

TWENTY-FIRST AND TWENTY-SECOND
ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

WATERLOO HISTORICAL
SOCIETY



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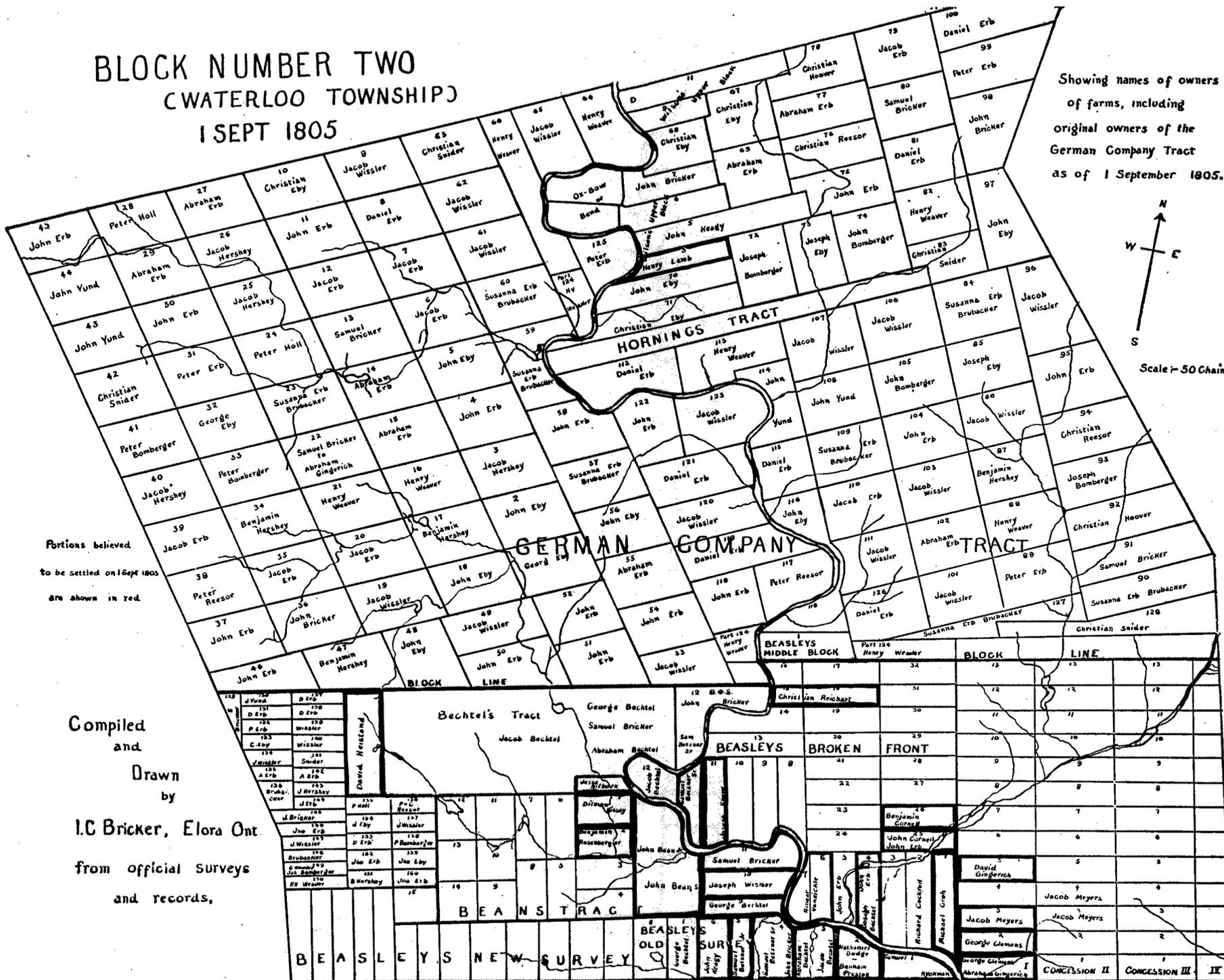
TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
WATERLOO HISTORICAL
SOCIETY
1934



KITCHENER, ONT.
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY
May 1935

BLOCK NUMBER TWO (WATERLOO TOWNSHIP) 1 SEPT 1805

Showing names of owners
of farms, including
original owners of the
German Company Tract
as of 1 September 1805.



Portions believed
to be settled on 1 Sept 1805
are shown in red.

Compiled
and
Drawn
by
I.C Bricker, Elora Ont
from official surveys
and records,

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CONTENTS

Secretary Treasurer's Report.....	73
President's Address	
Living Conditions in Pennsylvania, 18th Century.....	75
Waterloo Township History to 1825.....	81
Trek of the Pennsylvanians to Canada, 1805.....	123
I. C. Bricker, Phm. B.	
Extending Our Frontiers.....	132
D. N. Panabaker.	
The Saengerfest of 1875.....	136
W. H. Breithaupt.	
Hawkesville, Pioneer Village of Waterloo County.....	138
Orpheus M. Schantz.	
Biography:	
J. P. Jaffray.....	147
James E. Kerr.....	149
Clayton W. Wells.....	150
Additions to the Museum 1933-1934.....	152
Exchange List.....	154
Illustrations:	
Map, Waterloo Township, 1825.....	<i>Frontispiece</i>
J. P. Jaffray.....	} Facing Page 147
Jas. E. Kerr.....	

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

The twenty-second annual meeting of the Society was held in the Kitchener Y.M.C.A. building on the evening of October 19th, with a fair attendance of members and other friends of the Society. The President, Mr. D. N. Panabaker occupied the chair.

Among items of business which received attention were acknowledgment of the continued assistance received from the Kitchener Library Board in providing free quarters for our growing Museum collection, expression of appreciation of the grants made by the County of Waterloo, the City of Kitchener and the Town of Hespeler and of the contribution made by the management of the Y.M.C.A. in permitting the Society to hold its meeting in the building.

General regret was expressed upon the passing of Mr. James E. Kerr and Dr. Clayton W. Wells both of whom had given abundantly of their time and talent in promoting the Society's interest.

The nominating committee's report was adopted and the list of the officers for 1935 duly elected.

In his address the President outlined living conditions and customs prevalent in Pennsylvania during the early years of the 19th Century, contrasting the time with the progress made since those far off days.

Mr. I. C. Bricker of Elora gave an extended outline of his study of the settlement of Waterloo Township prior to 1825. This story is a monumental contribution that has demanded long and exhaustive research of records and documents both in Canada and Pennsylvania. A further paper by Mr. Bricker covering the trek of the Pennsylvanians to Canada in 1805 appears in the report and will be read with much interest.

Mr. W. V. Uttley of Elmira gave a short address on the Leaven of Progress dealing with the story of the growth and material progress of the City of Kitchener during the past century.

For more than twenty years the Society has steadily kept before it the purpose of stimulating and maintaining interest in the County of Waterloo and to build up and preserve a permanent historical record of the pioneer days and the subsequent progress.

The published reports of the Society contain a fund of information made available through the untiring efforts and research of interested contributors to whom sufficient credit can never be given. Particular mention should be made of the bound files of County newspapers in the Society's Museum, the value of which for reference purposes can scarcely be estimated.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR 1934

RECEIPTS:

Balance at January 1st, 1934.....	\$192.83
Members' Fees.....	\$77.50
Sales.....	11.63
Bank Interest.....	5.87
Grants—County of Waterloo.....	75.00
City of Kitchener.....	50.00
Town of Hespeler.....	20.00
	<u> \$240.00</u>
	<u> \$432.83</u>

DISBURSEMENTS:

Printing.....	\$27.55
Binding.....	42.00
Postage.....	10.28
Affiliation Ontario Society.....	2.00
Sundry.....	52.00
	<u> \$133.83</u>
Balance.....	<u> \$299.00</u>

Audited and found correct.

(Signed) E. HERNER, Auditor.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Ladies and Gentlemen:—

It is not my intention to occupy much time this evening as I know the other speakers will find the time available to them quite short enough in which to present the interesting papers and addresses they have prepared for this occasion.

First, let me say, I find it a difficult thing to adequately express the sense of loss which I feel and which the Society has suffered this year in the death of two outstanding members and officers. I refer most sorrowfully to the death of Mr. James E. Kerr, of Galt, and Doctor Clayton W. Wells of Waterloo.

This organization will be very fortunate indeed if the places of these two gentlemen are taken by other citizens of their respective cities who will serve the Society with like devotion and ability.

To their bereaved families and friends we tender most sincere sympathy.

In the work of your Organization during the current year I trust you may find evidences of worthwhile achievement, and I believe the reports from the head of our Museum Committee, Mr. Breithaupt and others including the Secretary-Treasurer will reveal some such indications.

I am in hopes that the financial resources of the Society will be found shortly to be sufficient to warrant the publication of 1933 and 1934 Annual Reports at an early date. We felt we had not sufficient funds to undertake the printing of the report for 1933, but doing the two years in one volume may I trust be found not too expensive to be undertaken very soon.

We cannot express our gratitude to those persons and municipal organizations for the support we have received again this year.

I am sure you will be gratified with the results of The Program Committee's efforts to secure Mr. Bricker to be present this evening to bring his interesting presentation of historical data regarding the first settlement of this County and subsequent immigration from Pennsylvania. We shall be under obligation to Mr. Bricker and others whose contributions this evening to our program will be received.

My own efforts in this direction have been confined largely to an attempt to obtain a picture, or a snap-shot, so to speak,

of the conditions which prevailed in Pennsylvania, in the one hundred years previous to the coming of the immigrants from that State to Waterloo and other Ontario points, York County, for example.

The families whose representatives came to this County in the early years of the 19th Century, had been, generally speaking, in Pennsylvania for just about one hundred years, as I believe it is correct to say that many of them came across the sea from their homes in Holland, Switzerland, Germany and other European countries late in the 17th Century or in the very early years of the 18th.

For my purposes, I have divided the 18th Century into quarters and as nearly as possible from the available data, I have endeavoured as I have hinted, to obtain a snap-shot of conditions in Pennsylvania, not from the standpoint of the rise and fall of Quaker influences in that Commonwealth, or from the standpoint of the ascendancy of the Scotch-Irish element or from any political, religious or National development, but purely from the home life of these families during the hundred years that had elapsed from their coming to America, to the time so many of them left that Country and came to Canada.

The means I have employed to get such snap-shots of the four separate periods I have outlined, may appear to you to be questionable, but I feel rather free to think, that the results obtained by the means employed are fairly conclusive, and I submit them for what they are worth and without apology.

The study I have made of the matter, is by no means exhaustive but through the medium of a recently issued Number of THE PERKIOMEN REGION, published in Pennsburg, Pa. to which I give grateful acknowledgement, I have had opportunity to make a survey of quite a number of estates of representative families, in various callings, living in Pennsylvania during that hundred years I have mentioned.

The estates of two separate branches of my own ancestry for instance have come to light in this Historical Magazine; one of these was the son of the first Panabaker in America, Jacob by name, the father having come from the Rhine region about 1699 or 1700 in the employ of William Penn, as a land surveyor and up to the year 1729 he had purchased over four-thousand acres of land in the vicinity of Germantown, apparently making use of his knowledge gained in surveying much of that region, to select lands of his choice. The son whose estate is detailed to the minutest degree, predeceased his father by two years and died in 1752, still a young man of less than forty years.

His estate had an inventory value of over 1,200 pounds and could be regarded no doubt as the possessions of a man in fairly affluent circumstances.

The other estate I have referred to was that of Cornelius Tyson, who immigrated to Pennsylvania in 1703 from Germany and the Inventory of his estate is dated 1716, the year of his death. He was a weaver by trade with a small farm, and in the short period of his life in America, his acquired possessions were less in current value than 100 pounds but at today's valuation of the items contained in his estate, livestock etc. probably 3 times the 100 pounds, would be more in keeping with actual value.

In addition to these two, I have gone through the Inventories of many others, some representing considerably more than the 1,200 pounds estate I have cited and others similar to the smaller estate referred to. The names of these various estates include such familiar ones as Weber, Levering, Keyser, Shuler, Johnson, Schneider, and others.

The Keyser selected, was a cordwainer, or what I suppose we would know better by the name — tanner — his brother was a shoemaker. This estate also was probated in 1716.

Levering's estate and that of Johnson's came to probate about the half way period of the Century similar to Jacob Pannebecker's in point of time. Levering was a farmer with negro slaves, Johnson also a farmer, who had an Indigo dyeing furnace among his possessions.

The Weber and Shuler Estates were settled about the end of the third quarter in the Century and again others represent the closing period of the Century, and first years of the 19th. Weber was a joiner, living luxuriantly, Shuler a wealthy farmer.

Taking the inventories of the groups as outlined and others of the same group periods, I feel warranted in saying that among these people in Pennsylvania during the first quarter of the 18th Century, up to say 1725, only the barest of necessities formed the possessions of the families.

One or two horses, for saddle use. I believe cows were then principally used as draft animals. Very small herds of cattle, a few pigs, a few sheep, a pair or two of geese, constituted the livestock. Other poultry than geese are scarcely found in the Inventories. Waggon's were evidently scarcely known, certainly not carriages, hence the saddle horse. Sleds are commonly found in the lists. Farming tools were confined to plow, harrows, straw cutting box, scythes, sickles, wheel

barrows, manure hooks or forks, spades, grindstone, grubbing hoes, and a small assortment of carpenter or wood working tools.

In the houses of that period, beds and bedding of very limited value, one table and a few chairs and a chest or two made up the whole complement of furniture and furnishings except for cooking utensils and spinning and often weaving looms. This kitchen and living room equipment apparently did not exceed usually 2 or 3 iron pots, a brass kettle, warming pans some fire place grids, bake kettle etc. and a few pewter plates and dishes. Occasionally a steelyards is found in the family possessions. It would be fair to assume that bread cut in slices, was often the only sort of plate made use of at the table, and that even wooden plates did not come into general use until the later period.

Invariably however room had to be found for the spinning wheel and often a loom and in the case of artisans, tradesmen's tools incident to the work of joiner, tanner, shoemaker, etc. were in evidence.

By the middle of the 18th Century one finds among the farmer's possessions, evidence that waggons were coming into use in Pennsylvania, but riding saddles were still outstanding items for personal transportation. Scythes and sickles are still the principal harvesting tools, only rarely is reference found in this period to a grain cradle. However there is indication that the equipment of the farmers was enlarging by this time. Fly-nets for the horses, sieves and winnowing mills, also hair sieves for cheesemaking, and one reference to a threshing machine widen the horizon of the picture before us of that time.

In the houses, however, no stoves had yet made their appearance, but the coffee mill had become "standard-equipment." Beds were evidently more elaborately equipped, even to the extent of having trundle beds to slip under the high beds. I wonder how many of my listeners slept in trundle beds when they were children.

Lanterns were then in use, I expect of the perforated tin variety. Candlesticks, but no mention of lamps. Glass bottles are spoken of and occasionally a looking glass, and the odd mention of decorative articles, a vase for instance, called "Wase" in the vernacular of the times. Striped linen is found in the lists and as one of the farmers had indigo dyeing equipment and a stock of a few lbs. of indigo and madder on hand, coloured articles of wear and bed covers, etc., were evidently among the highlights of our picture. Books to limited value also

appear in the inventories. Silverware, brass strainers, water-spouts, and guns, rifles, and side saddles (for the ladies) indicate a development in the direction of expanding tastes for the more luxurious things. Hives of bees among the possessions, of the times, also lend themselves to picture expanding facilities for the people of the times, to enjoy more than the barest of necessities.

By the end of the third quarter of the Century under review, we have indications of a decided change in the plane of living among these families.

Walnut clothes presses, oval shaped walnut tables, maple tables, poplar chests with drawers, blue painted bedsteads, feather-beds, bed-curtains, linen pillow cases, blue painted cupboard with glass doors, arm-chairs, kitchen dressers, baby's rocking cradle, couches, tea-tables, churns, small trunks, meal chests, dough-troughs, bread baskets, snuff boxes, canes, razors and hones, pocket books, writing slates, lamps, curtains, 8-day clocks, hand towels, of linen and other linen articles, also pewter tea-pots, pewter sugar cellars, tankards, knives and forks, and trenchers; this last was the name for wooden plates used instead of slices of bread which had served in the earlier days and indicating that meals were served less in a picnic style than had been in vogue 50 years before. But last and not least was the iron stove in various sizes up to ten plates, and varying designs for use as heaters only as well as for cooking. Ink bottles and calico were also features of the times.

The farmers equipment of the period included, wind mills, wood saws of improved and various designs and elaborate sets of tools, cow chains instead of hobbles or hoppers as they were called in the earlier times, indicating a more settled community, with barns, etc.

Another indication of affluent circumstances, becoming the environment of these people by the end of the third quarter is the common reference to slaves in the possession of the families, but this had also become somewhat evident before the first half of the century had closed. However in 1775 we find reference not only to the negro slaves themselves but negro beds which gives us some reassurance that the slaves were in some cases at least treated like human beings. It would appear too that at the time we are particularly referring to, differences of opinion arose in some families as to the propriety of owning slaves for in the will of Samuel Shuller dated 1774, he made a declaration that one of his sons, Jacob, by name, "shall have no share of the money that my negroes may sell for." His negro man slave was placed in the list of his assets at a price

of 60 pounds, say \$250.00 or \$300.00, the black girl was valued at about half this figure. I hope no one will assume that this is an equitable basis for appraising men and women in this quarter of the 20th Century.

It seems that it was a common thing to will one's slaves to one's children. Jacob Levering in 1753 willed to his daughter a negress, a girl called Peg, to his son a negro boy called Kit for whom the son was to pay the estate 100 pounds.

Now dealing with the last quarter of the period we have endeavoured to cover and which will bring us up to the time of the immigration to Waterloo we find not so great a change as seemed to be evident at the beginning of the quarter compared with 25 years earlier.

The material available to me for research up to the present relating to this last quarter has been rather meagre, and I do not submit any conclusive observations with regard to same; but this much may be said, the wardrobes of the people had no doubt become much enlarged and further evidence of refinement in the tastes of the people is not hard to find.

Rush bottom chairs, long post bed-steads, writing desks, and silver watches, are among these.

One Leonard Schneider, had two hats, two great coats, 9 shirts, 7 pairs of trousers, 3 pairs of mittens, 3 bibles, a bedstead and bed equipped with feather ticks above and below, or "under and above" as his will read, and he also had an Almanac in his possession.

I have not attempted to show any connection between the developments I have outlined and the movement to come to this far away land.

The Revolutionary War which came to a climax in 1776, no doubt had something to do with this emigration, whether directly or indirectly. The unsettled conditions of the times due to this struggle would at least be disturbing to the minds of these Quaker-Mennonite and peace-loving people. This in itself may have deterred the development of the country occupied by these people in a manner not quite apparent to us at this distance, but I do not doubt these questions will be dealt with by Mr. Bricker who has been carrying on research work as I have reason to believe in a gratifying manner and with excellent results.

D. N. PANABAKER.

THE HISTORY OF WATERLOO TOWNSHIP UP TO 1825

I. C. Bricker, Phm. B., Elora

Let us roll back the curtain of time for a century and more to gaze upon a picture of the first settlement, not only in Waterloo Township or on the Grand River, but the first in the central part of South Western Ontario.

Our picture deals with the coming of the Pennsylvanians to what is now known as the Township of Waterloo, in the first quarter of the nineteenth century, together with a fleeting outline of the preceding period.

The history of the far West and the Yukon have been told in song and verse. The tales of Quebec and the Maritimes are familiar to every school child. It is the story of distant parts that has charm and holds the attention of the reader. Yet here in our very midst were performed deeds of unsurpassing interest; here were achieved great things; here occurred an event of national importance — the coming of the Mennonites.

In very early times, before the feet of white men had left their imprint upon the fertile soil of this fair land, we find that a great highway traversed this district from north to south. This highway was not one of paved roads such as we have at the present time, but one of rapidly running streams, broad rivers and portages. It had its beginning at a meeting place of the Indians on Lake Simcoe, followed along the Nottawasaga River and up its branch the Pine River to the source of the Irvine River and along this to the Grand River at the edge of Elora, thence down the Grand River (Indian name Tinaatoua) through what is now the County of Waterloo to the Nith at the present town of Paris, thence upstream, westward and by portage to the Thames (formerly La Tranche) and so on to Lake St. Clair and the Great Lakes. This was the great passageway of the Algonquin, the Huron and the Neutral Indians. The banks of the Grand River and its tributaries were familiar to countless generations of Indians and here and there one may still find evidence of their sojourn in this district. One of these camping places is still clearly indicated on the east bank of Cedar Creek on the old Bricker homestead at Blair, where the ashes of camp fires can be seen to this day. (This farm is now owned by Mr. Nasmith.)

In 1640, four years before the birth of William Penn the founder of Pennsylvania, two French missionary priests by the name of Brebeuf and Chaumonot not only visited this district but made a sketch of the Grand and its tributaries that is fairly accurate.

When the American colonies rebelled against Great Britain, the Six Nation Indians, known under the name of Iroquois, remained loyal to the British, and at the close of the War of American Independence came to Canada. It was felt by the Government of Upper Canada at that time that the loyalty of the Indians should be suitably acknowledged, so, accordingly, on October 25th, 1784, Governor Haldimand granted the Six Nation Indians a tract of land six miles wide on either bank of the Grand River. This was surveyed in the early spring of 1791 by one, Augustus Jones, Surveyor. Eighty-five days were necessary to complete his task and he received 31 pounds, 17 shillings' 6 pence, (or 31, 17s, 6d) as remuneration. Some years later, finding this land exceeded their requirements, the Indians, on February 5th, 1798, executed a formal power of attorney to Captain Joseph Brant, one of their principal chiefs, by which they authorized him to surrender certain portions of this land to the Government that it might be sold and the proceeds invested for the benefit of the Indians. Under this authority several blocks of land were sold, among them being one to Richard Beasley, James Wilson, and John Baptiste Rousseau. This was known as Block No. 2 and contained by estimate 94,012 acres, the price being 8,887 pounds Provincial Currency. It was secured by a mortgage on the Block executed by the purchasers to the trustees for the Indians on May 10th, 1798. This block in its entirety later became Waterloo Township.

It appears that some time prior to 1800, surveys of Block No. 2 were made by Richard Cockrell, Surveyor. In the first survey the Tract was divided into two parts; the upper part, comprising approximately two-thirds of the whole, was named Wilson's Upper Block, while the lower third was called Wilson's Lower Block. Certain portions of these were in turn resubdivided into smaller blocks and were known as Beasley's Old Survey, Beasley's Broken Front, etc.

Now we have the picture of Block No. 2, Grand River Indian lands, in the West Riding of the County of York and Home District in the Province of Upper Canada, at the dawn of the nineteenth century. A bird's eye view of the whole region must have offered one vast expanse of dense continuous forest, shadowing the fertile soil, covering the land as the grass covers a lawn, sweeping over hill and valley in endless undulation, burying hills and hollows in verdure, mantling the brooks and clothing the banks of the Grand that wound its tortuous way from the far north to the far south. The entire scene was one of rich and benevolent nature, luxuriant, wild, full of promise and having the charm of the picturesque.

Yet this forest primeval was but the happy hunting ground of a few roving bands of Redmen. Here and there in some rich meadow opened to the sun, the Indian squaws would cultivate, with their crude stone implements, the black soil and sow their scanty stores of corn and beans. In this vast territory no white man had as yet taken up his abode although it is reported that fur traders by the name of Dodge and Preston had temporarily located on the banks of the Grand below the present Blair.

Into this vast wild region one day in the Spring of 1800 or possibly in the Fall of 1799, came certain Pennsylvanians seeking a future homesite in Canada. Here in the midsummer of 1800 John Bean and George Bechtel were in the advance guard of that great Pennsylvanian migration by being the first to purchase land upon which to carve out their future homes.

To these two men must go the honour of being the first to purchase homesites within the confines of the present County of Waterloo. John Bean (originally spelled Biehn) purchased a block of 3,600 acres of land which to this day is known as Bean's Tract, from Richard Beasley on July 18th, 1800. This land was located on the west bank of the Grand River and includes the present villages of Doon and New Aberdeen. On the same day, George Bechtel bought 3,150 acres adjoining Bean's Tract on the north, which is recorded as Bechtel's Tract. This property extends along the west bank of the Grand to a point near the present village of Freeport and includes the present village of German Mills.

The following is a complete list of all properties sold within the Tract during the year 1800, with the name of the purchaser and the vendor, amount of land with its location and date of sale, as recorded in the original York Registry, Blocks Number One, Two, and Three.

1. **Mr. Horning** bought 1,000 acres from R. Beasley on January 11th, 1800. This was known as Horning's Tract, and was located on the east bank of the Grand River at Bridgeport. As Mr. Horning was a prominent merchant at the head of the lakes near Dundas, it is certain he never located on his tract. It is believed this land was accepted as payment for debts owing by Mr. Beasley who seemed to be financially embarrassed at that particular time.

2. **John Bean** purchased 3,600 acres located as mentioned above, from Beasley on July 18th, 1800. Here Mr. Bean with his wife and family of grown-up children settled in the summer of 1800. They came from Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

2A. **George Bechtel** bought 3,150 acres located as already mentioned from Beasley on July 18th, 1800. It is known that Mr. Bechtel did not locate permanently on his tract but rather on Lot No. 9 at present known as the Eschelman Farm, in Beasley's Old Survey, immediately adjoining Blair on the north.

3. **John Smith** had 4,018 acres registered in his name August 1st, 1800. It is not mentioned where this property is located and no further reference is made to it. It undoubtedly reverted to Mr. Beasley shortly afterward as the various surveys of the Tract at that time and later do not indicate it. It is clear that Mr. Smith was not a settler but probably one of Beasley's many creditors, who secured title, possibly as security for a loan.

4. **Nathaniel Dodge**, 114 acres from Beasley in Lot No. 2, Beasley's Old Survey, August 6th, 1800, recorded February 16th, 1801. This farm was located on the west bank of the Grand River below Blair and is now part of the Wilks estate. Dodge is the traditional first squatter in the County of Waterloo.

5. **Benham Preston** purchased the remaining portion of Lot No. 2, B.O.S. consisting of 114 acres from Beasley on August 11th, 1800. Mr. Preston appeared to remain in the district but a short time for in 1807 he disposed of his property to Dodge.

5A. **George Bechtel** bought Lots 7 and 9, B.O.S., the whole comprising 409 acres from Beasley, August 11th, 1800. Mr. Bechtel took up his permanent abode on Lot No. 9. (Eschelman Farm).

5B. **Abraham Bechtel**, brother of George Bechtel, bought Lot No. 3, B.O.S., being 200 acres located on the west bank of the Grand River immediately east of Blair and adjoining Dodge's property.

6. **Samuel Betzner Jr.** bought two lots, the first being Lot No. 5, B.O.S., west of Blair, and along Cedar Creek comprising 200 acres; the second being Lot No. 11, B.O.S., on the west bank of the Grand between Blair and Doon. This farm is at present known as the McNally Farm. Betzner bought these farms from Beasley on August 13th, 1800, recorded April 28th, 1801.

7. **Samuel Betzner Sr.**, father of Samuel Betzner Jr., bought 456 acres from Beasley on September 4th, 1800. This property consisted of 3 farms; the first, 69 acres adjoining Abraham Bechtel's property on the west, located on the Grand River where the Blair bridge is at present, the second, 87 acres

adjoined his son's property in Lot No. 5, B.O.S., while the third farm consisted of Lot No. 12, B.O.S., on the west side of the Grand near where the present village of Freeport is located.

Samuel Betzner Sr. purchased a farm of 150 acres from Beasley on January 6th, 1801. This was on the east side of the Grand and adjoined Joseph Sherk's property on the west, being described as a Lot lying between Lot No. 11 and No. 12, Beasley's Broken Front. Here Mr. Betzner took up his permanent abode. On this farm, overlooking the Grand River, the Waterloo Pioneers Memorial Association, an offshoot of the Waterloo Historical Society, erected a magnificent Memorial Tower in honour of the pioneer settlers of the County of Waterloo.

8. **Joseph Sherk** secured his homestead of 261 acres from Beasley on September 5th, 1800. It was the first farm on the east side of the Grand and was known as Lot No. 11, Beasley's Broken Front, being directly opposite the present village of Doon.

9. **Jacob Bechtel** purchased 100 acres in Lot No. 3, B.O.S., from his brother Abraham on September 12th. This became his permanent residence.

10. **Joseph Wismer** bought Lot No. 10, B.O.S. on October 10th. This farm comprised 221 acres and was located on the Grand River immediately north of Blair, adjoining George Bechtel's residence on the north.

10A. **Benjamin Rosenberger** settled in Bean's Tract at that time. He purchased 260 acres from John Bean on October 10th.

11. **James Wilson**, partner of Richard Beasley, had Lot No. 1, B.O.S., 200 acres, deeded to him November 17th, by virtue of a "Deed of Partition" between Beasley, Wilson and Rousseau. Mr. Wilson did not locate on this property for on March 31st, 1801, it was transferred to Richard Cockrell, surveyor, who probably accepted it as part payment for services rendered. Mr. Cockrell never lived there as he disposed of it shortly afterwards. This property is now part of the beautiful Wilks estate.

At the conclusion of the first year of the nineteenth century we find that the Grand River settlement consisted of twelve families, only two being on the east side of the river, the remainder being located on the west side from a short distance east of the present Blair to a point immediately west of the present village of Doon.

In the year 1801, the following Pennsylvanians took up their abode within the tract: Daniel Cornell on January 6th, Jacob Meyers (Marys or Mair) on May 20th, John Krugy (Keagy) on June 1st, Abraham Gingerich on July 31st, Dilman Kinsey on August 10th, John Bean Jr., on August 10th, Sam Bricker on November 4th, Henry Lamb on November 20th.

In the year 1802 the following names of heads of families or single men are recorded as settling within Beasley's Tract: George Clemens on April 26th, Joseph Bechtel on June 26th, John Bricker on June 28th, Christian Richert on July 10th, Rinear Vansickel on October 26th, Benjamin Cornell on October 26th, John Cornell on October 28th.

These were our Canadian progenitors, the pioneers of the Grand River valley settlement and the God-fearing founders of the County of Waterloo, which the purposeful and unerring hand of Divine Providence dropped into this vast wilderness. For twenty and more years they, like the Israelites of old, had been crying unto Him for some Promised Land where that freedom and peace which they had previously enjoyed under the British flag, could again be realized. They have since become a host. The descendants of John Bricker alone are numbered in the many hundreds.

It was at this point in the history of the settlement that the settlers learned of the mortgage that was registered against the Tract. Beasley had kept this information a secret from those to whom he had previously sold land. Had the Pennsylvanians known that they could not secure a clear title to their property there would have been no settlement at that period within the confines of Block No. 2. Indeed it is certain that Waterloo County as we know it today, would not have existed. Sam Bricker made the discovery of the mortgage. He had gone to York in December 1802, to register the purchase of a farm from George Bechtel. There is little doubt but that while there at the time, he learned of the duplicity of Mr. Beasley. This information not only spread consternation among the settlers, but completely checked immigration, so that for over a year no further settlement was made.

The year 1803 was a black one in the history of Waterloo Township. The colony that had been founded so hopefully and happily but three short years before, was suddenly sunk into the valley of utmost despair. The cloud of despondency lay heavily upon all the people. Their bright hopes for a happy peaceful future were dashed to the ground. The titles they had received for their homesites were worthless and in some cases all their hard earned worldly possessions were irretrievably

sunk into the soil of Beasley's Tract. To make matters even worse, negotiations with Beasley failed to bring even a ray of hope into the blackness of their situation. His hands were apparently tied by the iron bands of a crushing debt. One outlet only remained and that was to abandon their homes and start life anew elsewhere. This, several families actually undertook to do. Another group of their co-religionists had founded a colony north of York in the vicinity of the present towns of Markham and Stouffville, in the townships of Markham, Vaughan and Whitchurch. Here a grant of Crown Land could be secured free of charge, made possible by a kindly government passing an Order in Council only the previous year, the last day of December, 1802. It appears that at the time application was made for these grants several of the residents of Waterloo Township had actually withdrawn from Beasley's Tract for they are described as residing, not in Block No. 2, but at Barton at the head of the lakes. To this group a grant of 2,150 acres of land was made on the 21st of June, 1803. The names of those to whom grants were made together with the quantity of land and its location are recorded as follows, all being in Whitchurch Township, York County:

- Jacob Bechtel — 200 acres — Lot No. 30, 7th Con.
- William Bechtel — 200 acres — Lot No. 26, 7th Con.
- Samuel Betzner — 200 acres — Lot No. 29, 7th Con.
- John Bricker — 200 acres — Lot No. 15, 8th Con.
- Samuel Bricker — 200 acres — Lot No. 34, 8th Con.
- George Clemens — 200 acres — Lot No. 25, 8th Con.
- John Cornell — 200 acres — Lot No. 31, 8th Con.
- Benham Preston — 200 acres — Lot No. 32, 33, 35,
being broken Lots — 9th Concession.
- Philip Saltzberger — 200 acres — Lot No. 35, 8th Con.
- Gilbert Vanderbarrow — 350 acres — Lot No. 24, 7th Con.,
and portion of No. 29, 8th Con.

The following is a copy of one of the grants as recorded in the Crown Lands records at Queen's Park, Toronto.

Council Chamber, June 21st, 1803

present

The Honourable Henry Allcock, Chief Justice;
Peter Russell; Aneas Shaw,
John McGill.

The Board took into consideration the following petitions referred to it by His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, stating that he had an Order-in-Council for

200 acres of land and praying that a warrant may be issued for it, subject to the regulations of December 30th, last. Recommend that the prayer of the within petitioner be complied with.

No. 315, praying for land as a Settler. Recommended for 200 acres upon the terms of the Order-in-Council, December 30th, 1802, to John Bricker of Barton, Lot No. 15, 8th Concession, Whitchurch. June 21st, 1803.

Paid whole of the Patent fees and Survey and signed the settlement paper.

Locations made in the Surveyor-General's office May 12th, 1803, by persons paying the whole Patent fee and Survey.

It will be noted that in the above group are the names of a few who were non-residents of Block No. 2. Apparently their intention had been to locate in the Grand River Settlement, but owing to the impossibility of the situation decided to join with the group that was en route to the other Mennonite colony in Whitchurch Township. Of the ten in this group, Gilbert Vanderbarrow was the only one who took up his abode in Whitchurch, the others either returned or, in the case of Philip Saltzberger, later became residents of Waterloo Townshp. All those who did not take up residence in Whitchurch forfeited their grants and the land reverted to the Crown in 1806.

In the meantime Beasley found himself in a desperate situation. The gaunt spectre of ruin stared him in the face. Already several families were actually forsaking their homesites in his Tract. The balance would no doubt follow. The Trustees for the Indians were pressing him to fulfil the terms of the mortgage which lay upon Block No. 2. Further sales of land were impossible. Something had to be done. It was apparently at this time that some understanding between him and Sam Bricker was arrived at in connection with the purchase of a portion of the Tract and the lifting of the mortgage; for shortly afterwards Sam Bricker and his brother John returned to their old home on the Yellow Breeches Creek, in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, where they hoped to interest their father and others of the Brickers who lived in the same vicinity and who were quite well to do. In this, they were doomed to disappointment for Peter Bricker, father of the two boys, veteran of Braddock's Expedition in 1755, the Indian Wars of 1763 and of the American Revolutionary

War 1775 and 1781, (Pennsylvania Archives, Fifth Series Vol. 6.) was on his death bed, and hence too ill to be interested. With his leadership in the proposed transaction lacking the interest of the others could not be aroused.

The Bricker brothers next visited Lancaster County, Penn., where their wives had resided and here John Bricker succeeded in interesting his brothers-in-law, John, Jacob and Daniel Erb; for, by the late summer of 1803 we find that John and Sam Bricker and the Erb boys were negotiating with Beasley in connection with the Tract in Block No. 2. This terminated in a formal agreement being drawn up between R. Beasley and the Pennsylvanians, which agreement was filed with the Executive Council and reads in part as follows,—

“Articles of Agreement made and agreed this 28th day of November, 1803, between R. Beasley of the one part and Daniel Erb and Sam Bricker of the other part,— That the said R. Beasley, for and in consideration of the sum of 10,000 pounds good and lawful money of the Province of Upper Canada, shall, on, or before the 1st day of June, 1804, sell unto Daniel-Erb and Samuel Bricker, a certain tract of land containing 60,000 acres, being situated on the Grand River, Block No. 2, which tract shall comprise all the land lying on the west side of the said Grand River, except a certain subdivision Block No. 1, surveyed by Richard Cockrell, containing 2,658 acres. (Beasley’s Old Survey.) Further, another tract, beginning on the north side of the Grand River, except such as has heretobefore been sold.”

“It is agreed that clear title shall be given to the tract, and that if Thomas Scott, His Majesty’s Attorney-General or His Majesty’s Attorney-General for the time being, and William Dickson, Niagara, shall not approve of the title, that this agreement shall be void.”

“In consideration whereof Daniel Erb and Samuel Bricker, shall pay the sum of 10,000 pounds with interest at 6 per cent. per annum, from the 1st day of March, 1804.”

“Signed and sealed at Niagara. R. Beasley. Daniel Erb Samuel Bricker. In the presence of Robert Addison and Isaac Swayze. Registered at York, May 19th, by William Dickson.”

On the 15th of May, 1804, this agreement was brought before the Executive Council and after hearing the propositions of Mr. Beasley and Mr. Erb, a Committee of the Council recommended that the offer of Mr. Erb be accepted. Accordingly the sum of 4,692.10 pounds Provincial Currency was paid

to Colonel Claus, Chairman of the Trustees for the Six Nation Indians, and a bond given by Mr. Erb and the others for the balance, payable on May 23rd, 1805.

It will be noted that the agreement of November 28th, 1803, called for the payment of 10,000 pounds by March 1st, 1804, after which date interest was to accrue until June 1st, 1804, by which date the transaction was to be concluded.

John and Sam Bricker and the Erbs, who returned to Pennsylvania to secure the necessary funds, did not reach Canada until May, and it will be noted that, instead of being in possession of 10,000 pounds they only prepared to make payment of a trifle less than half this amount. The death of Peter Bricker, father of John and Sam, in the early spring of 1804 prevented their early departure from Pennsylvania. This was the cause of their late arrival in Canada. The reason they were not prepared to make payment of the full amount of the money demanded by the agreement is obvious. This small group of men hoped to be able to secure title to the Tract in their own names, having obtained financial assistance from Abraham and Susanna Erb (Mrs. John Brubacker) brother and sister of the Erb boys. It is believed they hoped to secure an extension of the time limit of the agreement to enable them gradually to dispose of the property to incoming settlers and to pay off the balance from the proceeds, with resultant profit to themselves. (Reference is made to this in Colonel Claus' report.) Colonel Claus, however, was obdurate and insisted that they should be given not more than a year plus a week to make the final payment. As they had insufficient funds to meet this requirement they had no alternative but to return again to Pennsylvania and solicit the co-operation of their co-religionists in Lancaster County, for the purpose of consummating the deal. This assistance was eventually secured within the circle of their own family. To this group various names have been given,— The Pennsylvanian Company, the Lancaster Co., the Swiss Company, and finally the German Company, which appellation appears to have become popular and permanent, for it was later used officially to describe their portion of Beasley's Tract, in fact the name is commonly used to the present day. The name, however, is rather misleading for it was not a joint stock company as we understand such today. It was merely an association of a number of persons for the purpose of consummating a deal, a syndicate, if you wish. For the purpose of lucidity, however, reference shall be made to them as a company.

There were 26 participants or stockholders in this so-called company and the stock consisted of 64 shares. The

division of the 60,000 acres presented a problem until a suggestion was made that all that portion of the Tract which lay in Wilson's Upper Block should be divided into farms of equal size so that each shareholder should receive at least two farms. As there were 64 shares there would be 128 farms of 448 acres each, and that the balance of the property which lay to the west of Bechtel's Tract in Wilson's Lower Block should be divided into 32 small farms of 83 acres each. Further, it was suggested, that a survey of the whole should be made on this basis, that the farms should be numbered and lots cast so that the division of the property should be fair to each and all. This plan was adopted and duly carried out. Daniel Erb and Jacob Erb were appointed sole trustees for the company. Abraham Gingerich joined with Sam Bricker to purchase one share.

The following is a complete list of the original shareholders of the company, with the number of the farms or lots that each secured:

John Bomberger, No.'s 74, 105.
Joseph Bomberger, No.'s 72, 93 and half of 149.
Peter Bomberger, No.'s 33, 41, 158.
John Bricker, No.'s 36, 98, 145.
Samuel Bricker, No.'s 13, 80, 91, 129.
Mrs. John Brubacker (Susanna Erb), No.'s 23, 57, 59,
60, 84, 90, 109, 127, 136, 148.
Christian Eby, No.'s 10, 67, 68, 71, 133.
George Eby, No.'s, 1, 32.
John Eby, No.'s, 2, 5, 18, 48, 56, 70, 97, 116, 154, 159.
Joseph Eby, No.'s 73, 85.
Abraham Erb, No.'s 14, 15, 27, 29, 55, 69, 77, 102, 135, 152.
Daniel Erb, No.'s 8, 81, 100, 112, 115, 119, 121, 126, 131,
137, 138, 153.
Jacob Erb, No.'s 6, 7, 12, 20, 35, 39, 79, 110.
John Erb, No.'s 4, 11, 30, 37, 45, 46, 50, 51, 52, 54, 58,
75, 95, 104, 118, 122, 144, 146, 152,, 160.
Peter Erb, No.'s 31, 89, 99, 125, 132.
Abraham Gingerich, No. 22.
Benjamin Hershey, No.'s 17, 34, 47, 87, 151.
Jacob Hershey, No.'s 3, 25, 26, 40, 143.
Peter Holl, No.'s 24, 28, 155.
Christian Hoover (Huber), No.'s 78, 92, and half of 149.
Christian Reesor, No.'s 76, 94 and half of 156.
Peter Reesor, No.'s 38, 117, and half of 156.
Christian Snider, No.'s 42, 63, 83, 128, 141.
Henry Weaver, No.'s 16, 21, 64, 66, 82, 88, 112, 124, 150.

Jacob Wissler, No.'s 9, 19, 49, 53, 61, 62, 65, 86, 96, 101,
103, 106, 107, 111, 120, 123, 134, 139, 140, 147, 157.
John Yund, No.'s 43, 44, 108, 114, 130.

Numbers 1 to 128 inclusive were farms of 448 acres. All other numbers were 83 acres farms. All property within what was once the German Company Tract is still identified by these numbers.

The conveyance of the balance of the money owing Beasley to Canada was by no means an uneventful undertaking. The initial payment of 4,692 pounds had been conveyed to Canada on horseback in the spring of 1804. The money, which was in the form of American silver dollars, was first sewn into small leather bags. This could not have been entirely satisfactory, for we find that for the second journey, which was in 1805, the money was first packed into an oaken keg which in turn was securely fastened to the light waggon (*leicht plaisir weggli*) in charge of Sam Bricker the driver. (Two wheels of this vehicle are to be found in the museum of the Waterloo Historical Society.) John Bricker, Daniel, Jacob and John Erb completed the convoy. They were mounted on horseback and were well armed with heavy muzzle-loaders, against any possible marauder. They usually managed to spend their nights in taverns, or in some lonely settler's shack, and, as was their custom, the keg was placed in the centre of the room while four slept forming a square about their treasure. The fifth member of the party acted as guard. His duty was to remain seated on the keg with his gun upon his knee. Fortunate indeed for all concerned that such provision was made for the protection of the money; for one night a couple of desperadoes endeavored to secure the prize by breaking down the door of their room. These bandits had been in the background for the preceding few days so that their visit was not unexpected. Such was their reception, however, that they fled and were seen no more. (I have this story from my father, the constant companion of his grandmother, Nancy Erb, wife of John Bricker and sister of the Erb boys.)

Eventually the balance of the money owing Beasley, namely 6,102.10 pounds, being balance of principal and accrued interest was paid to the Trustees of the Six Nation Indians, following which the original mortgage was discharged and a clear title to the property given to Daniel Erb and Jacob Erb. (The old deed is now safely housed in the Registry Office, Kitchener.) It was dated June 29th, 1805. (See transcript of the original deed, Waterloo Historical Society's report, 1919, page 87.) Hon. William Dickson acted as solicitor for the company.

The drafting of the separate deeds of the stockholders was no small task and it was not until July 25th, 26th, 27th and 29th, 1805, that deeds were registered in the names of the various members of the Company. Deeds to Daniel Erb and Jacob Erb were dated August 3rd, 1805, by virtue of a "Deed of Partition," registered April 8th, 1808.

Settlement within the Tract during 1803, 1804, and the first half of 1805, was virtually at a standstill. The only names added to the Registry during this period were Michael Groh (spelled Crow) who purchased his homesite on December 19th, 1803; J. Hilborn, October 26th, 1804, and D. Heistand, November 12th, 1804. In the Deed of the German Company Tract given by Beasley to Daniel and Jacob Erb, June 29th, 1805, mention is made of several tracts of land which Beasley had previously sold to certain persons in the vicinity of the present Bloomingdale. Of these the sale of 200 acres to George Clemens must have fallen through as this same parcel of land was deeded to Jacob Snider from Beasley in 1806. Reuben Partridge apparently never became a settler as no land was ever recorded in his name, and the land defined was also deeded to Jacob Snider from Beasley in 1817. The reference to Samuel Ward Smith, 280 acres, and "Ward Smith", 200 acres, was undoubtedly an error. It should have read Samuel Ward Smith, and John Bricker, respectively. This land was deeded to John Bricker in 1802.

In the meantime, what of the pioneer settlers of 1800-01 and '02? What a sigh of relief must have gone up from them when the dark cloud of gloom and despair which had enshrouded the settlement for the previous two years and more was suddenly replaced by the clear cloudless sky of hope and bountiful promise. Their joy must have been unbounded when they learned that, through the Christian charity of the members of the German Company and at no cost to themselves, the titles which Beasley had given them were now clear of all encumbrance. This beneficent deed must have been the source of much gratification to the several members of the company. Their reward was a blessing bestowed upon their transactions with Beasley, which transactions proved to be highly lucrative not only to themselves but, in most cases, to their children and their children's children.

A close study of all the early recorded land transactions leads to the conclusion that on July 1st, 1805, there were 33 families or single men who had settled on land of their own within the present County of Waterloo. Following the dissolution of the German Company there was a fairly steady influx of immigrants, principally from Pennsylvania, into the

district, ceasing only during the war years of 1812-1814, until, by 1825, the population of Waterloo Township was 1,640. It was, at that time, with the single exception of York, the most thickly settled township in the Province. The inhabitants were principally of the Mennonite religion and of Swiss extraction.

The following is a complete list of all the land transactions in the Township of Waterloo up to, and including, the last day of December, 1825, according to all available records including the York Registry, Waterloo County Registry, etc. The names of the vendor and purchaser, date of sale, amount of land, as well as a short description of the survey in which the land is located together with reference to anything of special interest, are given. It will be noted that fractions of acres have been dropped thus accounting, in some cases, for a slight difference in the amount of land. Those interested will, in most cases, experience no difficulty in tracing the movements of the early pioneers, definitely locating their homesteads as well as determining the approximate date of their migration to Canada. It should be noted that, in a number of instances, such as father and son bearing the same given name, different persons of the same name are recorded as settlers.

HORNING'S TRACT

1,000 acres, Richard Beasley to Peter Horning, January 11th, 1800. This was the first block of land that R. Beasley disposed of within Block No. 2. Up to 1825 it was unsettled. It was disposed of as follows:

500 acres, Abraham Horning, eldest son and heir of Peter Horning to Elizabeth Hess, June 18th, 1824.

Elizabeth Hess divided this property into five one-hundred acre farms and on August 26th, 1825, deeded one to each of the following: Hannah Almos, Deborah Hess, Isabella Hess, Elizabeth Rymal, and Catherine Shafer.

This tract is a narrow strip of land running eastward from the Grand River from where the present Bridgeport is located.

BEAN'S (BIEHN'S) TRACT

This tract comprises the 3,600 acres which John Bean purchased from Richard Beasley & Co., on July 18th, 1800. A portion of this tract was surveyed into 15 farms of various sizes. These were numbered 1 to 15. The balance was unnumbered, and consisted of that portion on which the present village of Doon is located. Some confusion exists in the official

records. In a few instances farms sold in the numbered section are recorded in the unnumbered portion.

3,600 acres, Richard Beasley to John Bean, July 18th, 1800. Recorded at York July 4th, 1801.

The recorded sales of the unnumbered portion and Lot No. 1 are as follows:—

198 acres, John Bean to Dilman Kinsey, August 10th, 1801.

296 acres, John Bean to John Bean Jr., August 10th, 1801.

260 acres, John Bean to Benjamin Rosenberger, August 10th, 1801.

104 acres, Benjamin Rosenberger to Christian Snider, June 16th, 1806.

138 acres, John Bean Sr. to Christian Snider, June 16th, 1806.

39 acres, John Bean Sr. to Christian Snider, February 19th, 1807.

198 acres, John Bean Sr. to Abraham Bean, January 10th, 1808.

218 acres, John Bean Sr. to Jacob Erb, described as being for the use of others, December 27th, 1810.

12 acres, Abraham Stauffer to Peter Hamacker, March 1st, 1815.

171 acres, Sheriff of the District of Gore to David Stegman, December 27th, 1819.

16 acres, Peter Hamacker to Daniel Ruby, July 28th, 1822.

Lot No. 2, Bean's Tract.

260 acres, John Bean to Benjamin Rosenberger, October 10th, 1800.

Lot No. 3, Bean's Tract.

198 acres, John Bean to Caty (Catharine) Bean, December 28th, 1805.

Lot No. 4, Bean's Tract.

125 acres, John Bean to Joseph Hilborn, Oct. 20th, 1805.

125 acres, Joseph Hilborn to Benjamin Rosenberger, September 5th, 1807.

125 acres, Benjamin Rosenberger to Abraham Stauffer, March 3rd, 1812.

Lot No. 5, Bean's Tract.

195 acres, John Bean to Jacob Long, October 30th, 1807.

Lot No. 6, Bean's Tract.

100 acres, John Bean to Thomas Hilborn, October 20th, 1805.

100 acres, Thomas Hilborn to Abraham Stauffer Sr., March 22nd, 1806.

176 acres, John Bean Sr. to Abraham Bean, July 1st, 1808.
95 acres, John Bean Sr. to Abraham Stauffer Sr., February 1st, 1811.

Lot No. 7, Bean's Tract.

200 acres, John Bean Sr. to Polly Lyons or Biddy Stauffer her mother, April 15th, 1808.

Lot No. 8, Bean's Tract.

195 acres, John Bean to Mary Long, October 4th, 1808.

Lot No. 9, Bean's Tract.

171 acres, John Bean Sr. to Samuel Eshelman, December 25th, 1810.

Lot No. 10, Bean's Tract.

171 acres, Sheriff of the District of Gore to David Stegman, December 27th, 1819.

Lot No. 11, Bean's Tract.

171 acres, John Bean Sr. to John Bean Jr., June 18th, 1808.
171 acres, John Bean Jr. to Joseph Wildfong, July 14th, 1823.

Lot No. 12, Bean's Tract.

176 acres, John Bean Sr. to Abraham Bean, July 1st, 1808.

Lot No. 13, Bean's Tract.

171 acres, John Bean Sr. to Barbara Keeny (a widow), July 1st, 1808. Mrs. B. Keeny later became the wife of Joseph Sherk.

Lot No. 14, Bean's Tract.

171 acres, John Bean Sr. to Biddy Stauffer, July 1st, 1811.

BECHTEL'S TRACT

This tract originally comprised the 3,150 acres which George Bechtel bought from R. Beasley in 1800 together with 200 acres which Abraham Bechtel purchased in 1805. It was located about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of the present Kitchener and extended from the Grand River on the east to about a mile from the present Township of Wilmot on the west. It includes the present German Mills and Strasburg.

No numbers were allotted to the various lots, so that it is impossible definitely to locate the subdivisions of this tract:

3150 acres, Richard Beasley to George Bechtel, July 18th, 1800.

200 acres, George Bechtel to Samuel Bricker, December 10th, 1802.

- 1050 acres, George Bechtel to Abraham Bechtel, December 27th, 1802.
- 1050 acres, George Bechtel to Jacob Bechtel, December 27th, 1802.
- 100 acres, Jacob Bechtel to Jesse Hilborn, October 26th, 1804.
- 200 acres, Richard Beasley to Abraham Bechtel, May 31st, 1805.
- 254 acres, Jacob Bechtel to Philip Bleam, October 20th, 1806.
- 198 acres, George Bechtel to Abraham Cressman, July 23rd, 1811.
- 244 acres, Jacob Bechtel to Philip Bleam, January 1st, 1817.
- 200 acres, Samuel Bricker to Jacob Livergood, May 10th, 1814.
- 212 acres, Abraham Bechtel to Henry Wismer, June 9th, 1818.
- 1 acre, Abraham Bechtel to John Rice, June 15th, 1822.
- 171 acres, George Bechtel to Abraham Cressman, May 15th, 1824.
- 90 acres, Philip Bleam to Jonas Wildfong, May 21st, 1824.
- 267 acres, Abraham Bechtel to Philip Bleam, December 13th, 1824.

BEASLEY'S OLD SURVEY (B.O.S.)

This survey was located west of the Grand River in Wilson's Lower Block. It consisted of 12 farms of various sizes, eleven of them being on the southern boundary of the Township and along the Grand River to a point immediately east of the present Doon and included the present village of Blair. The twelfth farm was located on the Grand River opposite the present Freeport.

Lot No. 1, Beasley's Old Survey.

- 200 acres, Richard Beasley to James Wilson by virtue of a Deed of Partition, November 17th, 1800.
- 200 acres, James Wilson to Richard Cockrell, Surveyor, March 31st, 1801.
- 200 acres, Richard Cockrell to Samuel Ryckman, April 25th, 1802.

Lot No. 2, B.O.S.

- 114 acres, Richard Beasley to Nathaniel Dodge, August 6th, 1800.
- 114 acres, Richard Beasley to Benham Preston, August 11th, 1800.
- 114 acres, Benham Preston to Nathaniel Dodge, February 16th, 1807.

In 1827 Dodge sold 114 acres to Hon. Wm. Dickson.
This lot together with Lot No. 1, B.O.S., is now part of
the Wilks estate.

Lot No. 3, B.O.S.

- 200 acres, R. Beasley to Abraham Bechtel, August 11th,
1800.
- 100 acres, Abraham Bechtel to Jacob Bechtel, September
12th, 1800.
- 100 acres, Abraham Bechtel to Jacob Bechtel, August
9th, 1806.

Regarding Lots 4, 5, 7, 9, 11 and 12, B.O.S. Sales of land
were frequently made of the whole or part of one lot combined
with portions of another. Due care should therefore be taken
not to confuse the different lots. Combination sales are in-
dicated.

Lot No. 4, B.O.S.

- 456 acres, R. Beasley to Samuel Betzner Sr., September
4th, 1800. (Lots 4 and 12 and portion of 5, B.O.S.)
- 269 acres, Samuel Betzner Sr. to John Bricker, June 28th,
1802. (69 acres, in Lot 4, and 200 in Lot 12, B.O.S.)
- 69 acres, John Bricker to Abraham Stauffer, September
27th, 1805.

On this farm is located the first burial place in the Town-
ship, now the Blair cemetery. Johnnie Bricker, the first white
person to be interred within the confines of the present County
of Waterloo was buried here in 1804, while his father, John
Bricker, was in Pennsylvania in connection with the German
Company's busness. The spot is marked by a small gravestone.
On his farm was also located Waterloo County's first school
house.

- 69 acres, Abraham Stauffer to Madelina Breek, June 30th,
1806.
- 69 acres, Adam Breek, Executor for Madelina Breek to
John Breek, April 17th, 1811.
- 35 acres, John Breek to Samuel Betzner Jr., January
8th, 1814.
- 235 acres, Samuel Betzner Jr. to Joseph Bowman Sr.,
April 1st, 1817. (Being portions of Lots 4 and 5,
B.O.S.)

Lot No. 5, B.O.S.

- 389 acres, R. Beasley to Samuel Betzner Jr., August 13th,
1800. (Lots 5 and 11, B.O.S.)
- 234 acres, Samuel Betzner Sr. to John Betzner, August
6th, 1806. (150 acres being the farm lying between

Lots 11 and 12, Beasley's Broken Front, whereon is now located the Pioneers Memorial Tower. The balance was in Lot 5, B.O.S.) It will be noted that Lot 5, B.O.S. was partly owned by Samuel Betzner Sr., and the balance by Samuel Betzner Jr.

200 acres, Samuel Betzner Jr. to Joseph Bowman, April 1st, 1817.

Samuel Betzner Jr. disposed of his holdings in Waterloo at this time and moved to West Flamboro Township where he took up his permanent abode.

A small parcel of land was deeded from John Betzner to Joseph Bowman for the purpose of making a dam and erecting a bridge, June 15th, 1821. By 1829 Bowman had erected a saw mill on Cedar Creek which runs through Lot 5.

Lot No. 6, B.O.S.

206 acres, R. Beasley to Daniel Cornell. No conveyance is on record covering this transaction.

206 acres, Daniel Cornell to Lynus Peck, March 14th, 1803.

206 acres, Lynus Peck to John Keagie, August 28th, 1805.

206 acres, John Keagie to Joseph Bowman, January 7th, 1819.

Lot No. 7, B.O.S.

409 acres, R. Beasley to George Bechtel, August 11th, 1800.
(206 acres in Lot 7, and 203 in Lot 9, B.O.S.)

Lot No. 8, B.O.S.

Beasley did not dispose of this farm until 1836.

Lot No. 9, B.O.S.

As recorded under Lot 7, B.O.S.

Lot No. 10, B.O.S.

221 acres, R. Beasley to Joseph Wismer, October 10th, 1800.

4 acres, Joseph Wismer to Philip Saltzberry, January 25th, 1806.

4 acres, Philip Saltzberry to John Bricker, March 1st, 1811.

Lot No. 11, B.O.S.

389 acres, R. Beasley to Samuel Betzner Jr., August 13th, 1800. (Lot No. 11, 189 acres and Lot 5, B.O.S.)

189 acres, Samuel Betzner Jr. to Samuel Bricker, November 4th, 1801.

189 acres, Samuel Bricker to John Bricker, June 16th, 1806.

Here Sam Bricker, the hero of Miss Mabel Dunham's "Trail of the Conestogo" took up his abode on arrival from

Pennsylvania in 1802. In 1806, his brother John succeeded him while he took up his permanent abode on the east bank of the Grand River near where the present Chicopee is located. The disastrous bush fire which swept John Bricker's farm at Blair in May, 1806, brought about the change.

Lot No. 12, B.O.S.

- 288 acres, Beasley to Samuel Betzner Sr., September 4th, 1800. (Recorded as 456 acres, Beasley to Betzner being Lot 12, 288 acres, Lots 4 and part of 5, B.O.S.)
- 269 acres, Samuel Betzner Sr. to John Bricker, June 28th, 1802. (200 acres in Lot 12, and 69 in Lot 4, B.O.S.)
- 88 acres, Samuel Betzner to Andrew Surarus, July 6th, 1808.
- 200 acres, John Bricker to Christian Shantz, March 15th, 1817.
- 4 acres, Christian Shantz to Joseph Bowman, October 15th, 1823.

On this Lot is located a portion of the present Freeport Sanatorium.

BEASLEY'S BROKEN FRONT (B.B.F.)

This survey comprised 32 farms of various sizes located on the east bank of the Grand River in Wilson's Lower Block. In it are located the present Preston and that portion of Freeport lying east of the river.

Lot No. 1, B.B.F.

- 150 acres, R. Beasley to Michael Groh (Spelled Crow), December 19th, 1803.
- 131 acres, R. Beasley to Richard Cockrell, July 9th, 1805.
- 131 acres, Richard Cockrell to Abraham Reist Sr., July 17th, 1807. (By action of John Metzler.)
- 100 acres, Executors of Michael Groh's estate to Christian Swartz, July 17th, 1819.
- 50 acres, Executors of Michael Groh's estate to Christian Witmer, July 17th, 1819.

Lot No. 2, B.B.F.

- 119 acres, R. Beasley to Richard Cockrell, July 29th, 1805.
- 119 acres, Richard Cockrell to Abraham Reist Sr., July 17th, 1806.
- 404 acres, R. Beasley to John Erb, November 18, 1807. (Balance of Lot 2, and Lot 3, B.B.F.)

Lot No. 3, B.B.F.

- 404 acres, R. Beasley to John Erb, November 18th, 1807. (Lot 3, and portion of Lot 2, B.B.F.)

Lot No. 4, B.B.F.

- 126 acres, R. Beasley to Joseph Bechtel, June 26th, 1802.
- 100 acres, R. Beasley to Benjamin Springer, October 23rd, 1804. (North half of Lot 4.)
- 100 acres, Benjamin Springer to John Erb, June 28th, 1805.

The present Town of Preston is located principally on Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4, B.B.F. It was on the Speed River, in the upper half of No. 4, that John Erb, in 1806, built the first sawmill in the County, and in 1807, his grist mill, around which grew a settlement which eventually became the Town of Preston. In 1825 this thriving town could not have been more than a mere hamlet. There were in addition to John Erb only four others who owned property within these four lots, namely: Abraham Reist Sr., Christian Swartz, Christian Witmer and Joseph Bechtel. For further detail see "John Erb" under "Biographies of the members of the German Company." (Meant to accompany this paper, but not completed. To follow in next Annual Report, W. H. S.)

Lot No. 5, B.B.F.

- 523 acres, R. Beasley to Daniel Cornell (Cornwall), January 6th, 1801. (Lots 5, 6 and 7, B.B.F. D. Cornell disposed of these properties, as recorded under their respective numbers).
- 291 acres, Daniel Cornell to Benjamin Springer, June 28th, 1802.
- 291 acres, Benjamin Springer to John Erb, June 28th, 1805.
- 311 acres, Daniel Cornell to John Erb, October 7th, 1806. (Balance of Lot 5 and portion of Lot 6, B.B.F.)
- 31 acres, John Erb to Henry Bowman. September 5th, 1811.

Lot No. 6, B.B.F.

- 183 acres, Daniel Cornell to Rinear Vansickel, October 26th, 1802. (Portions of No. 6 and No. 7, B.B.F.)
- 183 acres, Rinear Vansickel to Christian Erb, July 21st, 1806.
- 311 acres, Daniel Cornell to John Erb, October 7th, 1806. (Portions of 5 and 6 as recorded under No. 5.)

Christian Erb and Maria Scherch Erb, his wife, parents of the Erbs who played such a prominent part in the German Company, were dead by 1815. Disposition of their 183-acre farm was made as follows: (John Erb and Christian Snider being the executors. Conveyance was made, August 19th, 1815.)

- 38 acres to Joseph Wismer.
- 20 acres to Christian Snider.
- 5 acres to Joseph Bechtel.
- 83 acres to John Erb.

- 5 acres to Jacob Bechtel.
- 5 acres to Joseph Sherk (Sherrick.)
- 10 acres to John Bricker.
- 17 acres to Abraham Erb.
- 20 acres, Christian Snider to David Snider, June 28th, 1823.
- Lot No. 7, B.B.F.**
183 acres, Daniel Cornell to Rinear Vansickel and Christian Erb, as recorded under No. 6.
- Lot No. 8, B.B.F.**
667 acres, R. Beasley to Salvanus Cornell, April 25th, 1808. (Lots 8, 9 and 10, B.B.F.)
190 acres, Salvanus Cornell to Samuel Cornell, July 5th, 1822.
2 acres, Samuel Cornell to John Rise, June 28th, 1825.
- Lot No. 9, B.B.F.**
As under No. 8.
- Lot No. 10, B.B.F.**
238 acres, Salvanus Cornell to John Cressman, April 25th, 1808.
238 acres, John Cressman, Executor for John Cressman's Estate to Joseph Cressman, June 22nd, 1822.
- Lot No. 11, B.B.F.**
261 acres, R. Beasley to Joseph Sherk, September 5th, 1800.
- Lot No. 11 and 12, B.B.F.**
150 acres, R. Beasley to Samuel Betzner Sr., January 6th, 1801.
This farm is described as a tract of land lying between Lots 11 and 12, B.B.F. A small park within this farm contains the Pioneers Memorial Tower, as already stated.
234 acres, Samuel Betzner to John Betzner, August 6th, 1806. (150 acres as above and part of Lot 5, B.O.S.)
- Lot No. 12, B.B.F.**
160 acres, R. Beasley to Jacob Bechtel, April 26th, 1802.
- Lot No. 13, B.B.F.**
267 acres, R. Beasley to John Crouse, August 9th, 1806.
(Lot 13 and part of Lot 20, B.B.F.)
267 acres, John Crouse to Christian Snider, April 23rd, 1808.
267 acres, Christian Snider to David Snider, June 28th, 1823.
- Lot No. 14, B.B.F.**
177 acres, R. Beasley to John Livergood, June 1st, 1808.
- Lot No. 15, B.B.F.**
258 acres, R. Beasley to Christian Reichert (Richard), July 10th, 1802. (Lot No. 15 and Lot No. 18, B.B.F.)
162 acres, R. Beasley to Daniel Schlicter (Sleighter), August 22nd, 1806.

Lot No. 16, B.B.F.

278 acres, R. Beasley to John Shupe (Shoop) May 29th, 1810. (Lot No. 16 and portion of No. 17.)

John Shupe was dead by 1823, and the executors of his estate made disposition of his property as follows:

49 acres to Daniel Lutz, November 6th, 1823.

5 acres to Christian Richert, June 14th, 1824.

10 acres to Henry McNally, November 22nd, 1824.

Lot No. 17, B.B.F.

R. Beasley to John Shupe as recorded under Lot No. 16.

100 acres, John Shupe to John Bomberger, June 22nd, 1810.

Lot No. 18, B.B.F.

R. Beasley to Christian Richert as under No. 15.

100 acres, Christian Richert to Peter Bomberger, September 26th, 1805.

Lot No. 19, B.B.F.

200 acres, R. Beasley to Samuel Smith, September 16th, 1806.

200 acres, Samuel Smith to Daniel Schlicter, January 26th, 1809.

122 acres, Daniel Schlicter to John Green, March 24th, 1824.

Lot No. 20, B.B.F.

R. Beasley to John Crouse, and John Crouse to Christian Snider, Christian Snider to David Snider, as per No. 13, B.B.F.

162 acres, R. Beasley to Henry Schlicter, June 24th, 1819.

Lot No. 21, B.B.F.

200 acres, R. Beasley to Samuel Smith, September 16th, 1806.

200 acres, Samuel Smith to Abraham Clemens, October 11th, 1809.

38 acres, Abraham Clemens to Christian Miller, December 21st, 1812.

Lot No. 22, B.B.F.

200 acres, R. Beasley to Joseph Hilborn, November 18th, 1806.

47 acres, Joseph Hilborn to James Hilborn, June 19th, 1809.

Lot No. 23, B.B.F.

379 acres, R. Beasley to Benjamin Rosenberger, August 1806. (Lots No. 23 and 24, B.B.F.)

197 acres, Benjamin Rosenberger to William Bechtel, June 10th, 1808. (Portions of 23 and 24).

11 acres, William Bechtel to John Cressman, November 10th, 1808.

- 4 acres, James Hilborn and Benjamin Rosenberger to Peter Bomberger, January 1st. 1813.
- 5 acres, William Bechtel to Peter Bomberger, July 1st, 1813.
- 5 acres, William Bechtel to Abraham Clemens, January 1st, 1815.
- 9 acres, William Bechtel to Christian Shantz, April 21st, 1815.
- 5 acres, William Bechtel to Joseph Bowman, January 28th, 1817.
- 11 acres, Executors of John Cressman Estate to Joseph Cressman, June 22nd, 1822.

Lot No. 24, B.B.F.

R. Beasley to Benjamin Rosenberger, then to William Bechtel as under No. 23.

69 acres, Benjamin Rosenberger to John Sherk, October 5th, 1807.

An unrecorded amount of land was conveyed from the Sheriff of Gore District to John Erb, February 19th, 1820.

Lot No. 25, B.B.F.

200 acres, R. Beasley to Daniel Cornell, January 6th, 1801.

200 acres, Daniel Cornell to John Cornell, October 28th, 1802.

100 acres, Benjamin Springer to John Erb, June 20th, 1805.

50 acres, James Hilborn to Abraham Witmer, April 8th, 1814.

18 acres, Abraham Witmer to Christian Witmer, June 1st, 1819.

Errors have been made in recording the various transactions in this Lot. There have been one or more omissions or one or more of the above transactions were falsely recorded under No. 25.

Lot No. 26, B.B.F.

200 acres, R. Beasley to Daniel Cornell, January 6th, 1801.

200 acres, Daniel Cornell to Benjamin Cornell, October 26th, 1802.

200 acres, Benjamin Cornell to Samuel Smith, January 26th, 1809.

Lot No. 27, B.B.F.

200 acres, R. Beasley to Samuel Smith, September 16th, 1806.

Lot No. 28, B.B.F.

100 acres, R. Beasley to Garrett Wheeler, July 4th, 1810.

100 acres, R. Beasley to Brocknway Ames. Date not given.

100 acres, Brocknway Ames to Richard Ferguson, October 12th, 1810.

100 acres, Richard Ferguson to Davis Histand, December 8th, 1817.

Lot No. 29, B.B.F.

200 acres, R. Beasley to Samuel Ward Smith, September 16th, 1806.

200 acres, Samuel Ward Smith to John Gingerich, May 3rd, 1814.

Lot No. 30, B.B.F.

200 acres, R. Beasley to Samuel Ward Smith, September 16th, 1806.

200 acres, Samuel Ward Smith to Jesse Clemens, May 28th, 1813.

Lot No. 31, B.B.F.

312 acres, R. Beasley to Jacob Erb, June 10th, 1809.

(This is recorded as Lots 30 and 31. No doubt this is an error. It should be Lots 31 and 32.)

312 acres, Jacob Erb to James McMahan, February 11th, 1815.

100 acres, James McMahan to Cornelius Pannebecker, September 22nd, 1818.

100 acres, James McMahan to John Waters, October 25th, 1819.

Apparently McMahan got into financial difficulties as he gave a mortgage on the whole of his property in favor of Quetton St. George on February 23rd, 1820. He was sold out on July 7th, 1823, title to the property going to Absalom Shade.

100 acres, Cornelius Pannebecker to Henry Pannebecker, December 10th, 1822.

Lot No. 32, B.B.F.

No transactions recorded except as under No. 31.

THE CONCESSIONS OR BEASLEY'S LOWER BLOCK

This tract consisted of four concessions; the first three being of 13 farms each; the fourth being a gore, a triangular piece of land. The whole formed a solid block of land in the south eastern portion of the Township, east of the Grand River and in James Wilson's Lower Block.

First Concession.

Lot No. 1.

100 acres, R. Beasley to Abraham Gingerich, July 31st, 1801.

100 acres, R. Beasley to George Clemens, April 26th, 1802.

Abraham Gingerich died some time prior to mid-summer, 1809. Disposition of his land was made as follows:

100 acres, Catharine, widow of Abraham Gingerich and David, his son, to Abraham Clemens, July 7th, 1809.

100 acres, Executors of Abraham Clemens to Nathan Clemens, November 12th, 1821.

100 acres, Executors of Abraham Clemens to Isaac Masters, November 13th, 1821.

This last transaction is recorded under Lot No. 1. This is an error. It no doubt should have been recorded under Lot 11, Third Concession, which see.

Lot No. 2, First Conn.

200 acres, R. Beasley to George Clemens, April 26th, 1802.

Lot No. 3, First Conn.

200 acres, R. Beasley to Jacob Meyers (Marys), May 20th, 1801.

200 acres, Jacob Meyers by his attorney, George Clemens, to Dilman Ziegler, August 22nd, 1818.

Lot No. 4, First Conn.

200 acres, R. Beasley to Henry Lamb, January 10th, 1808.

200 acres, Henry Lamb to Henry Clemmer, January 7th, 1823.

Lot No. 5, First Conn.

200 acres, R. Beasley to David Gingerich, July 31st, 1801.

Lot No. 6, First Conn.

100 acres, R. Beasley to Abraham Witmer, May 1st, 1806.

100 acres, R. Beasley to Martin Bear, March 2nd, 1806.

Lot No. 7, First Conn.

200 acres, R. Beasley to John Groh, June 15th, 1813.

Lot No. 8, First Conn.

200 acres, R. Beasley to Samuel Stauffer (Stouver), June 12th, 1812.

50 acres, Samuel Stauffer to William Coplin, June 7th, 1812.

50 acres, Samuel Stauffer to Peter Bomberger, January 1st, 1813.

Lot No. 9, First Conn.

200 acres, R. Beasley to Samuel Stauffer, December 3rd, 1805.

100 acres, Samuel Stauffer to Abraham Stauffer Jr., July 12th, 1806.

100 acres, Abraham Stauffer to William Coplin, June 27th, 1812.

Lot No. 10, First Conn.

200 acres, R. Beasley to Henry Moore, March 20th, 1809.

100 acres, Henry Moore to Robert Cooke, May 15th, 1810.
100 acres, Henry Moore to Cornelius Pannebecker, July 2nd, 1810.

Lot No. 11, First Conn.

200 acres, R. Beasley to Henry Wanner, June 14th, 1810.
200 acres, Henry Wanner to Henry Wanner Jr., July 20th, 1815.

Lot No. 12, First Conn.

200 acres, R. Beasley to John Bricker, Executor of Christopher Richwine, July 2nd, 1808.

Lot No. 13, First Conn.

251 acres, R. Beasley to John Walcot, June 3rd, 1808.

Lot No. 1, Second Conn.

200 acres, R. Beasley to William Scollick, June 8th, 1822.

Lot No. 2, Second Conn.

200 acres, R. Beasley to Henry Lamb, October 7th, 1818.
200 acres, Henry Lamb to George Clemens, June 19th, 1821.

Lot No. 3, Second Conn.

200 acres, R. Beasley to Jacob Meyers (Marys), May 20th, 1801.
50 acres, George Clemens, Attorney for Jacob Meyers, to Dilman Ziegler, August 22nd, 1818.
150 acres, George Clemens, Attorney for Martin Hontzberger, August 22nd, 1818.

Lot No. 4, Second Conn.

100 acres, R. Beasley to Jacob Meyers, May 20th, 1801.
100 acres, George Clemens, Attorney for Martin Hontzberger, August 22nd, 1818.

Lot No. 5, Second Conn.

200 acres, R. Beasley to David Bearer, June 15th, 1812.

Lot No. 6, Second Conn.

200 acres, R. Beasley to Joseph Bearer, February 10th, 1815.

Lot No. 7, Second Conn.

100 acres, R. Beasley to John Groh, December 20th, 1809.
100 acres, R. Beasley to Jacob Groh, March 5th, 1813.
50 acres, John Groh to Jacob Groh, September 30th, 1814.

Lot No. 8, Second Conn.

200 acres, R. Beasley to Samuel Bechtel, July 12th, 1815.

Lot No. 9, Second Conn.

1024 acres, R. Beasley to Jacob Bretz (Pratts), December 20th, 1812.

This consisted of Lots 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13, Second Conn., Lower Block. Jacob Bretz disposed of this property as follows:

Lot No. 13, 212 acres, to Peter Witmer, July 10th, 1810.

Lot No. 12, 10 acres, to David Stromer, August 10th, 1815.

Lot No. 10, 200 acres, to William Ellis, August 10th, 1815.

Lot No. 11, 200 acres, to David Stromer, August 11th, 1815.

Lot No. 9, 200 acres, to Christian Stromer, June 6th, 1823.

Lot No. 11, 115 acres, Executors for David Stromer to Jacob Stromer, April 1st, 1817.

The present Town of Hespeler is located on portions of Lots 9 and 10, Second Conn., and the west half of Lots 9, 10, 11 and 12, Third Conn. In 1825 there was no semblance of a village within this area.

Third Concession, Wilson's Lower Block.

There were no transactions recorded in connection with Lots 1 to 8 inclusive except Lot No. 3 which see under Lot No.'s 12 and 13.

Lots No. 9 and 10, Third Conn.

515 acres, R. Beasley to Abraham Clemens, December 22nd, 1818.

Lot No. 11, Third Conn.

100 acres, R. Beasley to Rudolph Detviler, June 21st, 1810.

150 acres, R. Beasley to Henry Wanner, June 24th, 1810.

100 acres, Rudolph Detviler to Abraham Clemens Sr., May 14th, 1819.

100 acres, Abraham Clemens to Isaac Masters, November 13th, 1821.

Lot No. 12, Third Conn.

249 acres, R. Beasley to Arnold Stricker, June 24th, 1810.
(Lot 12 and portion of 3, Third Conn.)

Lot No. 13, Third Conn.

409 acres, R. Beasley to Henry Wanner, January 24th, 1810.
(Lot 13 and portion of 3, Third Conn.)

123 acres, Henry Wanner Sr. to John Wanner (Womar), June 3rd, 1812.

55 acres, Henry Wanner Sr. to Peter Musser, June 23rd, 1812.

230 acres, Henry Wanner to Tobias Wanner, May 27th, 1814.

Fourth Conn. Lower Block.

This comprised the narrow triangular parcel of land between Concession No. 3 and the boundary of the Township. No transactions are recorded therein.

JAMES WILSON'S UPPER BLOCK

This Block originally comprised the upper 2-3 of Beasley's Tract. At an early date survey of a portion of this Block was made along the east bank of the Grand River from the present Bridgeport to the northern boundary of the Township. Several sales of land were made by Beasley in this survey prior to 1805. When the German Company purchased their tract, all unsold portions of this survey were incorporated into their property and a re-survey made. This accounts for only a few lots being recorded.

Lot No. 3, Wilson's Upper Block.

209 acres, R. Beasley to Henry Lamb, November 20th, 1801.

Lot No. 5, J.W.U.B.

449 acres, R. Beasley to John Krugy (Keagy), June 1st, 1801.

Lot No. 6, J.W.U.B.

272 acres, R. Beasley to Israel Reid, June 26th, 1811.

272 acres, Israel Reid to Jacob Snider, March 18th, 1812.

272 acres, Jacob Snider to Jacob Snider, his son, June 17th, 1819.

Lot No. 7, J.W.U.B.

200 acres, R. Beasley to John Bricker, December 16th, 1802.

200 acres, John Bricker to Jacob Snider, June 16th, 1806.

200 acres, Jacob Snider to Joseph Snider, June 17th, 1819.

Lot No. 9, J.W.U.B.

200 acres, R. Beasley to Jacob Snider, January 29th, 1817.

200 acres, Jacob Snider to Jonathan Bowman, June 17th, 1819.

Lot No. 11, J.W.U.B.

400 acres, R. Beasley to David Phelps, March 21st, 1809.

400 acres, David Phelps to Jacob Snider, May 22nd, 1818.

The Bend or Ox-Bow, J.W.U.B.

280 acres, R. Beasley to Samuel Smith, September 24th, 1805.

280 acres, Samuel Smith to Jacob Snider, August 6th, 1806.

200 acres, R. Beasley to Jacob Snider, August 6th, 1806.

214 acres, Jacob Snider to Christian Snider, October 17th, 1816.

See previous reference to the above.

HEISTAND'S TRACT

This is located in James Wilson's Lower Block immediately adjoining Bechtel's Tract on the west.

306 acres, R. Beasley to David Heistand, November 12th, 1804.

420 acres, Jacob Bechtel to David Heistand, November 12th, 1804.

THE GERMAN COMPANY TRACT

This was the 60,000 acres which the so-called German Company bought from Beasley in the year 1805. It was divided amongst its various members as previously recorded. In the following list the first name given is in each case the name of the original member of the Company. Each shareholder received title to his Lot from Daniel and Jacob Erb, Trustees for the Company on July 20th, 1805. Daniel and Jacob Erb received their titles on August 3rd, 1805. Lots No.'s 1 to 128 inclusive were farms of 448 acres each, the balance were 83 acres.

The following lots were still the property of the original shareholders on December 31st, 1825. No sale of any portion of them is recorded and therefore no settlement had been made thereon. It is definitely known that the owners resided elsewhere. For the names of the owners of these lots in 1825, see list of shareholders given previously.

Lots No. 4, 11, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 50, 56, 58, 61, 62, 67, 70, 71, 72, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 83, 84, 86, 87, 89, 90, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 104, 105, 106, 108, 112, 113, 114, 117, 119, 120, 122, 123, 126, 130, 131, 132, 133, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 146, 148, 149, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 159, 160.

It will be noted that on 90 of the 160 lots of the German Company Tract no settlement whatever had been made in the first quarter of the nineteenth century. In addition many of the Lots on which sales were recorded were still virgin forest.

Lot No. 1, G.C.T.

75 acres, George Eby to John Groff, December 31st, 1807.

373 acres, George Eby to Joseph Eby, April 7th, 1808.

152 acres, Joseph Eby to David Shantz, June 1st, 1809.

136 acres, Joseph Eby to Jacob Shantz, June 1st, 1810.

49 acres, Joseph Eby to Samuel Eshelman, September 1st, 1810.

2 acres, Jacob Shantz to Benjamin Eby, February 1st, 1811.

13 acres, David Shantz to Christian Shantz, July 1st, 1812.

2 acres, Benjamin Eby to Samuel Eshelman, November 6th, 1814.

12 acres, Joseph Eby to John Groff, May 17th, 1815.

1½ acres, Joseph Eby and Jacob Shantz to the Elders of the Mennonite Church, February 15th, 1816.

Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 15, 16, 17 and 18 approximately constitute the present City of Kitchener. See note following No. 18.

No. 2, G.C.T.

448 acres, John Eby to Benjamin Eby, July 25th, 1806.

55 acres, Benjamin Eby to Samuel Eshelman, November 6th, 1814.

¾ acre, Benjamin Eby and Samuel Eshelman to the Elders of the Mennonite Church, October 7th, 1816.

No. 3, G.C.T.

224 acres, Jacob Hershey to Samuel Eby, April 5th, 1809.

No. 4, G.C.T.

John Erb, the owner of this Lot had taken up his permanent abode at the site of the present Preston. He had not disposed of any portion of this Lot prior to December 31st, 1825. At that time this farm was unbroken.

No. 5, G.C.T.

448 acres, John Eby to Solomon Beringer, April 28th, 1819.

70 acres, Solomon Beringer to John Gingerich, August 21st, 1823.

The present Town of Waterloo is located on portions of 4 and 15 and on Lots 5, 6, 13 and 14. See note following No. 14.

No. 6, G.C.T.

5 acres, Jacob Erb to Jacob Miller, February 1st, 1811.

31 acres, Jacob Erb to Jacob Miller, June 1st, 1821.

200 acres, Jacob Erb to William Moxley, September 3rd, 1825.

No. 7, G.C.T.

33 acres, Jacob Erb to Jacob Miller, February 1st, 1811.

26 acres, Jacob Erb to Benjamin Weber, March 1st, 1818.

129 acres, Jacob Erb to Frederick Musselman, January 4th, 1821.

No. 8, G.C.T.

448 acres, Daniel Erb to John Eshelman, April 6th, 1812.

200 acres, John Eshelman to Benjamin Weaver, December 1st, 1817.

8 acres, John Eshelman to Benjamin Weaver, October 5th, 1818.

No. 9, G.C.T.

224 acres, Jacob Wissler to Joseph Shantz, March 23rd, 1816.

224 acres, Jacob Wissler to Henry Martin, April 5th, 1818.

220 acres, Henry Martin to Peter Martin Jr., May 8th, 1824.

No. 10, G.C.T.

448 acres, Christian Eby to Peter Martin, April 17th, 1819.

No. 12, G.C.T.

168 acres, Jacob Erb to Jacob Miller, February 1st, 1811.

136 acres, Jacob Erb to John Huber, June 17th, 1819.

143 acres, Jacob Erb to Daniel Weaver, June 17th, 1819.

5 acres, Jacob Miller to John Huber, June 17th, 1819.

28 acres, Jacob Erb to Frederick Musselman, June 4th, 1821.

No. 13, G.C.T.

200 acres, Samuel Bricker to Henry Kinner, August 14th, 1805.

100 acres, Samuel Bricker to Peter Livergood, May 13th, 1808.

148 acres, Samuel Bricker to David Allis, November 24th, 1809.

148 acres, David Allis to John Good, January 23rd, 1818.

100 acres, Peter Livergood to Christian Borkholder, June 27th, 1818.

No. 14, G.C.T.

31 acres, Abraham Erb to Christian Snider, February 1st, 1810.

125 acres, Abraham Erb to Christian Bowman, June 1st, 1815.

31 acres, Christian Snider to Jacob Snider, June 28th, 1823.

In the four Lots upon which is now located the Town of Waterloo there were on the last day of December, 1825, not more than 10 property owners. It is quite certain that a few of these lived elsewhere so that the actual residents would not exceed several families together with those employed by these landowners. See further notes under "Erbs" and "Abraham Erb."

No. 15, G.C.T.

100 acres, Abraham Erb to Daniel Bowman, January 10th, 1810.

5 acres, Abraham Erb to Daniel Eby, February 1st, 1819.

No. 16, G.C.T.

381 acres, Benjamin Weaver, son and heir of Henry Weaver to Abraham Weaver, March 31st, 1819.

No. 17, G.C.T.

448 acres, Benjamin Hershey to Joseph Snider, April 25th, 1807.

64 acres, Joseph Snider to Jacob Erb, October 1st, 1810.

47 acres, Joseph Snider to Samuel Eshelman, November 6th, 1814.

No. 18, G.C.T.

448 acres, John Eby to Joseph Eby, March 13th, 1806.

acres, Joseph Eby to Samuel Eby, July 11th, 1807.

(The amount of land is not recorded.)

$\frac{1}{4}$ acre, Samuel Eby to John Eckerd, January 11th, 1808.

This is described as being in "Ebys Town."

75 acres, Joseph Eby to Joseph Clemmer, September 8th, 1818.

53 acres, Joseph Eby to Jacob Shantz, September 9th, 1818.

36 acres, Joseph Eby to Benjamin Eby, April 18th, 1820.

93 acres, Samuel Eby to Abraham Becker, January 7th, 1823.

A close study of all official records of the lots constituting the present City of Kitchener, reveals, that on December 31st, 1825, not more than 20 different persons owned property where now reside at least 30,000. It is definitely known that a few at least of these people had established their homes elsewhere so that the number who actually resided on the present site of the city could not have exceeded 17 landowners and their families. In addition there was the Mennonite Church property. See additional data under "The Ebys" in "Biography of German Company members.", to follow later.

No. 19, G.C.T.

448 acres, Jacob Wissler to Abraham Rife, February 11th, 1806.

448 acres, Abraham Rife to Samuel Rife, November 28th, 1818.

No. 20, G.C.T.

100 acres, Jacob Erb to Joseph Berringer, November 30th, 1807.

100 acres, Joseph Berringer to Samuel Betzner, October 1st, 1810.

100 acres, Samuel Betzner to John Gabel, February 13th, 1817.

No. 21, G.C.T.

100 acres, Benjamin Weaver, heir at law to Henry Weaver to Henry Weaver Jr., June 17th, 1819.

28 acres, Benjamin Weaver, Executor to Jacob Erb, June 17th, 1819.

- 100 acres, Benjamin Weaver, Executor to Daniel Weaver,
June 18th, 1819.
- 26 acres, Benjamin Weaver, Executor to Daniel Weaver
to Joseph Shantz, October 1st, 1822.
- No. 22, G.C.T.**
448 acres, Abraham Gingerich to John Binkley, June 1st,
1815.
- No. 23, G.C.T.**
448 acres, Susanna Brubacker to Christian Snider, October
10th, 1810.
448 acres, Christian Snider to Jacob C. Snider, June 23rd,
1823.
- No. 24, G.C.T.**
448 acres, Peter Holl to John Bricker, October 10th, 1810.
- No. 27, G.C.T.**
204 acres, Abraham Erb to Joseph Bowman, December
6th, 1824.
- No. 31, G.C.T.**
224 acres, Peter Erb to Peter Erb Jr., June 25th, 1805.
(No doubt this date is an error.)
224 acres, Peter Erb to Jacob Heckendorn, June 25th, 1825.
- No. 32, G.C.T.**
100 acres, George Eby to Francis Steal, October 20th, 1807.
50 acres, George Eby to Samuel Eby, October 27th, 1807.
99 acres, George Eby to David Eby, October 27th, 1807.
200 acres, George Eby to Christian Eby, April 8th, 1808.
38 acres, Christian Eby to David Eby, October 20th, 1808.
153 acres, Christian Eby to John Bealy, August 20th, 1810.
- No. 33, G.C.T.**
448 acres, Peter Bomberger to Abraham Stauffer Sr.,
October 19th, 1805.
224 acres, Abraham Stauffer Sr. to Joseph Stauffer,
October 21st, 1823.
- No. 41, G.C.T.**
448 acres, Peter Bomberger to Christian Bomberger Sr.,
August 3rd, 1805.
200 acres, Christian Bomberger to John Bomberger,
May 9th, 1815.
200 acres, John Bomberger to John Eby, June 27th, 1816.
124 acres, Christian Bomberger to Susanna Bomberger
Erb, April 1st, 1818.
124 acres, Susanna B. Erb to Michael Falt, March 17th,
1824.

- No. 42, G.C.T.**
448 acres, Christian Snider to Elizabeth Snider, June 28th, 1823.
- No. 49, G.C.T.**
448 acres, Jacob Wissler to Joseph Snider, May 26th, 1807.
221 acres, Joseph Snider to Samuel Eshelman, January 31st, 1820.
- No. 51, G.C.T.**
121 acres, John Erb to Matthias Shiry (Shreigh), January 28th, 1806.
26 acres, John Erb to Benjamin Bowman, November 25th, 1815.
207 acres, John Erb to Christian Shantz, November 25th, 1815.
- No. 52, G.C.T.**
207 acres, John Erb to Christian Shantz, November 25th, 1815.
26 acres, John Erb to Benjamin Bowman, November 25th, 1815.
198 acres, John Erb to Isaac Shantz, February 17th, 1816.
5 acres, Isaac Shantz to John Groff, August 1st, 1816.
- No. 53, G.C.T.**
448 acres, Jacob Wissler to Joseph Bowman, February 11th, 1806.
96 acres, Joseph Bowman to Adam Shupe, November 21st, 1822.
- No. 54, G.C.T.**
100 acres, John Erb to William Cornell, January 30th, 1806.
100 acres, William Cornell to Benjamin Bowman, November 25th, 1815.
23 acres, Benjamin Bowman to Christian Shantz, November 25th, 1815.
98 acres, John Erb to Samuel Bricker, October 16th, 1816.
- No. 55, G.C.T.**
448 acres, Abraham Erb to Christian Shantz, July 8th, 1815.
- No. 57, G.C.T.**
448 acres, Susanna Brubacker to John Brubacker, August 10th, 1816.
- No. 59, G.C.T.**
448 acres, Susanna Brubacker to Henry Brubacker, April 9th, 1812.

- 448 acres, Henry Brubacker to John Brubacker, February 10th, 1817.
- 212 acres, John Brubacker to Jacob Schumacker, July 10th, 1822.
- The present Bridgeport on the west side of the Grand River is located on this Lot.
- No. 60, G.C.T.**
448 acres, Susanna Brubacker to John Brubacker, August 10th, 1816.
- No. 63, G.C.T.**
448 acres, Christian Snider to Joseph Snider, June 8th, 1823.
- No. 64, G.C.T.**
448 acres, Benjamin Weaver, Executors to Henry Weaver Jr., June 17th, 1819.
- No. 65, G.C.T.**
448 acres, Jacob Wissler to David Martin, April 3rd, 1820.
- Lot No. 66, G.C.T.**
238 acres, Henry Weaver to Peter Erb Sr., April 1st, 1809.
238 acres, Peter Erb Sr. to Peter Erb Jr., April 8th, 1809.
210 acres, Benjamin Weaver, Executor of the Late Henry Weaver, to Henry Weaver Jr., June 17th, 1819.
- Lot No. 68, G.C.T.**
448 acres, Christian Eby to Peter Reesor, September 15th, 1810. This is recorded as being transferred to Jacob Snider but no date is given.
75 acres, Jacob Snider to Benjamin Bowman, October 17th, 1816.
- Lot No. 69, G.C.T.**
448 acres, Abraham Erb to Jacob Snider, November 1st, 1809.
- Lot No. 73, G.C.T.**
448 acres, Joseph Eby to Jacob Miller, January 21st, 1818.
- Lot No. 82, G.C.T.**
448 acres, Benjamin Weaver, Executor Henry Weaver, to Daniel Weaver, June 18th, 1819.
- Lot No. 85, G.C.T.**
448 acres, Joseph Eby to Jacob Miller, October 4th, 1815.
- Lot No. 88, G.C.T.**
448 acres, Benjamin Weaver, Executor of Henry Weaver, to Frank Weaver, August 15th, 1820.

Lot No. 91, G.C.T.

125 acres, Samuel Bricker to Samuel Eby, May 7th, 1822.
221 acres, Samuel Bricker to John Bretz, June 3rd, 1825.

No. 102, G.C.T.

224 acres, Abraham Erb to Philip Salsberger, June 3rd, 1817.
224 acres, Abraham Erb to Isaac Jones, May 20th, 1819.
224 acres, Isaac Jones to Christian Hoffman, May 11th, 1822.

No. 103, G.C.T.

448 acres, Jacob Wissler to Abraham Rife, February 11th,
1806.

No. 107, G.C.T.

448 acres, Jacob Wissler to Joseph Bowman, February
11th, 1806.

No. 109, G.C.T.

224 acres, Susanna Erb Brubacker to John Brech, October
14th, 1815.

No. 110, G.C.T.

224 acres, Jacob Erb to Daniel Shupe, March 1st, 1810.
106 acres, Daniel Shupe to George Shupe, October 20th,
1810.
142 acres, Jacob Erb to Jacob Shupe, February 13th, 1817.
69 acres, Jacob Erb to Samuel Shirrick, February 13th, 1817.
118 acres, Daniel Shupe to George Shupe, December 1st,
1817.

No. 111, G.C.T.

448 acres, Jacob Wissler to Samuel Bricker, April 2nd, 1825.

No. 115, G.C.T.

448 acres, Daniel Erb to John Cressman, March 23rd, 1816.
448 acres, John Cressman Jr., Executor for John Cressman
Sr., to John Cressman, June 22nd, 1822.
200 acres, John Cressman Jr. to Nicholas Cressman,
October 12th, 1823.

No. 116, G.C.T.

448 acres, John Eby to Samuel Bricker, May 9th, 1815.
158 acres, Samuel Bricker to David Sherck (Shirrick),
June 22nd, 1816.
270 acres, Samuel Bricker to Samuel Sherck, October
2nd, 1816.

No. 118, G.C.T.

63 acres, John Erb to Samuel Bricker, October 1st, 1809.
198 acres, John Erb to Christian Burkholder, July 26th,
1810.

- 76 acres, John Erb to Samuel Bricker, April 20th, 1815.
- 45 acres, Samuel Bricker to Jacob Book, October 16th, 1816.
- 198 acres, Christian Burkholder to Jacob Bechtel, November 13th, 1817.
- 10 acres, Samuel Bricker to Philip Saltzberger, October 1st, 1817.
- 156 acres, John Erb to Peter Livergood (Lebenguth), July 13th, 1818.
- 198 acres, Jacob Bechtel to Samuel Bricker, September 6th, 1823.

No. 121, G.C.T.

- 448 acres, Daniel Erb to Joseph Shirk, May 31st, 1817.
- 151 acres, Joseph Shirk to Henry Shirk, September 20th, 1824.

No. 124, G.C.T.

- 123 acres, Henry Weaver to Peter Erb Sr., April 1st, 1809.
- 62 acres, Peter Erb Sr. to Peter Erb Jr., April 8th, 1809.
- 62 acres, Peter Erb Sr. to Daniel Erb, his son, April 8th, 1809.
- 174 acres, Benjamin Weaver, Executor of Henry Weaver to David Weaver, August 15th, 1820.
- 151 acres, Benjamin Weaver, Executor to Samuel Shirk, November 1st, 1820.
- 125 acres, Samuel Shirk to Samuel Bricker, February 17th, 1821.

No. 125, G.C.T.

- 224 acres, Peter Erb to Peter Erb, his son, April 8th, 1809.
- 224 acres, Peter Erb to Daniel Erb, his son, April 8th, 1809.

No. 127, G.C.T.

- 448 acres, Susanna Erb Brubacker to Henry Brubacker, April 9th, 1812.

No. 128, G.C.T.

- 423 acres, Christian Snider to John Snider, June 28th, 1823.

No. 129, G.C.T.

- Lots No.'s 129 to 160 inclusive were farms of 83 acres each.
- 83 acres, Samuel Bricker to John Erb, October 16th, 1816.

No. 134, G.C.T.

- 83 acres, Jacob Wissler to Abraham Rife (Reif) February 11th, 1806.

No. 145, G.C.T.

- 41 acres, John Bricker to Joseph Hilborn, February 21st, 1807.

No. 147, G.C.T.

83 acres, Jacob Wissler to Henry Weaver, July 20th, 1805.
83 acres, Benjamin Weaver, Executor to David Weaver,
August 15th, 1822.

No. 150, G.C.T.

83 acres, Benjamin Weaver, Executor to David Weaver,
August 15th, 1820.

No. 157, G.C.T.

83 acres, Jacob Wissler to Joseph Bowman, February 11th,
1806.

No. 158, G.C.T.

41 acres, Peter Bomberger to Christian Bomberger Sr.,
August 3rd, 1805.
41 acres, John Bomberger to John Eby, June 27th, 1816.
41 acres, Christian Bomberger to John Bomberger, May
9th, 1815.

BEASLEY'S MIDDLE BLOCK

This is a small tract of land that remained after the German Company Tract had been surveyed. It is located on the east bank of the Grand River where Chicopee is now located. It was divided into two farms and disposed of as follows:

Lot No. 1, Bricker's Lot.

243 acres, R. Beasley to Samuel Bricker, August 9th, 1806.
50 acres, Samuel Bricker to Daniel Hagey, November
15th, 1822.
38 acres, Samuel Bricker to Daniel Lutz, October 11th, 1823.
30 acres, Samuel Bricker to Peter Bomberger, December
27th, 1823.

This farm was named Bricker's Lot after Sam Bricker, the hero of "The Trail of the Conestogo," who took up his permanent abode here in the year 1806, after residing for about 4 years on his first farm, No. 11, Beasley's Old Survey, which see.

The balance of Beasley's Middle Block consisted of 167 acres and was sold by Beasley to Christian Snider, November 12th, 1813.

BEASLEY'S NEW SURVEY

This Tract comprised 13 Lots in the southwestern corner of the Township. It was the last of the various tracts in Block No. 2 to be opened up. Only a few transactions are recorded prior to 1826.

Lot No. 3, B.N.S.

200 acres, R. Beasley to Frederick Herner, December 1st, 1814.

Lot No. 5, B.N.S.

200 acres, R. Beasley to the Executors of Samuel Street, December 4th, 1822.

Lot No. 10, B.N.S.

200 acres, R. Beasley to Executors of Samuel Street, December 4th, 1822.

The period between the arrival of the first pioneer settler in the Grand River Region, until the end of the first quarter of the nineteenth century, may fittingly be called the period of Pennsylvanian settlement. It witnessed the coming and settling of great numbers of Mennonites in these regions, until the present Township of Waterloo was fairly well filled up with pioneers and the smoke of their cabin homesteads curled skyward in every direction, from below Blair on the south to above the present Bloomingdale on the north.

At first there came some thirty Pennsylvanian families up the Susquehanna River and across western New York State into Canada. These were rapidly followed, after the dissolution of the Germany Company in 1805, by new waves of the same emigrants in the same way, until by 1825 there were over 1,600 of these people settled upon the banks and slopes of the winding Grand within what is now the Township of Waterloo.

In this period was cleared away much of the forest; rude homes were built, the first roads were opened, the oldest churches were erected and schools established. Also the first mills were erected, grist and saw mills. Where our ancestors found naught but wild uncultivated land and dense virgin forest, well watered by streams of freshest water, and trackless woods covering the undulating hills and valleys, traversed by tribes of Indians and wild beasts, have sprung up prosperous towns and cities and the best and finest of farms and farm buildings. The first rude cabins have given place to substantial and beautiful homes. The first few scattered log meeting houses and schools have been built a second and third time.

What a heritage is ours! We are the heirs of the people who two centuries ago set out from Europe to cross the Atlantic in cockle-shell sailing-vessels that could scarcely be controlled. They landed in a strange land that was as mysterious to them as the stars are to us, a land where lived savages and foes. Here, from the virgin forest, they carved their future homes.

Their descendants, two generations later, leaving the land of their birth, plunged again into the wilderness of a strange land and turned it into a garden.

The above information has been secured from several sources, namely:

First—From the original York Registry, at the conclusion of which is found the following statement: "I have examined the above and found them correct." (Signed, H. W. Peterson, Registrar of the County of Wellington, April 2nd, 1857.)

Second—From the Registry Office at Kitchener, Ont.

Third—From the reports of General E. A. Cruikshank of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. These reports which are given at length in the Fifteenth Annual Report of the Waterloo Historical Society deal principally with the negotiations between Mr. Beasley and the Pennsylvanians.

Fourth—From the late Mr. Henry Wissler, B.A., of Salem, Ont. Mr. Wissler was a grandson of Jacob Wissler, original stockholder of the German Company. He made a thorough study of the history of his family some years ago and was in possession of some of the original documents.

Fifth—From the Provincial Archives, Crown Lands Department, and the Surveyor-General's Department at Queen's Park, Toronto.

Lastly—From my father who was the constant companion of his grandmother, Nancy Erb Bricker, wife of John Bricker of the German Company and sister of the Erb boys, until the time of her death. My father, always keenly interested in family history, kept a scrap book and diary from which much of the above was verified.

In addition to the above a great many other sources of information were consulted, such as the Halton County Records, Canadian Archives at Ottawa, Pennsylvania State Library at Harrisburg, Penna., the Pennsylvania Historical Society's Library at Philadelphia, all the records in the several county Registry offices and Court houses from which the Pennsylvanians, who settled Waterloo Township, came, the Buffalo Library, etc.

Memorandum

Mr. Bricker is entitled to much credit for exhaustive research of records of documents, both in Canadian and Pennsylvania official repositories, concerning the first settlers who

came to Waterloo Township. The Society is indebted to him for two interesting and valuable papers.

As to the first farms actually begun in the Township evidence is fairly well established.

Ezra Eby in his history of Waterloo Township, and compendium of biography, gives account of the two first settlers with a good deal of detail.

Joseph Shoerg married his deceased brother's wife who had a son eight years old in 1800. When this son grew up he acquired a farm below Breslau on the east bank of the Grand River and, among others, had a son Rev. A. B. Sherk, a cultured gentleman, careful in his statements, educated at the Wetherald Academy in Rockwood, one of the best Canadian boy's schools in his day, and at Oberlin College in Ohio. Rev. A. B. Sherk also gives detailed account, agreeing substantially with Eby, of the first two settlers in Vol. VII of the Ontario Historical Society's Transactions, and gave an address before the Waterloo Historical Society in 1915. He was 22 years old when his grand-uncle Joseph Shoerg died, and no doubt often heard him tell of the pioneers.

Sheriff A. S. Allan of Wellington County, who was born on the Preston Road on the hill above and a short distance west of Preston, also knew Joseph Shoerg as a boy and gave the same account as to the first two actual farm beginners in Waterloo Township. Sheriff Allan addressed the Waterloo Historical Society in 1925.

While Mr. Bricker has established the fact that Joseph Shoerg and Samuel Betzner were not the first to record their land purchases in Waterloo Township it is entirely plausible to assume that they made part payment, under an agreement of purchase, and then took possession; and this was in the spring of 1800. The vendor was entirely secure under this arrangement as the improvements which the purchasers would make would render the land only more valuable.

Mr. D. B. Betzner of Kitchener, a lineal descendent of Samuel Betzner, and others, also confirm Ezra Eby's account.

This in comment regarding the inscription on the government tablet placed on the Pioneers Memorial Tower (See W.H.S. Annual Report 1926). A further good reason for the location of the tower is its unique position, on a high bluff directly on the east bank of the river, commanding a wide, picturesque view.

W. H. Breithaupt.

THE TREK OF THE PENNSYLVANIANS TO CANADA IN THE YEAR 1805

I. C. Bricker, Phm.B.

The following is a detailed description of the route followed by the Waterloo County pioneers in their trek from lower Pennsylvania to Beasley's Tract in the year 1805. The course is through a country of romantic legend, rich in natural beauty and abounding in points of historic interest. Reference is made to such points and distances from place to place are given.

The journey from lower Pennsylvania to Waterloo County today, a distance of about 500 miles, is one of constant delight and ease, as one glides over the enticing miles of comfortable smoothness that constitute the present Susquehanna Trail, the highways of western New York State, and those of the Province of Ontario. But at the dawn of the nineteenth century no such rosy and luxurious picture presented itself to the hardy pioneers, as they wended their slow weary way northward and westward to their Promised Land. They, with their huge, lumbering, heavily-laden conestogas, drawn by four or six horses, or in some cases by oxen, pushed on over the rough roads and Indian trails that, for a great portion of the way at least, led through a vast wilderness of almost impenetrable forest, precipitous hills, bridgeless rivers, impassable swamps, suffering untold hardship and discomfort, to come to Canada, a journey which occupied four, six, and even eight weeks.

At this late date it is difficult to visualize the conditions that existed on what is now the Susquehanna Trail 130 years ago, but through the assistance of the Pennsylvania Historical Commission, The Pennsylvania Highway Dep't., The National Geographic Society, The Grolier Society, as well as endless local historical societies and historians, and after several personal trips over the route, etc., one secures a fairly accurate picture of the course followed by the Waterloo County immigrants in their trek from their old homes in Pennsylvania to their new homes in the wilderness of Upper Canada, in the year 1805.

The writer also had the privilege of studying all the original surveys of the State of Pennsylvania in the Surveyor-General's Department, Harrisburg, Pa., and the original map of the Holland Land Company's Tract comprising nearly all of the present New York State west of the Genessee River. This map was drawn in the year 1804 by Joseph Ellicott, Surveyor-General for the Holland Land Co. These clearly indicate all the roads, trails and by-paths of those early days and were made the basis of the present paper.

Harrisburg, to which all roads from the counties of Lancaster, Cumberland, York, Berks and Franklin converged, was virtually the starting point of the route followed by the Mennonites. Other settlers came from Bucks and Montgomery counties to the east. There is little doubt but that they too passed through Harrisburg as the roads from there were clearly defined and well travelled whereas the Colonial highway northward through Wilkes-Barre was scarcely more than a bridle path.

Harrisburg, in 1805, was a flourishing and prosperous borough of several hundred houses and a number of public buildings. It was founded in 1719, incorporated in 1791, and had become the business centre of central and western Pennsylvania. From here, radiated in different directions the main travelled thoroughfares of those early times. To the northward, along the eastern bank of the Susquehanna river ran the road that led to far-off Canada. Years before, this road was the path of the savage with his unerring eye for the easy grade and the advantages of the valley. It was adopted later by the wary pioneer of two centuries ago and widened into roads by the turnpike maker of a century or more ago. Thus, by 1805, it had become a well established artery of traffic.

Along the road had been erected a chain of blockhouses and wooden forts to stem the tide of the devastating and murderous attacks of the Indians following the disastrous route of Braddock's army in 1755. About these stockades the settlers clustered for protection and thus were laid the nuclei of future towns and cities. By 1805 many of these blockhouses had been converted into taverns, stores, and mills, and it requires no stretch of the imagination to picture our friends taking advantage of the accommodation thus afforded in their journey to Canada.

The figures at beginnings of paragraphs indicate distance in miles from next preceding place.

(7) **Fort Hunter**, seven miles north of Harrisburg, where existed a small settlement clustered about the old Colonial and Revolutionary fort that was built in 1756.

(15) **Halifax**, fifteen miles north of Fort Hunter where stood an old British fort built during the Indian War of 1756.

(25) **Fisher's Ferry**, a settlement which dated back to 1766.

(9) **Sunbury**, originally called Shamokin, (Indian name meaning "Place of Eels") an old Indian village and long the

principal one in Pennsylvania. A Moravian mission was maintained here from 1747 to 1755. Because of the strategic importance of the spot Fort Augusta was erected here by the Provincial government in 1756. Sunbury was surveyed in 1772 and was incorporated as a borough in 1797.

A short distance above Sunbury the main branch of the Susquehanna River was crossed after which the east and north bank of the west branch of the river was followed.

(2) **Northumberland** at the junction of the two branches of the river was a place of some extent dating back to 1772.

(7) Opposite **Derrstown** (now Lewisburg) was a settlement on the Chillisquaque Creek (Place of Snow Birds) where Capt. John Brady, famous Indian fighter, lived from 1769 to 1775.

(4) **Milltown** (now Milton), a small hamlet founded in 1770.

(1) **Fort Swartz**, an old neglected stockade erected many years previously.

(1) **Fort Boone**, a frontier stockade during the Indian wars. It had originally been a grist mill.

(7) **Fort Freeland** on Warrior Run. Scene of battle between the American Revolutionary forces and the British with their Indian allies in 1779 at which time the fort was destroyed. Here was located the first denominational church on the west branch of the Susquehanna River, the Warrior Run Presbyterian Church, a log structure built in 1795. About 4 miles above Freeland, on the opposite side of the river, stood Fort Menninger and Widow Smith's grist and gun boring mill, which, in 1776, was active in the production of munitions for the revolutionary forces.

(8) Darting through the gap and swinging around the curve in the Muncy Hills, with the Susquehanna shimmering off to the left and the crest of Bald Eagle Mountain forming an imposing background, a long hill descended into one of the oldest settled places in upper Pennsylvania, **Muncy**, whose first house was erected in 1769. It was named after the Munsey Indians who formerly inhabited these parts.

(3) The **Old Hall Cemetery**, burial place of many of the early pioneers.

(2) **Fort Muncy**. In 1778 the Provincial Government erected a substantial fortification as a place of refuge for the

inhabitants of the Munsey Valley. It was burned by the Indians in 1779 and was rebuilt, but after the Revolutionary War was allowed to fall into decay.

(5) **Otstuagy**, known as French Margaret's Town, an Indian village of log houses founded by Madame Montour in 1745. Madame Montour maintained a regular republican form of government, ruling her tribe with firmness and justice. Nearby, her son Andrew Montour, founded the present Montoursville.

(1) **Loyal Sock Creek**, meaning in the Indian "Middle Creek." Here commenced the "Williamson Road," built in the years 1792-1796, by Chas. Williamson and five hundred colonists. A road had previously been cut through to this point and the Williamson party extended it through the primeval forest, over the Alleghany Mountains to the present Bath, New York State, along what is now the Susquehanna Trail. This was a stupendous task and one of the most remarkable pieces of engineering ever attempted in America and that at a time when most of the work had to be done by hand. It was almost entirely financed by Sir Wm. Poulteney of Bath, England, for the purpose of opening up a settlement in his tract in Western New York State. An advance detail was sent ahead for the purpose of erecting log houses as depots for supplies and as shelters for the settlers. These shelters were of a substantial character and were afterwards used as taverns, houses, etc., forming the beginning of present towns and villages.

(5) **Williamsport**. After crossing at Miller's Creek the famous Sheshequin Trail of the Indians, Williamsport was entered. Here the first white man squatted in 1770. It was the scene of an Indian massacre, July 1778, The village was founded in 1795 at which time it became the county seat of the newly formed Lycoming County. By 1805 it had become a thriving settlement, but it was not incorporated until 1806.

Jaysburg, a small village of half a dozen houses adjoining Williamsport. It was later abandoned.

(8) Turning northward along the old Culbertson Trail, the Sheshequin trail is again crossed at the site of the present **Hepburnville** where the foothills of the Alleghany Mountains begin. From here the road threaded its way for the next hundred and more miles over mountains and hills, through broad valleys and dales, offering countless picturesque panoramas of gorges, sheer cliffs, tumbling cascades, evergreen-crowned precipices, sublime in their depths, and impenetrable forest that stretches for miles in all directions.

(6) Six miles northward from the present Hepburnville, the winding road, flanked on either side by towering mountains, led into the village of **Trout Run**. Here a few settlers were living in the log houses built by the Williamson party.

(23) Swinging off to the westward from Trout Run, the road began the ascent of the mountains through unsurpassed scenery for beauty and grandeur of Steam Valley Hill, seven miles long and 1,700 feet above sea level, thence on to the "Blockhouse" now **Liberty**, on Blockhouse Creek, Packhorse Run. This village was founded by the Williamson party in 1793. After they abandoned the place a notorious rascal, Anthonyson, took possession and used it as a tavern. Many tales are told of the toll he illegally took from anyone who might happen to spend the night in the vicinity. A few miles north of Blockhouse the Alleghanies reach their highest point at Bloss Mountain, 2,140 feet high.

(10) **Peter's Camp**, now Blossburg. Coal was discovered here in 1792 and in 1802 a village was founded. From here the road skirted the banks of the Tioga River crossing from side to side as precipitous hills or rocky projections made passage impossible, to a point near where the Tioga united with the Cohocton to form the Chemung River, near Painted Post in New York State.

(5) **Covington**, a small settlement which began in 1802.

(5) **Canoe Camp**, now Mansfield, was in 1805 nothing but a hamlet of a few log shanties.

(8) **Tioga** (Indian name meaning "Our Gateway"), an Indian village located on an island in the Tioga River. In this district the scenery is marked by a boldness and ruggedness that is very striking.

(10) The New York-Pennsylvania boundary line.

(10) **Painted Post**. This was formerly the location of an Indian village in the centre of which stood a post marking the burial place of her fallen warriors. The post was painted red and white from which the village took its name. In 1805 the village had become a fairly well settled community of at least 200 inhabitants, the principal places of business being the Painted Post Hotel, a storey and a half log structure built in 1790, the log grist mill, and Benj. Eaton's store, which was built in 1794. Leaving Painted Post the road turns to the northwest along the eastern bank of the Cohocton River

through a rugged hilly country until Bath is reached, cloistered between towering hills.

(18) **Bath** marks the northern extremity of the Williamson Road. The village was founded by Williamson in 1792. By 1805 it was a well established village boasting of a race track and theatre. In the vicinity of the village many of the colonists who had assisted in building the Williamson Road had carved out farms for themselves from the forest primeval.

(30) **Dansville**, a small struggling hamlet founded about 1800. Here the Canserago Creek is crossed (Indian word meaning "Place of Wilkweeds"), thence along the east bank of this creek to a point near where it enters the Genesee River.

(17) **Williamsburg** now Shakers, about 2 miles south of Geneseo. It was in 1805 nothing but a tavern with a few rough shanties of a small band of early settlers. The terminus of the "Big Tree Road," a bridle path running straight north-west into Batavia.

(1) **Genesee River**, a narrow but a deep, swift flowing stream, apparently bridgeless at this early date.

(1) **Holland Purchase**. This tract of land comprising much the greater part of New York State west of the Genesee River was sold to the Holland Land Co., December 31st, 1798, who considered it a good investment to get their money out of Holland and away from Napoleon.

(1) **Big Tree and Little Beards Indian Reservation**. This was the western terminus of Sullivan's Expedition. Near here were located the three Seneca Indian villages of Little Beardstown, Squakie Hill and Big Tree, destroyed by General John Sullivan, American revolutionist in 1779.

(9) **Chiconingie Creek**, rich in Indian legend.

(8) **Batavia**, originally called Dec-on-go-wa (the great hearing place), was settled in 1798, founded and named Batavia by Joseph Ellicott, Surveyor-General for the Holland Land Co., in 1801, capital for the Company. First courthouse built in 1804 at which time there was a fair sized settlement.

Here the immigrants had the alternative of two routes, either by way of Lewiston or by Black Rock. The first course was the more direct and by all odds the more easily travelled and hence was no doubt the course followed by the majority of the Pennsylvanians. It was the original road through western New York and ran from Albany on the Hudson River to Lewiston and Fort Niagara on the Niagara River. In 1805

it was a clearly defined waggon road and was called the "Niagara Road" or "The Queenston Road," apparently because of the fact that it was, at that time, the main artery of travel between the interior of New York State and Canada.

(4) **Tonnewonda Indian Reserve**, through which the Queenston Road ran for a distance of several miles.

(15) **Lewiston**, site of French blockhouse in 1720. In 1805 a regular ferry service was maintained to Queenston, Canada.

If they preferred the alternative route from Batavia, as undoubtedly some of them did, they followed the "Buffalo Road" west and south to Black Rock on the Niagara River.

(21) **Ransoms**, apparently little more than a log tavern with a few rough shacks in 1805.

(17) **Black Rock**, a small settlement named after a large black rock that projected into Niagara River and from which a regular ferry service was conducted with Canada. A short distance south of Black Rock, at the mouth of Buffalo Creek was a struggling settlement by the name of New Amsterdam now (Buffalo) which saw its first white settler in 1792.

(1) **Fort Erie**, a British military post on the Niagara River opposite Black Rock. Built in 1764. The adjoining territory was fairly well settled and cleared. Several Mennonite families had settled in the immediate vicinity several years previously. Joseph Ellicott's map shows three prominent families in 1800 along the river, viz., Douglas, Hardisons and Wintermoots, past which ran a well travelled road to Chippawa.

(18) **Chippewa**, the southern terminus of the Queenston-Chippawa portage, a well travelled road around Niagara Falls. This road was an enlargement of the trail of Indian days. From Chippewa to Fort Erie, bateaux were commonly used as an alternative route. In 1805 Fort Chippewa, erected on this site in early times, was in ruins.

(10) **Queenston**, an important village of over 100 houses with a church, court house and government stores for the Indian Dep't. The great link in the chain of transportation by the lakes to the western country which was necessarily over the great Queenston-Chippewa portage.

From Queenston our friends turned west to the head of Lake Ontario at Dundas. Of the alternative roads between these two points, the immigrants probably chose the easier

and shorter route, the upper road along the crest of the Niagara Escarpment rather than the lower along the lake shore, Burlington Inlet and thence back to Dundas. The upper road was opened shortly after 1796, for in this year Mrs. Simcoe, wife of the Governor, writes, "The Governor intends to open a road from Niagara to the head of the lake, instead of travelling upon a most terrible road below (Lake Shore Road), which road is full of swamps, fallen trees, etc." This road no doubt followed the course of an old Indian trail which a very early map shows running along the southern shores of Lake Ontario, through what is now Lewiston, Queenston, along the height of land to the head of the lake.

(12) **Twelve Mile Creek**, on which was located a thriving hamlet called St. Catharines which was founded about 1796. For miles around the land was largely cleared and brought under cultivation.

(8) **Twenty Mile Creek**, commonly called "The Twenty." Here was a Mennonite colony in a well settled district, founded shortly after the American Revolutionary War.

(35) **Dundas**, called Coote's Paradise in early times. It was a small hamlet with stores as early as 1794. It was founded in 1801.

(22) From Coote's Paradise the Pennsylvanians followed the Governor's Road or Dundas Street as it was commonly called to the junction of the Grand and Nith rivers, (present site of Paris). It was built by order of Governor Simcoe who desired a military road from Lake Ontario to a point on the Thames River which he had selected as the future capital of Upper Canada (London) which plan was of course later abandoned. This route of the Pennsylvanians to Block No. 2 passageway at that early date can best be described by quoting from a letter written by a traveller from Sandwich to York in the year 1806. "The first house we see on the Grand River is an Indian store, kept by him, from this is an excellent road, the country being plains but not much settled. From where we ford the Grand River to Westbrooks is 6 miles, then we rode 8 miles more and passed through what is called the Grand River Swamp and got to Vanderlips, thence 3 miles further to St. John's Mills. This part is called the mountain which is well settled. St. John's Mills is at the head of the lake, here the road to York leaves the road to Niagara. In the valley is Hatt's Mills."

(12) **Block Number 2, Beasley's Tract.** From Dundas Street the only road into what is now Waterloo County was

an Indian Trail that skirted the east bank of the Grand River along which the Indian tribes roamed in quest of furry or feathery or finny game.

An exhaustive search failed to reveal any definite evidence that the Beverly Swamp Road was used prior to the War of 1812. It is known that for some years after Waterloo County was founded, the custom of the settlers, when marketing their grain at the head of the lake, was to await the freezing of the Grand River when the grain was conveyed down that stream, on sleighs to Dundas Street, thence eastward to Lake Ontario.

Thus do we secure a dim picture of the route followed by the sturdy pioneers of Waterloo County in their trek from their old homes in beautiful Pennsylvania to their Promised Land. The Trail of the Indians of long ago had, in 1805, become the Trail of the Conestoga. May their example of courage, patience and fortitude be emulated by the present and future generations.



EXTENDING OUR FRONTIERS IN CANADA WEST

An Example of Self Reliance and Enterprise 80 Years Ago

Former Secretary of War, Newton D. Baker, Chief of the National Mobilization for Human Needs (in The United States of America) in an Article in The Atlantic Monthly, entitled "The Decay of Self-Reliance" (December, 1934) has made the following observation:

"The central factor in the making of America was the spirit of the men who extended frontiers and conquered forests, of the men who have infinitely enlarged our empire over Nature by researches and inventions . . . and in each case it was individual imagination and individual daring, based upon no report of any investigating committee and promoted by no legislative enactment."

In these times when so much is demanded of Governments and Legislative Bodies in the desire to improve general conditions, it is not inopportune that examples of Self-Reliance such as were handed down to us by our grandfathers, should be recalled, and the lessons to be drawn from their enterprise and energy taken seriously to heart.

With the desire to add to the already recorded numerous instances of such pioneering enterprise a further hitherto unrecorded account of Frontier building in Ontario, the writer submits the following as a true story of an actual experience on the part of first settlers in a New Section of Country opened up between 1850 and 1860 on the shores of Lake Huron.

It is a fact well known to students of early Canadian History that settlers from Pennsylvania, largely composed of families of Mennonite Faith, in the opening years of the Nineteenth Century, had penetrated to the farthest inland points up to that time settled in Western Ontario.

The privations experienced and the obstacles surmounted by these first settlers in their journey of over five hundred miles by ox-teams, in many cases, through roads scarcely recognizable, over the Alleghany Mountains and through much unbroken forest, and eventually facing in their journey the mighty Niagara River, which they had to cross before entering again the forest trails which extended one hundred miles from the Niagara Frontier farther inland to the territory which they had obtained

out of Indian Reservations at the Junction of the Grand and Speed Rivers, were in themselves examples of hardihood and self reliance, not greatly surpassed by even the earliest Colonists in Canada, who selected points closer to the Frontier than was the case with these Pennsylvania Germans, as they were called, who came to what is now Waterloo County.

Only one generation later, the descendants of these Pioneers from Pennsylvania, sought homes for themselves farther to the North and West and the trek of one hundred and twenty-five miles which had to be made, largely over mud roads and for large distances, through woods where actually no roads existed, did not deter them.

Some experiences of one of the pioneer families who went to this new section on Lake Huron, will serve better to illustrate their dogged determination and resolute exercise of self-reliance than a more general reference would afford.

Samuel Bricker, Jr., born in Waterloo Township on May 30th, 1810, of Pennsylvania Dutch parentage, had arrived at the age of forty-two years.

The Pine woods, and hard wood forests of his native County had to a large extent already yielded to the axe of his father's generation in this new land and much of these forests had given place to cultivated fields.

The pioneering spirit of the fathers had apparently only been slumbering for a brief space of time to reappear in their children and now it had awakened with renewed energy and buoyant life.

It is true that the war of 1812, had disturbed the tranquility of their homes, within a decade of their arrival in Canada, when many of the grown up members of the pioneer families, the young men, were forced into transport service for the British forces and had traversed the entire distance between their homes in Waterloo Township and Detroit with loads of supplies for the Militia and no doubt by this, to them distasteful experience, there had come to the Waterloo settlement, knowledge of the country beyond them to the West.

The country farther North had not become known to them by the same means, but by the end of the first half of the Century information of the Lake Huron Watershed territory had come into their possession.

A few settlers had reached this territory before Samuel Bricker Jr. in 1852 found his way into the new district on a prospecting trip.

The excellent stand of timber which he found there greatly appealed to him. There he found splendid white pine, magnificent hemlock, maple and black birch and being a man of some means, he decided to purchase eighteen hundred acres of this primeval forest in Bruce County.

Two years later, March 4th, 1854, he arrived with his family and their belongings at a point now forming the town site of Port Elgin, which was then a hamlet known by the name of Normington.

Mr. Bricker had evidently chosen the end of the winter as the most suitable time to move such a distance, rather than attempt to cover the 125 miles when the roads were soft and the woods difficult to travel through for want of snow. Undoubtedly the journey was made by ox-team.

In the two succeeding years, he established his home in the forest and then decided the time had arrived to proceed with his plans to develop his holdings.

The Stafford family, the Hilkers and Clemens were his neighbors.

To convert his timber woods into money of course necessitated the erection of a saw mill and to equip the saw mill with power required a steam boiler and power plant.

The most readily available steam boilers were manufactured at the time in Dundas at the head of Lake Ontario.

Although the Welland Canal was then operating, it was evidently not regarded as feasible to transport the boiler by lake to its destination and there was no available northerly line of railway by which to convey it the 125 miles.

The further difficulty was that for the last fifty miles of the distance there was actually no road properly opened over which to haul such a load.

However these were not obstacles of sufficient moment to forbid the undertaking.

Ox-teams were obtained to convey the boiler, in the winter of 1856, from Dundas northward to a point on the Rocky Saugeen River in Grey County, where the road came to an end in Durham Village.

From this point it was necessary to make use of the river for further transportation.

A stout raft was therefore constructed upon the ice which

then covered the stream and upon this raft the boiler was stayed, ready for the spring break-up.

When the ice moved down the stream, the raft was navigated in its wake, the fifty miles or more to Lake Huron, leaving only a few miles down the lake still to be overcome.

The raft with its load was poled by strong men this additional distance and at last beached on the shore as near as possible to the intended site of the saw mill about one mile inland.

This last mile of the journey, presented the greatest difficulties, owing to the stiff grades which had to be surmounted and the nature of the ground covered with trees through which the cumbersome load required to be hauled.

Mr. Bricker calculated that it would take at least nine yoke of oxen to draw the boiler on its skids over the improvised roadway through the woods and as the country was sparsely settled he was obliged to cover a wide area of the district in order to get together so many ox-teams.

He had no telephones by which to call the farmers and make his final arrangements, but his efforts at last were successful and the nine teams from the farms near and far arrived and after two days difficult work the Dundas boiler rested in the place for it in the first saw mill at Port Elgin.

The mill was then equipped with a Mooley saw, cutting up and down through the logs and for 15 years this was the type of sawing equipment which after that time gave place to the circular saw.

Mr. Moses M. Bricker, now of Port Elgin, informed the writer that his father for many years supplied the neighboring community with the finest hemlock lumber, sawed in this mill from the 1800 acres of timberland, which lumber was delivered to the incoming settlers at a price of five dollars per thousand feet.

Mr. Bricker also conducted a store in the neighborhood and traded in a large way with the Indians of the adjoining country as well as doing business with the settlers.

He had what might be called a portable store, or house-boat, which was moved from place to place at different times of the year so as to facilitate trading with the red-skins.

D. N. PANABAKER.

THE SAENGERFEST OF 1875

W. H. Breithaupt

Among other items received by the Society during the year there are some well executed illustrations taken from the Canadian Illustrated News, Montreal, of the local Saengerfest of 1875, donated by City Clerk Mr. C. G. Lips.

Berlin, now Kitchener, was for many years, one might say from its beginning, the centre of German interest in Canada. Here flourished German traits and customs, one of which is the love of song and music and the formation of societies for their cultivation. A festival of vocal and instrumental music would here find its proper place. There were several such festivals from time to time; the Saengerfest of 1875 was the big event, second only to the Friedensfest, in 1871, after the Franco-Prussian war.

There were a number of local singing societies, chief among them being the Concordia of Berlin and the Liedertafel of Waterloo. Preparations in the way of decorating the town were begun weeks before and enthusiastically pursued by both German and English residents. There were twelve evergreen arches, the first one at the Grand Trunk Station, with the words "Welcome to Berlin," and the others as follows: at the corner of King and Water streets; on King street east of Gaukel; on King street between Foundry, now Ontario, and Queen streets; a quadruple arch at the corner of King and Queen streets making a veritable bower; an arch at King and Frederick street corner where was then the St. Nicholas hotel and three more further east on King street; one on Queen street at Church street and one at the entrance to the old park about where now is the swimming pool. The old exhibition building in the park, where the concerts took place, was profusely decorated and along Queen street from King as far as the park there was a continuous row of evergreens along the sidewalk.

The festival lasted three days, August 17th, 18th, and 19th. Wednesday the first day was largely given over to the reception of the various visiting societies and delegates, great crowds arriving from east and west by train. London, Stratford and New Hamburg had declared public holiday to enable citizens to visit the Saengerfest.

Participants were the Orpheus Society of Detroit, the Sangerbund and Orpheus Society of Buffalo, Harmonia of

Toronto, Germania of Hamilton, Teutonia Lisbon, Liederkranz of Preston and deputations from Montreal, Toronto, Rochester, etc., even as far as Chicago.

The principal concert was on the second day. Preliminary to it was a procession starting from the market place where now is the City Hall. Under direction of Marshal Chas. Miller the procession moved in the following order:

The festival marshal with two assistant marshals, the general adjutant with four assistant adjutants, the standard bearer flanked by two supporters, twelve additional assistant marshals, all mounted on spirited horses.

The wagon of lady singers, the Berlin Band, the general chairman and festival director in carriage, members of the general committee in carriage, invited guests including the German Consul, Toronto, members of Parliament and Town Council all in carriages, the concert soloists, the musical directors.

Committee Members, Societies, etc., marching, Orpheus Society of Detroit, Saengerbund of Buffalo, Orpheus of Buffalo, the Montreal deputation and other deputations, the Society Harmonia of Toronto, the Toronto Musicians Association Band, the Hamilton Artillery Band, the Society Germania of Hamilton, the Society Teutonia Lisbon, the Society Liederkranz, of Preston, the Waterloo Band, the Society Liedertafel of Waterloo, the Society Concordia of Berlin.

This procession, as well as anything, gives general idea of the magnitude and importance of the occasion. There were a number of concerts, fraternal gatherings, receptions, addresses of welcome by the mayor and others, and a torchlight procession. It may also be said that the Berlin and Waterloo breweries contributed an appreciated feature.

Toronto newspapers, particularly the Mail and the Globe, had lengthy accounts, as had also Hamilton, Buffalo and other papers. The Canadian Illustrated News of Montreal sent a special correspondent, F. M. Bellsmith, later a water color artist of national reputation, who made the spirited sketches for the illustrations spoken of, contained in the September 4th, 1875, number of this paper.

HAWKESVILLE, A PIONEER VILLAGE OF WATERLOO COUNTY

By Orpheus Moyer Schantz, Chicago

In the spring of 1900 at the time of a short visit with his family in Berlin, now Kitchener, the writer decided to visit also the Village of Hawkesville, in which he had lived from 1870 to 1877.

The visit was made in the early part of May, at a time when the weather was raw and chilly; consequently after dining at the tavern, formerly known as Geiger's Tavern, and calling on Peter Huefner, the village tailor, who could be seen across the street, sitting cross-legged just as he used to do twenty-three years before, we stayed in the village only a couple of hours, as our means of travel was by carriage and horses.

The valley of the Conestoga river, and the village itself were not much changed, but the buildings seemed much smaller, and the steep hill not nearly so steep or dangerous as it once had been.

The most noticeable change was in the residents of the village, which seemed quite unusual, as ordinarily even in small communities there remain some descendants of the pioneer settlers.

Ever since that visit the writer planned that some day he would go back to find out if possible the reasons for the change in population.

In August of 1934, a third of a century after the first visit, and 57 years after the removal of his family from Hawkesville, the long looked for opportunity came, and with a brother and sister, the visit was made, this time by automobile.

As nearly as can be ascertained from an old Waterloo County history, the first pioneer who settled on the site of the present village, arrived in 1839.

To this hardy adventurer the region must have seemed a paradise, as the forest was filled with game, deer, black squirrels, and in seasons myriads of wild pigeons. The Conestoga river and its spring-fed tributaries teemed with great speckled trout, so there must have been food "aplenty."

Other settlers soon arrived to carve for themselves farms out of the primeval forest by felling and burning the great trees.

It is a matter of record, that in 1856 at the request of Gabriel Hawke, brother of John Hawke, for whom the pioneer village was named, a map was made of the community by John Grant, a Provincial Land Surveyor, and an ambitious planning made for streets, factory sites, and church and school sites.

Years before it had been hoped that some day the village might become the county seat, which however did not happen, as county seats are usually selected as near the geographical center as possible, so as to best serve the convenience of its citizens.

The village was delightfully located, and its growth was sufficiently rapid to minister to the needs of the surrounding farming area, as new settlers arrived.

The first pioneers of Hawkesville were largely of English, Scotch and a few of German and Pennsylvania German descent, the major portion being English.

Early roads followed the old Indian trails, and Waterloo county is noted for the eccentricities of its winding roads, which apparently go nowhere in particular, but somehow manage to arrive.

Looking at a map of Waterloo County the irregular boundary lines, approximately parallel to the courses of the Grand River as were the limits, now township boundaries, of Governor Haldimand's Indian Land Grant, are striking. After more than 100 years of settlement it still remains one of the garden spots of Ontario, noted for its fine farms, and the prosperity of both its urban and rural population. The region about Hawkesville soon became a prosperous farming section and the village seemed well on the way to become an important centre.

It had three churches, three general stores, two woollen mills, two tanneries, two carriage and wagon shops, two harness shops, two shoe shops, two blacksmith shops and, drug store, flour mill, three hotels (then called taverns), a bakery, a cheese factory, saw mill, paint shop, tinsmith shop, cabinetmaker's shop, and a two-roomed school house.

The cabinet maker was Mr. Earnest Snider and some of the fine hand-made furniture which he made, is still in use,

first having been upholstered in hair cloth, which is well remembered by the writer for its slippery seats.

Waterloo County is located on a general slope of the Grand River watershed, about midway between Georgian Bay and Lake Erie, and the entire county is well watered by the Grand River and its tributaries, of which the largest is the Conestoga.

At the time of its first settlement it was covered with a magnificent White Pine-Beech-Maple forest, a part of the hunting ground of the allied Iroquois Indian tribes, whose federation centre was then in what is now the State of New York.

Hawkesville, is situated approximately 12 miles northwest of Kitchener, the county seat of Waterloo County.

The different settlements of the county are easily distinguished as to their nationality backgrounds, by the names given to the villages.

Galt, Ayr, Drumbo, Winterbourne, and Montrose, and the township names of North and South Dumfries clearly indicate Scotch origin. Preston, Linwood, Stratford, Shakespeare, Hawkesville, etc. and the township names of Wellesley, Waterloo and Woolwich are distinctly English, while Berlin, Strasburg, Baden, Heidelberg, Breslau, New Hamburg, St. Clements, St. Jacobs, etc., are of German origin.

A tabulation of the names of about 100 families living in Hawkesville and the adjacent farming section fifty years ago, reveals that nearly all of the old names have disappeared, to be replaced in most instances by thrifty Pennsylvania Germans, a definite evidence of the effect of changed methods of transportation, and the lack of opportunity for earning a living other than by farming, for ambitious young people.

Fifty years ago there was a dearth of entertainment in Hawkesville, judged by present day standards. In winter revival services furnished most of the excitement. These meetings would last six or seven weeks, and annual conversions among the young people were quite common.

It is recalled that one winter, contrary to the usual procedure of the Presbyterian Church, which then did not even tolerate a musical instrument, a series of evangelistic services was conducted in the staid old church by a group of young men who came up from Galt. Their leader was named Scrymenger, and the group was dubbed Scrymengers minstrels by some disrespectful wag. Tea meetings, or church

socials were frequently held, and sleighing parties gave the vigorous young people healthy outings.

In the spring the breaking up of the ice in the Conestoga, was a spectacle worth seeing, as then the ordinarily peaceful stream became a raging yellow torrent filled with huge cakes of ice, uprooted trees, and occasionally parts of buildings. During the spring freshet the river filled the valley from rim to rim and for days the road across the valley might be under water and impassable.

As the flow subsided great schools of fish could be seen below the dam trying to ascend the stream to spawn. Everyone who could find a fishing outfit flocked to the river banks to enjoy the fishing.

On the two outstanding holidays of the year, May 24th, the Queen's birthday, and July 1st, Dominion Day, some excitement might always be counted on.

Trotting races on a straight stretch of gravel road outside the village, always attracted eager spectators. The races were frequently followed by noisy drinking bouts with possibly a fist fight or two, at the village taverns.

A local celebrity was Andrew Ament, who became an expert tight rope performer, and on a rope stretched across the street from the old post office to the building opposite, he would thrill the small boys by walking forwards and backwards, then as a climax standing on his head on the rope.

At night we were frequently aroused by the sounds of Dr. Tommy Vardon's fast trotting horse crossing the bridge over the creek as the doctor hastened to serve some patient out in the country.

Only a few years ago, while waiting for a westbound C.P.R. train at Galt, the writer called on Dr. Vardon, identifying himself as a one time patient in Hawkesville, in the early seventies. He was delighted at being remembered and insisted that the next time I visited Galt, I should spend a day with him on the golf course. He was then past 80 years of age.

The Hawkesville of 1934, was scarcely recognizable as the village where from 1870 to 1877 my father, the late Tobias Schantz had been a miller in the employ of Thomas Wilson and Robert McCulloch.

The United Brethren Church in which my father led the

singing, pitching the tune with an old fashioned tuning fork, is now a blacksmith shop.

Today there is one Union Church in place of the Presbyterian, United Brethren and Primitive Methodist Churches.

The Empeys, Woodwards, Watsons, McDonalds, Morrisons, Robertsons, Pearsons, Petersons, Vardons, McCullochs, Hughes, Ulyyotts, Wellivers, Thompsons, Winns, Stones, Boomers, Hawkes, Wilkinsons, Ballards, and many others are all gone.

Members of a few of the old families still return occasionally, drawn by the beauty of the Conestoga valley and the sentiment of by-gone days.

Hawkesville, has suffered with many other communities from the advent of the automobile, which brings the county town of Kitchener within a half hour's ride by auto, in place of hours by horse and buggy.

It is still the centre of a fine farming section, but its use to the countryside has long since ceased.

Out of this peaceful quaint village have gone young people to become artists, lawyers, doctors, dentists, merchants, bankers, teachers, a missionary, and many other men and women, who have made for themselves places of importance in the outside world, but who owe their first appearance in the world to Hawkesville.

The celebrity of the village seventy-five years ago was Michael Peter Empey, general merchant, postmaster, and general counsel or adviser for the village. This pioneer merchant was so successful in acquiring a competence, that he was able to employ a colored coachman, a governess for the daughters of the family, a nursemaid for the small children, housemaids, a gardener, as well as clerks for the store and assistants in the post office.

Several sons had more than ordinary artistic ability, and their budding genius was evidence in the clever cartoons of the colored folks that lived in the country, which decorated the white walls of the old village hall, long since abandoned. Under the village hall, which was mounted on posts, the vagrant sheep found shelter from the warm sun, and after fifty years the odor of sheep's wool, is a reminder of the far-away days in Hawkesville.

A grandson of Michael Peter Empey, Arthur Guy Empey, became noted for his thrilling war story, "Over The Top."

Among the distinct memories of the days of long ago, are the hum of the machinery of the flour mill and the woollen factory; the great revolving wooden cylinder on which were mounted Scotch teasel heads, to remove the surplus nap from the woollen blankets, the blankets being wound on a drum running in the opposite direction from the teasel.

In the frame wall of the carriage shed connected with the Primitive Methodist Church, myriads of bats congregated, and it was the delight of the small boys to beat the wall with sticks during the day time, then watch the bats fly out in swarms.

It is easy to visualize white-bearded Uncle Joshua Hilborn wiping profuse perspiration from his brow, and hear his vociferous sneezing as he worked at his cobbler's bench.

Next door was his son Bill's drug store, where occasionally sticks of delectable licorice root were given in payment for small errands.

There is still a small general store in Hawkesville, post office, saddler shop, blacksmith shop, a good school and a United Church, but the glory that fifty years ago was Hawkesville's, has long since departed, never to return. The whereabouts of many of the younger generation is known to old friends, who have also left the village. Lackners, Ballards, Winns, Bulmers, and many others. A few of the younger generation have still retained their old homes or have purchased small houses and furnished them for summer use, so they might come back for holidays and week-ends.

One of the most brilliant men of the second generation was the late Dr. Henry G. Lackner of Kitchener who not only became a physician of note but was later Mayor of his adopted home, and also member of the Ontario Legislature, and Sheriff of Waterloo County. Much of the data here given was furnished the writer by Mrs. Laura M. Lackner of Kitchener, wife of George F. Lackner, to whom he is greatly indebted.

An interesting coincidence was discovered last August, when the writer called at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lackner, which was that their son Dr. W. S. Lackner, is a practising dentist and a rancher in Tucson, Arizona, where the writer's first cousin Dr. Homer LeRoy Shantz, is president of the State University.

On January 28th the writer's mother, who was the oldest living early resident of Hawkesville, passed away at the ripe

age of 94 years; she was born Mary Moyer, and married Tobias Schantz in 1863.

Next in age of the living pioneer residents is the widow of Rev. A. N. Somers, of Westborough, Mass. Mrs. Somers was Miss Mabel Woodward. She was the first assistant principal in the public school in Hawkesville, and celebrated her 91st birthday in April 1934. She was formerly Mrs. George Green of Elmira, and is the last surviving member of the original Woodward family.

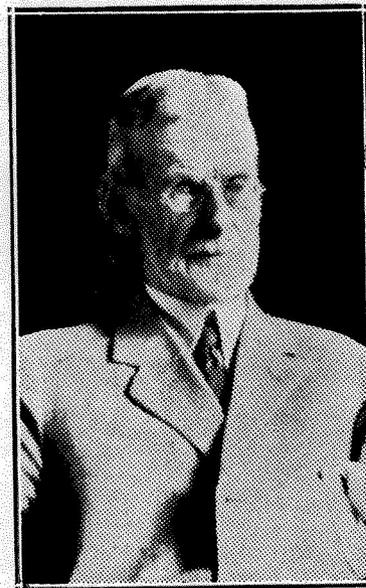
List of names of early residents of Hawkesville:

Name	Occupation
Ahrens, August.....	General Store—Tinsmith
Ament, Andrew.....	Tight Rope Walker
Ament, Joseph.....	Farmer
Anderson, Alexander.....	
Ball, Nicholas.....	Shoemaker
Ballard, B. J.....	Bailiff
Balley, Samuel.....	Weaver
Bond, James.....	Carriage and Wagon Maker
Boomer, William.....	Farmer
Bechtel, Milton.....	Veterinary
Bricker, Jacob.....	Farmer
Burke.....	Blacksmith
Carter.....	Druggist
Cornell, William.....	Farmer
Cruikshank, Robertson.....	School Teacher
Cunningham, Nelson.....	Tailor
Diefenbacher, George Sr.....	Carriage and Wagon Maker
Diefenbacher, George Jr.....	Carriage and Wagon Maker
Dentinger, Peter.....	Blacksmith
Dietrich, Nicholas.....	Tavern
Ellesley, D. W.....	General Merchant
Empey, M. P.....	General Merchant, Postmaster, Village Counsellor
Donald, David.....	
Donald, Fred.....	
Forewell, George.....	Hotel Keeper
Forewell, Joseph.....	Hotel Keeper
Frey, Henry.....	Foreman, Woollen Mill
Frey, Levi B.....	
Galloway.....	General Store
Geiger.....	Tavern Keeper
Gloekler.....	
Hahn, George Jr.....	

Name	Occupation
Hahn, George Sr.....	
Hall, James.....	General Store—Shoemaker
Hawke, Gabriel.....	Farmer
Hawke, John.....	
Hawke, Lount.....	Clerk in Empey's Store
Hawke, Walter.....	
Hughes, George.....	Farmer—Blacksmith
Hughes, Jeremiah B.....	Farmer—Blacksmith
Huefner, George.....	Tailor
Huefner, Peter.....	Tailor
Hilborn, Joshua.....	Shoemaker—Tanner
Hilborn, William.....	Druggist
Lackner, Fred.....	Farmer—Blacksmith
Lackner, William.....	Carriage and Wagon Maker
Lackner, Emmanuel.....	
Lackner, George F.....	
Lackner, Fred Jr.....	Farmer
Lount, Samuel.....	Doctor
Ludwig, Albert.....	Carpenter—Furniture Maker
Ludwig, Charles.....	Cooper
McAllister, Alexander.....	
McCulloch, Hugh.....	Woollen Mill
McCulloch, Robert.....	Woollen Mill
McCutcheon.....	
McDonald, Thomas.....	Carpenter
Markham, Thomas.....	
Moore, George.....	
Morrison, Robertson.....	General Store, Postmaster
Muir, J. M.....	School Teacher
Oakes, John.....	Tinsmith
Ottman, Alvin.....	Saddler
Ottman, John.....	Saddler, Postmaster
Pearson, John.....	Farmer, Bailiff, Jailor
Peterson, Charles J.....	General Store
Peterson, William.....	Farmer
Robertson, John.....	Farmer
Schantz, Tobias.....	Miller
Scott, John.....	Foreman, Woollen Mill
Shelley, Alvin.....	Miller
Shelley, Jacob.....	Proprietor, Flour Mill
Sims, James.....	Farmer
Snider, Earnest.....	Cabinet Maker
Snider, Sydney.....	Farmer
Somerville, Alexander.....	Blacksmith
Spies, Fred.....	
Steiss, John.....	Hotel Keeper

Name	Occupation
Stone, Abijah.....	
Stone, S. G. W.....	
Tanner, Currie.....	Tanner and Veterinary
Tanner, John.....	Tanner and Veterinary
Thompson, James.....	
Thompson, Richard.....	Shoemaker—Farmer
Ullyott, Dr.....	Doctor
Vardon, Dr. Thomas W.....	Doctor
Vardon, Dr. William.....	Doctor
Watson, Thomas.....	Hotel Keeper
Weidenheimer.....	Doctor
Weber, Daniel.....	Farmer
Weber, L. K.....	Farmer
Welliver, Chester.....	Saddler
Wilkinson, Thomas.....	Farmer
Wilson, Thomas.....	Owner of Flour Mill
Winn, E. G.....	
Winn, Jacob.....	Blacksmith and Farmer
Winn, Joshua.....	Farmer
Winn, Merritt.....	
Winn, Steven.....	Farmer
Woodward, Albert F.....	Doctor
Woodward, Ebenezer G.....	Teacher—Insurance
Woodward, William S.....	Farmer





J. P. JAFFRAY



JAMES E. KERR

BIOGRAPHY

James P. Jaffray

James P. Jaffray, oldest son of William Jaffray who was at that time proprietor of the Galt Reporter, was born in Galt in November, 1854, and died there July 16th, 1934. At an early age his parents moved to Berlin (now Kitchener) where he attended Berlin and Waterloo Public Schools until he was 12 years of age, then was a student for six months at St. Jerome's College. Before he was 13 he joined the staff of the Reporter in Galt, then published by his uncles Richard, Harry and George. Here he was general utility man for two years, worked at type-setting, provided the man power for the hand press, was carrier boy for the district east of the river, etc.

In 1868 he returned to Berlin to take up telegraphy in his father's office where were located also the express and railroad ticket offices. Four years later he was placed in charge of the parliament building office of the Dominion Telegraph Company, Toronto. In 1874 he accepted a parliamentary job at Ottawa for the Montreal Telegraph Company. Two years later he gave up telegraphy to go into business with his brother Robert M., of Windsor. Together they established the Norwich Gazette, a weekly, still publishing.

After three years the brothers left Norwich to go to Brantford where, with the third brother, Edward, they acquired the Brant Union, a weekly which they converted into a daily, the Brantford Evening Telegram. This they issued in competition with two existing dailies for three years.

In the fall of 1882 the three brothers decided to go to the northwestern states. Robert became general manager of the Eau Claire Wisconsin Morning Leader of which Edward became the editor. "J.P.," as he was familiarly known for many years, remained in the railroad office in Minneapolis as telegraph operator. Meanwhile he had developed the idea of establishing a weekly expressly for Canadian born residents of the United States, then going to the northwestern states in large numbers. The three brothers, led by James, established the "Canadian-American" in Minneapolis in the spring of 1883. In 1885 they moved the paper to Chicago and there launched in addition "The Referee," later named "The Cycle Age," a magazine

on cycling then enjoying great vogue. The Cycle Age in turn became the "Motor Age."

At the "World's Fair" in Chicago in 1893, Mr. Jaffray was resident Commissioner for British Columbia, being appointed by Premier Turner. Jaffray directed the publication in 1893 of the first map published of Vancouver which was then merely a survey.

In September, 1896, J. P. Jaffray returned to Galt to take charge of the Galt Reporter, then a weekly, established by his grandfather in 1884, and within 6 weeks turned this paper into a daily. In 1912 Jaffray went to Philadelphia on an appointment to take charge of the Canadian general agency in that city, a position which he held for seven years. After his return from Philadelphia he received appointment as Canadian Government Immigration Inspector in Glasgow, Scotland, where he was for one year, then resigned on account of poor health, the climate not agreeing with him. He returned to Galt and to the Reporter where he continued until 1921 since which time he was interested in various publishing enterprises.

In municipal politics J. P. Jaffray served under seven Galt mayors in fifteen years, first becoming member of the town council in 1889. In 1902 he left the council to become Parks Commissioner for two years, after which he returned to the council as second deputy-reeve, later becoming first deputy-reeve.

He was a former president of the Galt Board of Trade, member of the Ontario Municipal Association, of the Galt Horticultural Society, and president of the Ontario Horticultural Society in 1912 and again in 1932.

Of the Waterloo Historical Society, J. P. Jaffray was an active and useful member. He donated a number of valuable historical documents and other items to the museum and contributed to the society's transactions.

He married in Chicago, in 1889, Miss Adeline E. Littel, daughter of James G. Littel a noted Chicago architect. Mr. and Mrs. Jaffray had a family of five children of whom four survive.

—Compiled mainly from the Galt Reporter.

James E. Kerr

James E. Kerr, public spirited citizen of Galt for many years, died January 11th, 1934, at the Galt Hospital, from the effects of a broken hip which he sustained in a fall on the steps of the Galt Public Library on the 18th day of November preceding. He attained the age of 86 years.

Mr. Kerr had retired for many years from definite occupation in the way of business. He was however very active as member of Library and School Boards, etc., practically the greater part of his life.

He was born in Glasgow, Scotland and came to Canada at an early age. The family first settled in Hamilton and later moved to Paris for a short period. Galt appealed to the father, a medical practitioner, as a desirable place of residence and the family moved there making its home at Rosehill on the Blair Road. The boy's education began at the old school house on Market Square, the principal of which was Robert McLean. When the Central School opened he was one of the first pupils to enter, his teacher being James Baikie the first principal. Finishing the Central School young Kerr became a boarder at the noted Dr. Tassie's School, his parents having by that time moved to Doon. He did not attend college or university but was all his life a great reader and in time acquired a sound knowledge of English literature in general and particularly of history.

On completion of his schooling at Dr. Tassie's he spent several years in England and Scotland. Returning to Canada he with his brother William crossed to the United States to take up farming in Missouri, on a 500-acre farm. Returning to Galt after 10 years on the Missouri farm he entered the office of David Spiers where he remained for a number of years.

Jas E. Kerr was connected with the Galt Library for over 50 years, from the time when it was known as The Mechanic's Institute with reading room in the Town Hall, in the early 70's, and later in the upper story of the market building. For the past number of years he was chairman of the Public Library Board and its guiding spirit, using every influence to raise the standard of reading matter and the Library's general usefulness. His active interest in educational matters, extended over 25 years. As member of the public school board, his advice on all important questions was greatly valued. Later he became Treasurer of the Galt Collegiate Institute Board, which office he filled until Public School and G.C.I. Boards were merged in the Board of Education.

He took much interest in the Galt Kiwanis Club of which he was the oldest member in point of years.

He was Session Clerk and oldest elder of Central Presbyterian Church where his period of office extended over 30 years.

Of the Waterloo Historical Society, James E. Kerr, was a valued and industrious member almost from its beginning. As Vice-President for Galt from 1815 on for the rest of his life he fully represented and took care of all the interests of the Society in the lower part of the County. He contributed a number of valuable historical papers to the Society's transactions. For sometime before his death he was working, in collaboration with Mr. Henry Sneyd, on an early history of Galt.

The character of Mr. Kerr can perhaps best be summed up in the words of an old friend "a man of high ideals, quiet, unassuming, kindhearted and sympathetic with a lively sense of humor and moreover every necessary qualification for the enjoyment of a rational existence."

—Galt Reporter and other Sources.

Clayton W. Wells

A life long resident of the Town of Waterloo, Clayton W. Wells was born there, July 14th, 1862, son of former Mayor Walter Wells. He died at the Kitchener-Waterloo Hospital, after an extended illness, on May 17th, 1834.

He was educated at Waterloo Central and Berlin High Schools and was an honor graduate, with the title of L.D.S., of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons in 1883. In 1887 he was likewise an honor graduate of the Pennsylvania College of Dental Surgeons at Philadelphia, obtaining his D.D.S. He carried on a dental practise in Waterloo for a period of 38 years, the greater part of this time in partnership with his father. In 1918 he retired from active practise.

Clayton W. Wells was noted for his disinterested public spirit. For anything in the interest of his native town or of public service in any manner he was always willing to do his utmost. In 1918 and 1919 he organized the canvass for subscribers to the Dominion of Canada Victory Loan Bonds in Waterloo and vicinity. Later he adopted the selling of government and municipal bonds as a regular occupation.

In 1898 he was elected to the Town Council by acclamation, retaining this office however for only one year. He was chairman of the Waterloo Park Board for three years, 1918-1920 inclusive, and was member of this board 1912 to 1920. He was an active member of the Board of Trade, of which he was President for two years and later chairman of the publicity committee.

Dr. Wells was a veteran member of Germania Lodge of the Independent Order of Oddfellows and of the local Hive of the Knights of the Maccabees.

In 1920 he was elected a director of the Dominion Life Assurance Company and so remained for the rest of his life.

He was fond of sport and assisted in organizing lacrosse and football teams as long ago as the early 80's. In association with Julius Roos and others, he took a prominent part for many years in getting up bicycle and athletic meets and other celebrations, many of them for the benefit of the Waterloo Musical Society. He was on the executive committee of the Waterloo Musical Society for many years and president of that body for three years, 1893-1895.

During the years when bicycling was at its height, he was member of the Press Section of the Canadian Wheelmen's Association and was vice-president of this association in 1898. An enthusiastic follower of clean amateur sport, he was a regular attendant at baseball and hockey games and other sports.

He was member of the "Big Four" singing quartet and appeared at most of the local concerts in the late 80's.

Fond of travel he visited many foreign countries; in later years usually spending the two severest months of the winter in tropical or semi-tropical climate, voyaging extensively for four successive winters in the Gulf of Mexico and the Carribean Sea.

With his keen interest in local history he was an active and valuable member of the Waterloo Historical Society of which he was vice-president for Waterloo for seven years, from 1928 on. One of his contributions, appearing in the 1928 Annual Report of the Society, was a historical sketch of the Town of Waterloo. The Society's Museum is indebted to him for many donations illustrating local history.

Clayton W. Wells married, in 1888, Eleanor A. Hughes, daughter of former Mayor J. B. Hughes of Waterloo. They had a family of four children.

—Taken mainly from the Kitchener Daily Record.

ADDITIONS TO THE MUSEUM, 1933-34

Farriers lance, used by David Panabaker, Waterloo Tp., who died 1908. Donated by D. N. Panabaker.

"The Kaiser Families of the County of York, Ontario" from Dr. T. E. Kaiser, Oshawa, Ont.

Photograph of H. M. Bowman, M.A., Ph.D. from Frank A. Schantz, Kitchener.

Berlin Collegiate & Technical Institute, 1855-1904, Calendar of Pupils, from H. W. Brown, B.A.

Hand Buch von Johann Friedrich Stark, from George Turnbull, Kitchener.

Two Porcelain Rolls of original set of four imported from Switzerland by E. W. B. Snider about 1879, and roller mill frame. Donated by Amos Hilborn, New Dundee.

Heavy oak wine or other press, for household use, used many years near Baden. Donated by W. H. Breithaupt.

Iron Baking Kettle with cover brought from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania by Abraham Weber party, 1807. Donated by Mrs. J. Cressman, Kitchener, granddaughter of Abraham Weber.

John Connon Collection, donated by T. G. Connon, Goderich:—

Directories

County of Wellington 1871-2, A. O. Loomis & Co.

Counties Perth, Waterloo, Wellington 1888-9, Union Publishing Co. Ingersoll.

Counties Halton, Peel, Waterloo, Wellington 1891, Union Publishing Co. Ingersoll.

Counties Dufferin, Halton, Peel, Waterloo, Wellington 1915, Henry Vernon & Sons, Hamilton.

Council Minutes, County of Dufferin, 2 Vols. 1879-1885, 1891-1895.

Canadian Almanac 1804, Copp Clark Co.

Four Framed Maps

Tp of Nichol 1832, Burwell.

Tp. of Nichol, Fordyce.

Plan of Elora 1832, Burwell.

Tp. of Nichol 1845, plans, Fergus and Elora.

Two Photo Negatives Grand River at Belwood, Luther Swamp.
Three Wall Maps Elora. No date.

Maps, Reform Railway Policy, Northern Pacific Railway.

Ten small Maps, etc. of Railway projects.

Two Maps. Railways Peninsula South Western Ontario
1875-1879.

Map County of Wellington, 1855.

Three Prints Saengerfest Berlin 1875, from drawings
by F. M. Bellsmith, one Print House of Refuge, from City of
Kitchener, Per C. G. Lips, City Clerk.

Day-book and Ledger of Ludwig Frank, storekeeper in
New Germany in the 50's, accounts kept in pounds, shillings
and pence, donated by Jos. Fehrenbach, News Record Office,
Kitchener.

Charge account book, used by his greatgrandfather Jacob
C. Snider, 1843-1847 in the flour and saw mill in the centre of
Waterloo, from Frederick W. Snider, Waterloo.

German Bible, printed 1828, once belonging to Daniel
Snyder, first postmaster of Waterloo 1831-1862, from Dr.
Clayton W. Wells, Waterloo, Ont.

Account Book of School Section No. 10 Waterloo Town-
ship. Now the Central School Town of Waterloo, 1843-1859,
and Board of School Trustees proceedings in the village of
Waterloo, 1857, from Dr. Clayton W. Wells, Waterloo.

Suhlaisches Gesangbuch 1831, from G. Turnbull, Kitchener.

Volume Canada Museum 1838-1840 from Rogert, Smyth
Estate — Loan.

Twenty-Fifth Annual Report Kitchener Water Com-
mission, History of City Water Works, from J. C. Breithaupt.

Bound Vol. Illust. New York Journal, July 1853 December
1854, and Transactions. Agricultural Societies of the State
of Massachusetts 1851, from G. Turnbull, Kitchener.

Morticing Machine property of the late John Cober, donated
by Mrs. Sarah Cober, Hespeler.

Account books of John Young, Galt, and his executors,
1855-59, Prospectus American Plow Co., Ayr, 1883. Election
posters and other papers, 1881-92. Galt Supplement, Toronto

Daily Mail, May 7th, 1892, British Union Jack, J. P. Jaffray 1917. Vol. 1, Wellington County Hist. Soc'y. 1933, donated by Dr. A. E. Byerly, Guelph.

Booklet—History of the Canadian Stauffers and Ancestors, from Joseph Stauffer, Galt.

Forty-five early County and Township maps, Pilkington, etc., Elora, Fergus, etc., Sale of Village lots, Alma, Elora Observer, July 5th, 1867, account of beginning of Wellington, Grey and Bruce Railway, donated by T. G. Cannon, Goderich.

Booklet biography John George Richter, Directors and Officers of London Life Insurance Company.

The Centennial Booklet St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Preston, from Rev. W. H. Knauff, Preston.

Tunic British Army Uniform about 1865, Royal Wiltshire Regiment, from George Turnbull, Kitchener.



EXCHANGE LIST

Brant Historical Society.
Burton Historical Collection, Detroit Public Library.
Canadian Historical Society.
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 Archives, Annual Reports.
Ontario Historical Society.
Ontario Land Surveyors' Association.
Thunder Bay Historical Society.
United Empire Loyalists' Association.
Welland County Historical Society.
Wentworth Historical Society.
Women's Canadian Historical Society (Ottawa).
York Pioneer and Historical Society.