# FOURTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# WATERLOO HISTORICAL

# SOCIETY



# NINETEEN TWENTY-SIX



WATERLOO PIONEERS MEMORIAL TOWER DEDICATED, AUG. 28, 1926

# FOURTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# WATERLOO HISTORICAL

# SOCIETY



NINETEEN TWENTY-SIX



## COUNCIL

1926

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Curator

MISS K. POTTER

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#### SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT, 1926

The Waterloo Historical Society has now completed its fourteenth year. The annual meeting was held in the Museum in the Public Library, Kitchener, on the evening of October the 29th, and the attendance on this occasion was the best we have ever had. Public interest, we are assured, has been aroused in the Society's work. The president, Rev. J. E. Lynn, presided. The papers presented were:

History of the Galt Collegiate Institute, 1914 to 1926, by Miss K. F. Jaffray, Galt.

The Waterloo County Pioneers Memorial Tower, by W. H. Breithaupt, Kitchener.

History of the Galt Public Schools, by J. E. Kerr, Galt.

Grants have this year been received from the County of Waterloo, the City of Kitchener, the City of Galt, the towns of Elmira and Hespeler.

As in former years the Kitchener Public Library Board has provided free the room for containing our collection and holding our meetings. This splendid support is gratefully acknowledged.

Our 1925 report was somewhat later in appearing than in former years; yet the arrangements for printing of the report were eminently satisfactory. The report has met with a good reception.

A list of the donations received for our Museum appears in the report:

The officers for the year 1927 are:

| PresidentD. N. I     | Panabaker  |
|----------------------|------------|
| Vice-PresidentRev. J | I. E. Lynn |
| Secretary-Treasurer  | .P. Fisher |

#### LOCAL VICE-PRESIDENTS

| GaltJ. E. Kerr            |
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Miss B. M. Dunham, W. J. Motz, W. H. Breithaupt, W. V. Uttley.

MUSEUM AND PUBLICATION COMMITTEE W. H. Breithaupt, W. J. Motz and Miss B. M. Dunham

# WATERLOO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, 1926

# **Receipts**:

Sec.

| \$178 | 33 |
|-------|----|
|       |    |
|       |    |
|       |    |
|       |    |
|       |    |
|       |    |
|       |    |
| 297   | 10 |
|       |    |

### \$475 43

#### DISBURSEMENTS:

| Printing and binding\$99  | 65 |       |    |
|---------------------------|----|-------|----|
| Postage and stationery 54 | 19 |       |    |
| Curator                   | 00 |       |    |
| Secretary                 | 00 |       |    |
| Sundry                    | 47 |       |    |
|                           |    | 268   | 31 |
|                           | -  |       |    |
| Balance                   |    | \$207 | 12 |

Audited and found correct,

J. H. WUEST, Auditor.

P. Fisher, Secretary-Treasurer.

#### PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Rev. J. E. Lynn, President of the Waterloo Historical Society, presided at the annual meeting and dealt with experiences while attending the Toronto Normal School as a student. Mr. Lynn said in part:

Fifty-eight years ago I was a student in the Normal School in Toronto and the Normalites of that day recall with pleasure the occasional visits from Dr. Egerton Ryerson, the Chief Superintendent of Education of Ontario. A grateful people have erected to his memory a bronze statue on the Normal School grounds to preserve in our memory his achievement in educational service. Dr. Ryerson was appointed Superintendent in 1844. He saw the great need for trained teachers and the Normal and Model Schools were erected in Toronto in 1847. Dr. Ryerson made numerous visits to Europe and to the New England States to study educational systems there. He realized that much initial work was necessary before a satisfactory educational system could be built up. He was confronted by many difficulties which were overcome one after the other. He aimed for free and compulsory education for every child.

The framework of the new educational system as wrought out by Dr. Ryerson was an adaptation of the system in use in the Middle States; the plan of local assessment was taken from the New England States; the Normal and Model Schools were founded on the German system. Through his efforts the textbooks in use in Northern Ireland were introduced into Ontario Schools and the series proved satisfactory to both Protestants and Roman Catholics.

Dr. Ryerson was a persistent advocate for placing libraries in the public schools. In these libraries the parents of the children were not overlooked as books suited to their needs were placed in these libraries as well.

Successive administrations recognized the ability and loyalty and devotion of the Superintendent and he was retained in office for many years. Of him it was said after his long and useful life, "No man ever passed away from among us in Canada whose true greatness was so universally recognized as that of Dr. Ryerson. He lived in the hearts of his countrymen and read his history in a nation's eyes." Brief reference should here be made to one who took a prominent part in this County in shaping its educational system. I refer to Thomas Pearce, who gave fifty-four years of continuous service to the cause of public education. Mr. Pearce came to Canada from Wicklow County, Ireland. While attending the Normal School in Toronto, the School Board of Berlin, now Kitchener, wrote Dr. J. H. Sangster, Principal of the Normal School (1866-71) requesting him to select a teacher for them.

Mr. Pearce was selected and was the first Normal trained teacher on the Central School staff. In 1864 he became principal of the school. After seven years' service he was appointed Inspector of Schools for Waterloo County. For many years he did the work alone. Then an associate was appointed.



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GALT COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE, 1924.

#### THE GALT COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE, 1914-1926

#### BY MISS K. F. JAFFRAY

The growth of the vocational idea, and its incorporation in wood, stone and iron is the outstanding feature of the period in the history of the Galt Collegiate Institute covered by the years from 1914 to 1926, during which Mr. A. P. Gundry held the position of Principal.

For some time prior to his appointment, when he succeeded Dr. Carscadden, influence had been brought to bear upon the Galt Collegiate Institute Board of Trustees, by the Educational Department of Ontario, to persuade them that Galt was a city which made a large demand for Vocational and Technical classes, because of its manufacturing plants, particularly in ironwork. Evening Industrial classes had been formed in some few subjects, and these were well attended; but there was not sufficient scope in the subjects, nor were the facilities such that they could be carried on satisfactorily. Therefore, in appointing Mr. Gundry to the principalship of a school numbering some 300 pupils, it was confidently expected that the growth of Vocational work would occupy a good deal of his time.

Just as he took his position, however, a stronger claim was made upon the school. He frequently spoke of the fact that as he was at the Strathroy station, about to come to Galt to make his home, he heard first that the Great War had begun, and that the world was more or less on the eve of an upheaval. Therefore, for the first few years of his Principalship, the vocational idea had to stand quite to one side, and any plans which were made, or schemes prepared, were of minor importance.

This was a crucial moment in the history of the land, and in no place was the testing time greater than in the schools. Lads in their 'teens in 1914 were the fighting men of 1918. Patriotism, the duty of the hour, must be inculcated in them if the fighting ranks of the C.E.F. were to be kept unbroken. Mr. Gundry, as Principal of a school with the traditions of the G.C.I., realized his opportunities. Unable to join the fighting ranks himself, owing to indifferent health, he let no occasion pass in which he could help others who were faltering a little. He gave his money, he gave his strength; his oratorical powers —and they were of no mean order—were never used to greater effect than when he was eulogizing those who served.

The G.C.I. students and ex-students rose nobly to the call of their country. Those who had attended in Dr. Tassie's time were among the leaders of our armies; those who claimed Dr. Carscadden as their principal were still greater in number, but there were also many who packed their books in their school bags and laid them aside for the heavier and more necessary "kit-bag." Early in the war years an Honour Roll was started, and from near and far, east and west, names were gathered of those who had at one time met in the old stone walls at the call of the daily bell, until at the end of the war period, a total of 348 names were on its pages. Forty-eight of these rest in the soldier's grave, in France, in England and **at** home.

Honours came to these men, and the following list gives a slight idea of the value of the service to the country of those who called the G.C.I. their alma mater: One Victoria Cross, two of the French Legion of Honour, sixteen Military Crosses (four of them with bars), two Distinguished Service Orders, one French Croix de guerre, one Belgian Croix de guerre, one Distinguished Conduct Medal, one Order of the British Empire, One Distinguished Flying Cross, four Military Medals, and several mentioned in dispatches; and it is quite possible that this list is incomplete. Our V.C. was Fraser Kerr, a relative of Mr. Jas. E. Kerr, then Secretary-Treasurer of the Board, who will speak to you later in the evening.

None of the boys who were in attendance at their enlistment left without a send-off, a gift, a handshake, and a personal word of good wishes; none returned without a welcome. The halls and offices of the school were always open to the khakiclad, and those who stayed at home gave freely of their work and their money, as it was called for. Several base hospitals had beds which were kept up by the G.C.I.; boxes went year by year, ever to an increasing list, to cheer the lads at Christmas time. Red Cross and Patriotic Fund never asked in vain for help, and throughout the entire period of the war the Galt school did its duty in every possible way towards its country.

On the wall of the main corridor there is to-day a marble tablet erected by the Board of Trustees, inscribed with the names of those who served, a silent tribute, yet eloquent with its message to future generations, that the G.C.I. did not fail in the testing time of war; nor must they let it fail in that of peace. This tablet was unveiled on June 4th, 1921, with suitable ceremonies, Sir Edward Morrison, himself a Galt boy, though not a pupil of the school, being the chief speaker.

But the war passed, and once more the efforts of the Board of Trustees were turned towards a new school, which would be worthy of the town it served. A preliminary matter lay before them, however, which they felt needed adjusting. In 1919. the agitation was begun, to have the Education Act so changed that a larger share of the cost of education of pupils could be charged to counties outside the High School district or city in which the school was built. Until this time, the county in which a school was situated was compelled to pay only 80 per cent. of what is known as "the cost of maintenance" of its pupils attending that school, although our own county has always paid 100 per cent. This "maintenance" did not include anything in connection with the cost of building or upkeep of the school in question, or furniture bought for its use: and besides this, outside or other counties had to pay only 65 per cent. of this cost. Consequently a very heavy load was placed on the municipalities in which the High Schools were situated. and the G.C.I. Board of Trustees worked hard to have this remedied. They drafted a letter to the Trustee Boards throughout the Province, and to the Urban Trustees Association, securing their co-operation. This was followed with a verv strong recommendation to the Government. At times the advance seemed miserably slow, but eventually, to make a long story short, Mr. Drury, Prime Minister, and Mr. R. H. Grant, then Minister of Education, received a deputation, who laid the matter very seriously before them, with the result that there was a change in the Act, which now compels all counties to pay 80 per cent. of the cost of educating its pupils and also 80 per cent. of all debenture costs.

With this new law, the Board of Trustees felt the time was ripe for action, and called for tentative plans for a new building, which would be an addition to the one then in use. These plans must merge the old with the new, but while an artistic whole was desired, utility must not be sacrificed. Messrs. Cameron & Ralston, of Windsor, presented a sketch, in Scottish baronial style, which in its main features was the plan of the present school, and the beauty of its architecture at once attracted those who had the scheme in hand; so to them was given the contract.

Specified plans were made, thoroughly studied by the Board, the Principal and the Staff; tenders were called for, the

approval of the Minister of Education secured, and the grant promised from the Council in the shortest possible time. It was found necessary to buy the adjoining field to the north of the old campus, and this was taken over by arbitration, giving the school a setting of ten and one-half acres. On October 1st, 1922, tenders were called for; on November 20th, the by-law for debentures was passed, and nine days later the contractors started to stake out the ground for the new building. The chief contractors were: G. H. Thomas & Son, Galt, for stone work and general trades; Drake-Avery Co. of Hamilton, for heating and ventilation; and the Canada Electric Co., Toronto, for electrical work, with a total outlay of \$365,000.

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The new building more than doubled the area of the old. An auditorium, known as Tassie Hall, in honour of the man who laid the foundations of secondary education in Galt, to the south of the main building, seats about 800; a large gymnasium for boys, with a smaller one below for the girls, occupies the north wing. To the rear are the machine shop and woodworking shop in an addition made entirely of reinforced concrete, and lighted on three sides. Electrical rooms, drafting room, cookery room, commercial rooms, dress-making and millinery rooms, and model suite, are all incorporated, and all thoroughly equipped for the purposes for which they are intended. The stone for the building was quarried out of the river bank at the back of the school, on school property, so that it truly stands a part of the community it serves.

The following years were of a hectic nature for those who were in the school, whether they were pupils or masters. One time there were masons, plasterers, tinsmiths, plumbers, electricians, carpenters, two cement mixers, and a steam hoist all working, with a din almost insurmountable. Halls were cold and draughty, rooms irregularly heated, lighting on and off: every day brought its own distractions. Hammers were dropped down ventilating shafts, men put their feet through the ceilings of the rooms, plaster fell, the air was filled with whistled tunes from hymns to jazz, and orders were shouted through the halls. Yet classes carried on and good work was accomplished. Mr. Gundry's illness of pneumonia, was a sorry contribution to the confusion, but things gradually righted themselves. The corner stone was laid on August 7th, 1923, Hon. H. J. Cody, one of the ex-pupils, giving the address on that occasion.

The Board who carried this work to a successful issue were as follows: H. Cant, Chairman; Dr. J. S. Wardlaw, Chairman of the Building Committee; J. N. MacKendrick, T. E. McLellan, W. Philip, D. Fraser, Dr. D. Buchanan, and J. E. O'Grady, with an Advisory Vocational Committee of Jas. Baird, A. R. Goldie, A. K. Spotton, Ward Vair, Jas. Knechtel, and T. A. Rutherford. These men gave hours, some of them days, of their time, and begrudged not a bit of service, so that the new building stands a monument to their unselfish efforts. In all, they had the willing help of the Principal, and it is to be questioned if anyone had a greater insight into the plans, and a keener interest in their fulfilment, than had Mr. Gundry.

A pleasing event of 1921 was the presentation to Thos. Carscadden of a portrait of himself, painted by Wylv Grier. of Toronto. Dr. Carscadden has written a paper for this Society dealing with the school while he was its principal, but with his usual modesty, he has left much unsaid about himself, as the chief figure in the years of which he wrote. There is only one Dr. Carscadden; under him the school grew and flourished, and when he stepped from the chief position in 1914, he continued to hold the hearts of those who were still in his classes. It was with joy and happiness that his old pupils from all over the country joined to honour their beloved teacher. His was an influence in the school, till his last day there, which was a benediction, and which permeated from the youngest to the oldest of those with and for whom he laboured. Whoever came in contact with him, knew him for the gentleman he was, and as such his influence will last for many years to come. The conferring on him of an LL.D. degree by the University of Toronto in 1925, was a fitting climax to his long career as a teacher in Ontario Secondary Schools.

There passed away in the summer of 1925, David Mac-George, the veteran caretaker of the G. C. I. "Old Mac" had lived on the grounds for over forty years, and was a unique part of the institution. Gentle and kindly, honest and upright, he looked after the pupils as he looked after the place, and in his own way, did much to make and foster the school spirit. His sudden death after a day in and out of the building, and about the grounds, shattered a definite link with the old regime.

But with a few words about the success of the school, I must hurry to a close. Scholarship has always been the aim of the G.C.I., although it has never lagged far behind in the arena of sport. Since the founding of the Carter scholarships, some twelve years ago, twenty-two out of the thirty-six awards in Waterloo County have been won by the G.C.I., and nine out of the twelve first, have fallen to its pupils. In the spring of 1926, five of its ex-pupils headed their various years at the Toronto University, and in 1925, one of them won the much coveted Governor General medal. This was the feature of the school which most interested Mr. Gundry. His pleasure in the attainments of the pupils was exceptionally pronounced, and his interest never flagged in his ex-pupils. Stern he might be as a disciplinarian, but those who did their best were always sure of commendation and encouragement.

But this period of the school's development and history came to an unusual and dramatic close. On September 27th, 1925, Mr. Gundry died, after a brief illness, leaving a completed school-the last bit of equipment paid by debenture having gone into it in August of the same year. He had been Principal for eleven years, years of steady growth, the school having doubled in the numbers of day pupils, and increased from 100 to 800 in night class students, while the staff had grown from ten to twenty-six. Only those who came in contact with Mr. Gundry knew the whole hearted service he gave to the school. It was his first consideration, and his last efforts were for its advancement. Though he had known for some time that his days were numbered, he cheerfully and courageously faced the issue, and never slacked in the duties which devolved upon him. The school as it stands to-day, is a tribute to his steadfast service.

In December, 1925, the Galt Collegiate Institute closed a definite period of its history. The old Board of Trustees who had guided its destinies for years passed out of existence, and was superseded by a Board of Education; the Secretary-Treasurer who had been their faithful and competent servant for a long time, Mr. Jas. E. Kerr, yielded up his books; a new Principal, Mr. T. H. Wholton, assumed the reins of office; a new school, called even by a new name, the Galt Collegiate Institute and Vocational School, harbored the pupils; and truly

> "The old order changeth, Yielding place to new."

May it carry on to even greater heights!

#### THE WATERLOO COUNTY PIONEERS' MEMORIAL TOWER

Mr. W. H. Breithaupt briefly outlined the history of the project, originated by the Waterloo Historical Society, of erecting a monument to the first settlers of Waterloo County, German Mennonites from Pennsylvania, and also to the German pioneers who followed in Waterloo as well as in adjoining counties of Southwestern Ontario.

After years of effort the memorial is completed, and is adorned with a tablet contributed by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada.

Under most favorable auspices, in beautiful weather and in the presence of about two thousand participants and spectators the monument, in shape a beautiful lookout tower, erected on a high bluff on the east bank of the Grand River, adjoining one of the two first farms in Waterloo County, opposite the Village of Doon, was dedicated, and the historic tablet unveiled, on Saturday afternoon, August 28th, 1926.

The tower is substantially and enduringly built of reinforced concrete faced with field stone, with ornate portal of Indiana limestone on the east side of which, let into the outside of the wall, is the Government historic tablet. The circular wall of the tower is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet thick at the base, tapering to  $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet at the height, 36 feet, of the hexagonal gallery floor, access to which is by an inner stairway. The inside of the tower is a straight circular cylinder, 9 feet in diameter, the walls giving appropriate space for individual family memorial tablets, which are contemplated. The gallery is about 100 feet above the water level of the river. Surmounting the whole is a spire, of Swiss design, copper covered, with a 3 foot copper weather vane depicting a covered Conestoga wagon drawn by four horses, the transportation vehicle of the early settlers.

Full accounts of the proceedings and history of the project, taken from the souvenir programme of the day, together with the principal addresses, appear in the Appendix to this Report.

#### THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF GALT

#### By JAMES E. KERR

The first school in Galt of which I can find any authentic record was a small roughcast building at the corner of Wellington and Main Streets. It was erected in 1832 and was used as a school until about 1850. The name of the teacher which became indissolubly connected with this little school was John Gowanlock. The Hon. James Young who was one of his pupils thus describes him: "He was an excellent specimen of the old-fashioned dominie before the days of county boards and periodical examinations. His teaching was eminently practical. He knew what the birch was for and he applied it. He frittered away no time on physiology, botany, or philosophical abstractions. He professed to teach the R's and he did it and did it well."

In the 30's the common schools were maintained by the fees obtained from the parents of the children and by supplementary government grants. By the Common School Acts of 1841 and 1843 the townships were divided into districts or sections, trustees were elected, the legislature's grants were greatly increased and municipal councils were empowered to raise for school purposes an amount which would at least be equivalent to the government grant. In the Act of 1850 permission was given for the freeholders of any school section to determine whether their school should be maintained by a monthly fee in addition to a tax on the ratable property of the section, or whether rate bills should be abolished and the school declared free. When by the Act of 1871 free schools were made compulsory most of the public schools of the province had already become free.

In Galt and throughout the township there was a great difference of opinion and a great deal of heated discussion on the subject of free schools. Mr. Wm. Dickson, Mr. Shade and other leading men in the village were opposed to being taxed for the education of the children of other people. As the two gentlemen named had no children of their own the benefit to themselves of the proposal was not at first obvious. On the other side "Judge" Thompson, the coloured barber and preacher of the village who had his quiver full of children, was a strong advocate of free schools. In course of time, the villagers all came round to the liberal view.

In 1845, Mr. Gowanlock resigned. The infirmities of old age were coming upon him, and the ferule was laid aside. He had used it freely and ungrudgingly. Mr. Gowanlock's immediate successor was a Mr. Kelly, a lively young Irishman. Perhaps the board of that day came to the conclusion that he had better get his livelihood in some other way than from them, for his tenure of office was rather short.

In 1846, Mr. Robert McLean was appointed principal. Mr. McLean was a capable man and a good teacher. He held his position for over nine years and under his able management the standing of the school was much advanced. In 1849 it was found necessary to build a larger school to accommodate the rapidly increasing school population. This school house is that stone building facing the market square and which is now dedicated to the use of the Board of Works. It had a north and a south room, which were separated by a wide hall. When I was a little boy I attended that school. I recollect it very well-the rough pine seats and desks, a kind of combination, the back of the seat forming the front of the desk of the boy sitting behind you. Rather ingenious, I thought, but objectionable from the fact that he could without much trouble reach you with a pin. The desks were interesting because they were profusely illustrated by "wood-cuts," as almost every boy carried a jack-knife. The school boards were not very liberal with holidays-no use paying a teacher a big salary of four hundred or even four hundred and fifty dollars a year to do nothing. So we had school six days a week. On Saturday afternoon there was some relaxation from the stress and strain of the week, school books were laid aside and we had singing and recitations. The reciter invariably stood with outstretched arm while the recitation haltingly proceeded.

In 1855 the public schools of Galt became free. All school fees for children whose parents lived within the municipality were abolished. The attendance rapidly increased and it again became apparent that additional school accommodation was urgently required. The trustees chose a lot on the hill east of the river, belonging to James Harris. The lot contained something over two acres and the price was \$3,000.

Having agreed to pay Mr. Harris, the trustees asked the council to raise the money. This the Council refused to do. Opinion in the village was divided on the question of purchase but there is little doubt that if a vote had been taken the action

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of the trustees would not have been confirmed. However, the trustees held their ground both literally and metaphorically, and applied to the courts for a mandamus to compel the council to furnish the money. The money was paid. The building of the school was proceeded with and the action of the board was finally approved of by the ratepayers. This dispute is interesting as revealing the power that had been given to school boards by the Act of 1850, the effects of which were at that time not fully realized.

The school when completed was one of the best in the province and many people who had not approved of its erection began to be proud of their school. Since that time the ratepayers of Galt have loyally supported their school trustees in every measure which has been in the interest of education.

The new school was opened in February, 1857. Mr. James Baikie was appointed principal. He was a good man and generally respected but not very strong in discipline. He resigned in 1862, studied for the ministry and became pastor of a church in Toronto, where he died in 1866.

Mr. William Topping was appointed principal, pro tem. and held the position for a few months after which, in March, 1863, Mr. Wm. Carlyle became principal. He was a strict disciplinarian and a good teacher. He held office for six years, and on leaving Galt became public school inspector for the County of Oxford.

Mr. H. D. Cameron, of Goderich was principal from December, 1869, to May, 1870.

Mr. James B. Gray, of Hamilton, was principal from June, 1870, to January, 1872.

Mr. Donald McCaig was principal from February, 1872, to December, 1874.

Mr. Robert Alexander was principal from December, 1874, to June, 1903. Mr. Alexander, who had a provincial reputation as a teacher, was one of the founders of the Ontario Educational Association.

Born in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1833, Mr. Alexander came to Canada when fourteen years of age. He received his early education at Georgetown, taught school at St. Thomas, and came to Galt in 1874. His connection with the Central School as principal lasted nearly thirty years. Earnest, sincere, kindly and courteous, he won the esteem of all classes in the community. He lived in Galt some years after retiring from his position as principal and then removed to Ottawa where he died July 11th, 1926.

Since the Central school was built in 1857, four large ward schools have been built: Dickson school, 1877; Victoria, 1884; St. Andrews, 1914; Manchester, 1917; and Central school has been doubled in size.

The number of classrooms in the public schools are as follows: Central, 16; Dickson, 8; Victoria, 8; St. Andrews, 12; Manchester, 8; making a total of 52 classrooms.

### BIOGRAPHY

#### DR. AUGUSTUS STEPHEN VOGT

#### By W. V. UTTLEY

In the death on 17th September, 1926, of Dr. Augustus Stephen Vogt, F.R.C.O., Dean of the Faculty of Music at the University of Toronto, Principal of the Toronto Conservatory of Music, and founder of the Mendelssohn Choir, Canada loses one of her most distinguished sons and the world an outstanding musician.

Waterloo County mourns his departure not only because a great Canadian has passed, but owing to the fact that he had his early home, spent his boyhood years in it and maintained an active interest in its progress.

He was born in the village of Washington, Oxford County, Ontario, on 14th August, 1861, and was the son of George and Mariana (Zingg) Vogt. His father was a native of Baden, Germany, and was an artisan, who built pipe-organs for churches. His mother was born in Switzerland. Both were fine-fibred. Mrs. George Vogt liked music but was wont to declare that Augustus obtained his passion for music from his father.

The parents of this distinguished man removed to Elmira when he was four years of age. He attended, as a boy, the public school and proved to be an apt pupil. The school authorities held, in those days, annual county competitive examinations, at which pupils seeking promotion wrote. Augustus headed the honour list in this county for three years in succession, as a candidate for the 4th, 5th and 6th classes, respectively. It was then noted that he aspired to excel in everything which he undertook.

He was a comely lad; of good address; and always neat and clean. He liked, as do all healthy boys, to play baseball, to go fishing and squirrel hunting. He was the leader and organizer among his playmates and so well liked that all his classmates desired to sit with him at his school desk.





Books, magazines and newspapers were then scarce, for it was the era when the Canadian people were in their shirt sleeves and literature was dear. There were, however, a limited number of books in English and German in Elmira, which neighbours would exchange or lend to friends. Augustus had the advantage of being able to read both languages. He profited by possessing a closely-observing mind and a photographic memory.

His musical proclivity had been nurtured by his father and encouraged by his mother and he made such progress that he was, at the age of twelve years, appointed organist of the St. James' Lutheran Church in Elmira. He is remembered as having acceptably filled this position.

There was living in 1877, at Hamilton, Ontario, a wellknown teacher of the organ, named L. H. Parker, to whom the parents sent their son. Mr. Parker, in writing to the father, said: "He is attentive, intelligent and sound in grasping ideas."

It was soon after he had completed his course of tuition there that the position of organist in the First Methodist Church of St. Thomas, Ontario, became vacant. He made application for it and his accomplishments were such that he secured the appointment over a number of adult applicants, and this notwithstanding that he was only sixteen years of age.

His motto was "Onward and Upward." The divine discontent in him would not permit of his making his task in St. Thomas a life work. Judged from a monetary point of view, his status in the world was a humble one. He had, on the other hand, inherited the virtues of industry and thrift.

He worked and saved with the project in mind of attending the Boston Conservatory of Music, where he was able in 1881 to enroll as a student. Completing his studies in Boston three years later, he returned to St. Thomas, improved in technique and musical knowledge. The urge onward was still strong and he prepared quietly for a greater adventure. This was to go to Leipsic, Germany, which was then as now a celebrated centre of musical culture. He remained in Leipsic for three years, completing his studies of the piano and organ, composition and theory.

It was at the St. Thomas Kirche in Leipsic, sacred to the memory of Bach, that he used to sit on Saturday afternoons, stirred to his depths when its famous choir sang with choral tone more beautiful than he had ever heard and where he resolved that, in whatever church he might afterward preside at an organ, it should as often as possible be silent while his choir should sing just such music as was delighting his soul in that old church.

He returned to Canada in 1888, a finished musician, and accepted the position of organist and choirmaster at the Jarvis Street Baptist Church, Toronto. This post was retained for eighteen years. Speaking of his choral work there, Dr. Torrington, a musician of note, declared that thousands of persons attended the services to hear that choir do a Capella anthem, that was "like a wonderful piece of lacelike Gothic architecture"; or were moved almost to tears at the sound of the Lord's Prayer, which Vogt had composed—"a piece of delicate liturgy, fine enough for any cathedral."

Unaccompanied singing was a feature under him and the choir became famous. Yet this was only the foundation of a greater work. He aspired to produce secular music in unaccompanied form with a large choir. The result of his thought and effort was the founding in 1894, of the Mendelssohn Choir. It included members selected from his church choir and others drawn from various sources. It consisted of less than 100 voices. Yet this departure in choral singing proved so popular that two public concerts were annually given, until 1899, when its conductor disbanded it, in order to reorganize it on a larger and better basis.

The Mendelssohn Choir appeared in its reorganized form in 1901. He was thorough and patient in his preparatory work. The capella programmes were changed to choir programmes, with an assisting orchestra. He was the first conductor to bring a foreign orchestra to assist, engaging the noted Pittsburgh orchestra. Four years later the Mendelssohn Choir had reached the highest point of perfection attained by any choir in America.

Among the difficult numbers which this choir sang in its various concerts were Beethoven's Choral Symphony, Brahms' Requiem, the Manzoni Requiem, the Ninth Symphony, the Children's Crusade and Caractacus.

Its triumphs at home were repeated abroad. Buffalo, Chicago, Cleveland, Boston and New York acclaimed it and declared its leader to be the greatest choirmaster this continent has produced and who had achieved something no previous conductor ever attained.

There only remained one musical citadel yet to be taken. The Mendelssohn Choir's leader determined, after having won the encomiums of the cultural centres of America, to invade Europe. He journeyed there in 1913 and completed arrangements under which his choir was to appear in London, Paris, Berlin, Vienna and Leipsic, where as a student he had first received thrills from choral singing. The World War, which disrupted so many things, rendered the visit impossible of accomplishment. It has been said that the 1914 Mendelssohn Choir was the best in its long and successful career. The Choir had however won an international reputation and brought renown to Canada.

Pressure of other duties obliged him in 1917 to resign the leadership of this organization. He had while constructing it become connected with the Toronto Conservatory of Music, of which Dr. Fisher was then Principal. The latter passed in 1913 and A. S. Vogt was chosen as his successor. The Conservatory has, under his guiding hand, become the largest in the Empire and one of the great musical colleges of the new world.

He was active, along with the late Sir Edmund Walker, in having the Conservatory of Music associated with the Toronto University and in creating the Faculty of Music, of which he became Dean.

Dr. Vogt's life and endeavours in the field of music have admittedly broadened and deepened culture throughout the Dominion. He will ever be remembered as the first native son to do a great constructive work for music in Canada. His outstanding ability and the excellence of his choir, led a number of the principal American cities to make him tempting offers to go to the United States but he declined them because of his attachment to Canada and his desire to leaven his country with a love of good music.

His sense of tone was abnormal. It amounted to genius. And yet the spirit which made possible such utterances in choral form, dwelt in a personality that would have equally well succeeded as a financier, a business man, or a diplomat.

He continued until the end of his sixty-five years of life, to be a lover of good books and one who read only to profit and remember. Canada was known to him from Halifax to Victoria; he visited the principal points of interest in the United States and had the pleasure of travelling leisurely over a score of European countries, vitalizing his readings and meeting everywhere the leaders of thought and art.

The result of his studies and travels was a cultured gentleman-who had tact, charm, and a merry heart, as well as a kind one. His was a sparkling wit. He told a good story well; was a brilliant conversationalist and an able writer.

He was innately modest, hence his brilliant successes left him unaffected. It is true that he laid no offerings on the altar of mediocrity, yet he would, even as a youth, go out of his way to encourage anyone in whom he saw the outcroppings of merit.

It may be of interest to know that he followed closely the endeavours of the people of Waterloo County, admiring both the German-Canadians of the North and the Scotch-Canadians of the South. A close student of history, he urged friends in both ridings to put into type the life stories of their early settlers. The North lacked a local historian and yet needed one most, for the fathers were being gathered by Time and the verbal reports of their struggles, their habits and their virtues were slowly but certainly being lost in the mist. Recognizing this, he it was who suggested the formation of a Waterloo County Historical Society. He was a member of the Waterloo Historical Society from its beginning, and at times contributed valuable data.

Dr. Vogt married in 1891, Georgie Adelaide McGill, daughter of the late George McGill, of Bowmanville. His wife died in 1922. He is survived by two children, Dr. George M. Vogt of Harvard University and Mrs. Gretchen Hardy, wife of Dr. Patrick Hardy of Toronto. His one remaining brother is Oscar Vogt of Elmira. Four sisters survive him, Mrs. Philip Christman and Mrs. George Ruppel of Elmira; Mrs. Solomon Eby of St. Thomas, and Mrs. Charles Jansen of Galt.

Life is expression. Augustus Stephen Vogt expressed the best that was in him and left a record of which his friends and neighbours in Waterloo County and his fellow Canadians generally may well delight in. His presence and example were an inspiration.

## ADDRESS AT THE FUNERAL SERVICE FOR DR. VOGT

## BY SIR ROBERT FALCONER President, Toronto University

#### CONVOCATION HALL, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, SEPTEMBER 20TH, 1926

Once again the country has been startled by the sudden call that has come to one of its benefactors. Only a few days ago Dr. Vogt had told his friends of his purpose to leave soon for a prolonged holiday in Europe and that his arrangements were almost completed, and now without even a word of farewell he has been carried away to that undiscovered country from whose bourn no traveller returns. But his departure was in keeping with the rest of his life, and he went as, I think, he would wish to have gone, without being laid aside in a lingering illness, through which he would have been distressed by the thought whether perchance his strength might be adequate for the performance of some unfinished duties.

In as real a sense as almost any human life can be said to be complete this may be affirmed of Dr. Vogt's. He had filled out sixty-five years, but notwithstanding a period of illhealth latterly, his powers had not so failed as to affect his work, and he could look back in the early evening of his days on things accomplished—great things so successfully done that his name is held in honour throughout his native land, and in the musical circles of America and Britain. Three accomplishments stand out-He created the Mendelssohn Choir and won for it an international reputation, and some years ago committed it to the trusteeship of his successor; he elevated the taste of this city, provided enduring pleasure for its citizens, and proved to the outside world that Canada possesses genuine artistic culture. He then assumed the direction of the Conservatory of Music and erected on the foundation laid by his predecessor an enduring structure, indeed. He has made it one of the best organized and effective conservatories to be found anywhere, his purpose in this also being not a financial success, but the realization of an artistic ideal, and nothing less than the establishing of music as a corner stone in the spiritual education of the people. To crown this work he persuaded his directors to hand the Conservatory, an institution of high repute, as an educational trust to the University in the hope that it would become a hearth and home for the musical life of the province. And finally when the Governors of the University created a Faculty of Music he became, as was natural, its first Dean, and with his associates gave it at once a distinction which otherwise it might have taken years to acquire.

On these accomplishments I will linger briefly. Reviewing them anyone I think would agree that he has had a most successful and complete life. I know of no other Canadian who holds as high a place in the musical world as Dr. Vogt. He did something quite unique; he took from our people selected groups and created through them by his skill a remarkable body of music. He showed that we are able to sing, that the Canadian voice under proper training can be made as fine an instrument as any other. He revealed to our people something of their latent powers, and to that extent he has been a distinguished figure in the cultural development of our people. There probably have been greater musical composers in Canada. perhaps, though I am not a judge, superior performers on the organ, but as an educative factor in the musical development of the Canadian people I know of none who has compared with him. He was not self-centred in his own gifts, made no display of his own execution, did not brood over his own compositions. He asked how can I deepen musical appreciation in my own people? And so first he created the Mendelssohn Choir, and gave its members confidence in themselves, and like a magician he drew out from them, almost to their surprise, results of tone and accurate note: richness, fineness, harmony which have annually been acclaimed in this city; and which on occasion captivated critical or indifferent audiences in the United States. He was in the succession to no one: he was the first of his line.

The same desire to create musical taste in his own people induced him to undertake and carry, probably at the cost of shortened years, the administrative burden of the Conservatory of Music. His desire was to make it second to none on this continent. He was never contented with the second best. Whether he succeeded in his desire is for the musical experts of the Dominion to say. Whatever their judgment is, they cannot but hold that he went far towards the realization of his purpose. He hoped through it to touch the common schools. If he could get the teachers well taught, music he believed would thrive among the pupils; for his knowledge of his people led him to know that they have capacity for its development. Therefore within the last two years he has been earnest in the support of the efforts of the musical teachers of the province to secure recognition of this art as an optional subject for the matriculation examination into the Universities.

But more than that he desired to secure prestige for this department of education and he always promoted quietly but effectively the extension of music within the University. He knew that in the mediaeval age it was one of the recognized subjects taught in Paris and other seats of learning, and that some of the most distinguished musicians of Britain have held academic chairs. He therefore was always ready to give time and thought to whatever would make for the establishment in Toronto of this fine art.

Dr. Vogt drew men to him and kept them as his friends. He was always to be depended upon, his judgment and industry making him a most successful administrator. Gifted with unusual discernment he knew how to weigh men. Impartial and objective he was kind of heart and never cynical in his attitude. He had too much genuine humanity and humour for that; therefore as a good administrator he provided opportunity for the strong endowments of others and did not allow petulance at foibles to blind him to real merit wherever found. After listening to advice he would calmly come to a decision without irritating those in council, and he always gave his best thought to every proposition before he brought it forward for consideration. In Dr. Vogt there was nothing of the erratic, the temperamental, the surprising that so often attends an artist. His good common sense and business capacity might have misled a superficial observer until he was seen presiding at his human organ, that superb and sensitive instrument called the Mendelssohn Choir. Then any doubt as to his artistry vanished.

When off duty among his friends he was modest and a genial companion. He enjoyed life on its finer sides, and travel to the artistic centres of the world. Though coming from a small town of this province and educated in it during his early years he easily adapted himself to the great world of Europe, appreciated its best culture, and while true to his own home was not provincial in the narrow sense of the term. Artistically a citizen of the world he was loyal to his own people and sympathized with them in their aspirations in peace and in their agonies in war.

To his son and daughter we extend our sympathy in their bereavement, though he has left them the heritage of a great name; also to the musical profession as they are here called upon to mourn the pride of their craft. Of all that is mortal of Dr. Vogt we now take farewell; but there remains to us his artistic spirit not shaped in bronze nor outlined in colour but harmoniously embodied in great institutions, and in the finer taste of his own people. We treasure also one by one the memory of a wise, patient and generous counsellor and friend. Photographs of Sheriff A. S. Allan and Absalom Shade. Donated by Sheriff A. S. Allan, Guelph.

Upper Canada Teacher's Certificate, York, 1831, to George Turnbull. Donated by George Turnbull, Jr., Kitchener.

Printed handbill of a public meeting held in Preston, 1838. Handbill of Chancery sale, 1866. Draughts of land, Otto Klotz. Donated by Miss A. W. Klotz, Kitchener.

Large framed Portrait of Daniel Snyder. Donated by the heirs of Mr. Benjamin Devitt and Mrs. L. J. Breithaupt, Waterloo and Kitchener.

Photograph of the Right Honourable W. L. Mackenzie King, C.M.G., Prime Minister of Canada. Donated by himself, 1926.

Clemens Heirloom Looking Glass. Donated by D. N. Panabaker, Hespeler, May, 1926.

Five and one-half inch cannon ball from St. Roch's, Quebec. Dated from before the conquest, also 3-inch cannon ball. Donated by Mr. L. J. Breithaupt, Kitchener, May, 1926.

Push button switch used at inauguration of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission. Transmission lines, Berlin, Ont., October 11, 1910. Also in Toronto. Donated by Mr. R. N. Pincock, St. Catharines, June, 1926.

Upper Canada land grant, 1824, to Simon De Forest and Abraham De Forest, United Empire Loyalists, 200 acres, County of Halton. Large Pendant Seal. Donated by Rev. A. J. Fisher, C.R., June, 1926.

Historical documents from D. S. Bowlby, Esq., County Crown Attorney. Warrant of Seizure, 1858. County Deeds, 1855, etc. Abstract of title, Ayr. Drill Shed, 1868. Local Militia list, 1869. Commission as Captain to Ward Hamilton Bowlby by Colonel Robertson Ross, Adjutant General of Militia, 1870. Sundry Militia department papers. Collection of affidavits and certificates of Militia exemption, June, 1926.

Keys found in the Sheriff's vault in the County buildings. They are those which have been taken from burglars and thieves during a period of thirty-eight years in the administration of justice. They have been presented by Mr. J. Cook, Gaoler, of Kitchener, June, 1926.

Old muzzle loader shotgun formerly owned by Adam Wildfang, with powder horn, shot bag, etc. Also curb bit for horse, bridle, etc. Presented by Mrs. H. Wildfang, June 22nd, 1926.

Old hymn book, Christian Eby, 1795, etc. Donated by Henry Hershey Brubacker, June, 1926.

Galt—Guelph Railway papers. Collection of maps, Preston, Ledger of Otto Klotz, 1850–1892. Bell pull, elaborate heavy bead work, mounted in leather, wedding present 1839, all belonging to the late Otto Klotz of Preston. Donated by Miss A. W. Klotz, 23rd August, 1926 for the W.H.S., Kitchener.

Large photograph (framed) of Dr. A. S. Vogt, Toronto. Donated by his brother, O. H. Vogt, Elmira, October, 1926.

## EXCHANGE LIST

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

### APPENDIX

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE WATERLOO COUNTY PIONEERS' MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

The organization meeting of the Waterloo County Pioneers Memorial Association called by the officers of the Waterloo Historical Society, was held in the Museum of the latter organization on July 13th, 1923. Among those present at the meeting were the following: Messrs. W. H. Breithaupt, W. H. Schmalz, H. B. Betzner, A. C. Hallman, Noah Betzner, W. H. E. Schmalz, E. B. Betzner, N. C. Helmuth, D. B. Betzner, Moses Betzner, Moses H. Clemens, P. Fisher and A. A. Eby, Kitchener; D. N. Panabaker, Hespeler; Elliott Richmond, St. Jacobs; Jos. Stauffer and J. P. Jaffray, Galt.

Mr. W. H. Breithaupt occupied the chair, and briefly outlined the object of the meeting. He stated that the Historical Society had had under consideration for some time the question of taking steps to erect a suitable monument to the memory of the early pioneers of Waterloo County on the site of the firstsettled farms near Doon, which were occupied by Joseph Schoerg and Samuel Betzner, who came from Franklin County, Pennsylvania, in 1799, arriving in this county in 1800.

The meeting endorsed the proposal outlined by the Chairman, and the Pioneers Memorial Association was formed, with the following officers:---

Hon. Pres.-W. H. Breithaupt, Kitchener.

President-D. N. Panabaker, Hespeler.

Secretary-Allan A. Eby, Kitchener.

Treasurer-D. B. Betzner, Kitchener.

Executive—A. C. Hallman, Kitchener, and Benj. Brubacher, Waterloo (deceased).

#### MEMORIAL PLOT SECURED

The officers of the newly-formed Association immediately took steps to procure a suitable plot for the proposed monument, and finally decided to negotiate for the purchase of about an acre of land from Mr. Isaac Furtney, who occupies the old Betzner homestead, and which included the first cemetery in inland Ontario. In January of the following year the necessary deeds had been drawn up and duly signed.
# OFFICERS-MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION



Betzner

1

Eby H Breithaupt <sub>©</sub> Panabaker

Hallman

#### INSCRIPTION ON TABLET

The Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada officially recognized the erection of the Memorial Tower by contributing the beautiful tablet which is found near the entrance to the monument. The inscription is as follows:--

### In the spring of 1800

Joseph Schoerg and Samuel Betzner, Jr., brothers-inlaw, Mennonites, from Franklin County, Pennsylvania, began the first two farms in the County of Waterloo; Schoerg on land adjoining this farm, Betzner on the west bank of the river three miles down-stream.

In the same year came Samuel Betzner, Sr., who took up a farm including this site.

Other settlers followed and in 1805 a company formed in Pennsylvania purchased sixty thousand acres, the German Company Tract, comprising the greater part of Block 2, Grand River Indian Lands, now Waterloo Township. This constituted the first larger settlement in the then far interior of Upper Canada.

# ADDRESSES DELIVERED AT THE DEDICATION OF THE MEMORIAL TOWER, AUG. 28, 1926.

### By Hon. A. G. Seyfert, of Lancaster, Pa.

Twenty-nine years ago I came to Canada by appointment of President McKinley as a member of the American Consular Service. During the fifteen years that I was located in three of your cities I had the pleasure of delivering many addresses to your people on all sorts of subjects and occasions.

After many years absence, I come to-day to represent the Lancaster County Historical Society in particular and the State of Pennsylvania in general. From the other side of the international boundary line I bring you greetings of good will to this interesting historical event of the day.

I am deeply sensible of the fact that it is more than probable that it will be my last public address to a Canadian audience, nor am I unmindful of the honour and privilege to be here and take part in paying a tribute to the memory of the pioneers who came from Pennsylvania to this locality a hundred and twenty years ago.

It is but fitting and proper that we should rest from our daily toil on this perfect summer afternoon and meet here for the purpose of receiving renewed inspiration from the past, in honouring the memory of these pioneer settlers whose remains repose in a dreamless sleep in yonder narrow tenements of the dead.

For my subject I want to paraphrase a familiar Bible text by changing one word: "Can there any good thing come out of Pennsylvania." After you have listened to what I am about to say, and doubt it, I can only reply in the words of Philip "Come and see."

I have not the time, nor would you have the patience to listen to me, were I imprudent enough to speak of the material things that seem like wealth and power in every day life in the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. To glory in one's state is not only dangerous, as you have observed by the story I told you, but is not diplomatic and in bad taste. There is only one thing that can come out of any country that will endure and is worth while; that is the spiritual side of human life. A nation's great asset is not in its wealth but in its people with ideals that exalt a nation to righteousness. These humble Pennsylvania farmers who came here more than a century ago to seek new homes in a strange land were endowed with those ideals.

So far as I know, this Memorial Tower is the only monument ever erected to the memory of your sturdy ancestors, the Mennonites of America.

Whoever conceived it planned better than he knew at the time. It is true that no memorial by the hands of man can at this late day be built that is as fine as the homes they dug out of the forests by relentless hard toil.

Our State sent you some of its best people as pioneers to aid in developing a wilderness into farms that are a thing of beauty and thrift now. We are interested in your welfare and happiness by ties of friendship. Of one nationality and blood with nothing but an imaginary political international line to separate us in sentiment, prosperity and religious liberty.

Men and women who endured frontier hardships in a new settlement in any land are as much entitled to be perpetuated in bronze and stone as the one who made the supreme sacrifice on the field of battle for a great principle. When I, in my imagination turn back a hundred and twenty-five years and survey this trackless forest and the transformation of the same to this beautiful panorama of rural landscape, it is beyond human conception to understand how it was done. The world is full of monuments, shafts and shrines to human achievements of heroic sacrifice, and greate vents in history made by man for mankind.

In the far East the plow turns up a forgotten civilization of the unknown ruins that have been covered for many centuries.

The greater part of Europe is a battlefield on which millions perished in cruel warfare between its races and nationalities. Rulers of empires, in their inordinate ambition, sacrificed their subjects under the assumption that might makes right. They who won erected monuments as so many objects to tragedy and we look at them and see nothing but art glorified in death and destruction.

Near my home in Pennsylvania and within sight of the birthplace of the two whose names head the honour roll on the tablet, is one of the finest fields of art in the world, that cost many millions of dollars.

Monuments, shafts and markers glorifying the memory of many thousands of Americans who slaughtered each other on the hills of Gettysburg that the nation should remain one undivided Union. The three days of frightful carnage is a reminder to some of us that a just God will not always tolerate a great national sin like slavery without a day of appalling retribution for two hundred and fifty years of a race in bondage.

Three hundred feet above the majestic St. Lawrence, on the rock of old Quebec, stands an imposing shaft commemorating the death of two brave men. One was English, the other French. One died victorious, the other in defeat.

The monument erected to those two generals is noted the world over for its famous epitaph, which has no equal for simple strength and beauty of expression in any language. The inscription is in Latin, the universal language of epitaphs, and reads in English:

> "WOLFE---MONTCALM" "VALOUR BESTOWED UPON THEM A COMMON DEATH." "HISTORY A COMMON FAME." "POSTERITY A COMMON MONU-MENT."

This is a memorial not only of war and conquest, but also that the clods that fell on the coffin lids of Wolfe and Montcalm sounded the death knell of French dominion on the North American Continent.

After three hundred years of obscurity and time, Fort Ste. Marie is once more a shrine of the Jesuit order. No braver, heroic, self-sacrificing soldiers of the Cross ever entered a frontier wilderness as missionaries than the Jesuit Fathers. Many of them died the cruel death of martyrs at the hands of the savages. They perished because they were misunderstood by the Indians, who rejected Christianity, the sainted order brought to them.

A few weeks ago when the cathedral at the old fort was consecrated, church and state was honoured by a monument that is a reminder of the tragedy in Upper Canada a long time before any white people saw this beautiful landscape on which we are standing now.

In a neglected graveyard not far from Chalfont, England, in a secluded spot, repose the remains of one of the world's greatest men. The only monument that marks the grave of William Penn is a modest tombstone two feet high.

Of him, however, it may well be said, if you want to see his monument look over Pennsylvania and you behold it everywhere. That many Mennonites heard Penn preach as a missionary in Germany and Holland is a well known historical fact. His doctrine and confession of faith was the same that Menno Simons proclaimed years before these persecuted wanderers were seeking a home where persecution was unknown. They put their trust in that Heavenly Father who feeds the birds of the air and tends the flowers of the field and will always provide for those who are obedient to His will, and in William Penn. One of the best things that came out of Pennsylvania was that which Penn brought to his colony on the Delaware two hundred and forty-four years ago. The only one of the thirteen colonies founded upon the assumption of Justice to all, whether civilized or savage, Protestant or Catholic, was Pennsylvania.

It was the Gospel of Peace that Penn preached in Europe and lived in America that went with the Quaker and Mennonite to their new homes wherever they located. It was that selfconsciousness of a people who depended on a higher law than human control that gave them the strength and assurance to bear the burdens, to endure the cross and untold hardships of frontier life in a new settlement.

The Mennonites had unlimited confidence in the integrity and spiritual side of Penn, as a man of great influence for good. It helped to shape their destiny to this present moment in Pennsylvania and was from there transmitted to this community in Canada. The remains of these pioneers are mouldering in the graves beside this memorial, but the inherited spiritual influence of Penn still lives among you and will bear witness long after this tower of stones is no more.

We read in the Book of Books of Joshua; how that great general, in his campaign against Jericho, when he came to Jordan the river parted and the Children of Israel passed over dry shod.

In commemoration of this event the Lord directed Joshua to have one man from each tribe take up a stone, and having come to the other side, build there a monument and the reason of it was this; so that when your children ask in time to come, "What mean these stones?" it shall be told them that the Lord showed His favour to the Children of Israel.

This tower of stones erected by you to honour your pioneers of this county will tell the story to unborn generations when they ask "What mean these stones?"

One hundred and twenty-five years ago, history tells us, this was a different world from what it is to-day.

Napoleon was the terror of Europe; the American Indian of North America, and the deadly climate that of the tropics. The onward march of civilization and science has since eliminated these menaces to progress and better world conditions. From 1800 to the present time the human race has made more advancement in all things material than was made from the days of Adam to the opening of the nineteenth century.

Those whom we honour this afternoon never dreamed of such modern inventions that put man in touch with the whole world in a moment of time.

They whose names are written on the bronze tablets as the honour roll of the monument lived here in their forest homes when kingdoms rose and disappeared, battles were won and lost, and they never heard of it nor knew, nor cared.

No daily newspapers brought them the tidings of victory or defeat. The telegraph, telephone and radio were unknown miracles of the age, yet in their solitude, devoted to a great task as nation builders, they had but one aim in view; that is, to serve God and transform the wilderness into homes of peace and plenty.

Home—the dearest word the tongue can pronounce, the unit and cornerstone of the nation in all nations.

The secret of your success in government and the free institutions for which Canada is so well known lies in the fact that of your millions of homes, two-thirds of them are owned by the one who occupies it. He who owns his own home, "may it be ever so humble," takes more interest in the welfare of the country than the one who does not. In other words, the possession of property makes the average man a better and more loyal and useful citizen in any country.

It took these pioneers from Pennsylvania four to six weeks to come here a century ago. I came here this morning from the same place in fourteen hours, actual travel. Had I chosen an airplane I might have had my mid-day meal at home. This is a crude illustration of how we have annihilated time and distance, but so simple that all can understand it.

May I say a word that sounds a good deal of a personal nature but for which I offer no apology. I am not a Mennonite nor were my parents, but I have lived the greater part of my life among them. In their environments were my adolescent days spent on the beautiful farms of Lancaster County. I have the highest regards for their industrious habits and thrift. Their modest unassuming simple life, without frills or follies, is an inspiration for character building now, as it ever was. Faithful, hard-working, honest toilers of the soil, as they are, have made the County of Lancaster in Pennsylvania the Garden Spot of America and the richest in agricultural wealth of the three thousand counties in the American Republic.

What they did for us they have done for you in this County of Waterloo. In that charming story, "The Conestoga Trail," by your fellow citizen and writer, Miss Dunham, I quote the second sentence of the Foreword by your distinguished native born statesman, the Right Honourable W. L. Mackenzie King, who wrote: "To-day, due to the enterprise of these early settlers, Waterloo County is one of the banner counties of all Ontario."

May I add that farmers of Lancaster and Waterloo counties never yet have asked for aid from Congress or Parliament or never will, for no good tiller of the soil needs it.

Driven from Europe by relentless cruel persecutions, they came to the new world with nothing but their honest hands to toil. To-day, many of them are uncrowned rural kings wherever they located.

Did it ever occur to you how wonderfully God dealt with our own land? The great rich continent of America remained unknown for centuries.

North America was kept a haven of refuge, just opening up at the time the fires of persecutions of all Protestants swept over Europe. That persecution made the Protestants of Europe ready to leave their homelands and embark on a venture full of many dangers in a new and unknown land. Longfellow well said: "God was sifting the wheat to secure the finest to plant the new world."

But, I must conclude and in doing so I cannot leave you, inasmuch that I have devoted much of my time to discussing monuments, without a word on the emptiness of human glory.

It is by what we ourselves have done, and not by what others have done for us, that we shall be remembered by after ages. The tombstones and mausoleums all bear witness to the desire within us to be remembered by coming generations. As we stand beneath the dome of St. Paul's or tread with religious awe the silent aisles of Westminster Abbey or Arlington Cemetery, every object around us creates a sentiment of the utter emptiness of human glory.

How shortlived is the immortality which the works of our hands can confer on those who live after us.

The noblest and most imposing monuments of art that the world has ever seen are covered with the soil of twenty centuries and are forgotten.

"Lest we forget" and glory in human achievements that perish, it is well to remind ourselves that the only thing that endures is the unbending pious character that these pioneers possessed in their loneliness on this sacred consecrated God's acre when they consigned their dead to a peaceful resting place beneath the sod.

Their abiding faith in a life beyond the grave gave them courage to renew their daily burden with the blessed assurance that they shall once more appear in triumphant glory at the resurrection of the Just.

If they could return, whose forms have been passing in review before our eyes this day; if in the presence of this holy hour the dead could rise and with lips, dumb for a century, find again a tongue, might they not say to us, your lives have fallen in a happier time than ours. You enjoy all the blessings which Providence can bestow, a peace we never knew, a wealth we never hoped for, a power of which we never dreamed.

Yet think not that these things only can make a nation great. We laid the foundation of your happiness in a time of trouble, in days of sorrow and perplexity, of doubt, distress and danger, of cold and hunger, of suffering and want.

Do you revere our names? Then follow our example. Are you proud of our achievements? Then try to imitate them. Do you honour our memories? Then do as we have done. For you have duties to perform as well as we. It was ours to create; it is yours to preserve. It was ours to found; it is yours to perpetuate. And what nobler tradition can you present to mankind to-day than that of a people honest, steadfast and secure, true to the teachings of history and the fundamental principles of virtue and honour.

My friends, since these pioneers whom we honour to-day disappeared from their earthly toil, a century has gone by and has changed the face of nature and wrought a revolution in the habits of mankind. We stand this afternoon at the dawn of an extraordinary age. Freed from the chains of ancient thought and superstition, man has begun to win victories in the domain of science. Nothing is too difficult for his hand to attempt, no region too remote, no place too sacred for his daring eye to penetrate. He has advanced with such astounding speed and reached a moment when it seems as if distance and time had been annihilated. We know that we are more fortunate than our fathers. We believe that our children shall be happier than we. We know that this century is more enlightened than the last. We believe that the time to come will be better and more glorious than this. The age in which we live is but a link in the endless eternal chain of time. Our lives are like the sands upon the shore, our voices like a summer breeze that stirs the leaf for a moment and is forgotten.

The endless generations are advancing to take our places as we fall. For them, as for us, shall the earth roll on and the seasons come and go; the snow flakes fall and the rain descends; the flowers bloom and fade and the harvests be gathered in. For them, as for us, shall the sun, like the life of man, rise out of darkness in the morning and sink into darkness in the night. For them, as for us, shall the years march by in the sublime procession of the ages.

And unto Him who holds in the hollow of His hand the fate of nations and yet marks the sparrow's fall, let us lift up our hearts this day and into His eternal care commend ourselves, our children and our countries.

# A TRIBUTE TO THE PIONEERS

### By D. N. PANABAKER, PRESIDENT OF THE WATERLOO COUNTY PIONEERS MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

You are here under the auspices of the Waterloo County Pioneers' Memorial Association, which I should perhaps say, is distinctly a branch of The Waterloo County Historical Society. It should also be definitely stated, so that there be no question of doubt in the mind of any, that from its inception, right down to this moment, the Pioneers' Memorial Association has not confined its conception of its duties or its outlook to any one section or community of Waterloo County. Our effort has been to commence here where the settlement of this county actually had its origin, a monument which would be of such a type of construction, that it might be of unlimited usefulness for the preservation of any historical data relating to any and every part of the county and particularly relating to what may be termed pioneering or first settlement of each of the various townships or smaller communities within the county. We hope to see, within a very short time, upon the interior walls of this memorial tower which we are dedicating this afternoon, tablets which will serve as permanent records of the beginnings of the numerous municipalities which make up the entire area of this compact little county. Not only this, but we should also find here presently, tablets recording the names of the families or individuals who can in any sense be considered as early settlers in their respective communities and such other family records as may be appropriately placed here by those who properly value such facilities for this important purpose.

You will hear from other speakers of the outstanding importance of the event in Canadian history, which it is our object to commemorate by the erection of this tower on one of the three farms first settled in this county, which was without doubt, as historians tell us, the first settled of any inland county in the Western Peninsula of Ontario. I will therefore not take time to enlarge upon this point.

Many of those who are here to-day were privileged to meet under somewhat similar auspices at the sod turning ceremonies, June 24, 1924. It was owing to the interest then shown by the many who were present, including the visiting members of the Ontario Historical Society, and as a result of the inspiration gleaned from that memorable gathering that the officers of our association became fixed in their purpose to proceed with the project without delay.

It is not in our hearts to boast of what has been achieved, nor even to take credit for its accomplishment; for without the sanction and support expressed in various ways, financially and otherwise, by many of our good citizens and friends, some of them residing in distant parts of our vast country, and also several who are worthy citizens of the United States, without this encouraging support we could not have proceeded.

Undoubtedly, now that the work is so far advanced many other supporters will rally to our aid and enable the committee to wipe out any unpaid portion of the undertaking and provide a small fund for the preservation of the tower and upkeep of the grounds.

Those with whom it has been my great privilege to work in this undertaking were seized of the conviction as I also was that it was a duty devolving upon this generation to which we belong, to express in some tangible way, our obligation to the pioneers of this greatly favored community, who by foregoing so much of their immediate comfort and by enduring so much of actual hardship and privation, virtually laid upon the Altar of the Ages, their personal sacrifice.

Theirs was no small part in that type of endeavour which when submitted to the searching scrutiny of succeeding years is found to have been an important factor in the trend and destiny of the commonwealth and productive of great basic substructures in the making of history. We of the present generation can now figuratively look back over the shoulder of time, and by scanning the horizon of our memories it is possible for us to recall many of the things which were done in this self-sacrificing spirit, by our parents and grandparents, so that the future might be less stern in its aspect to their descendants. The generation which succeeds us, I am safe in saying, will have no such memories of pioneering conditions in this country; and I doubt very much if the pioneering conditions in any other part of Canada yet to be settled will compare except in a slight degree with what was involved in cutting homesteads out of the dense wilderness which this country was one hundred years ago.

Had we failed to pay proper tribute to the memory of our early settlers what hope could we reasonably entertain that our children would have made good our failure? It is true, criticism has not been lacking with reference to the choice we have made for the location of the monument, and also as to the proposition of having a monument at all. Our critics are entitled to their own views. Some have said "the sentiments of the early settlers would have discounted such a monument as we have undertaken; that those worthy people had no desire for that which savoured of worldly display of self laudation." We know full well of this pervading principle among our pioneer people, and we would be the last to violate their noble conceptions of modesty and propriety. But our answer to our critics is this. We delight to do honour to those who sought no showy veneration, and could we but write their virtuous deeds upon the unsullied arch of heaven, then would we not employ rude stones from which to build this monument to their memory.

As to the location of the monument—critics have asked why was it not placed upon the teeming highway, instead of this secluded place? We have an answer. That answer is that the monument is located upon the highway of the times we now commemorate—The Grand River—that highway which the Indians knew and which their restless, sinewy feet, aided by the hoofs of deer and the silent step of stalking beast, moulded upon the yielding alluvion and grassy banks of the watery thoroughfare—the Indian trail along the Grand. If this is not sufficient warrant for our choice of place, there is a further reason, that under the mounds in the little graveyard here a number of the earliest settlers laid their weary bodies to unbroken rest, and this spot is thus made sacred to their memory by the ashes of their own vanished yet venerated forms.

Perchance the quietude of this untravelled place in which the earliest Pennsylvania settlers now repose on soil of their first choosing, may serve to aid the exercise of thought and selfcommuning and actuate an impulse born of such reflection, to deeds of virtue resembling those of our departed fathers. But the choice of location will be vindicated if only it may serve to prompt the imagination of our children, who pausing here upon the platform of this tower to scan the peaceful valley of the stream our fathers loved, that they may see in fancy, as our pioneers saw no doubt in reality, the prints of moccasined feet upon the moistened clay of those old slopes, and seeing thus in footprints of the past, this emblem of the wilds our parents knew, they shall recall in thought the stalwart character of mind and body which enabled our first immigrants to face and then subdue the hostile element of this then continuous wilderness.

At the gathering here two years ago I referred to the row of Indian graves in the little burial place. There was perhaps doubt in the minds of some regarding the probability of these being the graves of Indians. I have only recently learned without the shadow of a doubt of other little graveyards within a few miles of this containing the graves of Indians, and personally I see no reason to doubt that in this graveyard the seven nameless graves all in a row marked out by limestone slabs are what they are said to be—the graves of Indians who had become friendly to the early settlers.

I must first briefly refer to the gentlemen who have been associated with me in the work we have now almost completed. Mr. Wm. H. Breithaupt, C.E., long honoured among other things in the position of president of the Waterloo County Historical Society and more recently as president of the Ontario Historical Society, is also honourary president of our Pioneers' Memorial Association. To his constructive mind we are indebted for the suggestion to erect this memorial, and for this I think he deserves great commendation. Not only for this is he deserving of credit, but also credit is largely due him for the planning and the actual oversight of much of the work involved in the construction of the tower. It is true he selected an outstanding architect to work out the details in the person of Mr. W. A. Langton, of Toronto, but most of the responsibility of overseeing the work has fallen upon Mr. Breithaupt's shoulders, and I cannot adequately express my personal gratitude to him for all he has done in the interests of the Association.

Mr. Allan A. Eby, of Kitchener, who has so ably acted as secretary of the Association, is also entitled to much praise for his untiring work so freely and gratuitously performed.

Mr. David B. Betzner, also of Kitchener, has filled the responsible position of treasurer, and no one will realize how much his energetic efforts in behalf of the enterprise has meant to our organization.

Mr. Allan C. Hallman has been an active member of the committee from first to last, and has done much to advance our enterprise.

Referring also briefly to the contractors who have been employed in the construction of the tower, Mr. John Fox, of Galt, who was the contractor for all the concrete and masonry, has amply demonstrated his qualities of honesty and skill. He personally laid every stone which makes up the surface of the memorial, and it is therefore a monument also to his artistic and patient work. The other artisans whose finished work you see are too numerous to mention here, but we appreciate their work.

I would be remiss in my duty should I fail to express our obligation to the newspapers of this county and province for all they have done to further the interests of our project.

To the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada we are deeply indebted for one of the beautiful bronze tablets granted by the Board to mark places of historical interest. We appreciate this official recognition by that important department of the Ottawa administration, and we trust that Brigadier-General Cruikshank, chairman of that Board, who has honoured us with his presence this afternoon, will convey to the Board our sincere thanks for the kind consideration and courteous reception which have been accorded the application we presented to them for this official recognition. We have not forgotten the inspiring address which General Cruikshank delivered upon the occasion of our previous gathering here, and you will be delighted to know that he is again with us to speak a little later on.

Two visitors from Pennsylvania and one other guest I must refer to briefly. The latter, Mr. M. G. Sherk, of Toronto, and the Rev. Dr. Shirk, from Philadelphia, are both distinguished members of the Schoerg family, connected with the Pioneer Joseph Schoerg, whose grave beneath the shattered butternut tree vou will not fail to observe before you depart to your homes. Permit me to digress for a moment to ask you to note, while visiting this old grave, the discoloured marble headstone, but particularly the beautiful engraving, which was done by hand. It is the artistic work of Joseph Schoerg's son, the late Rev. David Shirk, who, I understand, was born on the Schoerg farm adjoining, probably one of the first children born to the families which settled here. His birthday was Sept. 9th, 1801. His grave is close to his father's and mother's. His grandfather. Betzner, is buried in the row of graves closer to the river bank. Thus of the very earliest settlers in this county we have here the graves of Joseph Schoerg and his first and second wives, and some of their sons, also Samuel Betzner, Sr., and family, including his son and his grandson.

# CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA GERMAN IN CANADA

# By Hon. John S. Martin, Port Dover, Minister of Agriculture of Ontario

We are assembled here to-day in the beautiful, fertile and prosperous County of Waterloo to do honour to the memory of the pioneers who founded the original settlements in this county.

We are living in a wonderful age, an age of great achievements. The name of Canada is known and respected in every civilized country in the world. We glory in the achievements of our Canadian men and women, but in doing this, let us not forget the men and women of the past, who laid the foundations and who made these present achievements possible. We often hear the expression "The builders of Canada," referring to the statesmen who laid the foundations of Government. All glory to them; they have done their work and they have done it well, but let us not forget the men and women who left their homes in other lands to come to Canada. They were just as truly entitled to the name "builders of Canada."

These men who left their comfortable homes across the border were men of sturdy stock. They came over shortly after the American Revolution and they were actuated chiefly because of their belief and from past experience, that only under the British flag could they find that religious freedom which they so earnestly desired. They settled in what was then a forest wilderness. They built log cabins, they cut down the trees, and cleared up the land. They helped to build our towns and cities and found our industries. To-day we see the fruition of their labours. Nowhere in the Dominion of Canada is there a more prosperous agricultural county than the County of Waterloo, and nowhere do we find a finer industrial development than right here in this county. Furthermore, nowhere in Canada do we see a finer demonstration of the fact that agricultural prosperity and industrial prosperity should go hand in hand.

In order to see what manner of men they were, we must go first of all to the United States and then to Europe. We find that the original Mennonites sprang from the religious upheaval of the sixteenth century, commonly known as the Reformation, and were the followers of Menno, or more properly Menno Simons. Menno was a natural born leader and through his leadership those who revolted against the abuses and the autocracy of the established church were more or less united into one body. The foundation of their belief was that the church should not interfere with matters of state and that the state should not interfere in matters of religion. The result of this was persecution by both Church and State to such an extent that many suffered torture and martyrdom because they adhered to their belief and in the latter part of the seventeenth and the beginning of the eighteenth century, they began emigrating to the New World so that they might live in peace.

I am proud of the fact that my mother's people were of this stock coming from Switzerland to Lancaster county, Penn., early in the eighteenth century and later settled in Rainham township, Haldimand County. They were descended from Jacob Strickler, a Mennonite preacher. Many a time have I listened to my grandfather Absolom Strickler telling of their early struggles in making a home in Ontario.

Their nearest flour mill was Niagara Falls, a distance of 75 miles and they had to go to mill on horseback with a bag of wheat thrown across the back of the horse. There was little sale for their grain, so he and his brother built a boat in order to take the wheat to Buffalo and to sell it there. The boat was built, loaded with wheat, and they started for Buffalo. A storm came up, the boat was wrecked and his brother was drowned.

These were the struggles of the early pioneers but through all the discouragements they worked their way. Success crowned their efforts and to-day we are enjoying the results of their labours, and it is right and fitting that this monument should be erected to their memory.

What were the distinguishing characteristics of these early pioneers? First of all they were deeply religious and their religion was a very real thing, as their fathers had suffered persecution and death for it. Their second outstanding quality was their love of the soil. They cared nothing for cities. It is a noteworthy fact that they were excellent judges of land and no matter where they settled, in the United States or Canada, they never settled on poor land. There was their industry and thrift. They believed in and practised the gospel of hard work and no people ever showed themselves better masters of the Science of Agriculture. Fourth, was their love of peace and order. They hated the law courts and seldom did they have differences with their neighbours that could not be settled by peaceable methods. Such were these early pioneers, and it is for us, their lineal descendants, to emulate their example, so that we may be worthy of those who have gone before. In these days of stress and clamour, let us not forget the simple things of life.

At the close of his address the Hon. Mr. Martin unveiled the Government Memorial Tablet.

#### By W. H. BREITHAUPT,

### Honorary President of the Waterloo County Pioneers' Memorial Association

The settlers from Pennsylvania, those heroic, enterprising people, who began the settlement of Waterloo County, one hundred and twenty-six years ago in this place, then in the wilds of the far interior of Upper Canada, were the forerunners of the large body of German settlers who and whose descendants have taken such material part in the advancement of southwestern Ontario. The Pennsylvanians were Swiss or German, some generations before, and retained the German language.

To quote from Shortt and Doughty's "History of Canada and its Provinces":

"The large German population of the western peninsula had its beginning when Sherk and Betzner plunged into the wilderness of Waterloo County in 1800, and there formed the nucleus around which their countrymen gathered from their old homes in the United States and from the German States of Europe."

Such Germans began to come to Waterloo County about 1818 or 1819, up to which time the influx had practically been entirely from Pennsylvania. Among the first Germans to come to Berlin, now Kitchener, of whom we have authentic record was Frederick Gaukel, who came about 1819. He built, in 1834. the first considerable hotel, on the corner of King and Queen Streets, since that time continuously occupied by a hotel, now by the Walper House. I well remember Gaukel's frame building which stood, more or less modified and changed, until comparatively recently. Two streets, Frederick Street, leading past the ground which he gave to the County for erection thereon of the County Court House, etc., in 1852, and Gaukel Street are named after him. Other early comers to Berlin, as it was, were Christian Ensling, later Editor of "Der Deutsche Canadier," Jacob Halier (my grandfather), one of the first manufacturers in a small way, Auslem Wagner, and others. In the thirties of the last century the village of Preston was a flourishing trading and manufacturing centre, attracting many Germans who became manufacturers and were active on a large scale, such as Jacob Hespeler, from Wuertemberg, Jacob Beck from Baden, father of Sir Adam Beck, Otto Klotz, North German, John and Frederick Guggigsburg, Valentine Wahn and others. Hespeler was in his day easily the most enterprising manufacturer and trader in the County. He later moved to the village of New Hope which in 1857 changed its name to Hespeler in his honour. Klotz was for forty years hotel keeper and at the same time leader in educational and other diversified interests, and a very useful citizen. William Hespeler, brother of Jacob, went from Waterloo County to Winnipeg, where he was elected federal member of Parliament, and later was for many years speaker of the Manitoba legislature.

Later comers to Berlin, as it was, from the forties up to the early sixties were Henry Stroh, George Seip, Carl Kranz, all merchants or manufacturers: Frederick Rittinger and John Motz, who founded and conducted the "Berliner Journal," for many years the leading German newspaper in Canada; Reinhold Lang, Louis Breithaupt. (Wie haben diese Gerber so meisterhaft gegerbt.) Later names prominent in industrial development were Kaufman, Rumpel, Hibner, Krug, Schneider, Pequegnat, Gruetzner, Braun and others. German settlers throughout the country were Tagge, Ruppel, Ratz, Vogt, Weichel, Merner, Reiner, Halter and many others. Throughout three townships of Waterloo County-Waterloo, Wilmot and Woolwich-German names predominate and the development of manufactures in the city, towns and villages may well be said to be due mainly to the enterprise of these German settlers and their descendants.

Members of Parliament for the north riding of Waterloo, both Provincial and Federal, have mostly been of Pennsylvania or direct German descent, such as Moses Springer, E. W. B. Snider, I. E. Bowman, Hugo Kranz, Breithaupt, Lackner, Weichel, Euler, Asmussen, and Homuth of South Waterloo. Two Senators, Merner and Ratz, have been of German descent. Of similar descent have been county sheriffs—Springer, Motz, Lackner, Kribs, and many wardens of the County from Walter to Lantz. Among County judges there may be mentioned Klein, of Bruce, and Wismer, of Simcoe.

In the Great War, enlistments from Waterloo County totalled approximately 4,000 and of this number about ten per cent., about 400, were killed in action or died of wounds or disease. A very large proportion were descendants of German and of Pennsylvania settlers, neither Germans nor Canadian Germans, but Canadian; and most of them volunteer enlistments, embued with love of their country. Worthy of mention here is that the first Waterloo County man to fall in action in the war, March 20th, 1915 at Neuve Chapelle, was Alexander Ralph Eby, direct descendant in line of oldest sons, Isaac Eby, Menno Eby, Alexander Eby and then Alexander Ralph Eby from Bishop Benjamin Eby. With the death of Alexander Ralph Eby the descent in line of oldest sons became extinct in this branch of the Eby family.

On the old main line of the Grand Trunk Railway you could travel from end to end from Portland to Sarnia without encountering any German place name until you come to Breslau, Waterloo County, and then four in succession, Breslau, Berlin, Baden, New Hamburg. Many other German place names in Ontario may be mentioned: Mannheim, Bamberg, Heidelberg, Hespeler, Hanover, Carlsruhe, Zurich, Dresden, Neustadt and Vienna.

This beautiful Memorial Tower, in such a commanding position on the noble Grand River, the most beautiful of smaller rivers in Canada, commemorates in the first place the Waterloo County Pioneers, both the Pennsylvanians who came first and the later comers from Germany. It also commemorates the entire population of German descent in the Western peninsula of Ontario. Of Pennsylvanians there were three distinct groups: the Niagara Peninsula settlers who began to come in 1784, Waterloo County settlers 1800, and the Markham settlers in 1804. And as to settlers from Germany there is a large population of their descendants not only in Waterloo County but throughout the peninsula. To all of these we dedicate this Memorial as an earnest of what they have done in the settlement and advancement of their country.

A brief description of the features of the surrounding country is here in place. The Grand River was the Indian Highway extending across the peninsula from Lake Erie to within twenty-five miles of Georgian Bay. The first white man to traverse this highway was probably the noble and heroic Father Brebeuf, accompanied by Father Chaumonot, both of the Huron Jesuit Missions whose headquarters were in the Huron country at the foot of Georgian Bay. Both of these Jesuit missionaries have recently been canonized by the Roman Catholic Church. In a mission from the Hurons to the Neutral Indians, living along the north shore of Lake Erie, as spoken of in the Jesuit Relations, they in all probability passed along this route on their way back, and this was in 1641.

The road by which we come in from the main highway, now a little travelled side road serving only the farmers living along it, between the main highway and the Grand River, was in the early days the main travelled route between Guelph and Goderich. The Canada Company, a land and colonization company of English shareholders, began business in Guelph, its headquarters in Canada in 1827. They are preparing to celebrate the Centennial of this event in Guelph next year. The principal holding of the Canada Company, was a fan shaped area extending from the westerly limit of Waterloo County to a wide base along Lake Huron. As handle to the fan-shaped area there were two strips extending across Wilmot Township. and the whole of the present township of Guelph, the latter part being separated from the rest by the intervening Block 2 of Grand River Indian Lands, now Waterloo Township. One of the first necessities of the Canada Company was a road from Guelph to Goderich, its port on Lake Huron. This road extended from Guelph to Preston thence by the present highway and side road to a bridge across the river, then on through Strasburg and Haysville to Stratford, and so on to Goderich, forming for many years the main artery of travel from Guelph, Preston, etc., to and from the west. West of the river it joined what was known as the Huron Road proper extending from Hamilton to Goderich, a regular stage coach route on which plied four horse stages between Hamilton, Galt and Goderich. Hobson's tavern in Havsville, with stabling for 125 horses, was a noted stopping place on this route. As to the Grand River bridge, Klotz in his history of Preston states that this was built on Preston subscriptions and was a great benefit to village business. Whether the road first crossed the river by a ford is not clear. Location of the road is given on an early map of the Canada Company Lands. The bridge was eventually washed away by a spring freshet, as were a number of other Grand River wooden bridges. Part of it stood as late as about 1865. With the present activity in highway improvement, and the need for it. we may hopefully look forward to its rebuilding.

The initiative of the movement to erect this memorial was by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, the chairman of which Board we have the honour to have with us As long ago as the fall of 1919 I had, as President of to-day. the Waterloo Historical Society, inquiry from the Secretary of that Board as to Historic Sites in Waterloo County worthy of being marked by a national monument. I replied that we had one outstanding site, namely, the location of the first farm in Waterloo County, as long ago as 1800, beginning the first larger interior settlement in the then distant and inaccessible interior of Upper Canada, 100 miles from the frontier, far beyond the then distance of penetration of settlement. There was then intermittent correspondence for about three years, to establish our claim that the event to be commemorated was of national importance and so worthy of the approval of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. In August. 1921, Dr. Jas. H. Covne, of St. Thomas, President of the Royal Society of Canada, visited and greatly admired the site and became responsive to the idea of its importance. In September. 1922, the Right Honourable W. L. Mackenzie King, a native of the county, then Prime Minister of Canada, made strong appeal to the Historic Sites and Monuments Board for the recognition of this Memorial as of national importance. The Board has not many meetings during the year and is deliberate and careful in its decisions, but it began now to favor the project. Our argument all along had been that here was a settlement occupying 105,000 acres in the first decade of the nineteenth century, one block of 60,000 acres and an adjoining one of 45,000 acres in the heart of Upper Canada, with no other settlement, contemporaneous with or antedating it, of equal importance in the development of the country springing directly from this event. Finally, in 1924, the Board favourably considered and gave its official sanction to the proposed monument. Then arose the question of funds, of which the national board has no great amount at its disposal. The outcome was that the Historic Sites and Monuments Board contributed the handsome tablet and funds were made up by local and general subscriptions.

A little over two years ago at one of the sessions, at the site, of the annual meeting of the Ontario Historical Society, General Cruikshank, together with the then President of the Society, Dr. Orr, dug the first sod for excavation preceding construction of the monument. This gave impetus to the project and in the following years we were enabled to construct the masonry and this year to complete the tower, as you see it.

Dr. H. M. Bowman is authority for the fact, which he carefully established, that well over two-thirds of the settlers who came to Waterloo County from Pennsylvania were in their early history of Swiss origin. This is symbolized by the particular shape of the spire of the tower, typical of Swiss construction, and so designed by the architect, Mr. W. A. Langton. In the pyramids of Egypt and in other enduring monuments astronomical facts are in a manner built in. In this tower, also built to endure, we wanted to embody one astronomical feature, a true north and south line extending across from point to point on great diameter of the hexagon forming the platform. The true north was established by observation taken on the north star. It was found to point across the river, while it was desirable that the portal, directly below what was to be the true south angle of the hexagon should point at least somewhat toward the gate of the enclosure. We therefore recorded in the building another feature and that is the true air line direct from this tower to Franklin County, Pennsylvania, from where came Joseph Schoerg and Samuel Betzner, Jr. If therefore you stand on the platform directly over the portal with your back square to the opposite angle of the hexagon you can imagine you see those two pioneers setting out on their adventurous journey so fraught with importance to history.

### By Brig.-General E. A. Cruikshank, Ottawa, Chairman of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada

Twenty-six months ago I had the privilege to be present at and take part in the turning of the sod for the memorial and to-day I again have the privilege of taking part in the unveiling of this fine monument. On behalf of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of the Department of the Interior, which I represent, I must congratulate you upon the erection and completion of this fine monument, for its admirable design, for its execution and for the material used in it. The site could not be a better one. From it you have a grand outlook of miles of the most beautiful scenery and handsome farms cleared many years ago by the pioneers in whose honour this memorial has been erected.

You are here to-day to commemorate the memory of your ancestors who went through many hardships in clearing the forests and laying out the beautiful farms you have to-day. I had the pleasure many years ago of living among the descendants of the first settlers. I recall that I never heard any finer sermons than those given by Rev. David Shirk and his relative. Rev. Abraham Sherk. I am not a Mennonite but I will say that in every community where these two gentlemen preached none were more respected. You to-day are honouring your ancestors. Why? You honour them owing to their splendid virtues and good qualities. It was a great adventure in the world's history for them to come over here with their wives, daughters, sons and their belongings, over new paths and a strange wilderness. They experienced all the privations of the pioneer's life. They were true and genuine pioneers. Thev were real agriculturalists and it is very appropriate that the Minister of Agriculture should be with us here to-day.

In concluding his remarks, Brig.-General Cruikshank reviewed some of the historical documents found in hisdepartment recently with respect to the early transactions between the first settlers and Indians and the Crown.

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# By Dr. James H. Coyne, St. Thomas, President of the Royal Society of Canada and Honorary President of The Elgin Historical and Scientific Institute.

I bring you greetings from the historical society of our city and county. Your settlement goes back to the years 1799 and 1800. Permit me to say, that while officially the Talbot Settlement began on the 21st May, 1803, when Colonel Thomas Talbot, the founder, cut down the first tree at the mouth of Talbot Creek, there is a sense in which it may be said to date back a few years prior to yours. For in 1793 or 1794 he had caught a vision of the future prosperity awaiting that part of Upper Canada lying north of Lake Erie, and selected his "favourite settlement" in what is now the County of Elgin. It was several years after his first visit to our lake shore before he was in a position to carry out his scheme of settlement, and in the meantime the Waterloo settlement had already begun. I congratulate your organization, and Mr. W. H. Breithaupt, who was instrumental in founding and forwarding it, together with all its officers and members, on your triumphant success in realizing your ideal. This memorial tower is built to withstand the tooth of time. The bronze tablet should stand for Thus the names of your first pioneers, and the brave ages. venture of those who followed them into what was then a wilderness of forest, have received at the hands of a grateful posterity their just meed of honour and perpetual remembrance. May I add the congratulations of The Royal Society of Canada, which has always included among its objects the promotion of the study of history and the preservation and marking of historic sites, and which is also represented here to-day by General Cruikshank as well as myself. I am glad that the General has been able to be present as special representative of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, of which he is the distinguished chairman, and of which I have the honour to be a humble member.

### THE ADVENTURE OF FAITH

### BY BISHOP S. F. COFFMAN, VINELAND, ONT.

This occasion has many significances. It recalls the incidents connected with the early settlement of this district; the heroism and struggle of the pioneer; the privations and disappointment met with in establishing new homes, environments and fellowships; the slow progress and patience which led on to success and happiness.

Heroism is the chief characteristic of the pioneer. The effort put forth by those who established these homes and whose memory to-day is honoured, resulted in more than the conquest of the forces of nature, of natural barriers and wilds of country; theirs was a conquest of spirit and soul—a conquest of faith.

"The great cloud of witnesses" whose heroism has encouraged the hearts of men in the centuries and milleniums of the past has not been a limited group. There have been many whose names have been omitted, but not because of their unworthy character. Their number has been increased as their triumphs continued, and innumerable victors in whose conquest have won their crowns of unfading glory in the ages past and in the not far distant past. We speak particularly of men who have hazarded all for the sake of the faith of God and of Jesus Christ.

Faith in other interests than religious ones has made men heroes, whose adventures have led them from the beaten paths into no uncertain quests and that have placed their memory among the honoured ones. Men have ventured in the fields of exploration and every discoverer from Columbus to Byrd, who flew over the North Pole, have ventured according to their faith and have brought back their laurels. Every scientist, every inventor, the genius and the plodding toiler, who has been led by a faith that inspired his effort, has not been without his wellearned compensation.

The greatest adventures that the world has known are not those of a material nature. The great Abraham rose to the heights of honour because he believed in and went forth at the command of the Eternal One. He sought not the common paths of men, for his soul was satisfied only when he was assured of the will of his Lord. His is the model of every adventure of faith.

At, or near, the origin of that great movement which set at liberty the conscience of men to enjoy the well-spring of devotion and service to God as revealed by His Word, are such men as Waldo, Luther, Zwingli, Grebel, Manz, Calvin, Huss, Menno, Erasmus, and later Knox, Wesley, Penn and others who are termed reformers. For many centuries the sovereignty over men's bodies and souls had been usurped by ecclesiastical and political powers. Freedom of conscience lay solely in the inner conception of that fact and in the secret performance of that spiritual obligation to God. The privilege of worshipping according to one's own appreciation of his duty to God and man was made available only as men whom we term heroes of faith ventured out in the face of world powers to claim what God requires and provides for all men. To-day men speak of making the world safe for democracy. Who were they who laid the foundation of safety in the world for the worship of God and His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ? It was this principle which moved the hearts of our forefathers, those whose memory is honoured here to-day. While the names of certain leaders among them stand out more prominently, it was the faithful and self-sacrificing followers of those leaders who made possible by their support the attainment of their holy purposes. These latter are the unhonoured heroes who were devoted to their cause but pass on unknown.

### TRANSITION RECORD

The sixteenth and seventeenth centuries of European history had to do with events which marked the transitions from darkness to light, intellectually and morally; from bondage to liberty, spiritually and politically. The causes of these transitions may be termed "the revival of learning," but may be attributed as well to the revival of spiritual life in the Church which had long been hindered in its natural expression and growth. This new beginning of spiritual life would have gone on as naturally and as peacefully as in the early dawn of the Christian age—a message and a life of peace and goodwill to men—but for the fears and opposition of a disturbed social and political order and custom.

#### SIMPLE OBEDIENCE

Another adventure on the part of the forebears of those who first settled in this section of the land of religious freedom was that of simple obedience to the teaching and example of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. It was not in the spirit "I am better than thou" that these pioneers of faith endeavoured to exemplify the spirit of Christ; but, believing that His teachings were practical and beneficial in the promotion of personal holiness and in witnessing to the truth of God's Word, they lived a simple life, a pure life and a peaceful life among all men. Regarding their first venture of religious liberty they suffered persecution with all reformers. With regard to the separation of Church and state they suffered with some; but for the latter teaching they suffered alone at the hands of Church and state. No other body of Christian professors has had such a record of hardship, suffering, persecution and destruction on account of their faith as has had this body, on account of this particular adventure concerning their non-resistant faith. To-day the voice of Christendom is decrying the violence of nations and the use of carnal weapons as both futile and un-Christian in its purpose and in its methods.

### HEROIC STOCK

The pioneers of this district spring from the heroic stock of faith's adventures. England and Scotland have had their men of foresight led by divine faith. The nonconformists found just grounds for their claims, freedom of conscience. The Calvinists or Puritans pressed their claims to final success. While this conflict was at its height the American colonies were founded, the crown granting charters to companies of religious dissenters to establish homes in the new world with the privilege of freedom of worship, a privilege not yet fully enjoyed in the home land. The Puritans of Plymouth, with later settlement in the Carolinas, were the American pioneers of traditional British liberty, transplanted later into Upper Canada by the same stock of British origin, her Scotch and English sons, adventurers of their sacred faith. No other tradition is so sacred to-day in the United States and in Canada as that which was established on the shores of New England under the standard of religious liberty. Through the same channel and under the flag of England came to the new world the Puritan, the Baptist, the Congregationalist, the Methodist, the Quaker, the Episcopalian and the Catholic. Spasmodic disruptions, no doubt, arose, but subsided, and under the same reflections that religious liberty and freedom of conscience is the divine right of all men.

#### Swiss Origin

Of Swiss origin the Anabaptist faith found its way into the lower valleys of Europe, by dissemination and as a result of persecution and exile. Organized onslaughts on the settlements of a non-resistant people found victims led like sheep to their destruction. No records ever computed the number of deaths thus brought about among a defenseless people. There was no asylum for these people except in a few independent European states. They scattered and fled to Austria, Prussia, Germany, France and Holland. Driven from Holland, they sojourned in England, and were again obliged to find refuge in Holland.

Their sojourn in Prussia was tolerated until Frederick the Great forced military service upon them. Thence they went to Russia in the latter part of the seventeenth century. They suffered, they fled, but their faith went with them. They bore no malice and they bore no weapons. They lived as the messengers of the peace of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Among the many who hazarded their all, even life, for the sake of religious convictions, was William Penn, who secured a territorial right from the king of England in 1681 and established his colony in 1683, including several families of the Mennonites from Europe. Closely related and associated in their faith in the old world, they entered into sympathetic association in the new. To those pioneers of the Gospel of peace, who in the old world had given up and lost home, wealth, friends and honour, life, all except their faith--their most sacred treasure—the new world opened a door of hope. Their most precious faith led them to the adventure of a new world. Abraham pilgrimaged anew in these men of faith. In the apostolic faith they fled to other places driven by persecution. But everywhere they bore witness to their faith in its three-fold formliberty of conscience, separation of Church and state, and obedience to the Gospel of the Prince of Peace.

# IN NEW WORLD

In the new world their adventure proved a success for these pilgrims and their co-religionists, the Quakers. They lived in the most peaceful relations with the native Americans, barring a few isolated instances. They then proved the possibility of their amalgamation with their fellow citizens and of their assimilation with their common interests and life. Their faith has rather aided them in such relations and promoted that spirit of freedom, tolerance and peace which forms the very foundation of national unity and prosperity. But, during the time of the revolution in the colonies, the refusal of the peace-loving citizens was interpreted politically and persecution resulted. It is true that these Canadian pioneers were religiously opposed to revolution, opposed to rebellion against organized government, opposed to the resistance against the government that had granted them the right to live in the fear of God and to live in peace with all men, not resisting any with carnal weapons.

Because of this persecution there arose a distrust in the minds of many as to the stability of religious rights under a new government, and thus originated the movement which sought a new venture for the sake of their treasured faith under the flag of Great Britain.

The movement of the Mennonites into Canada from the United States had the same purpose as their earlier pilgrimage from Europe. The security of their faith and the promotion of those religious principles to their children and community. No ulterior motive, even that of patriotism, can account for the motive of their sacrifice and the heroism of their effect to reach and settle in a new land. Their migration conceded with that of the U. E. Loyalists, yet theirs was a deeper purpose, a religious loyalty which wavers not nor fails because of changing sentiments of political import only.

Through those early days they lived as they had begun, disciples of peace and good will. They proved their sincerity by their religious ardour and devotion and piety. Their industry and frugality is marked by the evident prosperity which blessed their efforts. Their descendants cherish the memory of these adventurers of faith and cherish the faith which they so ardently loved and laboured and endured and in which they so blessedly triumphed.

### DEBT TO PIONEERS

This generation owes much to those pioneers who in this colony of the British Empire have laid the permanent foundations of personal freedom, of true worship and social welfare and happiness. Whether transplanted from the Sovereign Island by Briton and Scot, or carried by adopted sons from other lands to this, these principles put into practice have made this land and these homes what we find them to-day, a cause to honour the memory of the true faith of Jesus Christ.

It is the common testimony of men that Great Britain has stood foremost among the nations in the promotion of the religious interests of her citizens, in the toleration of religious rights and upholding the sacredness of the worship of Christian believers in the acknowledgment of the Bible as the work and will of God. The day when the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew were united in heraldic design the religious prejudices of two nations were broken down. The day when the cross of St. Patrick was made to form a triple alliance, religious liberty became the standard of the Empire. May these traditions be cherished and preserved by every loyal citizen, by every child of God and follower of Jesus Christ. In a special manner this occasion represents the religious impulses of the pioneers of this district. Homes were established on their soil, but they were homes in which Christianity had the first place and the spiritual interests of the rising generation were sought and fostered that they might attain to eternal life and gain that home whose foundations God has established. They laboured more for the meat which perishes not than for the bread of their daily food. They have given no inheritance of millions to their children; but the riches of their bequests are the treasures of character, of love and peace to men, and Bible and its faith which gives to men eternal life. This is the end of their adventure of faith.

# BLAZING THE TRAIL IN NEW DUMFRIES

# By J. P. JAFFRAY, GALT, ONT.

Moved by a desire that had grown into his aspirations while practising law at Niagara, the Hon. Wm. Dickson purchased 94,500 acres in the Grand River country in a section that had been the chief hunting, fishing and camping ground of the Six Nations Indians. The problem then confronting him was a system of colonization that would work out its own ends satisfactorily.

Born in Scotland and educated in his native land, a graduate of one of its universities, Mr. Dickson was for the first time entering an untried field. As he plunged into his enterprise he had only his will power to sustain him during his initial steps. It was a venture only for one of optimistic temperament. Undaunted he made the venture. First he had to explore the track before embarking on his settlement project.

Fortunately for him, he became attracted to a young fellow of twenty-two, named Shade (or Schade), who had come from Pennsylvania seeking, as a carpenter, a contract at Niagara. To him he proposed an association on colonization and the two set out for the Grand River country, then a dense wilderness. Dickson showed courage and foresight in this initial step. A few days in the dense forest, sometimes separating on the way up the river found them near the spot where It was then decided that they had not Paris now stands. reached their objective, at least Shade, who had a well-located trading post, or pioneer village, in his mind's eve, thought so. Going ahead of Dickson, and slightly in another direction the young Pennsylvanian eventually landed at the spot where the Mill creek empties itself into the Grand. Retracing his steps he sought out his senior partner and told him the story of his discovery. Together they proceeded next morning to confirm or reject the judgment of the youth bent on pre-empting a mill and factory site for future operations. On inspecting Dickson approved. Both returned to Niagara and the settlement of the Township of Dumfries was on its way.

Colonization was uppermost in the mind of one; the small mill, house and shop in that of the other. As a Scotchman, Dickson admired, naturally, the traits of the Scotch farmer. His policy took shape in 1820 when he sent a representative to his native land to obtain for his acres home seekers of the right type. By 1830 he had a goodly colony and by 1832 every farm in the tract was filled. This was Dumfries, North and South, settled apart from "urban" operations in Galt, Ayr, Paris and St. George.

The year 1827 stands out conspicuously among the historical facts connected with the pioneer days of this part of Waterloo county, in that it witnessed the arrival of John Galt, the Scotch essayist, novelist and poet, on his mission as the Commissioner of the Canada Company. Galt and Dickson had been friends in Scotland and the meeting of the two in Upper Canada's woods was made partly memorable by the latter's decision to rechristen Shade's Mills, "Galt" in honour of his distinguished compatriot, and so Galt was born.

Right there it was decided to blaze a trail to establish a town about sixteen or twenty miles to the north; so one morning Galt, Dickson, Shade and Dunlop, (the latter a globe trotter who became well known subsequently in Upper Canada), along with surveyors, Campbell and Pryer, started out on their mission. Through dense stretches of pine, oak and maple; with cedar and tamarac almost blocking their way at and near the swamps encountered, the party moved steadily, and within forty-eight hours reached what Galt considered a favourable location for a settlement. The Guelph of to-day, the "Royal City," is the outcome of that tramp through the woods, undertaken by men who had the backwoodsman's spirit of adventure.

The next step by Commissioner Galt was the letting of contracts for the building of a road from Galt to Guelph. Here was a chance for settlers to earn some hard cash. They had been immersed in the barter and sale system since their arrival; so much wool and wheat for so much sugar, cotton and hardware. So they eagerly offered their services for the first roadwork on an exclusive scale undertaken in the Grand River District.

Right merrily they "slashed" out the timber along the sixteen miles, living on the fattest of raw pork, bread baked in the hot ashes of the camp fires, and hemlock tea. That is the road of to-day, improved to conform to the needs of traffic, winding as you see it, over hills and valleys, the town of Hespeler greeting Guelph on one side and Galt on the other.

Meanwhile Shade was busy adding industry to industry; Paris came into notice as a growing hamlet, and Ayr and St. George attracted homeseekers of the artisan classes. Across the township line these Scotchmen saw the men from Pennsylvania labouring industriously and in due course were joined in community moves, the progress of one class inspiring am-

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bitions in the other with mutual respect constantly showing itself. From that day to the present the utmost harmony has existed in old Waterloo between the men of differing ancestry-English, Scotch, Pennsylvania Dutch, German, Hollanders and Irish. The combination has here produced a county that is the pride of all Canadians. What the genius of one race has not given us that of another has supplied. The blending has here created a community rich in the highest of purposes, as seen in our church life, in our many excellent schools, primary and secondary, and in the vision of such men as the late Elias W. Snider, Daniel B. Detweiler and Sir Adam Beck, the originals of hydro agitation, not omitting mention of a Waterloo County boy who has attained the Premiership of this Dominion. Ingrained in all these pioneer families is a love of British justice. They know this country's background and its call to service.

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This Memorial will surely go down the generations as a tribute to the peaceful, industrious, godly lives of our pioneers. The fusion that has marked these years has given our people the strength to carry on without betraying a sign of weakness, assuring Old Waterloo in the future the richest of citizenship. The fruits of early struggles are with us. They bid us persevere in well doing. From the blazed trail to our magnificently equipped highways our people have been progressively wise. Think it over and ask yourselves if it is not our duty to maintain an attitude in all essentials of community life, to conform to the dominating thoughts of our forebearers. The covered wagon has left many things to be thankful for.

# THE PENNSYLVANIA-GERMAN IN HISTORY

### By M. G. Sherk

The erection of the Waterloo County Pioneers' Memorial Tower near Kitchener, Ontario, has called public attention to the settlement of Waterloo County by Pennsylvania Germans who came about the year 1800. It is therefore fitting that Canadians in general should know something of the Pennsylvania Germans before their descendants have become assimilated and the pioneer settlement historical only.

About 1681, William Penn, the great Quaker philanthropist and religionist, turned his attention to the New World where he obtained a grant of territory now forming the state of Pennsylvania. The great exodus of Germans from Europe to the Province of Pennsylvania as it was then known began about 1683. Among the first to come was a colony of Krefelders who settled at Germantown, now a part of Philadelphia. These people came from Krefeld, a town of Rhenish Prussia, and were led by Francis David Pretorius. For nearly a century there was an almost constant stream of German immigrants to America.

Being a Quaker and holding non-resistant views, Penn encouraged not only the settlement of Quakers but others with similar religious tenets. Penn's aim, of course, was to provide a refuge from the relentless persecution to which these people were subjected in Europe and at the same time to give them a place where they could exercise liberty of conscience and worship as they saw fit.

Racially William Penn was part Dutch as his mother, Margaret Jasper, was a native of Holland. It is alleged he wrote and spoke in both Dutch and German. Penn had travelled in Germany where he preached the doctrines of his sect, the Society of Friends or Quakers. He had become acquainted with conditions there. Many of the German people were little better off than slaves. The religious sects who were non-conformist had to endure persecution from the ruling class who mainly belonged to the state church. Besides this there were devastating wars during the period.

Emigration was encouraged by the glowing accounts of conditions and opportunities in America. Once started the flow of emigrants grew to enormous proportions, extending into the thousands. In Pennsylvania the population of counties like Lancaster, Montgomery, Lebanon, Bucks, Berks and
Franklin is to-day largely German, the descendants of these early German pioneers.

Like the Mennonites, the Quakers and Amish, not all the immigrants to America were non-resistant. People of other communions came, Lutherans, German Reformed and Roman Catholics. The majority of these settlers were handicraft men who turned to the soil for a living.

With our modern mode of travel it is difficult to estimate the untold hardships these newcomers were called upon to endure. Many of the immigrants came from countries along the famous Rhine, from the Palatinate, (in German, Die Pfalz), and were known as Pfaelzer. The great highway for travel was of course the Rhine. Ship for the ocean voyage was usually taken at Amsterdam and more often at Rotterdam. At first the immigrants had sufficient means to pay for the journey. The Swiss Mennonites were a thrifty and saving people and had means to buy lands upon arrival in America. In Germany conditions were not so favourable. There the people were kept in helpless poverty by constant warfare and excessive taxation. Many immigrants were brought over and on arrival were advertised as bond or indentured servants. After completing their term of service these people became valuable and prosperous citizens.

The voyage across the Atlantic lasted weeks and sometimes months. The emigrants were penned in the holds of vessels with little food and water. The captains of the vessels were often in the pay of unscrupulous agents. The people, not knowing the language of the captains, were unable to protest against these conditions. In some instances the people were taken to the wrong port. Many times the voyages lasted longer than was anticipated in consequence of storms and contrary winds. This entailed extra expense to ship-owners who called upon the passengers on their vessels for additional money, failing payment of which there was ill-treatment and privation.

The personal baggage of the passengers was frequently lost. Their chests were broken open and valuable heirlooms taken therefrom. There was therefore much to try the strongest spirits. Yet the dauntless courage of the people carried them through.

Some of the methods to secure immigrants were questionable. In Great Britain and Ireland prisoners from the jails and vagrants were sent to swell the tide of immigration. The colonies in America vied with each other as to which could get the most settlers. Agents, known as Newlanders, travelled up and down Germany, displaying articles of finery and telling marvellous stories about America. Emigrants were secured at so much a head for other agents acting for shipowners. Frequently deception was practised and by the time the ocean voyage was over the people were impoverished.

Gottlieb Mittelberger of Wuertemberg made a business trip to Pennsylvania in 1760. He stated that the journey from the Palatinate to Pennsylvania lasted from May to October, fully half a year. From Heilbronn to Holland the boats had to pass thirty-six customs houses, at each of which there was a stop for examination by custom officials. Thus four to six weeks were lost and much expense entailed. Again in Holland long delays running into weeks occurred. The trip from Holland to Cowes in the Isle of Wight took eight days and several weeks at times depending on weather conditions. Another delay of sometimes fourteen days occurred here, passing customs and completing cargoes. Meanwhile the passengers spent the last of their money and consumed most of their stock of provisions which they had reserved for the ocean voyage which lasted seven to twelve weeks. Conditions among the emigrants during the voyage were appalling. They were harassed by sickness, misery, vermin, disgusting food, filthy water, lamentation, remorse, death.

Mittelberger says that the cost of the journey from home to Rotterdam, including the passage down the Rhine, was \$35.00. From Rotterdam to Philadelphia for a person over ten years, the fare was £10. Children from five to ten paid half price. All children under five were free. As long as the people were at sea food was provided. However he asserts that with the greatest economy many passengers spent \$176.00 from the time of leaving home until they reached Philadelphia.

On landing at Philadelphia the immigrants were required, after 1727, to appear before immigration officials for registration and to sign a declaration of allegiance to the King of Great Britain. Not understanding the English language and the clerks not understanding the German language, their names were taken down phonetically and misspelled. It is very probable too that many of the immigrants were unable to read, write or spell. On the declaration papers many signed their names by making their mark after the name was written by the clerk.

In imagination let us follow the settlers into their new home. In most cases their settlements were on the outskirts of civilization where they were exposed to dangers from marauding bands of Indians and to wild animals. After felling trees to build habitations for their families, and stables and workshops, they began the task of clearing the land for cultivation. Having very little money or other means of procuring necessities they made their own farm implements, their shoes, clothing and so on. This fostered habits of industry and occupied their time from before dawn till late at night.

Here in Canada seventy-five or eighty years ago conditions were much the same among the Pennsylvania-Dutch. My father told me in their family they rose as early as four o'clock and did considerable work before breakfast.

Grandfather could make nearly everything required on the farm. There was always a workshop with a lathe and drawinghorse with its knife. In Pennsylvania as well as in Canada, when there was a hill nearby with a spring, there could be seen on the side of the hill a milk-house with the cool water flowing around the crocks of milk on a low part of the floor. A Pennsylvania Dutch farm house with its cluster of farm buildings was indeed a hive of industry.

Although incessant workers, the Pennsylvania-Dutch did not neglect their religious obligations. They were strict attendants at their church services on Sunday. Although during the last fifty years by association with other nationalities they have by marriage become somewhat mixed with other races and Pennsylvania-Dutch people are now sometimes found with Anglo-Saxon surnames, there are, in places, large settlements of those who maintain much of their former exclusiveness and their peculiar characteristics of dress and religion. One place I visited, the Town of Lititz near Lancaster City, interested me very much. It was founded by a community of Moravians. They have a seminary there and noted picnic grounds with a famous spring. It is a well known summer resort. In the older part of the graveyard in connection with their church. the graves are in rows, with slabs of uniform size lying flat on the graves.

Another thing I noticed on my visit that was novel to me was the long flowing beards of the Amish men and their peculiar cut of hair. Their homesteads were distinguishable by the front gates, painted blue, and by the blue window blinds of their houses. The Amish Society is an early offshoot of Mennonites. It was founded in Europe.

Lancaster City, now a thriving place of over one hundred thousand people, is the centre of one of the most productive farming districts in the United States. Their descendants occupy the fertile valleys where members of the Mennonite and Tunker faiths predominate. These settlements begun in 1709, I think I am correct in saying, have made Lancaster County agriculturally one of the wealthiest if not the wealthiest in the United States.

In the United States we find such names among prominent men as Hoover, Studebaker, Rittenhouse, Wannamaker, Pershing, and in Canada, Detwiler, Shantz, Betzner, Eby, Snyder, all distinctive Pennsylvania-Dutch surnames. In the United States civil war such names were met with among men high in command. People with Pennsylvania-Dutch names are to be found in every walk of life in all parts of Canada and the United Their love of speculation impelled them to move to States. different parts of the country, where there were business inducements, and thus they have scattered all over the continent. They seem to have a penchant for migrating. This has been characteristic of them ever since their coming to America. After clearing their farms and saving some money, many of them sold their valuable pioneer holdings and pushed faither into the interior where wild lands were cheap, thus aiding their children toward getting a good start in life. Those of us living in Waterloo County long years ago, have known the children and grandchildren of the original pioneers to "sell out" and with their families move to new parts of Ontario, Michigan, Indiana, Kansas, then being opened to settlers and even going farther west, their holdings being taken here oftentimes by Germans from Europe who had formerly been in their employ. Wherever the Pennsylvania Dutch went they carried the spirit of thrift and industry with them as well as that of devotion. It was their love of adventure and desire to better themselves and their families that, perhaps, had something to do with their coming to Canada and settling in the wilderness. They did not shrink from pioneer hardships but unflinchingly faced them and thus conquered and won comforts and plenty. They were great providers and always kept an ample supply of anything necessary for the future. Their larders were filled with provisions of their own production, in quality and variety, that might create envy in the mind of any epicure.

Credit is given to Swiss immigrants for having introduced to the United States and Canada the commodious "bank," sometimes called "Swiss," barn, a style of barn that was no doubt suited to the hillsides of Switzerland, and which, besides being a storehouse for their crops of hay and grain, afforded shelter for their cattle from the bleak winds that blew through the valleys. This type of barn has been adopted in this country by all well-to-do farmers. It is particularly suitable for farmers making a specialty of dairying, a branch of farm work in which Pennsylvania-Dutch farmers excelled and a liking for which some of them no doubt inherited from their Swiss ancestors.

They were good judges of land and always located in a fertile belt. The rule they followed in selecting places to settle in was: "Where the wood grows heaviest, the soil must be the best." They probably learned this in their native land, Switzer-land.

Notwithstanding the rudimentary education and simple living of the early Mennonites and Tunkers that often led other people to look upon them as a simple-minded folk, they were keen observers and great thinkers and understood the "whys and wherefores" of everything pertaining to their work. They had a system about everything that showed itself in the thrifty, orderly, cleanly appearance of their farm buildings and surroundings. Although some were satisfied with a little knowledge. a newspaper not even being found in their homes, there were others who were more advanced and read and studied for themselves. Education among the strictly rural class was at one time quite limited, for their time was so taken up attending to their farm duties that they had little time to read and study. Many of the early Mennonite people thought that to be able to read, to write, and to cipher was all the educational qualifications they or their children needed. Such teaching they considered was in accordance with the precepts of Menno Simon, the founder of the Mennonite sect who advised his followers to teach their children to read and write, to spin and do other necessary and proper labour suited to their ages and persons. Although Menno Simon was well educated, having been trained for the Roman Catholic priesthood, he may not have advised much education as he may have considered it made people vain and sinful and less attentive to their daily work. My grandfather changed his views about education, as did many others, long before his death, although he remained a member of the Tunker Communion. In the United States, both the Mennonite and Tunker Communions have now churchschools for the higher education of their young people as well as denominational papers. These people found they had to accept modern ideas as to education, otherwise their young people would join other communions.

Like the Covenanters of Scotland and the Huguenots of France, the European ancestors of Pennsylvania-Dutch people belonged to non-resistant faiths before coming to America and were martyrs to their religion. They were persecuted because they were opposed to bearing arms, to taking oaths, and to persecution in the courts. In Switzerland it is said the severity of the persecution of the Mennonites was so great as to call for the remonstrance of other nations. They were condemned to pull galleys while chained to their seats; they were sold to Barbary pirates; they were imprisoned, beaten and beheaded. To escape persecution large numbers of them fled for refuge to Germany, Holland and even to England and Ireland from which countries many of them afterward migrated to America.

The formation of the German Confederation by Bismarck in 1871, may have led to the use of the word Germany by other nations for the country and of German for the language and the people, although to my mind it is just as proper, derivately to call them Dutch as to call a Hollander Dutch. In this paper I have used the traditional name Pennsylvania-Dutch, considered perhaps as being rather vulgar, as it may appeal to some of the older people of that race yet living and has a historic sense, although ordinarily I am in favour of the name German being used at this period. The name Dutch is often misleading, for some of the descendants of the Pennsvlvania-Dutch race in Canada I have met know very little of their ancestors. Since the Great War, in which they were true and loval, if we judge by the number of their sons they sent to the front, there are those who would argue that they are not German They apparently are not aware that most of their but Dutch. forefathers came from German states and the German cantons of Switzerland, the few from France and Holland being mostly those who had taken refuge there from persecution. The Historical Society of Pennsylvania founded in 1891, after some discussion, a number of the members having at that time a preference for the name Pennsylvania-Dutch, decided to call their Society the Pennsylvania-German Society which I think was right and proper in these times, seeing that the name Dutch is now generally applied to the natives of Holland.

Living in Waterloo County more than fifty years ago, by association with the people and from knowledge obtained from my father, I know something perhaps of the families of the original pioneers who settled there. It is quite interesting to note the characteristics evinced by them both in appearance and character. Some of them were dark-complexioned, others fair. They were as a rule careful and thrifty—like the Scotch. Although they were not land-grabbers like some of the early settlers in Canada, most of them had large farms. My grandfather, I was told, had at one time three hundred and fifty acres. Some of them were shrewd and natural-born moneymakers. Some were geniuses in mathematics and born land surveyors. Social characteristics were prominent in all and

vears ago when more united by the ties of language and religion, they would be considered, by some, clannish. They were frequent visitors at each other's homes and occasionally visited from settlement to settlement, the Tunkers at their half-yearly feasts going many miles to fraternize with their brethren, as they do now. Sunday was the great day for visiting among them. At their funerals large numbers would assemble, long lines of vehicles being seen following the deceased to the burying ground, usually in connection with their meeting houses, where the remains were to be interred. After the funeral services were over it was customary to return to the home of the deceased where large quantities of provisions had been prepared for a feast. Their community meeting houses not being close together, attendance was usually large, people coming for miles to the service. Vanity by them was considered a grievous sin and for that reason they dressed very plainly. Although not at that time teetotalers, they practised temperance in all things. They did not believe in a paid ministry and therefore were not controlled by designing men. It was common among them, although I do not think it is now, to marry cousins. I have known of numerous instances of such marriages. In fact my paternal grandfather and grandmother were first cousins. Many such marriages were celebrated both in Pennsylvania and in Canada.

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Like the Patriarchs of old the Pennsylvania-Dutch were usually blessed with large families, a family with fewer than six or eight children being seldom found among them. Large families assisted in increasing their possessions by giving them more assistance to cultivate their land. Everyone, male or female, as soon as they were old enough, was given something to do.

By their industry they prospered and became independent and in many cases wealthy so that when they came to die they had lands and money to distribute amongst their children. One Pennsylvania German I knew of in Waterloo County years ago, and who was particularly saving, it was said, gave eight thousand dollars to each of his ten living children and that amount was considered enormous in those days.

Their virtues and good qualities we will not any more enlarge upon further than to say that they were a creditable acquisition to any country or any part of the country in which they settled. They have helped to make the County of Waterloo, with its industrial centres, the banner county of the province—at least agriculturally—and have helped Ontario to become the premier province of the Dominion in agricultural and industrial activity.

In order to give others a proper understanding of the attitude the non-resistant sects among the early Pennsylvania-Dutch maintained towards constituted authority and particularly their feeling towards the British Government during the Revolutionary War, we will quote from a school text book published in Lancaster County, U.S.A., the following:—

The only considerable body of people in Lancaster County who opposed the action of the Patriots and who were therefore denounced as Tories and enemies of America, were the non-resistant sects, such as the Quakers, the Mennonites, and the Tunkers, whose religion teaches them not to bear arms and not to resist constituted authority. These sects believed it wrong to take up the sword or to resist the powers that be, under any circumstances. Besides this the Mennonites who had settled here had vowed loyalty to the King of Great Britain and to the proprietary of the Province of Pennsylvania, and they did not want to violate that vow. The early Mennonite settlers having been naturalized as British subjects, the members of that sect desired also to remain submissive to the powers that naturalized them.

Accordingly we think the early settlers of this sect in Canada are entitled to be classed as Loyalists and should be considered as such in Canadian history. Although I do not wish to make the personal too prominent I cannot refrain from introducing by way of illustration some family history that has a bearing on the foregoing. On my mother's side my great-great-grandfather, a German resident of Lancaster County, Pa., because he harboured British officers in his house, had his house burned to the ground by the patriots. I have this fact in the handwriting of my great-grandfather. It was on account of the treatment he received that my great-great-grandfather emigrated to Canada with my great-grandfather in 1789. He settled on the Niagara River.

I cannot speak Pennsylvania-Dutch and I am not a fullblooded Pennsylvania-Dutchman. On my mother's side I am partly of that descent. My father I am proud to say was a thoroughbred Pennsylvania-Dutchman and was brought up amongst the racial surroundings so much in evidence in Waterloo County in the nineteenth century and particularly in the fore part of the century, for he was born near the Village of Breslau in 1832. I have, therefore, a certain amount of kinship with the Pennsylvania-Dutch people and an interest in them and any

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knowledge I may have regarding them, traditional and otherwise, that is worth while, I feel it a pleasure and a duty to pass on to future generations of Canadians.

Few people know much about their ancestors beyond their grandparentage. A very few may know something perhaps of their great-grandparentage. The pioneer Waterloo County families owe much to the late Ezra E. Eby for his history of Waterloo Township. Like Benjamin Eby one of the first Bishops of the Mennonite church in Canada, who established and taught a school in the meeting house in which he preached. he believed in education and enlightenment. By great personal sacrifice of time and money he procured lineage statistics of the different families, dating back to the time their ancestors left Europe for America, that will be a lasting monument to his indefatigable labours and help to keep alive the history of his people. By his statistics of the Sherk family I find I am the sixth removed from Joseph Schoerg (originally pronounced Sharich) a native of Switzerland who landed in Philadelphia with his family September 27th, 1727, and whose grandson, Joseph, settled in Upper Canada in what is now Waterloo County, Ontario, in 1800. My great-great-grandfather, Samuel Betzner, who located this farm, adjoining that of his son-inlaw, Joseph Schoerg, on which this Memorial Tower has been erected, emigrated from Wuertemberg to Pennsylvania in 1755.

We are standing to-day by this monument, erected in memory of the early pioneers of Waterloo County, the Mennonites, and in this beautiful location overlooking the valley of the historic and romantic Grand River, a place where lie the remains of some of my ancestors, and where my grandfather, Samuel Sherk, a son of Mrs. Joseph Schoerg by her first husband, John Schoerg, who died in Pennsylvania, played as a boy, for he was but eight years of age when they settled here (1800). Let us, the descendants of Pennsylvania Dutch people now assembled, pause for a moment, and in imagination turn back over the vista of years and reverently follow our forefathers as, nearly two hundred years ago, they left the lands of Switzerland and Germany and the shores of Holland and came across the ocean to Pennsylvania and thence to Canada. I think we may truly say as could the Israelites of old, after they had reached the Promised Land, that God in His providence has led them and dealt kindly with them.

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BY BISHOP C. F. DERSTINE, KITCHENER, ONT.

As a new comer to this country and nation I have been deeply interested in the making of what we affectionately call Canada. One hardly begets the same interest until he comes into personal contact with the people who have made this country. In a special way we are interested in this "Pioneer Memorial Tower," and the gathering of people it has occasioned.

We have been warned, two thousand years ago, by the Lord Jesus Christ that it is possible to build great tombs, build monuments to prophets and men of true progress if they only lived in the former days, and in turn stone those who would lead us in the best ways in the days in which we find ourselves. It is possible to honour the dust of these silent pioneers, and to persecute those of to-day who seek to hold high the same torch of truth which they have handed to succeeding generations, but we expect better things from this vast assemblage from far and near. May we not eulogize the fathers by lip only, but by our deeds which mean so much more for the world's good.

One of the great questions before us to-day is, "What do you see?" The geologist would tell us that we see a vast amount of beautiful coloured stones in this tower. There is enough of interest in this direction to hold our attention for to-day and longer. Fourteen cords of stone of every variety, shapes, sizes, and colours. Thousands upon thousands of stones, iron stones, blue stones, red stones, gray stones, granite, sand stones, lime stones, hard heads, mineral stones, as well as other kinds. If this is where our vision stops we do not see very far.

The tourist and the searcher for the beautiful would tell us that here we have a beautiful landscape. This spot our forefathers picked as the beginning of a new civilization for a new nation of white folks. Here they mingled freely with the red man of the past civilization. One needs only to stand upon the Tower Balcony and be convinced of the beauty of the scenery about us. Yonder we can see a beautiful forest, known among us as Cressman Woods or Park. Towering trees, erect and stately pointing their tops to the skies. Such a variety of trees. Personally I am not sufficiently experienced to know all the many varieties which make possible this beautiful park. Maple, pine, cedar, beech, elm, bass, ash, birch, oak and other kinds of wood too numerous for mention. Then below us is the winding river—we call it the Grand River, and such it truly is. How attractive to the lover of nature, how useful in former days to grind their grain, how it must have teemed with millions of fish in their days, how the cattle have quenched their thirst in its stream. But is that all we can see to-day?

Nearby nestles Doon, a village that reminds us of former days. North and South are thriving cities of the "Modern World." These have been made by the succeeding generations of these pioneers. The forefathers paved the track, they went the roughest part of the road. They slaved and toiled, we have entered into their labours. But is that all we can see?

The farmer can see his ancestors as men of the soil. They did their part well. The world needs this sturdy class of folks. He is not generally called the "hay seeder." He is accepted as a man of honour, a profession of dignity. Yes, we can see fields of waving corn, ripened grain, whitened buckwheat, green pasture, orchards, lowing cattle, large barns, and contented homes. Does this constitute the range of our vision? If so, then we are short-sighted.

The Historical Society sees the beginning of a new country. This they tell us is an historic spot. Here the first white settlers located their farms. Here the first white child was born. Here was the beginning of the new civilization of which to-day we are a part. Here in the year 1800 they cleared open spaces and built their first homes. From that day to this 125 years forward you can see what progress has been made. Here was founded the "German Colony" when they purchased 60,000 acres. Here was the first penetration of the white man into the far interior of Upper Canada.

The government of Canada paid its respects to this occasion by the gift of that beautiful bronze tablet—they see Canada in the making. This is the keynote of their interest in this spot, and the gathering of these interested friends to-day.

You descendants of these pioneers see your forebears. You see those to whom you are deeply indebted. They have given you a noble heritage. They have been your benefactors. They have travelled a hard road, and made smoother the way you are travelling to-day. You have an eternal debt of gratitude to pay. But is that all we can see? We must hasten on.

The lover of adventure sees in the "Trail of the Conestoga" that which thrills his entire being. He hears the call of the wild. He hears the whoop of the Indian. He sees nature in all its native beauty. He hears the tales of former days with breathless silence. He loves to turn back the pages of history and see the adventuresome beginnings of early life. He hears the crack of the whip in the swamps, he hears the crunching wheels of the Conestoga. The spirit of adventure is in the blood of the human race. It is in God, he is ever and anon going in new paths, in new direction, creating constantly. God went around the corner, and man felt the tug of that wondrous being. We cannot stand still, we cannot be static. Ever we must be on the move. So were our forefathers, so are we to-day. But is the spirit of adventure all we can see? In the case of our forefathers it was sanctified adventure, there is a difference.

This is no monument, this is a Memorial Tower, something to call these great ideals to the remembrance of succeeding generations. Stones cannot confer immortality, they may be impressive. But they are impressive of a solemn and mortifying failure. It is what these men have done, not by what the Historical Society has done for them that they will be remembered by after ages. Cold marble cannot make men great, some men have built their own, but without avail. It is life that makes one great and successful, stone can only call it to mind.

Beside us to-day are the silent graves of these early men. They spoke nothing to-day, and yet they said all that has been spoken. They were men of two worlds, this you can see upon the silent tombstones. When they gave their good-byes for the last time, they usually told their children where they might expect to meet them again. I noticed this beautiful inscription a number of times, "Farewell, till we meet again."

In the words of another, "we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The world will not long remember what we say, but what they did." These men were not talkers, primarily, they were livers. They outbelieved the world, they outworked the world, they outlived the world, they outdied the world, because in the first place they were Christian men in their permanent influence. This is the reason why Christianity has such a large hold upon Waterloo County. May we dedicate our lives anew to the task before us.

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