

Prof. Watson Kirkconnell's History of Victoria County and the Town of Lindsay relates the story of two or three battles in the far distant past when farmers from the south and east stormed Lindsay with crow bars, axes, pitch forks and clubs and tore down the dam which caused the backing up of water and miles of flooded farm land, the day when a throng of Protestants and Roman Catholics almost came to blows on a Twelfth of July. What about the days when there was a gang known as the "East Ward Gang"?

Harry Campbell (Nipper) a life-long resident of Lindsay recalls the latter gang as follows.

"There was a time when no young men from the north or south wards were allowed to cross the Lindsay street bridge with the idea of seeing their best girl. They might see her at work up street (that is what they called Kent Street) but woe betide these young men if they ever started to cross the bridge into the East Ward. Many a spic and span young man was at times rough handled but not beaten up. The North Ward people seemed to frown down on the East Warders and this was resented, but the finest girls in Lindsay were living in the East Ward."

Mr. Campbell recalls the days when the Walters family was prominent, when Tom Walters used to build canoes and later when he became a contractor and built the first Government Locks at Lindsay Street. "He was a fine gentleman and for years held a good job with the government building bridges and locks in different parts of the country. He had a fine home on Caroline Street and he had a fine family. His son Dr. Fred Walters was a dentist and he took an active part in sports."

“Henry Walters, a brother, was an ambitious man and was urged to run for Mayor. He apparently had not paid his taxes and was not aware of the law until a few hours before election, when all contestants had to have their taxes fully paid. He was not too flush with money at the time but a friend came to his rescue and Walters was successful. He had a fine family of daughters as I recall.”

The story of the Thomas Shoe Factory and the bursting of a Lindsay industrial bubble is an interesting story. Lindsay had an Industrial Commissioner by the name of McComb, hired by the Board of Trade. A man from the States named Thomas was looking for a location for a shoe factory and was induced to come to Lindsay. Prospects were

painted in bright colours.

A brick factory was built at the corner of Sussex and Glenelg Streets and it still stands. Thomas was advanced a large bundle of money and the factory was to employ a large number of hands, several of whom were hired. The industrial bubble was pricked as if by a pin when one beautiful sunny morning it was discovered that the "bird had

flown" to parts unknown. In fact the law never caught up with Mr. Thomas. The spending splurge was short lived but it caused a florid complexion on the cheeks of many a Lindsay business man.