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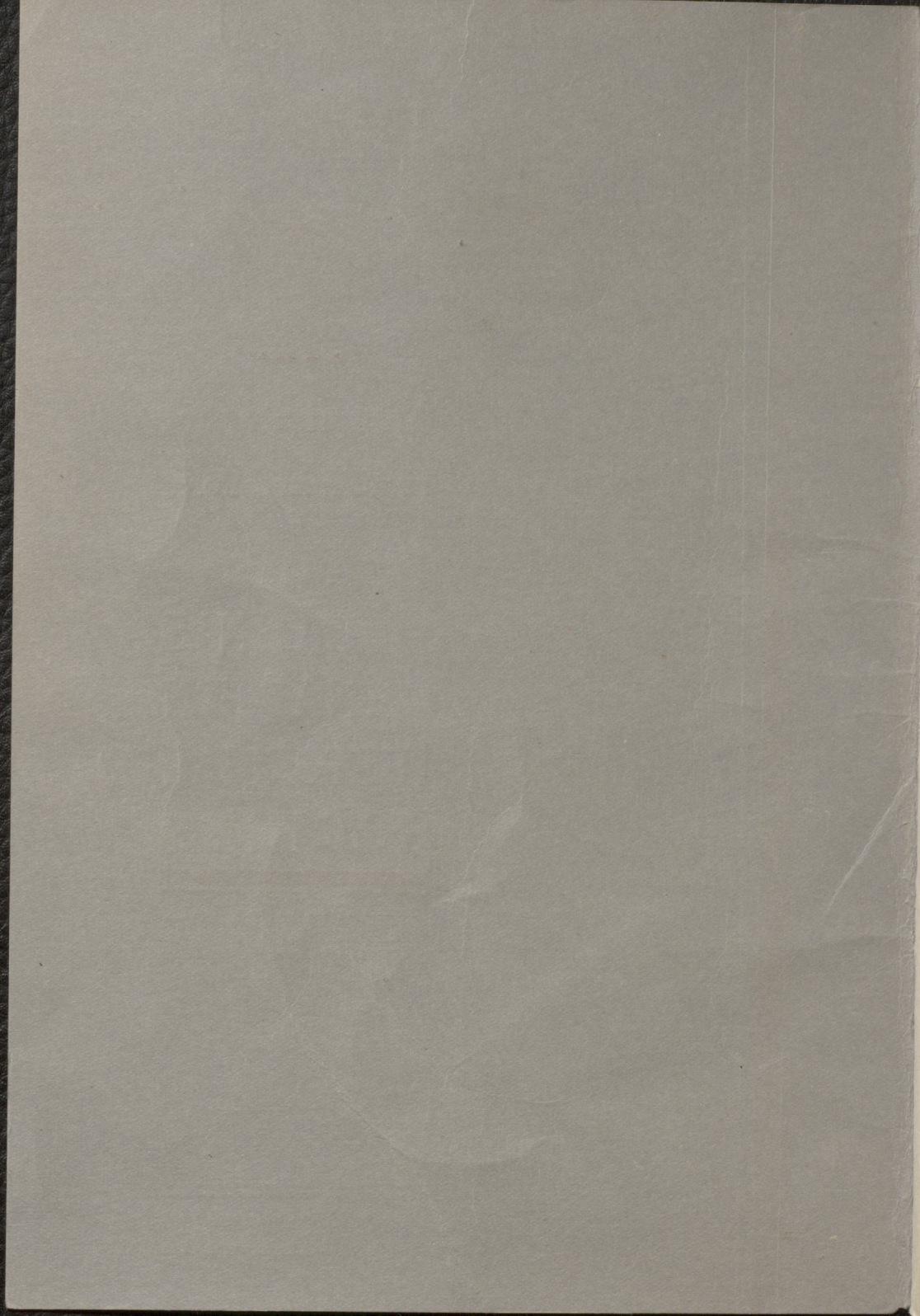
"DEEDS SPEAK"

Annual Report
and
TRANSACTION NO. 21
of
THE
WOMEN'S
CANADIAN
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

OF TORONTO

Organized November 19th, 1895

Incorporated February 14th, 1896





"DEEDS SPEAK"

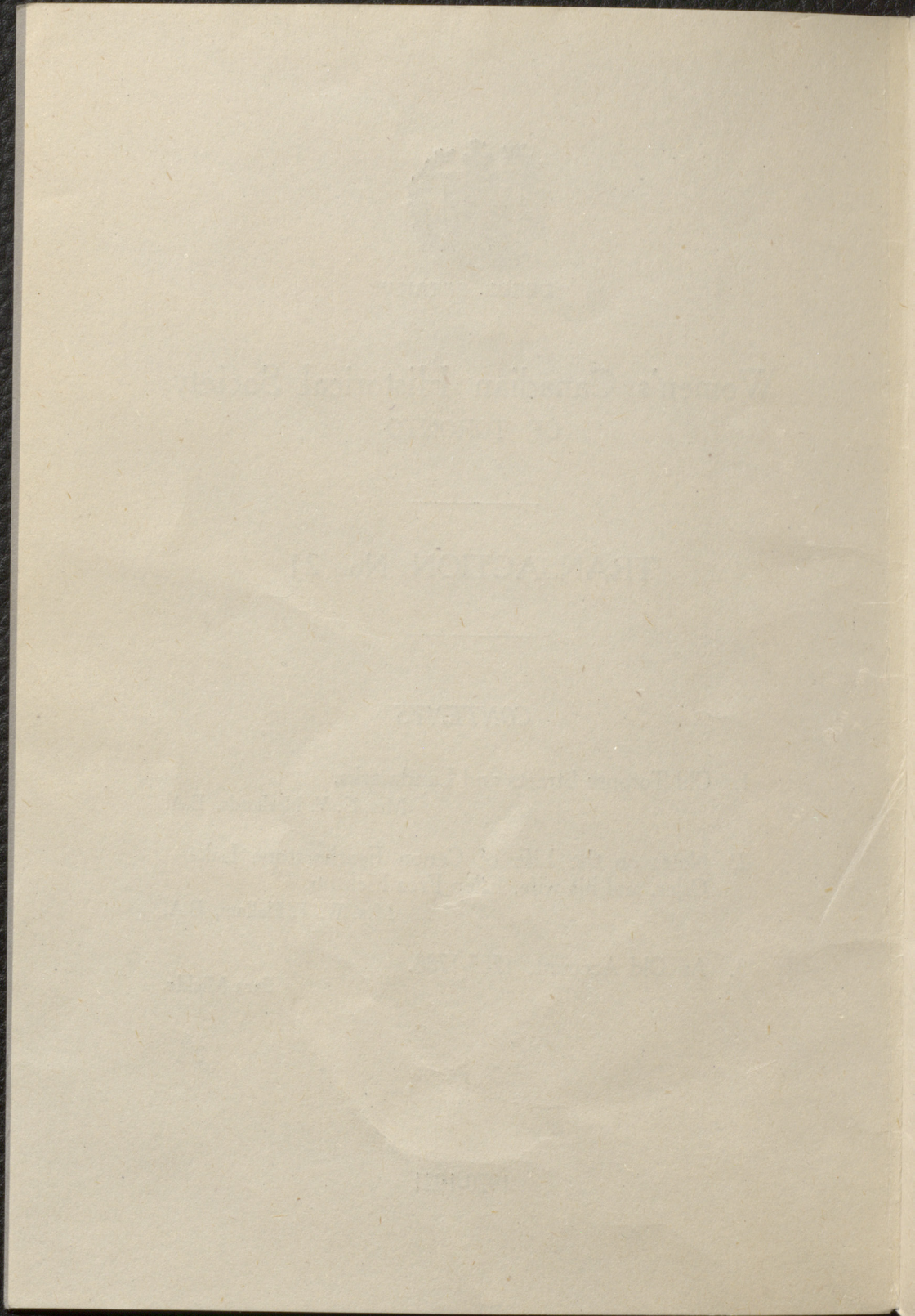
Women's Canadian Historical Society
OF TORONTO

TRANSACTION No. 21

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1920-1921



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
Women's Canadian Historical Society
 OF TORONTO
 1920-1921

Organized 1895; Incorporated February 14th, 1896.

OFFICERS

Honorary President	MRS. COCKSHUTT, Gov't House. MRS. FORSYTH GRANT.
Past Presidents	*LADY EDGAR. *MRS. S. A. CURZON. *MISS FITZGIBBON.
President	MISS MICKLE, 48 Heath St. E.
Vice-Presidents	MRS. JAMES BAIN. MRS. EDGAR R. JARVIS.
Corresponding Secretary	MRS. W. T. HALLAM, Wycliffe College.
Recording Secretary	MRS. J. G. SETTLE, 86 Walmer Road.
Treasurer	MRS. A. E. HILLS, 1275 Bathurst Street.

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MRS. HORACE EATON, 141 Lyndhurst Avenue.	MRS. HILLS, 1275 Bathurst Street.
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MRS. NEELANDS.	MRS. W. A. PARKS.
MRS. SINCLAIR.	MRS. LEADBETTER.

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JOHN D. KELLY.	REV. PROF. BRYCE.
PROF. PELHAM EDGAR.	PROF. JOHN SQUAIR.
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MISS K. M. LIZARS.	HON. MR. JUSTICE RIDDELL.
DR. LOCKE.	HON. MR. JUSTICE OSLER.
THE VERY REV. DEAN HARRIS.	

*Deceased.

ANNUAL REPORT

1911

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President's Address

After three years of peace, so-called, the poor old shaken world seems at last to be turning the corner, and swinging back to normal. We no longer talk of a new world. Many high hopes have perished. England, perplexed and harassed, has perhaps suffered the most during the re-construction period, and it must have been bitter to her people after saving the world to find the same evil and malicious propaganda assailing her on every side and trying to destroy the Empire. Yet our hearts cannot but swell with pride when we remember that the brave little land "though so little, yet so great," is still holding up the world and bearing more than her share of its burdens. For the debt which weighs her down so heavily was largely incurred, not for herself, but others. As her armies fought in every field, so her money or credit helped everywhere; of the ten billions she owes the United States, three and one-half billions was incurred for Russia—great big Russia—who would not have received the loan if Britain had not guaranteed the payment of it. Yet we can trust that Britain is, in the words of one orator, "All Right." Personally, my hopes for her coming thro' the stress and strain are largely built on the fact that she has in some small measure, for some few articles, adopted protection. May this lead to the casting-off of one-sided trade—miscalled "free."

At present all thoughts are centred upon the Conference for the Limitation of Armaments at Washington. The world, peace-hungry, longs for war to cease, and much impassioned (one might almost use a stronger word) rhetoric is flooding our newspapers and journals, thus fostering extravagant hopes of what the Conference may be able to accomplish. It is better to think a little. The difficulties are great; there are real problems to be faced; we pray that they may not prove insurmountable! There are other considerations which must give us pause,—the first is that Germany, prosperous and defiant, and Russia are not in it—do not bind themselves. Then there is the perhaps human instability in the policy of Governments. Ten years is a long time. Within that period we have

known the peace posturings of the Geneva Convention to be ruthlessly swept aside, without protest, by the very men who framed its laws; and later, we have seen how within a very few months the policy as to the League of Nations by the United States was absolutely reversed. Built up, fostered, and furthered by the Supreme Representative of the people, it was nationally rejected at the next election.

In the present negotiations upon the fleets, we are all vitally interested—the over-burdened British taxpayer will welcome relief from the heavy tolls—but the distance of its component parts from one another, renders the Empire the most vulnerable of nations, and we cannot but remember its existence depends upon the Fleet.

There has been some progress during the year in our own Society, but we ought to do a great deal more. Want of money, and want of a home where interesting historic articles could be safely stored and on view, hampers us. We must work steadily towards securing such a place, be it large or small, by our own effort or in conjunction with others. There is room for a small Museum in Toronto which would deal with the social and domestic life of the town and country. This the great Provincial Museum, of which we are justly proud, cannot do. And yet there is an interest and charm about the intimate possessions of those who have passed away that tells us more than we can learn from books. There is a wealth of historical articles still to be secured. As a Society we must be up and doing to make our work a success.

* * * * *

It is with very great regret that the Committee has received the resignation of Mrs. Corley, for many years Recording, and for the past eight years our Corresponding Secretary. Her heart has been in the work, and besides the duties of her office she has willingly helped in every way possible—always interested—always at hand—always ready to do what she could.

Mrs. Duckworth has also had to resign. She has given us six years of splendid efficient service in the difficult office of Treasurer—a very important post. She has used very good judgment and has been invaluable in Committee work. It is with very great regret that we have had to accept her resignation, but we shall have her with us and know that she will not lose interest in our work.

SARA MICKLE.

Secretary's Report

The regular meetings of the Women's Canadian Historical Society, of Toronto, during the past year have been well attended, also the monthly Executive meetings. They have been held at Sherbourne House, which affords very pleasant and convenient quarters for our meetings. Six papers and addresses have been given, of an historical or literary character.

November—"The Annual Meeting of the Ontario Historical Society at Owen Sound," by Mrs. W. T. Hallam.

December—"The Palestine Campaign Under General Allenby," by Major Norman Macdonnell.

January—"Stephen Jarvis, U. E. L., Adjutant-General and Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod in Upper Canada," by Mrs. Ralph Brydges, his great granddaughter.

February—"The Life and Work of Canon Featherstone Lake Osler and His Wife, Ellen Free Pickton," by Mrs. W. T. Hallam. This paper was taken from Mr. Osler's journals, which have been privately printed, and a copy has been kindly presented to the Society by the Hon. Featherstone Osler, K.C.

March—"Toronto Streets and Houses up to 1832," by Mrs. Ernest Neelands.

April—"Canadian Literature and Writers," by Mrs. John Garvin.

October—"The University Expeditions to Alberta in Search of Fossil Animals," by Prof. W. A. Parks, of the University of Toronto.

Several important resolutions were passed during the year,

(1) That a standing committee with power to add to its number be appointed to further the project of the proposed Queen Victoria Memorial Hall.

(2) That the bequests to the Society from the late Miss Fitzgibbon be placed in the Royal Ontario Museum for safe keeping until the conditions of her will shall be fulfilled.

Mrs. Horace Eaton, who for so long a period was convener of the Red Cross Committee, has not yet ceased her devoted work for the soldiers, and was able to send

to various hospitals in Ontario last Christmas many appropriate gifts for tubercular soldiers, through the kindness of our members, who brought to the December meeting all kinds of games, magazines, books, knitted comforts, slippers, etc., made up into attractive parcels. There are still more than 600 tubercular soldiers in our province.

A very interesting feature of the year's proceedings was the observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of this Society. This took the form of a birthday party held in February at Sherbourne House. The committee in charge received congratulations on all sides for the handsomely decorated table, with the huge birthday cake centring it, and for the interesting entertainment of violin and piano music provided during the afternoon by Mrs. Lawson Reade. Dr. Locke, the Chief Librarian of Toronto gave a talk on "History Teaching for Young Children." Several hundred guests were present, and letters of congratulation and good wishes were received by the President from friends of the Society all over Canada. A goodly sum was realized from the birthday money for the Memorial Fund.

We welcome twenty new members to our Society: Mrs. A. F. Rutter, Mrs. Fraser, Miss Lucy Harris, Mrs. Bowie, Mrs. Manson, Mrs. Price, Mrs. Watson, Mrs. Russell Starr, Mrs. Bruce Lawson, Mrs. Blackburn, Mrs. Harding, Miss Riddell, Miss Millichamp, Mrs. Scarth, Mrs. Settle, Mrs. Macdonald, Mrs. Poole, Miss Nelles, Mrs. D. B. Donaldson and Mrs. R. A. Williams.

This Society has for its object not only "the encouragement of a study of Canadian history and literature, the collection and preservation of Canadian records and relics," but also "the building up of Canadian loyalty and patriotism."

Our President, at all the meetings, has brought before us the necessity of making these ideals possible in our every day life. One very material way in which we can do this is to patronize our own manufacturers, insisting that we get from our merchants "Made in Canada" goods. Many articles have been shown at the meetings quite the equal in quality to foreign goods, and just as cheap, so that no sacrifice is involved in doing this "bit" for our country.

LILLIAN HALLAM,
Rec. Secretary.

Notes by the Corresponding Secretary

During the year we joined in the effort to obtain British and Canadian-made films; letters were sent to ten picture houses, and our members were urged to do their utmost to discourage anti-British productions.

Letters were sent to The National Parks Association re the Old Fort in Toronto; the Historic Sites Committee re marking of sites in and near Toronto.

Communications were received from various Government bodies bearing on the need for purchasing Canadian and British-made goods—a policy, the benefits of which were duly impressed on our members.

Many requests for transactions were received from Historical Societies here and in the United States, from Libraries, the Royal Colonial Institute, and from private individuals.

Donations and Exchanges:—Early Newspapers and copies of the Daily Colonist, from Miss Riddell; the Parish Register of Kingston, U.C., 1785-1811, by Prof. A. H. Young; Rev. John Stuart, D.D., U.E.L., by Prof. A. H. Young; Humours of the times of Robert Gourlay, also, "Ignoramus," or the war of the gowns, from Hon. Mr. Justice Riddell.

Transactions:—York Pioneer Society; The Smithsonian Institute; Ontario Historical Society; Thunder Bay Historical Society; Niagara Historical Society.

LUELLE CORLEY,
Cor. Secretary

Treasurer's Report

GENERAL ACCOUNT 1920-21.

RECEIPTS.

Nov. 1920, balance in Bank	\$172	49
Fees	100	00
Donations	2	06
Government Grant	100	00
Bank Interest	3	98
Total		\$ 378 53

EXPENDITURES.

Tea and Service	\$ 28	24
Advertising	14	49
Printing and Postage	186	40
Life Membership transferred to Memorial Fund	50	00
Pianist	5	00
Flowers	8	25
Fee, Sherbourne House	15	00
Local Council	2	00
Total		\$ 309 83
Balance, Nov. 1921	68 70	

BUILDING ACCOUNT.

(MEMORIAL FUND).

RECEIPTS.

Nov. 1920, balance in Bank	\$ 400	19
Canadian Perm. Deb. Sold	4,500	00
Life Memberships	50	00
Interest on Government Loans	513	00
Interest on Can. Per.	12	50
Bank Interest	7	20
Sale of Transactions	6	20
Donations	164	67
Monthly Teas	51	80
Total		\$5,705 56

EXPENDITURES.

Government Bonds purchased	\$5,248 45
Balance November 1921	<u>457 11</u>

SECURITIES.

1917 War Loan	\$ 500 00
1918 War Loan	500 00
1919 War Loan	300 00
1920 Victory Loan	5,000 00
Canada Permanent	500 00
1921 Victory Loan	<u>500 00</u>
Total	\$7,300 00
Balance Cash in Bank	<u>67 11</u>
Total Cash and Securities	\$7,767 11

HOPE H. DUCKWORTH,
Hon. Treasurer.

Audited and found correct,
H. E. EATON.

ERRATUM, PAGE 11

Balance Cash in Bank *should read* \$457.11.

Total Cash and Securities *should read*
\$7,757.11.

TRANSACTION No. 21

No 1. Old Toronto Streets and Landmarks

BY MRS. E. V. NEELANDS, B.A.

Time brings about wondrous changes and in nothing is this truism more strikingly exemplified than in the development and growth of a locality that contains within itself all the essential elements of future greatness. Nature has been kind to Toronto; it is centrally situated; it has an excellent harbour; it is surrounded by a splendid farming country; it possesses unrivalled railway facilities, and it is easy of access from all directions. All these advantages are favouring and important factors in the building up of a large city. Few cities, during the past decade have increased to a greater extent in population, and municipal area, as has Toronto; the older parts of the city are being rebuilt and modernized, while the newer and more recently opened up sections are up to date in point of lay-out, and diversified architectural design, and can compare with, if not excel, any similar evolution that is taking place on this continent.

It is worthy of note that as early as 1686 the locality attracted the attention of Governor de Denonville because of its strategic position at the southern end of the fur trade route from Georgian Bay via Lake Simcoe. A post was recommended "at the pass at Toronto," but it was not actually constructed until 1749. After some years of prosperity, the small garrison was withdrawn to assist in the defence of Niagara against the British, and on their withdrawal they destroyed the fort by fire. The site of these old works is now marked by a monument in the southwestern corner of the Exhibition Grounds.

With the passing of the French regime, activity in this vicinity ceased, but the increasing influx of settlers into Upper Canada soon revived interest, particularly in the harbour. In 1788 it is thus described by John Collins, of Quebec, Deputy Surveyor-General, in a report to Lord Dorchester, on the military posts and harbours of Lake Ontario. "The harbour of Toronto is nearly two miles in length from the entrance on the west to the isthmus on the east. The breadth of the entrance is about

one half mile, but the navigable channel for vessels is only 500 yards. The north or main shore, the whole length of the harbour is a clay bank from 12 to 20 feet high, rising gradually from behind, apparently good land and fit for settlement. The water is rather shallow near the shore and unsafe for the building of wharves, but the harbour is capacious, safe and well sheltered, although the entrance is from the west."

At that time Newark, now Niagara, was the capital of Upper Canada, but its proximity to the frontier had for some time caused anxiety, and in 1792 Toronto was selected as the most suitable site. The work of building the new town appears to have been carried out with great energy, and it was not long before Sir John Simcoe, the Governor, with the officials and a portion of troops from Niagara and Queenston, were established in their new quarters. In honour of the Duke of York, the old name Toronto, was changed to York, the ceremony being formally solemnized by a review of the troops and artillery salutes. The entrance to the harbour was protected by a new fort just west of the foot of the modern Bathurst Street, by a block house on the nearest point of the island and by the western battery, an outlying fortification a few hundred yards west of the fort. Block houses were erected later, one near the mouth of the Don where the office of the Gooderham & Worts Distillery now stands, one at the corner of Bloor and Sherbourne Streets, and one near the corner of College Street and Spadina Avenue, on the site of Broadway Tabernacle. The ravine of Garrison Creek was protected by another block house northwest of the fort, and much later, in 1838, the last of these defensive posts was erected just opposite Belmont Street to control Upper Yonge Street and the adjacent Rosedale ravine.

The town, as laid out by Governor Simcoe was located close to the shore not far west of the Don River; it consisted of 10 blocks, 4 streets running east and west and 6 streets running north and south. The most easterly street was *Berkeley*, then successively *Ontario*, *Princes*, in compliment to the princes of the Royal House, *Caroline*, called after the Princess of Wales, *Frederick*, after the Duke of York, and *George*, in honour of the ruling king, George Third. The *east* and *west* streets were *Palace*, our Front Street, so called from an intention never carried out, of erecting a Government House on this street, *King*

Street, the main highway of the town, *Duke Street* and *Duchess Street*. All these old streets remain to-day as originally planned. The idea of extending the streets at right angles to each other as designed by the founder has always been adhered to.

What did the new settlement look like in 1792-94 when Governor Simcoe, with his staff, troops and followers arrived? We know that the site had been used for trading purposes by the Mississauga Indians, and we are told that there was a clearing all along the waterfront from the Don River to the point of land where Bathurst Street is now. There were very large trees—many creeks and a great deal of marshy ground. On all sides extended the unbroken forest.

From the new capital Governor Simcoe planned *three main roads* which were opened up by his rangers. *The first* led westward to the head of Burlington Bay and thence to Niagara; it was called Dundas Street after Henry Dundas, Viscount Melville, a personal friend of the Simcoes. *The second* was the Kingston Road running eastward to Kingston, and *the third*, leading to Lake Simcoe, was called Yonge Street, after Sir George Yonge. Many different people had a share in the construction of these roads.

About the same time the province was divided into 19 counties, one of which was York. The townships were divided into lots one quarter mile in width, and those along the water front were laid out from Scarborough to the Humber.

One of the first things done was the erection of a saw-mill on the banks of the Humber for the purpose of supplying lumber for the building of the new town. They were very much in the heart of the wilderness, for the nearest settlement was 50 miles or more away.

The River Don at that time had two mouths, the main branch being where it now is, and the other some distance farther east.

The beauty of the Don Valley, with its wooded rolling slopes, must have attracted Governor Simcoe, for he built his summer home on the brow of the hill overlooking it. This log house, 30 x 50 feet, was called *Castle Frank*, after his little son Francis, and all the way from the settlement to the front of the Chateau was a carefully graded but narrow carriage road. Remains of this ancient engineering achievement are still to be traced along the

base of the hill below the Necropolis. One can imagine the Governor with his family and staff wending their way through the bush to this picturesque log home, in the summers of 1794-95-96. After the departure of Gov. Simcoe in 1796 it was occasionally used for a picnic or excursion, and we are told that Pres. Russell and his family had several balls there, but it gradually fell into disuse and was accidentally burned in 1829. The exact location of this memorable home is just north of the St. James' Cemetery fence, and the roadway followed the course of our modern Parliament Street.

There were mills on the Don River as early as 1798. Both a saw and a grist-mill were established by Capt. Skinner. These mills were important, being the only ones near York. The grist-mill had only one run of stones, and was kept running day and night. The people brought their grain from as far as Hamilton and other ports on the lake; it was taken up the Don in barges to Sugar Loaf Hill, and thence up the flats to the mill by ox teams. People living at a distance, and where no roads were available, brought bags of wheat on their backs over the trails.

The Parliament Buildings were built between Palace Street and the Bay, on the site now occupied by the Toronto Gas Works. They were humble but spacious wooden and brick structures. The location was probably selected because the ground was slightly elevated and the forest screened the swampy ground to the north and west. Officials of the Government, merchants and tradesmen began to select sites and put up dwellings in the usual way. Close by at Berkeley Street or Parliament Street, as the southern portion of it was called, the chief thoroughfare of the town King Street, had its starting point. Growing slowly westward it developed in the usual way—its taverns, its boarding houses, its places of worship, its lawyers, its doctors and its stores. East from Berkeley Street, King Street, bending slightly north and then east crossed the Don in a straight line and joined the Kingston Road.

The town grew rapidly towards the *west*, and by 1801 it had reached as far as Peter Street, and was surveyed from the Bay to Lot Street, our modern Queen Street, which is an exact continuation of the Kingston Road. From an interesting contemporary sketch we find that this section was called *Newtown*. It had as its western

boundary Peter Street, named after the Hon. Peter Russell, who owned an estate known as Petersfield, on Queen Street, through which Catherine Street now runs. The streets east of Peter Street were in order, John, Graves, now Simcoe, both called after Gov. Simcoe, York and Bear, so called from a famous bear hunt in that vicinity. Bear Street afterwards became Bay Street.

The east and west streets were Front Street, the pathway along the waterfront, then Market, now Wellington Street, then King Street, with Russell Square embracing the blocks from John to Simcoe Streets. Newgate Street, now Adelaide, so called from the proximity of the courthouse near the eastern end. Hospital Street, now Richmond Street, so called because from this street was the entrance to the hospital on the site of the Arlington Hotel.

North of this was Lot Street, now Queen Street, its western extension being known as Sydenham Street, from which Dundas ran north and then west.

West of Peter Street, what was known as the Military Reserve extended along the water front. In some military notes we read that the land was cleared and enclosed around the fort; it was sowed with grass for the more easy procuring of hay for the King's oxen and horses. These fields afterwards became known as the Garrison Common.

At this time Yonge Street did not extend south of Queen Street.

One of the most important features was *Market Square*, the site of which is partly occupied by the modern market; it was laid out in 1803 and comprised $5\frac{1}{2}$ acres. It extended from Church St. to New St., later called Nelson St., and finally Jarvis St. It has an interesting history, this old square, for besides being the general buying and selling place, it was the rendezvous of all classes, and we are told that the pillory and stocks were from time to time set up and were only done away with in 1834. The first well was dug at the market place in 1817. Opposite the square on the north side of King St. was where the original St. James Church was built in 1803, and the land around the "sacred little place," long remained covered with the original forest. The building faced west and from contemporary sketches seems to have stood a long way back from the roadway. Many stumps are visible in the clearing and heavy bush behind. The church was

enlarged in 1818 under the direction of Dr. John Strachan the Rector.

There was a church school in 1805 in the lot north of the church, which was the popular place for the sons of the more prominent settlers. Dr. O'Kill Stuart was the first teacher, and in 1809 there was a central school started by Mr. Spragge on the southeast corner of the same square.

The first *Post Office* in 1816 was a small unpretentious log house on the east side of Frederick Street. The first postmaster was Mr. Wm. Allan, father of the Hon. G. W. Allan. Mails were very irregular, being by stage and sailing boat and often a letter for England mailed in November did not reach England until the spring.

The first jail was built in 1800, outside the original town of York, at the corner of King Street and Leader Lane, about where Murray-Kay's store now stands. Opposite on the north side of King was the Court House building. In 1824 another jail was put up near the Court House.

The town suffered a serious set-back when it was captured by the Americans in April, 1813. The Parliament Buildings were burned, the fortifications more or less destroyed and the invading troops billeted on the citizens. The enemy soon retired, and we learn that the Assembly met temporarily in Jordan's Hotel during the session of 1814. They met for several years at the residence of Mr. Geo. Markland, on the northeast corner of York and Wellington Sts. In 1818 new buildings were erected on the old site, but they were destroyed by fire in 1824. From 1825 to 1828 the sessions were held in the General Hospital, on the site of the Arlington Hotel. Substantial brick buildings were erected on the southeast corner of Front and Simcoe Streets in 1830-31, which were in use until 1892, when the present Parliament Buildings were opened.

This Jordan's Hotel on King Street, near Princes Street, was a very well known and popular place for travellers from the east. We are told that in 1820, so old was it, that it looked almost antique compared with the Mansion House which was put up beside it. One of the few town pump stations was near by.

Streets were added as needed, and were called after owners of land through whose property they ran, or after officials prominent at the time. The land was gradually

cleared of large timber and heavy underbrush, and although the streets were mostly bush roads with paths, there were many wealthy settlers with most comfortable homes for such a primitive place. There were many creeks which crossed at various angles, and these made a great deal of mud when they overflowed their banks. At times much of the land was marshy and unhealthy. The English gentlemen who settled in York acquired lots, and the U. E. Loyalists who came after the Revolutionary War were given grants of land. As the entire district was surveyed to the 1st Concession, namely, from Queen to Bloor, it was not long before it was all under private ownership. These farms or lots were held by their owners as estates.

Where the Esplanade is now was vastly different in those early days; it has broadened the town to the south and made room for the railway section and all the open space to the waters of the Bay. Front Street in the old days was a raised terrace, and so bare was it that young trees, oaks and elms, were planted for shade.

The early settlers in York recall the names of the Hon. Peter Russell, Dr. Baldwin, Dr. Strachan, John Scadding, Lieut. FitzGibbon, Judge J. O. Jarvis, Hon. H. J. Boulton, Hon. Wm. Allan, Alexander McNab, Hon. W. B. Robinson, Captain Macaulay, John W. Gamble. Rev. Saltern Givens, Lt.-Col. Denison, George Ridout, Henry B. Heward and the Hon. Geo. Cruickshanks.

There is a very interesting oil painting in the John Ross Robertson collection, by Mr. Irving, a Scotch artist who before 1820 was visiting in Toronto as a guest of the Hon. Geo. Cruickshanks. This painting gives an excellent idea of the town at that time, looking across the Bay from the Island. A key to this plan, which gives the names of all the important buildings, was subsequently added. Front St., like Palace, Duke and Duchess Sts., was one of the early residential streets; its houses faced the Bay and had an unobstructed view of the Island and of the lake beyond. Between Peter and John Sts., one of the first houses built in 1800, was the home of the gentleman mentioned above, the Hon. Geo. Cruickshanks. It was built 60 feet back from the path, and was low and wide. In summer we are told that it was covered with vines, and that the white painted clap-boards showed picturesquely beneath. Just east was the home of Mr.

John Beikie, Clerk of the Executive Council in 1832. It was torn down in 1850 to make way for Windsor St.

"The Palace," the home of Dr. Strachan, stood on Front Street about opposite to our Union Station. It was a beautiful old place and stood there until 1900, when it was torn down. Mr. J. Ross Robertson had a chair made from the oak of the threshold, and in 1904 it was presented to Trinity University, which was founded by Dr. Strachan.

On the water front was the "Halfway House" built in 1816, a favourite resort of the soldiers, which for a time bore this famous sign:—

"Within this hive, we're all alive,
Good liquor makes us funny,
If you be dry, step in and try,
The flavour of our honey."

Not far from this was the "Greenland Fishery" tavern—which had a unique painted sign—one side of which was an Arctic scene, the other vessels and boats engaged in capturing a whale.

There were very many taverns, for drinking was universal—the old brewers tell how regularly they furnished even the clergymen of those days with their best beer. Taverns and inns everywhere were patronized by the travellers, not only as halting and watering places for tired horses, but also as places for refreshment for the drivers.

Next on the water's edge was a military storehouse built in 1810. Other interesting buildings were, the Ship Hotel, at the corner of Front and Market Sq., and the Farmers' storehouse at the corner of Church and Maitland Wharf. On Front St. also were the homes of the Hon. Rob. Hamilton, the Hon. Geo. Martland, Judge Grant Powell, Major Hilier, Andrew Mercer, Judge Macaulay and Mr. Geo. Ridout. *Russell Abbey*, the residence of the Hon. Peter Russell stood at the southwest corner of Front and Princes. Like most of the early homes in York it had only one story with wings to right and left and gabled roof. The Hon. Peter Russell, being Governor and administrator of the colony after the departure of Gov. Simcoe, had facilities for selecting and acquiring such lands as he wished; his valuable possessions he bequeathed at his death to his sister, who in turn bequeathed them to a relation, Dr. Robert Baldwin.

The office of Judge Beverley Robinson was also on Front St., but his home, Beverley House, was on the northeast corner of John and Richmond Sts. It was later the temporary abode of Poulett Thompson, Lord Sydenham, Governor-General of Canada. The oldest part of this house was built in 1812 by D'Arcy Boulton. *Elmsley House*, on the southwest corner of King and Simcoe Sts., had an interesting history; it was built in 1804 by Justice Elmsley. In 1816 it was purchased from him and used as Government House. Later it was destroyed by fire, and the old Government House was erected in its place.

As early as 1802 a New England jeweller, Jordan Post, acquired the land between Bay to Yonge St. The names of himself and his wife are preserved in Jordan and Melinda Sts.

Church St., in 1820, only ran from Front to Queen Sts. The Jarvis property was on the east and the McGill property on the west. Samuel Peters Jarvis lived at the corner of Shuter and Jarvis St. The gates leading into his estate could be seen at the Bay, as there were no large trees at that time directly in front. East of the Jarvis property was the land belonging to the Hon. Wm. Allan, known as Mossfield, or Moss Park.

On the northeast corner of King and Caroline Sts. was the home of Joseph Cawthra. About this time Caroline St. was changed to Sherbourne St. Mr. Ridout had the land east of Moss Park, and he and Mr. Allan extended the street through their properties, and the name Sherbourne was chosen, it being the home town in England of the Ridout family.

A very old property was that of the Hon. C. C. Small on the southwest corner of King and Berkeley Sts. His house, known as Berkeley House, was really on the Government Reserve, near the old Parliament Buildings.

Capt. Sparks, we are told, bought an old house in 1820 on the west side of Broadview Ave., not far from Queen St. Tradition has it that it was built at the same time as Castle Frank, of long, solid pine logs, which were afterwards covered with clap-boards.

Where the modern jail now stands was the home of John Scadding built on the Don River in 1800. There was a little bridge over the river known as Scadding's Bridge. The Scadding property extended along the east bank of the Don from the Bay to Danforth Ave.

Dr. Macaulay had the lands on the north side of Queen St., up to College St, known as Macaulay Town, through which a roadway led to his house, Teraulay Cottage (where Trinity Church now stands), called Teraulay St., after the name of the family residence in Scotland of the head of the Macaulay clan. James, Albert, Alice and Edward Sts., running through the property are Macaulay names.

The land bounded by Yonge, Bay, Queen and Richmond Sts. was the property of Jesse Ketchum, known as the children's friend, a most philanthropic pioneer settler. Through his land ran Temperance St., the name significant of a Temperance Hall built by him. He deeded part of his property to the Presbyterian body known as Knox Church, which was built in 1821 on Queen St. The manse was built in 1825 on the east side of Bay St. to the south of Queen.

The Masonic Hall, a famous old landmark, stood on Market Lane, now Colborne St., in 1818; it was used as a schoolhouse, and in 1823 was the place of worship of the Baptists. It was the first building with a cupola.

Scott St. received its name from Mr. Thomas Scott, whose home was in the vicinity. The first building on the northeast corner of King and Yonge Sts. was that of Mr. John Dennis, built in 1820. Later, in 1827, it was used as the Registry Office by Mr. Samuel Ridout.

Among the homes outside the more settled section was that of Major Givens, built in 1802, on Givens St. He was a lieutenant in the Queen's Rangers, under Gov. Simcoe. In the war of 1812, the wounded men were taken care of by Mrs. Givens. This old house was torn down in 1890.

Capt. Shaw's house, in the midst of the woods northeast of where Trinity College now stands, was built in 1798. In the log cabin to the west of this the Duke of Kent, father of Queen Victoria, was entertained in 1802. Shaw St. commemorates his name.

Mr. Duncan Cameron had the property known as Gore Vale, the southern portion was sold to Trinity College.

In 1813 we find Spadina Ave. laid out by Dr. Baldwin; the name Spadina is from the Mississauga, meaning a sudden rise of ground, and on the elevation, at the head of the street, Dr. Baldwin built his house, Spadina, in 1830. This landmark was burned in 1835. There was a double row of chestnut trees on both sides of the wonder-

ful roadway, which was nearly three miles in length from the foot of the hill to the Bay. Mr. James Austin later bought this property and it is still occupied by the family.

East of Spadina, on the same elevation of land, was the quaint old home of Col. Wells, known as Davenport. Dupont St. records the name of his son, George Dupont Wells. The locality is still known as Wells' Hill.

Bloor St. received its name from Joseph Bloor, who at an early date was the landlord of The Farmers' Arms, a hotel at the market. On retiring from this he started a brewery in the ravine on the north side of the first concession road, midway between Sherbourne St. and Huntley St.; it was still in operation in 1833. Mr. Bloor joined Mr. Jarvis in laying out the village of Yorkville, which might have been called Bloorville. Mr. Sheriff Jarvis lived at Rosedale (his picturesque home), the name aptly describing the beauty of the place. It seems hard to believe that as late as 1850 this beautiful residential section had only a few houses and only one bridge across the ravine, and that a rickety wooden one, which blew down one night while a cabman was crossing it.

West of Yonge St. on Bloor was the Shaw cottage, built in 1818 by Robert Shaw and occupied by his descendants until nearly the end of the century. The land on which it was originally built belonged to Mr. W. D. Baldwin, and was deeded by him to the fund of the Church of the Redeemer. All the land around Bloor St. at that time was forest. The roadbed was a sand bed and excessively muddy in wet seasons. At the northwest corner of Yonge and Bloor was the Potter's Field Burying Ground.

There were many little creeks and swampy places in and about the town in those days. Possibly this has something to do with the place receiving the title of "*Muddy Little York.*" One large creek ran from the northeast across the original town and emptied into the Bay, near the first Parliament Buildings. Where this creek crossed the line of the present Queen and Sherbourne Sts., it was joined by the Moss Park Creek. Part of the original bed of this creek was the Moss Park skating rink. These creeks did not alter their courses, and were there up to 1850. A good sized creek ran through what was early known as Alex.'s Field, later the Normal School Grounds. At certain seasons this stream contained sufficient water to allow of boys bathing in it. The same creek crossed Church St. at Gould St., and running

east flowed down through that part of the Jarvis Farm, which lay east of Church St.

On the west side of Spadina Ave. there was an erratic and active creek, which in the spring was responsible for a rupture in the roadway between College and Queen Sts. Another creek ran through the grounds of the old Government House on the southwest corner of King and Simcoe Sts., where the C. P. R. freight sheds now are. After crossing Wellington St. this creek ran through the grounds of the Parliament Buildings, and found its way to the Bay.

The low grounds in Queen's Park, too, were, at certain seasons, flooded, and were always swampy, and the happy home of numberless muskrats. More surplus waters formed a creek which crossed College St. near Beverley St., and ran through the grounds of the Hon. J. Beverley Robinson at Sleepy Hollow, where neat miniature bridges were used as crossings.

A good-sized creek also ran through the grounds of the Hon. James McCutcheon, who resided in a pretty little cottage called McGill Cottage, which was situated in the centre of the grounds now occupied by the Methodist Metropolitan Church. This property was called McGill Sq. The house, built in 1804, was the shelter for the ladies of York when the town was taken in 1813. Mr. McCutcheon was a brother of the Hon. Peter McGill, of Montreal, the founder of McGill University. McGill St. is called after this family. Gerrard and Shuter Sts. were named after personal friends of Mr. McCutcheon.

Dr. Scadding says that Peter McGill inherited the bulk of the McGill property by changing his name from McCutcheon by Act of Parliament.

The Garrison Creek, just east of the Old Fort, was another famous creek.

In the course of time these superfluous surface waters disappeared, thanks to the introduction of an excellent drainage system, but the mud formed a constant subject of conversation. There is a story in Taylor's "Toronto Called Back" of a gentleman walking on King St. who espied a good-looking hat in the middle of the road. "Curious to see and pick up the hat, he managed to reach it, and on removing it discovered to his surprise the head of a living man underneath. This individual at once appealed for help and deliverance, urging as his special plea, that if prompt assistance was not rendered his horse,

which was underneath, would certainly perish." The usual method of extrication by the use of shovels and oxen was soon applied, and the man and horse saved.

We must not overlook the old home of the Denison family, known as Bellevue House, built in 1815, on spacious grounds on the north side of Queen Street. The present Bellevue Avenue was named after it, and Denison Avenue was the driveway. Later Rusholme became the homestead of the family; it was built in 1839 at the corner of Rusholme Road and Dundas Street. Esther St. and Augusta Ave. are Denison names, and Dovercourt the name of the English home of the family. Lippincott Street was named after a Richard Lippincott, the Loyalist, whose daughter Esther married a Denison.

Queen's Avenue—then changed to College Avenue—was the original name of our University Avenue. It extended from Queen Street to the land reserved for the College—our Queen's Park and University Grounds. McCaul St., opened up later, received its name from Dr. McCaul, the first president of the University.

On the west side of Queen's Ave. from Queen to College was the land belonging to Wm. Dummer Powell. His house built in 1810 and occupied by him until 1820 was called Caer Howell (Castle Howell), after the Old Country name of the family. This old homestead formed a part of the old Caer Howell Hotel. William St. (formerly Dummer St.), and Murray St., in the property, commemorate his name.

South of College St. and west of University Avenue, about where the Conservatory of Music now stands, was the home of Hon. Beverley Robinson, on the old Powell estate.

South of this was the property of Mr. Darcy Boulton. The house known as The Grange was built by him in 1820. After his death his son, Mr. Henry Boulton, lived there and subsequently the widow of the latter married Prof. Goldwin Smith. The property has been remodelled and is now the Art Museum.

Mr. Thomas Ridout, Manager of the Bank of Upper Canada, built what was perhaps the first pretentious house in the lonely vicinity of upper Sherbourne St. It stood unfinished for many years, but was eventually purchased by Senator Geo. A. Cox, who lived there until his death. It is now owned by the Robert Simpson Co., and is called Sherbourne House.

The property of the Hon. G. W. Allan extended as far north as Bloor St. The portion now known as the Allar Gardens was presented by him to the city. The northern section, thickly studded with trees and heavy underbrush was for many years the rendezvous of disreputable characters.

There were only three wharves up to 1830. *One* at the east, at the foot of Frederick St., known as Merchant's Wharf, and owned by Wm. Allan. City Wharf now stands there. *Second*, at the foot of Church Street, known as Farmers' Wharf, in 1816, and later as Maitland's Wharf, now Sylvester's. *Third*, at the foot of Peter Street, known as Ordnance Wharf. It was there when the Esplanade was begun in 1853. *Later*, in 1832, the wharf at the foot of Yonge Street, known as Freeland's Wharf, was built beside the soap and candle factory belonging to Mr. Freeland.

The town lost the name of York in 1832, when it was incorporated as a city with the old name, Toronto. At that time the population was about 9,000. A few of the more important streets might be mentioned:

Simcoe St. above Queen was originally William St.—then Dummer St.—now Simcoe.

Pearl St. was originally Boulton St.

Lombard was originally March, then Stanley, then Lombard.

Lower Spadina was originally Brock after Gen. Brock.

(Mrs. Jameson resided at the foot of this street in 1836. Also the old Northern Station stood there.)

Streets with historic names are:—

Maitland, after Sir Peregrine Maitland.

Bathurst St., after the Earl of Bathurst, Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Portland St., after the Duke of Portland, Colonial Secretary.

Adelaide St., after Queen Adelaide, wife of William IV.

Argyle St., after Duke of Argyle.

Arthur St., after Prince Arthur.

Essex St., after Earl of Essex.

Bond St., after Sir Francis Bond Head.

Other streets of interest are:—

Wilcox, Baldwin, Russell and St. George bear the names of members of the Baldwin family.

Alexander and Wood Sts., from their location on the old estate of Alexander Wood.

Beverley St., after Hon. Beverley Robinson.
D'Arcy St., after Mr. D'Arcy Boulton.

From the date of its incorporation as *Toronto in 1832* the city has grown from a little town of less than 10,000 to the large city of 600,000 that we all know. It is difficult to realize the changes that have occurred within the span of a single life. While it is proper that we should contemplate with pride this wonderful growth and that we should to-day enjoy the sentiment of the Apostle, that we are citizens "of no mean city," it is also fitting that we should strive to keep green the memory of the little military outpost in the wilderness in which our forefathers "well and truly laid" the foundations of the great city of the future. The greatness of a city, said the ancient sage, is not in bricks and mortar, but in the spirit of the citizens, and in this respect also the pioneers of Toronto were worthy of her.

Books consulted in preparing this paper:—

Robertson's "Landmarks of Toronto."

Dr. Scadding's "Toronto of Old."

Mr. Pearson's "Recollections and Records of Toronto."

Mulvaney's "Toronto, Past and Present."

Taylor's "Toronto Called Back."

And notes from my father, Mr. R. F. Easson.

No. 2.

Notes on the Life of Canon Featherstone Lake Osler, and his wife, Ellen Free Pickton

BY MRS. W. T. HALLAM, B.A.

Featherstone Lake Osler was the son of Edward Osler, a merchant and shipowner, living at Falmouth, England. He was born December 14th, 1805, and when very young went off to sea, in opposition to the wishes of his family and friends. He speaks thus of his youth: "I was always reckless and daring." What with encountering shipwrecks, yellow fever and other catastrophes, he had many marvellous escapes from an untimely end.

On his return from a voyage to Rio Janeiro he received a flattering offer to go to the East Indies, which, if he had

accepted, would have most probably resulted in attaining for him "a very high rank in the Royal Navy." His parents were quite aged, and he declined this offer. He had often thought of taking Holy Orders, and now, when he found that the only means at hand for advancement in the navy meant six years away from England, he determined to give his life for the Church, with the prospect of settling down in England in a quiet parish. He entered St. Catharines Hall, Cambridge, in 1833, and took his degree in 1836, at the age of thirty-one.

His godfather, Mr. Lake, was an intimate friend of the Earl of Galloway, who was a nephew of Bishop Mountain of Quebec. The Bishop got these two interested in Church life in Canada, and they formed a society in England, called the "Upper Canada Clergy Society."

From this Society Mr. Osler received a letter when he was at home in Falmouth on vacation, which read: "You have been abroad a great deal, therefore it would not be so much for you to go as for others. There is a great scarcity of clergy in Canada. Is it not your duty to go out?" He put the letter into his mother's hands, who said: "If it is God's will, go, and God bless you."

He could not refuse this appeal and consented to go for five years, for, as he said: "*If I were in the navy and were ordered east, west, north or south in the service of my King, I could not refuse to go, and shall I be less obedient to go abroad in the service of my Heavenly King?*"

On February 6, 1837, he was married to Ellen Pickton, of Falmouth, described by her old friends as pretty, clever, witty, faithful in her friendships, and of strong religious principles. She was born near London in 1806, daughter of Thomas Pickton, one of a company of wholesale merchants. While young she went to live with her uncle in Falmouth, Captain Britton.

Some of her reminiscences are most interesting. When at boarding school in 1817, the Princess Charlotte died, and "mourning was universal. Every boarder at school had black things sent to her. At church the whole congregation was in mourning, the men wore black bands on their sleeves and hats, and the poorest beggars on the streets tried to have a wisp of crape."

She remembered the great peace rejoicings at Waterloo. She wore a white sash with "Peace and Plenty" in gold letters upon it. Every house was illuminated, and cheering processions filled the streets. She remembers

"seeing the bodies of criminals hung in chains near the scene of their crimes according to the barbarous fashions of the time." She used to see the "Sailor King William IV. when he was Prince William, with his ship at Fal-mouth." "Naval officers were always welcome guests at her uncle's, and she had many friends among them, and not a few admirers."

To one of them she gave her heart, and when he decided to go to Canada, she hesitated not to go with him as his wife. In March Mr. Osler was ordained at Lambeth Palace Chapel by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and in April they started for Canada, having as a fellow passenger, Mr. Henry Scadding, who had been attending Cambridge University, studying for Holy Orders.

"With the idea that Canada was a fearfully cold country, Mrs. Osler's dresses were lined with heavy flannel, and she took a large fur cape which was a great comfort to her for many years on long cold drives."

After an ocean voyage of seven and a half weeks they arrived at Quebec, when Mr. Osler was ordained priest and Mr. Scadding deacon, by Bishop Mountain. The Bishop told Mr. Osler that Archdeacon Strachan had a residence for them in their new field of work, which was in the township of Tecumseth, some distance north of Toronto. Ten days' journey by water and land brought them to Toronto, and in a few days they started north.

Mr. Scadding was appointed tutor to Sir John Colborne's son, and later became a Master at Upper Canada College. He was appointed first Rector of Holy Trinity Church, Toronto, on October 27th, 1847.

The residence waiting for Mr. and Mrs. Osler was a rough house in the woods, which had been used for the animals. "With the exception of wolves no living creatures were within a third of a mile." But Mrs. Osler had received her first shock in Quebec, looking out from her bedroom window at an unkept yard, untidy buildings, and seeing within few comforts and general roughness. Brought up in a home of good taste and comfort, the contrast was great. But she told her niece, Miss Jeanette Osler, many years after: "I had my cry out there and then, the first and the last, my dear, and was glad to be well over it by the time your uncle came back."

They suffered all kinds of discomforts during that first Canadian winter. "I believe we both feel heartily sick of our present abode, having only a kitchen and two bed-

rooms, and in consequence of a number of cattle about the door, it is scarcely possible to move a step without our shoes being covered with dirt. My poor horse, too, in what is termed the stable, is dripping wet from the snow which falls through the roof on him. Fatigue I do not mind, but to be all together in one room, no place to write or study in, surrounded by filth, I find difficulty in being reconciled to."

Later in the winter, Mrs. Osler went to Newmarket to stay until a proper house was found, as no servant would or could live in their wretched quarters.

"Early in the spring I called a public meeting, and told the people that unless they would provide a house in which we could live we would be obliged to leave the parish. Three hundred and sixty-eight dollars were subscribed on the spot—a large sum according to their means—and an acre of ground was given by James Armstrong as a site for a parsonage. By July 15, 1838, the kitchen and two small bedrooms were plastered, and to these rooms we moved, living there while the workmen were engaged on the other part of the house. The people had also undertaken to furnish materials for the house, and to find these devolved on me. I often rode ten or twelve miles over almost impassable roads, to procure a little dry lumber, or some bricks, and then as much farther to get a team to haul them to the parsonage grounds, and when I thought all was arranged, on going to the buildings a few days after would find the workmen idle for want of material which I had thought had been sent to the spot." However, by autumn, they were comfortably settled in their new parsonage at Bond Head.

As the news spread that a Church of England clergyman had arrived, deputations kept coming from many different townships, asking him to please visit them, as they had not seen a clergyman for years, and he says: "My own charge extended over two hundred and forty miles, south as far as Thornhill, while north and west there was no other clergyman. Station after station was opened up, until I held services in twenty townships, extending over two thousand square miles, taking in Coldwater, Penetang, Caledon, Gore of Toronto with Georgina and intermediate places."

Mr. Osler would be away from Tuesday until Friday, holding services five or six times through the week. "In the evenings the whole family where I stayed, would

gather around the fireplace, one holding a candle in his hand that I might catechize them or give instruction for the Sunday School." He suffered much from the vermin, which seemed very numerous, and his body was sometimes covered with sores. His journeys on horseback lay through rough woods and swamps, over trails and corduroy roads; over the wetter part of the swamps where there was no footing; bridges sometimes two miles long were made of floating logs fastened together, and Mr. Osler always dismounted and led his horse over, for the logs dipped and shifted. Wolves often went along his trail, but never attacked him.

During the first winter of Mr. Osler's life in this district the rebellion broke out, and he worked night and day to raise men and arms, and to try and quiet the women who were in a panic. He said: "The only way was to turn out and meet them boldly, but things wore a very miserable aspect, and the few valuables or rather specie I had, I buried, that in case the rebels take everything else—as there was little doubt they would should they gain the upper hand—we might not, if our lives were spared, be quite destitute."

"December 10, 1837, started for Newmarket, overtook a body of Loyalists on horseback on the way to Bradford. We collected about 500 men and as much ammunition and arms as possible. Reached Captain Hill's house late in the evening. Between eleven and twelve Mr. Carthew called me to say there was every reason to believe that a party of rebels intended to attack the house that night. The ladies, Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Carthew and my E., with the children, had retired. We kept guard with four loaded guns. At every sound we heard we ran out with our guns, but the Lord protected us, and saved us from an attack." On Sunday, December 17, the following entry in his journal shows the natural fear which civil war must always engender: "Preached from Psalm cxii. Truly we have cause to call upon our soul and all that is within us to bless His Holy Name, for He has delivered us out of the hands of His enemies, and through His mercy not one man was wounded in this township. A more bloody conspiracy was scarcely ever conceived, it having been discovered that the rebels had bound themselves by solemn oath to spare neither man, woman or child. They had even gone so far as to portion out the Loyalists' lands amongst themselves, making sure of success. But

the Lord was on our side and fought for us. To Him be the glory!"

Mr. Osler had much annoyance from certain members of his church expecting him to get them appointments in the militia. One family, which had helped with the singing, would sing no longer. He found that much blame was being attached to him for unsatisfactory appointments, just because he was a friend of Colonel Hill. "The truth is," he says, "*nearly every one expected to be made an officer!*"

On January 6, 1838, he writes: "Preached at Newmarket in the morning to 200, in the p.m. to 100. Left on Tuesday with Mrs. Osler for Toronto; arrived at night after a wearisome journey; the sleighing being very bad. Was distressed to find Toronto Church burned down." He had purchased a sleigh and harness, as the horseback riding was beginning to tell on his health. He makes many references in his journals to his visits at the home of Mr. Gamble on the way back and forth to Toronto.

In spite of troubles caused among his people by such rumours as that tithes were going to be forced upon them, etc., the Church of England became popular, and Mr. Osler was more and more sought after as a visitor and preacher.

Whether he preached in a church, school house, stable or dwelling, there were always large congregations to greet him. His manner of preaching evidently appealed to his hearers, and his message bore fruit.

"The style of preaching which I have adopted here, is what is commonly called, though not in reality, *extempore*. I study my sermons well beforehand, and then commit myself unto the Lord, striving with His aid to bring plain, forcible truths home to the conscience of each, not leaving the application for the last, but applying as I proceed, and, when I can, illustrate what I am saying by some striking occurrence or anecdote. This arrests their attention. God grant that it may reach their hearts."

Mr. and Mrs. Osler established twenty-eight Sunday Schools, scattered over 2,000 square miles, which provided instruction for 1,200 children. They also began the first Sunday School picnics in Canada.

"The idea struck us that if the children attending schools within reasonable distance were gathered together, a tea given them, and afterwards addresses made

and prizes given to the most deserving, a good effect would be produced." Nearly 600 children, teachers and friends assembled on the lawn of the rectory. Three barrels of flour were baked into bread and cakes at the parsonage, and the young men, who were studying under Mr. Osler for the ministry, and living with them, decorated the booths with evergreens and flags, and a most enjoyable and profitable afternoon was spent.

Mrs. Osler's part in this pioneer work was a most important one. She conducted Bible classes for the young people, and also sewing and cooking classes for the young women in her home. They would arrive in the morning several hours before they were expected, and spend the day under her valuable instruction. The young men would fasten their Testaments to their ploughs, studying as they worked, and the girls studied as they spun, so eager were they for instruction from their beloved teacher. Mr. Osler in his journal says: "That school did more towards elevating the tone of the people than anything else, and mothers and grandmothers of Tecumseth speak of it as one of the greatest blessings of their lives."

Mr. Osler was a constant visitor among his people, and he lived among them his religion of love. Whether the rain was coming in torrents, whether the snowstorm was so blinding that he could scarcely see, or whether it was the middle of the night, he never refused to go on his ministry of love; nor did he scarcely ever fail in his preaching appointments, even though his health at times was indifferent. They sent for him to extract teeth, to bleed, and to administer medicines. He also was a general will-drawer, as he saw the evil of the law of primogeniture, then in force.

His practical and generous nature helped out many settlers, by his setting apart a sum of money, to be let out in small loans without interest. For sometimes a small sum would help the farmers to hold their land, and he says, "Every farthing was paid back."

In Mr. Osler's journals are found many appreciative references to the clergy who worked with him or near him during his years here; Mr. Sanson, Mr. O'Meara, Mr. Scadding, Mr. Darling, Mr. Hill and his brother Henry. These names are well known to Church people.

After twenty years' service in this parish, Mr. and Mrs. Osler removed to Dundas, only that their children might have better advantages for education. Six churches and

two rectories had been built, and 160 acres of valuable glebe at Tecumseth cleared.

When they left they were presented with a handsome service of plate, a pair of solid silver candle-sticks and warm-hearted addresses, as tokens of love and affection from their people.

Mr. Osler lived to be ninety years of age, and his wife one hundred and one years, so that their years of hard work and simple living did not shorten their days, and they gave to the world a family of whom Canada may well be proud.

Their daughter, the late Mrs. Williamson, will never be forgotten, from her wonderful service and devotion in W. A. work. Their son, the late Sir William Osler, of Oxford, has left the impress of his great intellect and benevolent nature, not only in our Empire but in the neighbouring Republic. Toronto claims their two surviving sons, Mr. Justice Osler and Sir Edmund Osler, Bart.

No. 3.

An Old Account, 1785-1788

BY SARA MICKLE.

Accounts are generally dry, irksome and uninteresting especially when it comes to paying them; but this account will not prove dull for it tells us something of very early times at Niagara, and gives some indication of the manner of life among the U. E. Loyalist settlers there.

The Account begins in 1785, two years after the Peace of Paris 1783 had concluded the Revolutionary War, and one year after "Butler's Rangers," by whom the Niagara district was mainly settled, had been disbanded. Even before these dates the infant settlement had taken to agriculture; in 1780, Haldimand moved by consideration of the "vast expense, uncertainty and difficulties" of provisioning the upper posts, had arranged that land should be allotted and distributed to the Loyalists on the following terms,—land to remain the sole property of the Crown,—the settlers on it "are not to consider they have the smallest right to any part thereof, the produce alone

being their property." If they removed, they could dispose of their crops, cattle, etc., and a reasonable allowance would be made for their improvements. No rent was required. Seed, mills, ploughs, etc., were to be furnished them. The settlers were told that the produce over and above their own consumption was not to be removed from the post, but sold to the Commanding Officer for the use of the troops. These terms soon proved irksome.

By December, 1781, four or five families were settled and had built themselves houses; in December 1782, the number had increased to 16 families, and Butler reported that they had maintained themselves "since September last," and had only received half rations from the first.

In 1783 were heard murmurs of discontent at the uncertain tenure on which they held their land, being "liable to be turned off our places when the Commanding Officer pleases." A Farmers' petition was therefore sent in to Butler complaining that all the terms promised by Government, had not been fulfilled; pointing out that they were obliged to sell to the Commandant at such prices as he thought proper, and begging leave to sell to merchants and others "at the price we can agree, as we are obliged to pay merchants their own prices for anything we want."

By this time though peace they knew would soon be declared, none of them thought of returning to their former homes in the United States, or of reclaiming their estates in courts of law; to repurchase them they were not able.

When Butler's Rangers were disbanded, 258 officers and men agreed to settle—making Niagara quite an important centre.

We can picture the little settlement of these men and women, who had given up their all and come to make new homes in this far land. Many had arrived at the Post, penniless, ragged and ill, from the effect of the hardships they had endured; refugees from the ill-treatment given by their former neighbors. Most of them came from the Mohawk Valley in New York State. In this state nearly all the principal people were Loyalists; the wealthier merchants, the great proprietors, and wealthy families were Loyalists; the Johnsons, Bradts, Freys, Hares, Herkimers, Thompsons, Youngs, Nelles, John Butler, John Deare, Lottridges, Peter Ten Broeck, Alexander White, were all owners of handsome estates, which were con-

fiscated. When Butler raised his force it was drawn from the flower of the population. Now in the wilderness they had to begin again. The hardships of the first years were very great. The meagre food, the incessant struggle to conquer nature, the deprivations, no school, no clergyman, the lack of comforts for the sick and the aged, tried men's souls, as the fighting had not done. This was the day of the log-cabin and homespun; but poor and rude as the first homes must necessarily have been, let us not make the mistake of thinking of the owners as homespun in manner; very soon the log cabin was superseded by homes which reflected something of the dignity and style of architecture of the houses they had left behind them. In Queenston, the Hamilton house, still a considerable mansion, was standing when Simcoe arrived as Governor; in Grimsby, the Nelles houses were built in very early times; as was also the Servos house at Niagara.

The account is between Adam Krysler, and Street & Butler. Adam Krysler was of Dutch descent and came from Schoharie; he had been Lieut. in the force, and an active ranger, having been commissioned several times to head expeditions to the Valley. He received a grant of land at 14-mile creek. Street was a U. E. Loyalist; and Butler of the Rangers, was one of the most wealthy and powerful men in the community.

Mr. Adam Krysler to Street & Butler.

Lieut. A. Krysler Dr. to Street & Butler, Niagara, 1785.

	£	s.	d.
Aug. 4—To 1 pair stuff shoes, self			12
“ 5½ yds. sheeting, self, 4/6	1	4	9
“ 10 lbs. of loaf sugar, self, 2/6	1	5	
“ 1 lb. pepper, self		6	
“ 2 Iron Potts, 35½ lbs., self, 1/4	2	7	4
“ 7½ lbs. shott, self 1/		5	6
“ 1 bb. powder, self		5	
Aug. 6—“ 1 quire paper, son		2	
“ 1 pair Channel pumps, son		18	
“ 1 pair Channel pumps, son		18	
20—“ 1 gallon rum, son	1	12	
25—“ 4½ bb. ropes, son, 2/6		11	3
“ 1 lb. Bohea Tea, son		8	
27—“ 1 pair shoes, self		10	
“ cash, self		8	
“ 1 pair Channel pumps, self		18	

The Street & Butler firm dealt in all sorts of commodities. Tea, green or bohea, for the years 1785-88 seems always to have been 8/ a pound; candles were 2s. 6d. a pound; handkerchiefs are bought at 5/ each, while £1 8s.

were given for two black ones. Loaf sugar was 2/6d a lb; where 41½ pounds were bought a discount of 2/4d. was allowed. Brown sugar was 2/ a pound, while one entry of double refined sugar gives its price as three shillings a pound. "Russia sheeting," a fabric of which we know nothing, was four and sixpence to five shillings a yard, presumably according to quality. Brown cloth was 28/ per yard, which was also the price of "second cloth." "Calicoe" is charged at 6/ to 10 shillings per yard, and chintz at 16s., while "Shalloon," whatever that may have been, blue, green or white, appears to have been 5/ per yard. The iron potts appear to have been sold by weight.

The six long pages of entries extending over three years contain many interesting items. Not only were dry goods, rum and wine, groceries, spectacles and hardware, etc., supplied to their customers, but in a way the firm seems to have acted as a bank, for such items as these appear: "Cash, £2;" "cash paid F. Rowe, £2;" "paid Coon & Wisney, £2 17s. 10d.;" "cash to self, £1 19s.," and cash to self £1 1s. 8d.;" "Cash to Mrs. Shower's¹ order, 6s"; and then in January, 1788, as if they were getting rather tired of honouring the demands, comes in the item, "cash in hard money,² £19 13s."

Not only was cash, hard or otherwise, supplied, but we come on the following items: "1786, May 30th, 1 ticket at Raffling, for Captain Frey's² home, £1 17s. 4d.," and in 1787, "Sept. 4th, 2 chances at Raffle, £3 14s. 8d.," and two days later a further plunge is recorded, "Sept. 6th, 6 chances at Raffle for sundries, horses, at 37s. 14d., totaling £11 4s., and on the same date "½ chance at Raffle, 18s. 8d.

Most of the items are noted as bought by "self," some are debited to the son's order, a few to "daughter," and only three items appear to have been purchased by Mrs. Kryslor, and are debited to "wife."

But the strangest entry of all we come upon thus—

1786—

	£	s.	d.
Dec. 15th—To 4 yards S. cloth, son, 48/	9	12	
" 3 yards shag, son, 20/	3		
" 4½ yards shalloon, son, 5/	1	2	6
" 4 doz. buttons, son, 6/	1	4	
" 6 lb. sugar, son, 2/	1	12	
" ½ yd. white Molton, son, 6/6		3	3
" 2 gallons rum, son, 14/	1	8	
" 1 bottle of mustard, 7th, son.....			2
" 1 Negro Wench	40		

The credit side of this account shows us how the Loyalists held together during the trying times when their claims for losses having been sent in they were awaiting the payment promised by the British Government. Adam Kryslers claim for lands, mills, houses, stock and furniture left behind him in Schoharie, amounted to several thousand pounds. His memorial, giving details, was sent in in 1785, but it was three years after that, in 1788, that the first payment was received from the London agents who were looking after his interests—and charging heavily for the same. In the meantime Kryslers bill to Street & Butler steadily mounted up to the handsome sum of £410 15s. To the credit side appear only two small items. In "Dec., 1785, 30 cabbages at 1/ each, £1 10s.," and on "Sept. 18, 1786, 1 pair of worsted hose returned 6/," but in December, 1788, when payments for his losses were at last received, the bill was virtually wiped out.

To return to that interesting item of the sale of a negro girl; it was too important a purchase to be handed over the counter as the other articles in the account, and among the papers the following agreement or bill of sale is found:

"Know all men by these presents that we, Street & Butler, for and in consideration of forty pounds, New York curr'y, to us in hand paid, the receipt of which we hereby acknowledge, have bargained and sold and by these presents do bargain, sell and confirm to Adam Kryslers, his heirs and assigns, a negro wench named Sarah, about nine years old, to have and to hold against our heirs and assigns and against all person or persons, we do hereby warrant and defend forever. In witness whereof we have set our hand and seal at Niagara this sixth day of November, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, in the presence of

WM. CHALMERS, Witness.

(Signed), STREET & BUTLER.

Seal.

This deed indicates that the negro wench was real estate and not personal property, as the conveyance is to Kryslers, his *heirs* and assigns, and not his executors and administrators.

This sale took place in 1786. Three years earlier we have the record of another purchase: "Know all men by these presents that we, Adam Vrooman⁴ & John Mattice,

of Niagara, are held and firmly bound in the penal sum of one hundred pounds U. S. cur'cy to be paid to Lieut. Adam Kryslor, of the same place, or to his heirs, executors or administrators.

"And that the condition of this obligation is such that if we, the above-named Adam Vrooman & John Mattice do secure and indemnify the said Lieut. Adam Kryslor, his heirs, executors or administrators against all claims and demands whatever on account of a negro boy named Tom, the property of the late Isaac Vrooman, of the County of Albany, then this obligation to be void; otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

"Given under our hands at Niagara, 27 July, 1783."

(Sgd.), ADAM VROOMAN.

his

JOHN (J. M.) MATTICE.

mark

Witnesses Present.

JOHN DOCKSTADER^s.

GILBT TICE^s.

Again, in 1790, there is the following copy of what might be called a search warrant. It would indicate that his master had no further desire for the services of the runaway, sheltered and well-known slave:

"The bearer hereof has my permission to search through the settlements for Sam to purchase him.

"To whom it may concern:

(Sgd.), ADAM KRYSLER,

Dutch Creek, 12th Dec., 1790."

The last document in the Kryslor papers concerning slavery is as follows:

"Know all men by these presents that I, Adam Vrooman, of the District of Nassau, in consideration of the sum of ninety pounds, N. Y. c'y., to me in hand paid by Adam Kryslor, of the same place, at or before the sealing and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, have bargained, sold, released and granted and confirmed, and by these presents do bargain, sell, release, grant and confirm unto the said Adam Kryslor, a negro man named Tom, aged about thirty years, to have and to hold all and singular the said negro by these presents bargained, sold, released, granted and confirmed, unto the said Adam Kryslor, his heirs, execu-

tors, administrators and assigns forever, without any contradiction or claim of any person whatever; and I, the said Adam Vrooman, for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, all and singular, the above-named negro unto the said Adam Kryslar, his heirs, executors, administrators or assigns against me, the said Adam Vrooman, my heirs, executors, administrators or assigns, and against all and every other person or persons whatever shall and will forever warrant and defend by these presents; and I, the said Adam Vrooman, have put the said Adam Kryslar in full possession by delivering the above-mentioned negro at the sealing and delivery hereof. In witness whereof I have hereunto put my hand and seal this 25th day of August in the year of our Lord 1792.

(Sgd.), ADAM VROOMAN.

AARON STEVENS,
JAMES CLEMENT,
Witnesses.

This transaction took place within a month of the first meeting of the Parliament of Upper Canada, which, among its earliest enactments prohibited the bringing into the province of more slaves. This beneficent act met with opposition. Many slaves had been obtained during the war by purchase from Indians, who had captured them in forays. Owing to the arduous work of clearing the forests, making roads, and other pioneer tasks, labourers being few, the value of the negroes was great. Many who knew the proposed measure to be right and just, wished action postponed for two years to allow those who had none to procure slaves. But Governor Simcoe's influence, with that of a few far-sighted Loyalists, carried it through; to his eternal honour and that of the young country over which he presided.

NOTES.—¹Mrs. Shower. Probably the widow of Col. Shower, whose daughter married into the Ball family.

²HARD MONEY—Specie was very scarce in olden times, and the merchants were accustomed to issue "bons," which were good for so much merchandise in their shops. The difficulty of getting these "bons" cashed was one of the scandals of early Upper Canada, and was one of the means whereby the opposition in the Legislative Council in 1794 to the creation of the Court of King's Bench was broken down; those in the Legislative Council who most strongly opposed the abolition of the old courts of Common Pleas and the

creation of a Court of King's Bench were, some of them at least, judges in the Courts of Common Pleas and merchants who had issued "bons." Certain decisions in the Courts of Common Pleas on these "bons" had outraged public opinion, so that these courts were abolished by unanimous vote of the House of Assembly and the majority vote in the Legislative Council.

In addition to these "bons," there was scrip issued by the Paymaster of the forces, and sometimes also certificates by the Commandant of the forces. All these papers were "soft" money, "hard" money was coin.

The shilling and pound in the account are the York shilling and pound, which were twelve and a half cents, and two dollars and fifty cents, respectively. They were the currency of the old colony of New York and had vogue in the Niagara district until quite recently. In my own boyhood, near Cobourg, the York shilling, eight to the dollar, was a very familiar way of quoting prices, and the York shilling was more natural to my mother to the last day of her life than any other standard of value. There was no coin for the York shilling, but the English sixpence passed, in my boyhood, for a York shilling or "Yorker," as it was called.

³LIEUT. FREY—Lieut. Barent Frey was brother to Col. Hendrick Frey, who was one of the Representatives from Tryon County, N. Y., to the last Provincial Assembly, who owned handsome estates which were confiscated. Lieut. Frey was among the first to take up arms in 1775, under Johnson; later with Brant he was sent on the dangerous work of bringing away the Mohawks from their villages. This was successfully executed—and later with Brant, having 80 men under his command, he was detailed to harass the Schoharie and Cherry Valley. In 1779 he and Brant commanded the expedition against Minnesink on the Delaware. In 1812 he again took up arms and was killed in action.

⁴VROOMAN—A sergeant in the Rangers, settled near Queenston. The site of Vrooman's Battery, a factor in the battle of Queenston Heights, is still pointed out.

⁵JOHN DOCKSTADER—Son of Lieut. John Dockstader, one of Butler's Rangers, who gave notable service during the war and died in 1782 or 1783.

⁶GILBERT TICE, CAPTAIN—Conducted the large inn which Sir William Johnston built at Johnstown before the war. Joined Johnston when he took up arms for the Loyalist party in 1775. He commanded the small party which sent to St. John's ambushed and repelled a large body of American troops advancing to besiege it.

⁷The document cannot be called a search warrant. A search warrant is issued by some judicial authority, usually a magistrate. The document is a mere permission, which may or may not be of any validity; at all events it is not issued by a magistrate.

Am greatly indebted to Hon. Mr. Justice Riddell for the above notes 2 and 7, and for overlooking the paper.

