Four grains of wheat taken from the crop of a wild pigeon and sowed the same year, yielded in one plant 1,000 grains.

SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY

We have spoken of the prophecy of inventive genius in producing agricultural machinery. Possibly prophecies of other types of scientific discovery might here be in place, serving to show also what had been already attained.

In February 1854, an article appeared in the same local newspaper from which I quote—

"What Electricity May Effect."

"Mr. Lindsay of Dundee who has broached a new theory of establishing telegraphic communication **without wires** and has been recently lecturing in Glasgow, closed his lecture in the Andersonian Institute in that city on Thursday week with the following splendid peroration—'We shall now attempt to pull aside the curtain of futurity and endeavour to catch a glimpse of the coming feats and destinies of electricity.' We see here that wireless telegraphy was thought of as far back as 1854.

With regard to the use of electricity for the distribution of power, we find an interesting reference to early attempts in this direction in another issue of the Dumfries Reformer, under date, Nov. 22nd, 1854—the item follows—

"Boat Propelled By Electricity."

"Some of our contemporaries describe some experiments made with a small boat in Boston, the propelling power being an electro magnetic engine. A boat was propelled by electricity on the Neva at St. Petersburg, at the rate of six miles per hour more than thirty years ago; but it could not compete with steam, and since that time various like attempts have been made in many parts of the world, with no better success."

This article concludes thus: "Some wonderful dis-

covery must be made, before steam can be superseded by any of the known propelling agencies."

Examples Of

RIVALRY BETWEEN MUNICIPALITIES
CHATHAM — BRANTFORD — GALT

From Dumfries Reformer, Sept. 21st, 1853.
(Quoting Brantford Herald).

"The Western Planet prognosticates that Chatham is destined ere long to be the FIRST City West of Toronto." We suppose he means on the road from Detroit, downward. In that sense he may be correct. But if he means the first in population, wealth and greatness, poor fellow! We pity him and are sorry to find him laboring under so great a hallucination. A visit to Brantford, just at this time, might have a beneficial effect upon him. Three such places as Chatham would be lost within its extensive boundaries. Among other wonderful things possessed by Chatham, the Planet instances 'one house 3 stories high with a flat roof.' That, it must be confessed, is some pumpkins, but if he will come to Brantford, we promise to show him at least four dozen 'three story' brick houses on one street. They haven't all flat roofs but their appearance cannot but astonish the Planet seeing that he considers one 'three-story' house so amazing an affair. Chatham is a nice little village—but—'the First City in the West'—Pshaw."

Commenting on the foregoing, the Dumfries Reformer continues:

"Keep cool gentlemen, your mud walls can't come it. It cannot be denied that both Chatham and Brantford are destined to become at some distant day, places of considerable importance; but if you want to see the best and most substantial block of buildings in Western Canada, just take a ride in company some of these days to Galt —the acknowledged MANCHESTER of the Province— and we will show you not a few 'three-story' brick houses, with old crazy-looking wooden shutters, but what will please and astonish the Planet and his 'brick' of a neighbor, still more, a long range of 3-story buildings, not of perishable, dingy-looking brick, but of that handsomer and more durable substance, 'solid granite' beautifully interspersed with 'freestone.' We have the 'tin' too

gentlemen, which you will not be disposed to deny, when we tell you that all these buildings are roofed with that material and with the exception of one, are rendered fireproof from without, shutters being used, through which that element cannot penetrate. The building which here forms the exception, is so large, that it would contain all the good folks of Chatham in the cellar, while those of Brantford, might be accommodated upstairs."

"Our delighted and wonder stricken friends will be more amazed when they hear that the plate glass alone, of the front of a store in town, weighs above 1,600 lbs., one pane alone weighing 100 lbs. The foregoing is but a little of what we can show our hopeful contemporaries when they comply with our invitation to visit Galt."

It is now interesting to note that Galt was not raised to the status of a town until 1856, in spite of this boasting.

In perusing the newspapers of that period of 80 years ago, in the time at my disposal, I have found interesting confirmation of my belief that the people of those times as I have already said, had expanding visions of the future and were endeavouring to mark some improvement themselves in their day and generation.

I believe they succeded to a gratifying extent.

The breadth of their vision is perhaps not made apparent to us now, in any more effective way than by means of another prophetic utterance with which I will close. This is from a British source and is copied from a publication dated Feb. 15th, 1854.

The British writer was then speculating upon what the condition of the world would be one hundred years later.

You will note his breadth of vision with relation to the prospective status of the English speaking world. I hope we are warranted in believing his expectations are being realized.

Another Prophesy

"There are in the world in this year no less than sixty millions of Anglo-Saxons. As they are now doubled in number in half a century, in 1954 they will have swelled to the enormous amount of two hundred and forty

millions. Two hundred and forty millions of human beings, all speaking the same language, borrowing information from one literature, contributing equally to the storehouse of science, animated by kindred sentiments, worshipping at the same shrine and all and each of them indefatigably contributing their share towards the fulfilment of the mission especially given to the race, to renovate, consolidate, enlighten and strengthen and Christianize the sons and daughters of Adam, so that in the appointed time they would be indeed the sons and daughters of the bright and heavenly morning! What a prodigious family! The mind staggers under the bare idea of its magnificence, and we pause to glance at some of its coming incidents in their sober reality. Upon a moderate calculation, one hundred and fifty millions of this population will be located on the continent of America. A vast proportion of it will be a maritime population situated on the shores of the Pacific, where new Liverpools and New Yorks will send out their vessels to trade with the islands of the Pacific Ocean, with Australia and New Zealand and further westward with Japan, China, Burma, India and even Persia, although it may be then a Russian Province. From the promises of a future which have already peeped over the horizon it is quite manifest that the British and Anglo-Saxons in America and our present group of American colonies will be lords of the seas of the southern world. In the physical regions, created and controlled by man, there will doubtless be many stupendous revelations. In travelling, whether on land or water, the people of that day will call us slow, as we called those who lived a century ago, slow."

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HISTORY OF THE BOEHM (BEAM) FAMILY

When the ancestor of this family came to America his name was Boehm or Boehme. The form with the ending "e" seemed to have been used interchangeably with the shorter form, which was the one that survived in this country. Both forms of the name are not uncommon in Germany and German-Switzerland today. As far as we have been able to discover these were the only forms of the name of those families now called Beam, when the immigrants arrived in America.

It is very difficult for an English speaking person to pronounce Boehm or Boehme correctly. It is this difficulty which led the family's English-speaking neighbours and the officers of the Courts to find as a substitute the name sounding most nearly like the German name as they heard it. After the accepted pronunciation had become a settled thing, the bearers of the name changed the spelling to agree. Very few branches of the family have kept the original name unchanged though some members have returned to it after their immediate forbears had used other forms for several generations. Lancaster and Berks counties were early officered and controlled by English agents of the Penns. Therefore, the English spelling of the name in the very earliest entries in the court records is Beam or Behm.

According to a Herr O. Boehm, now living in Zurich, there are few Boehms now resident in Switzerland and most of them originate from Wilchingen, a village in the Canton of Schaffhausen, situated between St. Gall and Basle, quite close to the German border. The ancestors of these Boehms appear for the first time in the family registers of Wilchingen in the year 1620, which leads us to believe that they were fugitives from Bohemia during the Thirty Years War when thousands of Hussan Heretics were expelled and found new homes in the neighbouring countries of Saxony, Silesia, and Switzerland.

Among the forerunners of a sect called the Pietists was Jacob Boehm, 1575-1624, the great Protestant Mystic, Theologian, and Philosopher, who started out as a shoemaker in Gőrlitz. His exposure of formal religion, his boldness in reproving sin, raised a storm of persecution. The Church exercised Civil as well as Ecclesiastical authority and Boehm was convicted of heresy and sentenced to prison. An elder brother was appointed to conduct him to the prison-house, he did not watch his brother very closely and as they were near the line that separated Switzerland from France the prisoner crossed over and was for ever free from his domestic and priestly persecutors.

He journeyed along the banks of the Rhine 'till he entered the Dukedom of Pfaltz. This was the Palatinate bordering on Belgium. There Boehm became acquainted

with a people called Mennonites. They were a simple hearted people and he united with them and became a lay-elder. He had several children, the third of whom, also named Jacob, was born in 1693 and in 1712 was induced to come to America by the glowing description of the country given by Martin Kendig who in September of the year 1710 had arrived at Philadelphia in a sailing vessel called the "Mary Hope," John Annis, master, which had sailed from London on the 29th of June with ninety-four passengers, and after a stormy passage of nine weeks and four days, first saw the land of America. Two days before they sailed from London the following letter was written to their brethren in the faith in Amsterdam and is headed "Worthy and beloved friends."

This letter is No. 2253 Amsterdam Archives, and is signed by six persons, Martin Kendig appearing second on the list, and was issued in thankfulness for the financial aid extended by the "Dear friends out of their great kindness of heart toward our journey," and is an acknowledgement of an appeal which they made to their Dutch sympathizers for contributions, "because the journey cost more than we had imagined."

All of these six signers of the letter referred to, Martin Oberholtzer, Martin Kendig, Christian Herr, Jacob Muller, Martin Meili, and Hans Herr, appear to have set out for Lancaster County, Pennsylvania where they arrived in October, except Martin Oberholtzer who seems to have remained in Philadelphia, and the five men were joined by four others and these nine men selected a spot stretching from West Willow Street to Jackson Street, near the Centre Square, in Strasburg borough, Conestoga County, and was, roughly speaking, five miles long by three miles wide, ten square miles or 6,400 acres, and for which they paid £500. sterling ($2,433). These were the first settlers in the County of Lancaster which is today the wealthiest farming county in the United States.

It is not a question of mere coincidence that the county of Waterloo, Ontario should be the banner farming county of Canada. The descendants of these Mennonite farmers, who chose the beautiful rolling land of Lancaster, were largely responsible for the selection, settlement, and development of this beautiful county of Waterloo. It is a certainty that these men not only knew

how to choose the best land but they also knew how to farm it.

Driving today through Lancaster county, Penn., one cannot help noticing the frequent recurrence of the same names of villages, the same names for the creeks and rivers, the same names on the signs on the stores in the villages and towns, and the similar type of farm houses with the old fashioned stoop and the barns with the projecting roof, protection for the cattle, as one sees in the County of Waterloo, Ontario. Farm land in Lancaster County is seldom in the market for purchase; it is handed down from father to son. On a recent visit to Lancaster, one was informed that the only sales of land in the last few years brought $300 per acre.

Martin Kendig seems to have been possessed of more financial worth than his associates as he took title to nearly 2,000 acres.

History is silent about their struggles and trials these early days, but the Colonists were evidently well pleased with their new home and this, despite the fact that they were in the very heart of Indian territory and that with the exception of a few scattered Scotch-Irish hunters and fishermen, they were the only white men for many miles around, but they had happily escaped the religious persecution to which they had been subjected in their old home. They immediately decided to send for their relatives and friends in the Old Country.

A voyage across the ocean in those days was no small undertaking and consequently they agreed to cast lots to decide who should carry the word to Europe. It fell on Hans Herr, but, either because he was their preacher whose services could not be dispensed with or for some other reason, Martin Kendig offered to take his place.

He succeeded in his mission and some time during the year 1712 brought back with him a considerable number of immigrants, most of them with their families, among whom was his brother Jacob Kendig and probably several sisters. Martin Kendig became William Penn's agent and for many years was responsible more than any other one man for the introduction of German-speaking immigrants into Pennsylvania.

We mentioned before that Jacob Boehm had been

induced to come to America by Martin Kendig. He also was one of this party. On his arrival in Philadelphia he first went to Germantown, now a fashionable suburb of Philadelphia, then to Lancaster and finally settled in Pequea, Conestoga Township, six miles from the present city of Lancaster. Soon afterward he married Barbara Kendig, probably one of the young ladies who had accompanied him on the journey from Europe.

To quote the Rev. Henry Boehm, whose Reminiscences, written when he was ninety years of age (he died at the great age of one hundred years and six months and preached in New York City on his Centennial), "My grandfather was a lay-elder in the Mennonite Society. Soon after his arrival from Europe he bought a farm and built him a house; he was also a blacksmith, the first in all that region. His wife was very industrious and, when necessary, she would leave her work and blow and strike for him. He died in 1780, aged eighty-seven." His will is deposited in the Courthouse in the city of Lancaster and disposed of his considerable estate among his numerous family of whom six daughters and four sons were then living. Following the German custom, his farm was left to his youngest son, Martin. He was born November 30th, 1725 and in 1753 married Eve Steiner who was born on Christmas Day 1734. Her ancestors were from Switzerland and settled near his father's. He built himself a large stone house in which his childen were all born. "He was a short, stout man, with a vigorous constitution, an intellectual countenance, and a fine flowing beard, which gave him, in later years a patriarchal appearance. He had strong common sense and well understood the science of family government. The order and discipline of the family attracted the attention of Bishop Asbury and he made mention of it in preaching Martin Boehm's funeral sermon."

Martin Boehm was first a Mennonite preacher for he embraced the religion of his fathers.

The opportunities for education in America in the early part of the 18th century were few, and Martin Boehm's education was accordingly limited, being mostly received in the home, in the German language. But he possessed, happily, a vigorous mental, as well as physical constitution, a clear grasp of ideas, and sound judgment;

was gifted with a graceful and easy flow of speech and had a pleasing personal bearing, which would make him naturally a favorite. Later in life he acquired a fair knowledge of the English language, with ability to converse with ease, and became possessor also of a number of English books. His father, being a devout Mennonite, and, as we have seen, an officer in the church, Martin Boehm was brought up as a true son of the church. Possessing all these qualities, it is not surprising that, when a vacancy occurred in the pulpit of the local church, of which the Boehms were members, the thoughts and hearts of the people should have turned toward this gifted and pious young man in their midst. The method of choosing a minister among the Mennonites was by lot.

Martin Boehm, when he was called to become a minister, felt that he had no message for his people. Under these circumstances, he found himself presently under the greatest embarrassment and mortification. Again and again, according to the custom of his church, he arose to add an exhortation after an older minister had preached and found himself able only to stammer a few incoherent sentences. Yet he did not doubt that he was genuinely called to the work of the ministry, because the Church had laid its hand upon him after the Divine Order as understood by his people. He believed also fully in the efficacy of prayer and he availed himself earnestly of this refuge of troubled souls. While he was thus engaged, he tells us the thought presented itself to him as though one had audibly spoken "You pray for grace to teach others the way of salvation, and you have not prayed for your own salvation." This thought clung to him day by day until he felt himself to be a poor lost sinner. His agony, he says, now became very great. One day, he continues, when he was plowing in the field, he could go no further; he sank down by his plow and cried "Lord save, I am lost." Then came to him the answer "I am come to seek that which is lost." His heart took hold of these precious words of the Mighty Saviour; and "in a moment," he says "a stream of joy was poured over me." Thus, as a result of prolonged struggle and in answer to unceasing prayer there came into his heart the blessing of an unutterable peace.

Martin Boehm at once left his plow in the field and proceeded to his house to tell his wife the joyful news.

Now he found, too,, that his tongue was loosened. With the emancipation of the heart came liberty of utterance. The live coal from the Altar which touched the Prophet's lips inspired his lips also with a new found eloquence, and now, while he had wished the Sabbath far away, he wished it were already here. When the day came, and the elder brother had preached, he arose and told his experience. He felt that he now in deed had a message to deliver. To his people it was as novel as to him it was joyful. Many, as they listened to his story, were deeply moved, and attested their feeling with weeping. On the following Sabbath, as he was speaking, his soul was aflame with his theme and soon he found himself in the midst of the congregation while the people about him were weeping aloud.

The home which Martin Boehm built in 1750 must have been of considerable size as on frequent occasions, according to his son's statements in his "Remiscences" he had entertained gatherings of more than one hundred at a time. When the writer of this sketch visited the old homestead in 1917 he was told by the present owner of the farm that Martin Boehm's house had been demolished some forty years before and that much of the stone is now in a wall which is built about the garden. All that remains of the old house is a peculiar large stone-arched chamber and the remains of the stone fireplace which are underneath the present large barn. The prospect from the house must have been a very beautiful one, looking down the valley of the Pequea River. The farm is now given up largely to the cultivation of tobacco and fruit.

On the writer's second visit to the old homestead in 1918, he discovered in a dense thicket of locust trees and brambles a half mile distant from the house the old family burying ground and the graves of twenty-five of his ancestors. The graves were marked with headstones of field slate, with the names cut in with a cold chisel. It is of interest to note the various spellings of the name, there, which include "Beam", "Behm", "Bőhm", and "Boehm". The earliest stone bore the date 1725.

In May 1929 the writer accepted an invitation to unveil a monument erected by the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Church of the United Brethren in Christ in honour of Bishop Martin Boehm, his great, great grand-

father. The ceremony took place beside the old stone church erected in 1791 and known as Boehm's Church, because it was built upon Boehm's land in Boehm's neighbourhood, and because the different members of the family did much towards its erection and were regular attendants there. Beside the church lie buried Martin Boehm and his wife Eve. The building is now under the care of the Pennsylvania Historical Society.

Large numbers attended from Lancaster and the surrounding counties and many were present from Philadelphia. In his remarks on this occasion, Bishop H. H. Fout of the United Brethren Church, said "The plan for a Union service on this occasion was happily conceived." The Methodist Episcopal Church and the Church of the United Brethren in Christ are united in a very similar origin. Otterbein, Asbury, and Boehm, Prophets of God, and pioneers in American Christianity, lived and wrought in the most intimate fellowship. The inscription on the monument reads as follows: "Sacred to the memory of Rev. Martin Boehm, born November 30, 1725, died March 23, 1812, and to his wife Eve Boehm, born December 25, 1734, died November 26, 1822. For 55 years Martin Boehm laboured in the vineyard of the Lord Jesus Christ and preached the Gospel to thousands in Pennylvania, Maryland, and Virginia, among many denominations, particularly among Mennonites, Methodists, and United Brethren. Martin Boehm was for some time a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was elected a Bishop in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ when that denomination was founded in the year 1800. The United Brethren Church honoured him with the office of Bishop until his death. This saint of God gave himself and his services unselfishly to the Church. His end was Peace."

The will of Martin Boehm is deposited in the Registry Office in the City of Lancaster. In one clause he bequeaths such of his books as she may choose to take, to his wife Eve and all the remainder of his books to be equally divided between his four children, John Beam (my great grandfather), Jacob Beam, Henry Beam, and Barbara the wife of Abraham Keagy. We do not know what eventually became of Martin Boehm's books, but I have a letter written on the 1st of May, 1826 by the daughter of Martin Boehm's son John to her brother Adam Beam (my grandfather) in Canada, suggesting that the books

left by Martin Boehm "ought now to be divided and, as you are the oldest son of John Boehm, you ought to write or let me know how the division should be made."

Martin Boehm had eight children, of whom the youngest, Henry, was born in the year 1775. In 1800, when he was twenty-five years of age, he became a minister of the Methodist Church. Eight years later he was invited by the Rev. Francis Asbury, the first Bishop of the Methodist Church in America, to accompany him as his companion on his constant rounds of the enormous diocese under his charge. This included the whole of the United States and Canada and extended from Canada to Georgia and from the Atlantic Oceon to the Mississippi River. During the five years he was with the Bishop they rode on horseback forty thousand miles and Henry Boehm, in his "Reminiscences", states that he himself during his ministry rode one hundred thousand miles. His book, from which we have frequently quoted, is a volume of five hundred pages of reminiscences and is an intensely interesting account covering a period of nearly one hundred years of the early history of New England and Upper Canada; it is a fascinating narrative of the travails and hardships of a pioneer missionary.

Abraham, the third son of Jacob of Pequea, (the first American Boehm) and elder brother of Martin, married previous to 1750 but does not seem to have owned any land until 1768, when he bought 221 acres and a grist mill in Bart Township, a few miles south of the old homestead on Willow Street. Abraham, like his father, was a Mennonite, and in common with many other members of that peace loving sect became involved with the rebels during the war of the Rebellion. The rebels looked upon these people, who would not bear arms against the flag that had given them tolerance and freedom of belief, as enemies and treated them accordingly. By means of fines, requisitions, and general persecution, they made life miserable for this simple miller. A last fine of £800 in Pennsylvania currency left him in a desperate position. The sum was borrowed from a friend, a weaver by the name of Jacob Morganstern. The situation was intolerable. A momentous decision was made and again the Boehms were on the trek in quest of freedom. One generation of this branch of the family had found sanctuary in their new American home, but they had learned that

freedom was to be found under the British flag. So, on to Canada. In 1787 Abraham sold or turned over his farm to a John Boehm, who may have been his older brother but more probably was a married son. It is known that he left a married daughter in Pennsylvania and it is likely there were other grown-up children. With his wife Barbara and his youngest son Martin, he loaded what he could on a Conestoga wagon, tied a cow or two behind, hitched up his horses, and began the long trek to a new home in the promised land. Abraham was over sixty years of age, a ripe age to begin pioneering in a new country. At the time of his arrival at Niagara the only settlers on the upper part of the river were the recently disbanded soldiers who were making improvements on certain sections of land fronting on the river. Abraham chose a site which is still a beauty spot on the comparatively flat, low-lying land, at the mouth of Black Creek, approximately half way between Chippawa and Fort Erie. He built his house just north of the mouth of the creek and obtained a right to 250 acres of land bordering on the river and on both sides of the creek. Six years later he petitioned the government for a further location of land for himself and family and was granted 400 acres adjoining the rear of his first property, and a further 200 acres down the river, one parcel opposite the foot of Navy Island near Chippawa and another parcel on the Chippawa Creek.

The following is Abraham Beam's petition to the government for this additional land:

"To His Excellence John Graves Simcoe, Esqr., Governor and Commander of Upper Canada, etc. etc. In Council.

The petition of Abraham Beam humbly shows that your petitioner was an inhabitant of Pennsylvania before the late rebellion in the Colonies. That during that period he experienced all the sufferings generally inumerated in the catalogue of Loyalists and at one time was fined £800 Pensylvania currency. In a word everything he possessed was sacrificed to the fury of an unnatural rebellion, except his life and his integrity. Six years since he removed with his family into this province and now enjoys the happiness of that government which was always dear to him and for which he has severely suffered.

Your memorialist begs leave to inform your honours that since his removal he has purposed an improvement on 250 acres of land and obtained a right to the soil which is all the encouragement he has received from government since he has been in the province.

Your petitioner agreeably to the example of others in simular circumstances begs leave to approach Your Honours on the present occasion and most humbly requests that Your Honours would grant him a further location of land for himself and family as much as Your Honours in your wisdom shall see fit and as in duty bound he will ever pray.

Abraham Beam.

Newark, June 4th, 1794.

(The entire petition is in the handwriting of the petitioner).

Endorsed:—Granted 400 acres and referred to Surveyor General to locate the same. Read in Council July 8th 1794.

Extract — Ontario Historical Society papers and records Volume 24, Page 24."

Other Pennsylvanians from Lancaster and Berks Counties followed, among whom was Abraham's friend, Jacob Morganstern, (now Morningstar), the weaver, who also had been in difficulty with the rebels. After sinking his machinery into the river, he gathered his numerous progeny together and followed his friend to Niagara. On his arrival, Abraham turned over some 200 acres on the south side of Black Creek to him as part payment on the £800 debt. After settling his family in their new home, he started back to Pennsylvania with one horse and a light wagon to retrieve his weaving machinery, sorely needed in the new country. On the way back to Niagara his horse departed for the land of lighter loads and Jacob was left axle deep in mud with no money and no beast of burden, but his face was his fortune and a kind Quaker lent him a yoke of oxen to complete his journey and thus bring in the first carding and weaving machinery in the district.

Abraham's young son, Martin, who was only fifteen when he came to Canada, married Rebecca, one of the daughters of Jacob Morningstar when he was seventeen

years old. They wasted no time in helping the young country to acquire the much needed increase in population. No doubt having the probable size of his future family in view, Martin applied for another six hundred acres of land in his own name and received the same from a beneficient government.

Abraham lived and worked as few of us know how to these days, on his farm until his death in 1799, eleven years after his arrival in Canada. During this time he and his son, starting with nothing but a wagon load of chattels, a few head of livestock, the strength of their own arms, and the courage of their hearts, built themselves a home that still stands, a barn and various shelters, acquired the rights to 1450 acres of land by clearing and breaking several acres in each parcel, increased his stock of cattle, pigs, and sheep, raised wheat, buckwheat, rye, corn, flax, potatoes, and the various vegetables common to the gardens of the time. In between times they helped build houses and barns for their friends upon arrival from Pennsylvania, and Abraham, on occasion, acted as town warden for the neighbouring village of Chippawa. In his will he left his property in trust with his son for the three grandchildren who had been born at that time. His wife was amply provided for but she was anxious, after eleven years' absence, to see the rest of the family back in Pennsylvania, so she returned to visit her marrried daughter and others at Strasburg in Lancaster County. She never came back to Canada.

Martin Beam carried on. He lived in the old homestead and most of his ten children were born there. When the war of 1812 broke out, the river front was an uncomfortable spot and he built himself a large log house on his tract of land about five miles west on the Bertie-Willoughby Township line. A typical pioneer home of the better class, this house was built of large logs and had three rooms downstairs, two bedrooms and a huge room nearly 40' x 40' used as a kitchen, dining room and living room, with an annex shed for wood and supplies. The upstairs space was one large attic room, used by the boys of the family. The logs for the second floor projected eight feet to ten feet beyond the wall of the house and were roofed over to form a verandah, running the full length of the house. The rafters and floor joists were

smaller logs, hewn on one side to take the sawn floor lumber.

Martin Beam, being a Mennonite, was exempted by the government from bearing arms, but nevertheless was drafted into transport service, teaming supplies and equipment for the various military manoeuvres along the border, as were most other non-combatants in the district. During that troubled period they lived alternately in the new and old homes, usually spending the summer on the river and the winter in the warmer and more comfortable home back in the bush. Eventually the three oldest children married, just before the twenties, and settled on the land they inherited from their grandfather, and Martin settled permanently on the new home with the rest of the family. Shortly after the war Martin and his wife Rebecca went back to Pennsylvania to visit their relatives. They made the journey on horseback, a brave undertaking for the mother of nine children, but on their return they rode in a beautiful phaeton, the first in all that district, and a wonderful thing it was in those days. While there they also bought four shiny new side saddles at a cost of $25 each, one for each of their daughters—lucky girls to have such generous parents.

As the rest of his ten children grew up and were married Martin made each of them a gift of 200 acres of land, two cows, a yoke of oxen, six sheep, a wagon, a plow, a harrow, and other lesser incidentals. These children were still pioneers for most of them had to hew their farms from virgin forest lands.

Martin's children followed their parents' religion—Benjamin, the fourth son, donated the land on which the first Mennonite Church was built in 1838, just west of Stevensville on the banks of Black Creek. The fifth son, Henry, was a minister in this church. All except one of Martin's sons and daughters married and raised large families. Martin Beam had seventy-five grandchildren. Of the generation that has just passed beyond, there are only a half dozen left. One of these, Benjamin Beam, jr., has left a detailed account of the pioneer life of his mother and father Benjamin and Mary Stoner Beam in the form of long letters to his grand nephew, Donald C. Beam, but that is a long story in itself. Nearly all of these grandchildren lived on or in the vicinity of the original

grants of land. Many of them went to the church of their forefathers, but others broke away to other denominations. A very few of their childrden and grandchildren gather together on the occasional meetings in the old church. Many of the present younger generations, the seventh and eighth in America, know nothing of the hardships their forebears suffered and the seemingly impossible things they accomplished because they wished to lead simple, good and honest lives according to their conception of what was Christ-like.

We will return now to the family of Bishop Martin Boehm of Lancaser. His eldest son, John, influenced probably by reports sent back from Niagara by his Uncle Abraham and dissatisfied with conditions in the new republic and determined to live under the flag which had given protection to his grandfather nearly one hundred years before, set forth with his family for the new land of freedom. He located at the Forks of Black Creek and immediately adjoining the rear of his Uncle Abraham's land.

John Beam was born in 1755 and married Barbara Walter who bore him eight children, all of whom came to Canada with their parents, excepting the two eldest daughters who were married. Adam Beam (my grandfather) was the eldest. Among his papers, which I now have, is a note in the witing of his grandmother, the wife of Martin Boehm, reading as follows: "Adam Beam was born in the year of our Lord 1783, in the month of May, the 29th day (signed) E. Beam, June 4th, 1783." The baby was the first grandchild in the family. Another of his children, Juliana, married Phillip Buck, the son of one of the very first settlers on the Niagara Frontier, who later took up land and settled on the Dundas Road near Palermo. (One of her granddaughters is Mrs. Colin H. Campbell, O.B.E., of Winnipeg). She married in 1810 when fifteen years of age. Her husband Philip Buck was thirty. She bore him eleven children.

John Beam died intestate in 1812 and Adam, his eldest son, was appointed administrator of the estate. The constant struggle to hew a home out of the bush, the lack of the smallest luxury, the never ending toil, is only too apparent in the written records which have come down to this generation. The inventory of the goods and chat-

tels of John Beam is eloquent of the lack of luxuries, though he had evidently a well stocked farm. On November 17th, 1818, when thirty-five years of age, Adam Beam was married by a Justice of the Peace to Catharine Gonder, a girl of fifteen, born in 1803. She was a daughter of Captain Jacob Gonder who served in the Lincoln Militia in the War of 1812 and whose father Michael Gonder was one of the earliest settlers on the banks of the Niagara River. He came as a U.E. Loyalist in 1789. First settling at Niagara, later he built himself a comfortable log house on the river bank about a mile north of Black Creek. When the Niagara Boulevard was built a few years ago the old house, which had never gone out of the family, was demolished. During the war of 1812 it was for a time the headquarters of General Sir George Drummond. Michael Gonder came from Strasburg a few miles from Lancaster. His house had been burnt by the rebels because he was a Loyalist and had frequently sheltered British officers in his home. He came with two of his children to Canada. His wife and the remaining children stayed in Pennsylvania. He never returned and never saw them again.

Among the items in Adam Beam's account book, begun in 1813 when he took over the administration of his late father's estate, we find reference on June 5th, 1815 to the addition which was then made to the original log house which had been the first home of the family in Canada. This building still stands in excellent condition. The carpenter, David Demud, who helped in the work of the building was paid eight York shillings per day. On February 9th, 1821 Adam Beam paid for chopping thirty-five and a half cords of wood one shilling and nine pence York currency per cord. On December 14th, 1819, Captain Jacob Gonder gave Adam Beam, his son-in-law, nineteen feet of walnut boards for a cradle. This cradle already has served three generations and the fourth, the writer's grandchildren, are now using it.

Adam Beam died in 1863, aged eighty years. His widow died in 1883, also aged eighty years. The eldest son, Aaron, was one of the early settlers in Norfolk County. Adam Beam, like many of the first settlers and their sons, during the war of 1812-14 defended his home against the invader. Again, during the MacKenzie Re-

bellion of 1837, he served as a Sergeant in the Militia. His son, Joseph, (my father) held the King's Commission during the Fenian Raid, and, of the present generation, a number of his grandsons had the honour and privilege of serving their King and Country during the Great War.

M. S. Boehm.

C. A. BOEHM

The only Waterloo County member of the Boehm family, a brother of Major M. S. Boehm, was Charles Adam Boehm, who was born in Elora, Ontario, February 24th, 1876, was educated in Elora Public and High schools and died in Waterloo December 17th, 1929, leaving his widow and two children.

C. A. Boehm came to Waterloo in 1904 and entered the insurance business, establishing the Boehm Insurance Agency, which was one of the largest of its kind in the Province. He also became Vice-President of the Merchants' Casualty Insurance Co., Director of the Waterloo Trust and Savings Co. and Vice-President of the Ontario Underwriters' Association.

He married, in 1905, Alice, a daughter of the late William Carthew of Waterloo and great granddaughter of Laura Secord.

Mr. Boehm was member of the Church of the Holy Saviour of Waterloo and for years was warden of this church. He was a member of the Rotary Club and former member of the Board of Trustees of the Kitchener-Waterloo Hospital. Of the Grand River Masonic Lodge No. 151, he was Past Master of Kitchener Chapter No. 117, was a Royal Arch Mason of the Kitchener Chapter, member of the Royal City Lodge of Perfection, Scottish Rite, of the Waterloo Masonic Lodge No. 539, and of the Oddfellows Germania Lodge.

NEW HAMBURG HISTORICAL NOTES

O. A. F. Hamilton

After the death of the late Captain F. H. McCallum, of New Hamburg, in 1923, I found among his papers a short history of the village which he had evidently written as an outline, with the idea of elaborating it later on. I have since accumulated such additional material as I have been able to find.

The authorities seem to be pretty well agreed that, after the war of 1812, an influx of German settlers came from Pennsylvania to Ontario settling in Lincoln, Welland, Haldimand and Waterloo Counties, in approximately the order named. These men were shrewd judges of land, for they picked out the best farming district in Ontario, or, for that matter, in North America. I like to think that some of these settlers made their way along the height of land to the west of the present Village of New Hamburg, and, looking down into the fertile valley of the Nith, decided that the little waterfall in the river, where the mill-dam now stands, would be a good place to carve a home out of the bush.

Between the years 1800 and 1820, there appears to have been an Indian village on the bank of the little river, afterwards known as Schmidt's, or Smith's Creek, now the River Nith, where the centre of New Hamburg stands today.

Captain McCallum in his history, says that a Hessian, named Gushman, or Cushman,, built a small sawmill on Smith's Creek, near the present centre of the village, about the year 1820. He called the place Cassel, after the city of that name in the Duchy of Hesse in Germany. Patent 21st June 1824. Crown to Josiah Cushman 50 Acres. S. ¼ Labr. 3. N. Bleams' Road Grant of water right on Smith's Creek.

No information is extant as to what became of Guschmann, but the records show that, about 1830, the Crown Lands Department of the Province of Upper Canada granted to one Aaron Shipman the hydraulic privileges of Smith's Creek, for a specified distance, upon the condition that he erect a sawmill or other mill. Capt. McCallum says that the history of this water privilege is the history of New Hamburg.

About this time, the late John Galt, after whom the City of Galt was named, was instrumental in opening the Huron Trail, for the purpose of providing The Canada Company with access to its lands in Waterloo, Perth and Huron Counties, as far west as Goderich. The Company owned the 1st., 3rd., 5th., etc. Concessions of the Township of Wilmot, and all the Huron Tract, as far west as Goderich. About May 1928, the Huron Road, two miles south of New Hamburg, was cut through the virgin forest, a number of the sturdy pioneers who subsequently located the farms near Haysville, accompanying or following the axemen. Among them was James Gordon Smith, the grandfather of Allan R. G. Smith, who arrived in Wilmot Township from Prince Edward Island, in 1836, after walking one thousand and ten miles on snowshoes.

After the building of the Huron Road, which was then the principal means of access to the Township of Wilmot, settlers appeared in modest numbers. In 1834, a serious catastrophe occurred. A travelling circus, visiting Shade's Mills, now Galt, brought with it the terrible Black Death,, and the little settlement on the banks of Smith's Creek was virtually wiped out. The victims were buried on the bank of the mill-dam, near the house now occupied by Dr. T. C. Kirkpatrick. When the former owner, Dr. R. W. Anderson, excavated the foundation for his new barn, several years ago, the remains of the cholera victims were discovered.

Between the years 1834 and 1840, new settlers, arriving from the City of Hamburg in Germany, rechristened the village New Hamburg and thus it has since remained. The water privilege seems to have temporarily lapsed, and to have been revived by one William Scott, who, for almost thirty years, was New Hamburg's leading citizen. He was an active business man, erecting a new flour mill, a woollen mill and a distillery, in addition to a substantial three-storey brick block of retail shops, later owned by the Ernst Estate, and still standing, and a fine residence, afterwards the home of the late Senator Samuel Merner, and still later, the property of I. U. Clemens and Dr. R. W. Anderson, and now owned by Dr. T. C. Kirkpatrick. Mr. Scott was Lieut.-Colonel of the 4th. Battalion Waterloo Infantry, and acted as Postmaster of the village. His first store is said to have been located in the middle of what is now East and West

Street, in front of the William Tell Block. He sold his New Hamburg holdings, between the years 1860 and 1865, moved to New Zealand, and was never heard of again. He and John Zinkann were the Trustees for the inhabitants of New Hamburg of the plot of land, at the corner of Wilmot Street and Bleam's Road, donated on June 11th, 1849, by Absolom Shade, for cemetery purposes. The deed to this property was turned over, in February 1858, by Mr. Scott, to Titus G. S. Nevilles, the first reeve of the village, and is now in possession of the village clerk, with Mr. Scott's accompanying letter. Marion Scott, wife of William Scott, was the first person buried in the cemetery. About two years ago, her remains, and those of a number of other pioneers were removed to Riverside Cemetery, New Hamburg, and are now interred beneath a handsome memorial, erected by the New Hamburg Cemetery Board to the memory of the pioneers of the village. An interesting, if apochryphal story is told in explanation of Mr. Scott's removal from New Hamburg. His daughter is said to have fallen in love with a young man who worked on a farm in the vicinity. As this was not considered a suitable match, the stern parent undertook to apply the quietus by the somewhat drastic method of selling out and moving to New Zealand. But love will not be denied. The lady pined away, and, seeing that she was dying of a broken heart in the approved Victorian fashion, papa was obliged to send for the suitor, and poetic justice, pay his way to New Zealand, where, let us hope, he married the lady and lived happily ever after.

Trinity Lutheran Church, New Hamburg, has the honour of being the first ecclesiastical organization on the scene. Its records date back to 1834, the first entry in the Record of Births and Baptisms, on December 17th, 1834, being one Jacob Seyler, a son of Theobald Seyler, who was born on November 21st., 1834. It is interesting to note that, upon the incorporation of the village in 1858, this same Jacob Seyler, then twenty-four years of age, was appointed Village Clerk. The first reeve was Titus G. S. Nevilles, a druggist, and the original councillors were Joseph Hartmann, George Morley, Fred Merner and Theobald Seyler. The last named ran a hotel in the building now occupied by C. O. Kruspe, druggist, and the bar was located in what is now John Erb's barber shop.

The congregation of Trinity Lutheran Church between 1834 and 1850 seems to have consisted largely of Seylers and Trachsels, there having been six of the former baptized during that period and seven of the latter.

In 1840, New Hamburg was situated in the Township of Wilmot in the County of Halton in the Gore District of the Province of Upper Canada. Refreshment was available in fifteen or twenty hotels and there is in my possession an Innkeepers' license, dated the tenth of July 1840, in the fourth year of the reign of Her Majesty, Queen Victoria, issued in the name of Sir George Arthur, K.C.B., Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, to Erb & Nevilles, of the Township of Wilmot, for which they paid £3.

Officials evidently made mistakes in those days, too, because, on the back of the license, the Inspector for Wellington District, has noted that a tavern license has been issued in place of a shop license, and he goes on to say, in language which rings familiar in our ears today. "The Shop Duty is £7/12/6. You have paid £3. You owe £4/12/6. Please remit."

About the year 1856, the Grand Trunk Railway was completed and this advent put New Hamburg on the map. It is said that the railway was originally intended to pass through Haysville, but that the landowners near that thriving village were too optimistic about the price of land, and, for that reason, the railroad passed them by on the other side.

From a geographical standpoint, the village is contained in the loops of a gigantic letter "S", which lies on its back, with the winding of one loop to the north and the opening of the other to the south. The loops are formed by the banks of stiff clay, around which the alluvial stream has eaten its way. The northwestern loop encloses Upper Town, the southeastern, Lower Town. The two are joined by a bridge, known locally as "The Bridge". The streets in New Hamburg all have names, but nobody knows them.

The population of the village in 1864 was 868, as compared with 1,273 for Waterloo and 1,956 for Berlin. I am entirely at a loss to explain why such second-rate

villages as Waterloo and Berlin should have attained their present eminence, while New Hamburg has not quite doubled its population.

The Evangelical Church records show that the Rev. Carl Hammer preached the first Evangelical sermon at Berlin in December 1836 and started the first Sunday school at the same place in 1837. Both seem to have been badly needed, for tradition tells us that the Evangelicals suffered persecution and one of their preachers, John Harlacher by name, was hanged in effigy on King Street in Berlin, presumably for suggesting the cutting off of some of the hotel licenses. However, they persevered, and after overcoming opposition in Berlin, looked about for other heathens to convert. New Hamburg was the logical opening, and the missionaries visited the place, were well received and left, promising to return later on. The local unregenerate took advantage of their absence to throw a monkey-wrench in the works, with the result that, when the Evangelical missionaries came back, they found a good old-fashioned Hamburg boycott in full operation, and could discover no place to hold services. But, as has been well said, the times produce the man, and, in this emergency, the man appeared. His name was George Eby, who lived in a shack in the bush on the flats near Helmer's Bridge and the first regular Evangelical services were held there. In 1846, the New Hamburg Evangelical Sunday School was organized under the superintendency of Joseph Laschinger, who was president for many years. People in those days were simple and unpretentious. Shoes were not worn, except in the winter, and the superintendent is said to have frequently discharged his duties, in his shirt sleeves and bare footed. It was not unusual for people to arrive from the country, on Sunday, carrying their shoes, which they put on before the service.

One of the outstanding events in the history of the village was the great flood, which took place on Saturday and Sunday, August 18th and 19th, 1883. It was caused by a cloud-burst in the upper valley of the Nith. All previous high-water marks were exceeded by more than four feet. All the bridges, barns, hencoops and loose paraphernalia in the Nith Valley came sailing down the river, at very short notice. Christner's Bridge, across Snider's Road, broke from its moorings and wedged itself into the

river bank some distance downstream. Helmer's Bridge decided to travel, and finally landed across East and West Street, New Hamburg, approximately between the sites now occupied by the New Hamburg Public Library and St. Peter's Lutheran Church. In its progress, it crashed the old livery stable standing at that date, on piles, on the point of land west of the present Public Library. The livery stable swung around with the current and carried away the main bridge joining Upper and Lower Town. The water was so high that Mrs. Jonathan Woods had to be rescued by boat from the second storey of the brick house at the west end of East and West St., now occupied by Roy C. Luckhardt. Some of the spectators on that occasion are still with us in the persons of Henry and Fred Eichler, Edward Seim and Herman Appel. Another, J. H. Ramseyer, living in Michigan, was a visitor to New Hamburg, and I met him inspecting the recently completed bridge on the same site. He and the late Emos Christner stood on the west side of the river, fifty-three years ago, and watched the bridge go out.

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HISTORICAL NOTES, 1936

The widening of the highway between Galt and Preston is necessitating the removal of all the bodies buried in the Roman Catholic Cemetery, an old landmark occupying a narrow strip of ground, at the east end of Preston, between the highway and the right of way of the Wellington, Grey and Bruce branch of the old Great Western Railway, which was built through from Galt to Guelph in 1855-57.

Father P. J. Meyer, present incumbent of St. Clements Church, Preston, reports that this cemetery was the second burial ground of the Preston R.C. congregation and was opened at the time the railway was put through.

The first burial was that of John Nicholas Dufresne, who was accidentally killed in connection with the construction of the railway. This was on October 8th, 1857. About 345 bodies were buried in this small cemetery from that date until in recent years when the third cemetery

of this congregation was opened, on the Speedsville road, north of Preston, to where the bodies are being removed.

Contributed by President Panabaker, Oct. 1st, 1936.

Soil from Vimy Ridge, memorable battlefield of the Great War, where Canadians, including Waterloo County men, took such a notable part, was shown, in its glass container, by Secretary Fisher at the Annual Meeting. This soil was obtained at Vimy Ridge, at the time of the dedication of the monument, July 26th last, by local veterans L. Dingley, Syd. Kirby and Alfred Merser, who doated it to the Waterloo Historical Society Museum, where it will be preserved.

■

Two Centennials of Waterloo County Schools were celebrated July 1st.

THE PETERSBURG SCHOOL

Over 1,500 people, largely descendants and friends of former pupils, some from several American states and from distant parts of Canada, crowded the Fred Knipfel picnic grounds, near Petersburg, for the Centennial Celebration of the founding of Wilmot Township School No. 14, the Petersburg school, in 1836.

They arrived from shortly before noon until dark, when the formal event began. The New Hamburg band provided music throughout the afternoon and evening.

R. O. Dobbin of Waterloo, teacher at the school from 1873 to 1876, took an active part in the celebration. Mr. Dobbin, 84 years of age, was the oldest living former teacher present.

Mr. McDougall, chief inspector of the Ontario Department of Education, and L. Norman, South Waterloo inspector, highly praised the record of the Petersburg school. Waterloo county leads Ontario in attendance records, while Wilmot township has the best record in the county. Hon. N. O. Hipel of Preston, Speaker of the On-

tario Legislature, brought greetings from Hon. Dr. Simpson, Ontario Minister of Education. Alex M. Edwards, M.P. for South Waterloo, County Warden P. A. Wagner, A. R. G. Smith, school attendance officer for Wilmot for many years and Reeve M. A. Schmidt of Wilmot were also present and gave brief addresses.

W. A. Ruthig of New Hamburg, chairman of the committee in charge, and Miss Schaefer, teacher at the Petersburg school since 1929, were mainly responsible for the success of the celebration.

MILL CREEK SCHOOL

While the school section was organized in 1836, there was no building and therefore no actual school until 1837. The school moved to its second building, now the home of Mrs. Neil Wilkinson, in 1852. In 1861 the present site, on the back road between Galt and Hespeler, was selected and the school since then in use and so continuing, was thereon erected. Here the celebration took place.

Participants, present and former pupils and their friends, and the general public, altogether about 800, began to arrive about four o'clock in the afternoon.

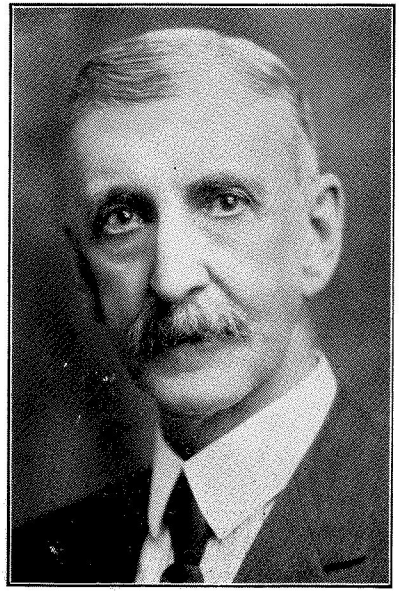
There were games and an exhibition soft ball match in the afternoon. For the evening entertainment an outdoor stage had been erected. Jared Turnbull, trustee and secretary of the school board for about 30 years, was chairman. A humorous skit "Mill Creek School in Bygone Days" was the feature of the evening.

A. M. Edwards, M.P. for South Waterloo, and Speaker Hon. N. O. Hipel of the Ontario Legislature, took active part in both Petersburg and Mill Creek celebrations.

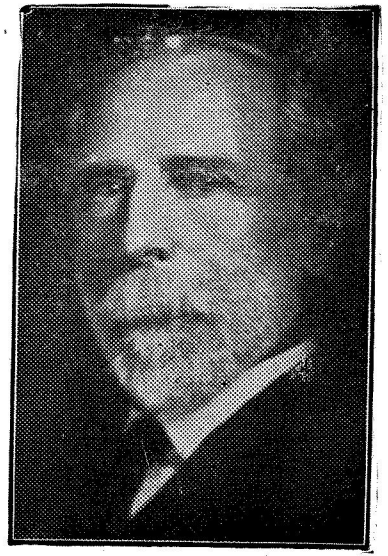
Malcolm McIntyre, first named on the list, was teacher in 1847. He received 4 pounds 10 shillings (about $18.00) a month, for three months.

A long list of teachers, 55 or more, served the school from 1847 down to the present teacher, Mr. Koenig. Up to about 1870 the teachers were mostly men. Records of the school, from 1867 to 1894, were destroyed.

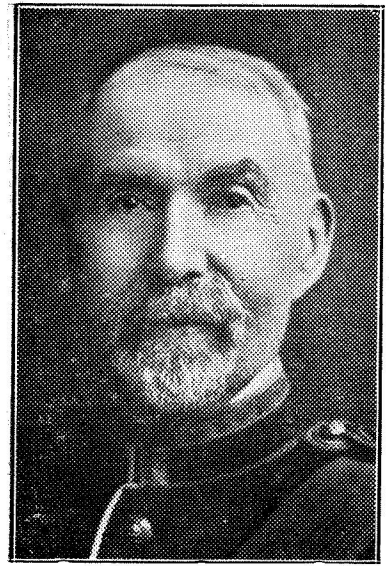
Duncan Ferguson, Alex Scrimger and Asa Douglas were trustees in 1847. Ferguson continued until 1853 and thereafter, at intervals, until 1866.



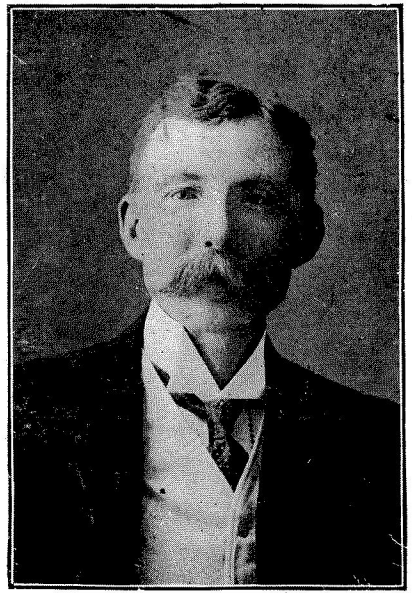
JOSEPH STAUFFER



HOMER R. WATSON



COL. JAS. LAING COWAN



D. FORSYTH, B.A.

BIOGRAPHY

JOSEPH STAUFFER

Joseph Stauffer, the subject of this sketch was born near Doon in 1852 and died in Galt on February 18th, 1936, in his 84th year.

Joseph Stauffer was the son of Joseph Stauffer, Sr. and Nancy Bowman. His ancestor left Switzerland for Germany and thence migrated to the United States, settling in Pennsylvania about 1738. In 1802 his pioneer forefather located on a farm near Doon. The father died when Joseph was but eleven months old. The mother later moved to Blair and from there to Sheffield, where Joseph grew to manhood.

Joseph Stauffer's first business venture was a partnership with the late John Sipes of Galt where they conducted a livery business for twelve years.

In 1891 Mr. Stauffer joined the firm of Newlands and Company Limited as salesman. His success on the road was such that he was admitted to membership in this firm and later became president of the company, which position he held until his death.

In 1903 Mr. Stauffer and the late Andrew Newland organized another textile plant known as the Galt Robe Company, Limited, which firm later became the Stauffer-Dobbie Company, Limited.

Mr. Stauffer was also Vice-President of the Galt Art Metal Company, director of the Waterloo Fire Insurance Company, local Vice-President of the Waterloo Historical Society and for a number of years a member of the Galt City Council.

Mr. Stauffer in spite of having started at the bottom of the ladder nevertheless succeeded in each of his various enterprises against all obstacles, and achieved noteworthy objectives in the wide field of his activities. These were not by any means confined to commercial or financial interests only but included the broader realm of successful living.

Mr. Stauffer was a man beloved of his family. He had a keen, active and generous interest in the commun-

ity in which he lived. His political sagacity was outstanding and his patriotism with respect to Canadian and British institutions was sincere and worthy of emulation.

In his business undertakings, so widely diversified, his successes were not only gratifying from the standpoint of personal prowess but also in the enriched regard and respect which he won from those associated with him and from those with whom his business was conducted.

Mr. Stauffer's partner in life was the late Lena Clemens, daughter of Oliver Clemens of Blair, also deceased. Mr. Stauffer's family comprised three sons and one daughter.

Few descendants of our early settlers took as much interest in their ancestral family history as did Mr. Stauffer, who, after visiting Pennsylvania to learn what he could of the family tree, spent several months in Switzerland in 1925 and visited the home of his forebears. He succeeded in tracing the history of the Stauffer family back for a period of eleven hundred years. Incidentally he found three representatives of the family had in their time held responsible positions in the government after Switzerland became a republic.

Among the traditions of the Stauffer family in America is the record of the coming of the first Stauffers from Muckenhauserhof, Wurtemberg, Germany, whither members of the family had fled during earlier years to escape the persecution of non-conformists in Switzerland.

While in Germany, Martin Stauffer had determined to emigrate and settle in America but a fatal illness overtook him before his plans could be carried out. Upon his death bed he urged his young sons to take their mother to America with them as soon as possible after his demise. This was done but the difficulties of a journey of several hundred miles were increased by the fact that the mother was crippled. Due to the small resources of the family, the sons were obliged to improvise a wheel chair or hand wagon in which they personally conveyed their mother several hundred miles from this far inland part of Germany to the seaport from which they secured passage to Pennsylvania.

CONTRIBUTED BY C. T. GROH

HOMER RANSFORD WATSON

Homer Ransford Watson, son of Ransford Watson and Susannah Moore, was born in 1855 in the rural community of Doon, Waterloo County. His father was proprietor of a woollen mill. The painter never knew him, having been left an orphan when still an infant. From a comfortable mode of living his family suddenly found itself in great financial difficulties. It was against these difficulties, or in spite of them, or perhaps because of them, that young Homer Watson, without tuition of any sort started to draw, then began to color his drawings, and eventually daring enough to squeeze some precious paint on the palette and start to paint. If his early efforts were much encouraged by an admiring aunt, they were not regarded with kindness by the elders in the community and the youth had more than one rebuke by business men who condemned his artistic pursuit as utterly fruitless from a practical standpoint.

Yet looking back to those days the artist only remembered the spirit that filled him. "I must say I was then in a state of ecstacy almost all the time over nature's effects." Because of this love of nature and because of a similarity of mood with the European masters whom he unconsciously emulated, there are found in his paintings what many — who mistake a kinship of heart and mind for a spirit of imitation — have wrongly called echoes of the work of Theodore Rousseau and Constable. "In younger years," he says, "I longed for the thing I did not have. I wanted the old story of privileged endeavor to come to my uncouth land." But he was born "amid the hardwood trees" and "noted the beech, oak and elm, as native as a jack pine," and they gradually became so familiar to him that in painting them he was expressing a temperament much like unto that of Constable, or akin to that of Rousseau, but he was at the same time depicting a pastoral Canadian landscape.

He was only twenty-five when recognition came to him, in 1880. The newly formed Royal Canadian Academy was holding an exhibition and there came the news that "The Pioneer Mill," a painting by a young countryman, had been purchased by the Marquis of Lorne, Governor-General and founder of the Academy, for the private collection of Her Majesty, Queen Victoria. This canvas was

soon afterwards joined at Windsor Castle by "Last of the Drought" by the same artist, while the Marquis of Lorne also purchased for his own collection at Kensington Palace, "The Torrent."

Three years after this initial success, Homer Watson was made the first elected member of the Royal Canadian Academy. He had not yet had contact with Europe and its art, for it was not until 1887 that he journeyed abroad for the first time. Not long after his arrival in England, he was an exhibitor together with the notable men of the day, including Whistler. This first trip to Europe was followed by several others, each of his sojourns in Canada in the intervals being marked by new achievements and his enthusiastic leadership in awakening art movements. In 1908 he was elected president of the Canadian Art Club which he had been greatly instrumental in establishing.

Honored by medals in gold and in bronze awarded by juries in various American exhibitions, perhaps nothing in his long and happy career meant as much either to him or to those who try to formulate a lasting evaluation of his personality and his work than these words by his old colleague and friend, Stanley G. Moyer, in The Canadian Magazine: "For those who live to-mmorrow, he has pictured the beauty of yesterday."

Watson's panoramic "Valcartier Camp" done under assignment of the Canadian government in 1914 is his outstanding contribution to the history of the Great War. Two other pictures, idealistic in treatment "Into the Unknown," and "Out of the Pit" poetize the beginning and ending of the titanic struggle of arms.

Homer Watson commenced painting at a very early age and studied in Europe from 1885 to 1888 and at subsequent times. His picture "The Pioneer Mill", shown at the Royal Canadian Academy as stated, was awarded a prize at a later exhibition in Montreal and a gold medal at the Louisiana Purchase Exhibition in 1895. He was president of the Canadian Art Club in 1902 and of the Royal Canadian Academy from 1918 to 1922.

He at various times exhibited at the Royal Academy, New Gallery, International Institute, the Royal Canadian Academy, the Montreal Art Association and the Toronto Art Gallery and is represented in the National, Montreal,

and Toronto Art Galleries and in the Van Horne, Ross, Drummond and numerous other private collections. He was a member of the Albany Club and of the Arts and Letters, (Toronto) and fraternally a member of A.F. & A.M. He was supporter of the Conservative party and a member of the Presbyterian Church.

He was to have received the honorary degree LL.D. from the University of Western Ontario the month after his death.

Mr. Watson was married, on January 1st, 1881, to Roxanna Bechtel of Doon who predeceased him in 1918. He died Saturday, May 20th, 1936, at his home in Doon to which he had returned shortly before after a long stay at St. Mary's Hospital, Kitchener. Survivors are an adopted daughter Mrs. Stewart Williams of Doon, a brother William James of Waterloo and sister Miss Phoebe Watson of Doon.

Prime Minister Mackenzie King paid tribute as follows: "In the death of Homer Watson, Canada has lost one whose name will ever be foremost in the realm of Canadian art. Homer Watson was recognized, not only as a great Canadian artist, but as one of the best of living landscape painters in any part of the British Empire. Throughout his lifetime, his work received the highest and widest recognition. Mr. Watson was a man of the highest culture. He possessed great literary as well as artistic ability. His home and studio at Doon, were visited, not only by lovers of art and friends from all over Canada, but by visitors to whom his reputation was known in many parts of the world. It will remain one of the historic homes of our country, and should be preserved as such.

Like many artists, Homer Watson was a true patriot, a lover of his own country. Had he wished to do so, he might, years ago, have gone to England to live, and received much wider recognition of his art and skill. He preferred, however to remain in the little village of Doon, on the banks of the Grand River, in Waterloo county, with which, from boyhood days, he had been associated, and the natural beauty of which he loved so dearly."

COL. J. LAING COWAN
1846-1936

After a long and active life, Col. James Laing Cowan, president of Cowan and Co., of Galt, Ltd. oldest surviving member of the 29th Waterloo regiment, oldest living president of the South Waterloo Agricultural society, formerly a breeder of prize sheep and cattle at "Clochmohr" farm, and a lifelong resident of this area, died Saturday evening September 19th, 1936 at his home, 57 Grand Avenue north, Galt, after being confined to his bed since May 23rd.

Born in 1846 at "Clochmohr" on the front Hespeler road, a part of his father's farm named after a hill in Scotland, Cal. Laing Cowan was the last surviving member of his generation of his family. Three brothers and two sisters predeceased him.

For 74 years Mr. Cowan lived at the farm where he received a thorough grounding in agriculture and became interested in the raising and showing of prize sheep and cattle. In 1920 he moved to Galt and for the past 16 years had been a familiar figure in activities in Galt. In 1880 he was president of the South Waterloo Agricultural Society.

In addition to his business activities and other interests, Col. Cowan was an active participant for many years at the George street bowling green and was an ardent follower of the Terrier baseball team and other sports. One of his prized possessions was a baseball autographed by the Terriers and presented to him as a token of the regard and fellowship they felt for him.

Tall, spare and straight, Col. Cowan had one characteristic which amazed less hardy men. For years he was never known to wear an overcoat and during the winter he was often seen walking along as if the zero temperature was nothing more than an ordinary fall day. Last year, however, he noticed the cold and gave in to wearing the heavy coat on the odd occasion.

Early in life he developed rifle shooting as his hobby and this led him to join the 29th Waterloo regiment. In 1882 he was gazetted a lieutenant and was later made colonel of the regiment which during wartime became

the Highland Light Infantry of Canada. Col. Cowan was also an active member of the Old Albert Rifle Association of Galt.

He was born four years before the now City of Galt became an incorporated village, and his retentive memory used to bring back for his friends many of the early events of importance to Galt's advance. He began his school days at the old log school house at Clearview of which the late David Brydon was at that time principal. He attended the Tassie school. He remembered when the Galt branch of the Great Western railway was completed in 1854 and when the cornerstone of the town hall was laid in 1857.

Until illness overtook him, he made his daily trips to the offices of the business his father started, Cowan and Co. Until the last despite advanced years he retained an alert mind and a spirit which made him a host of friends and gave him a long life crowded with activity.

(from Galt Reporter)

The Toronto Globe of September 21st, 1936, said: "Colonel J. Laing Cowan, one of Galt's best-known citizens, died Saturday at his residence in Galt. He was in his ninety-first year and had been ailing for some time. He was born at "Clochmohr," on the Hespeler Road, four years before Galt became an incorporated village.

He lived 74 years on the family homestead before moving into Galt to retire. His interest in rifle shooting and sporting matters began with the old 29th Regiment, and in 1882 he was gazetted a Lieutenant, later becoming commanding officer.

As a lieutenant, he formed one of the guard of honor that greeted Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne in Berlin, now Kitchener, having the honor of lowering the flag to Royalty. He was the oldest surviving officer of the 29th. As a farmer, he was a noted breeder of sheep and Shorthorn cattle. He recalled that when 8 years of age, the first train came to Galt in 1854 over the Great Western Railway. He also recalled the laying of the cornerstone of the present Town Hall in 1857. He was married in 1878 and is survived by one son, James Roy, and one daughter, Mabel, both of Galt.

DAVID FORSYTH, B.A.

1853-1936

David Forsyth, B.A., principal emeritus of the Kitchener-Waterloo Collegiate Institute and Vocational School, died at his home in Beamsville on the night of Sept. 13th to Sept. 14th, 1936, after a short illness.

Mr. Forsyth was, for 46 years, a member of the Collegiate staff and was principal of the institution for 20 years. In addition to having played an outstanding part in educational advancement in the province, he had an international reputation in athletics, particularly in soccer football.

Born in Perthshire, Scotland, he came to Canada with his parents when he was only a year old. He received his primary education in the schools at Lynden, Wentworth County, and that neighborhood. In 1865 he entered Dundas High School of which J. Howard Hunter was then headmaster. After his parents moved to Galt, in 1867, he entered Tassie's School, the famous Galt Grammar school, from which he matriculated in 1869 with scholarship standing in mathematics.

In 1875 he graduated from the University of Toronto, taking a silver medal in mathematics. In 1876 he became master of mathematics and science in the old Berlin High School as associate with the late Principal J. W. Connor, B.A., and the late Adolph Mueller. The trio's association continued for 21 years.

Mr. Forsyth was the first to introduce practical laboratory work for each pupil in science in Ontario high schools. He placed in the old Berlin High School one of the first science laboratory tables in such schools in the province.

He became principal of the institution upon the retirement of the late J. W. Connor, B.A., in 1901. Under his administration the expansion of the school in attendance, staff and equipment put it into the front rank of Ontario High Schools. When he retired in 1921 the faculty had increased from three masters of 1876 to 14. In addition there was a well organized and successful night school section under 18 teachers. He was appointed principal emeritus of the school in 1922. His successor in the

principalship was R. N. Merritt, the present head of the institution.

Many of his pupils became outstanding men in their respective fields of activity after graduating from the high school or the university. The most prominent of these are Canada's prime minister, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie King, and Hon. W. D. Euler, minister of trade and commerce and North Waterloo member.

When the government 35 years ago sought advice before technical classes were instituted in the province, it looked to a group of men well qualified for giving such advice. It appointed a Royal Commission on industrial training and technical education, and chose Mr. Forsyth as a member. As a member of that body he was engaged in investigation work from July 1910 to December 1911, during which time he toured Canada, the United States, the British Isles, France, Denmark, Switzerland and Germany. The commission visited the principal schools and institutions of learning with a view to getting information, which later was made the basis for recommendations regarding establishing technical educational classes in Ontario.

For over 30 years, Mr. Forsyth was on the local Public Library Board. He was chairman for four terms and was secretary for many years. When he was first appointed to the Board the library was located in the basement of the old city hall which building was removed in 1923. Later the library was moved upstairs and into the office of the town clerk in the same building and subsequently to the old council chamber on the second storey.

Finally it was moved to the present quarters, Queen and Weber streets. Mr. Forsyth with the late Adolph Mueller, despite much criticism and opposition, was instrumental in securing the site for the present building.

For several years in the early history of the town he was chairman of the Board of Health, taking a leading part in efforts to improve the public health and adopt sanitary measures throughout the municipality.

In Beamsville at the time of his death he was chairman of the Public Library Board, and a member of the advisory vocational committee of the Beamsville Board of Education.

He was a member of the Waterloo Historical Society, the Mathematical Association of Canada, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the National Geographic Society.

He was one of the oldest members of Grand River Lodge, Masonic Order, joining in 1883, was a past master of the lodge, and a past D.D.G.M. for Wellington district. Only a few weeks before his death a number of Twin City Masons motored to Beamsville and presented him with Masonic jewels indicating 50 years in the craft.

Mr. Forsyth is probably best known throughout the Dominion as the founder of soccer football in Canada. His brilliant playing brought the Ontario championship to the old Berlin team which subsequently became the original Rangers. Half of the team representing the W.F.A. consisted of Rangers, the other players being from Galt and Toronto. This team toured the United States and the British Isles with outstanding success, and was one of the best soccer aggregations Canada has ever had.

Mr. Forsyth organized the Western Ontario Football Association in 1880, the late J. W. Connor being the first president, and Forsyth the first secretary, holding the secretaryship until 1905. He was president from 1915 to 1919, both years inclusive. He was honorary secretary for 11 years and was honorary president at the time of his death. This association is the oldest body of its kind in Canada or the United States.

He was also interested in other lines of sports. He was captain of the Berlin lacrosse team and a prominent member of the Berlin Cricket Club. He enjoyed bicycle riding in his younger days, having ridden the first high-wheeled bicycle in the northern part of the county. He was an enthusiastic canoeist, making repeated voyages down the Grand River from Freeport to Lake Erie. He also was an active lawn bowler and curler, being instrumental as a member of the bowling club committee in securing the present bowling green on Queen street north.

Mr. Forsyth married, in December, 1882, Augusta Mylius, daughter of the late Dr. R. Mylius. She died in April 1912. He left Kitchener in 1924 to reside in Beamsville, where he was engaged in fruit farming. One daughter, Mrs. Norman Suddaby of Vancouver, B.C., and one son Otto Forsyth of Beamsville, survive.

DONATIONS TO THE MUSEUM 1935-36

Old French handbell, donated by Mr. George Turnbull, Kitchener.

Framed portrait of Adolf Mueller, (died 1898).

Framed group photograph of Sheriff Davidson and family taken about 1869. Donated by E. G. Davidson, Toronto.

Two large folio bibles bound in full pigskin, published by Emanuel Thurneysen, Basel, one in 1767, one in 1798, the latter containing family records. One large quarto bible, full cowhide binding, printed by Christoph Saur, Germantown, Pa. Donated by Rev. J. Maurer, Kitchener.

2 photographs, 1 mounted, Old Mill at Winterbourne.

2 photographs probably former Beck Foundry and machine shop, Baden.

1 photograph probably Livingston Mill, Baden.

1 photograph, mill and grain elevator unknown. Donated by T. G. Connon, Goderich.

Portrait Dr. Isaiah Bowman, (born in Waterloo), President, Johns Hopkins University, from Dr. Isaiah Bowman.

Retting tools, for flax scutching: 2 pamphlets, Kirmes Berlin (now Kitchener) 1894 and 1896. Donated by Henry Stuebing, Kitchener.

From W. W. Snider, St. Jacobs, E. W. Snider papers re Hydro origin. Early minutes of Hydro Development re Niagara Falls Power January 14th, 1903. Notes, Comments and Estimates re Niagara Power 1902-03. Letters from Ross and Hilgate, Consulting Engineers for Committee, 1905-6. Correspondence, E. W. B. Snider with Hon. G. W. Ross, Premier of Ontario I & II, 1902-03. Re Niagara Power, Origin of Hydro Power Movement. Kitchener Light Commission. March 1919.

German Machine Gun, used in Great War. Donated by Kitchener Public Library Board.

Surveyor's chain used by Isaac L. Bowman (died

1893). Flat iron with large recess for charcoal fire. Old time school slate. Donated by A. C. Hallman, Kitchener.

Menno Simon Schriften, Johann Baer und Sohn, Lancaster Pa., 1853. Donated by George Turnbull, Kitchener.

Reprint of Glasgow Advertiser. No. 1 January 27th, 1783. Donated by George Turnbull.

Large scrap books, Loan collection. George Turnbull.

Minnesota History. Vol. 17. Theodore C. Blegen, Editor.

Powder flask, shot bag, box percussion caps. Donated by D. N. Panabaker, Hespeler.

Abraham C. Clemens' family bible, brought to Upper Canada in 1809. Donated by John Clemens, Vancouver, B.C.

Broad axe used for timber squaring. Donated by D. N. Panabaker, Hespeler.

Large group photograph, framed, Dedication of Memorial at St. Agatha, July 16th, 1935. Commemorating founding of St. Jerome's College. Donated by D. N. Panabaker, Hespeler.

Hustling Hespeler, photograph 1922. Donated by D. N. Panabaker, Hespeler.

Roast meat fork found buried at the rear of Hespeler hotel, finder and donor, Walter Johnston, Hespeler.

Pair of fancy wood top, skates manufactured at Auburn, N.Y., sixty or more years ago. Donated by Harold Morris, Hespeler.

Vimy Ridge soil in glass container. Brought from the battlefield and donated by Kitchener veterans, L. Dingley, Syd. Kirby and Alfred Merser.