

In the dim distant past, practically every village of any importance had as a landmark a grist mill and most of these were built of stone.

Lindsay can lay claim to having one of the oldest and most substantial stone mills, which also has a distinct architectural beauty. For many years this mill rendered ser-

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vice to a large number of farmers scattered over a large area in the days when it was the common practice to bring "grist to the mill". Many citizens can recall the early days of the mill, but no one can give the date of its birth. However, history records the fact that the late J. D. Flavelle chartered a Company in the year 1892, and the company was known as Sadler, Dundas & Company and the members included: Wm. Flavelle, T. Sadler, J. R. Dundas, J. D. Flavelle and Wm. Needler.

The annual picnic for mill employees and their families was the biggest event in Lindsay at that time when the company chartered the steamers Esturian, Kenosha or Grandella, and Sturgeon Point was the destination. These were the days when mother packed a basket filled and overflowing with home cooked victuals and gathered her brood around her and father put on his Sunday-go-meeting clothes and everyone headed for the Town Wharf. The sky was invariably a beautiful blue canopy and the one-hour trip sailing down the Scugog River was breath-taking. There were all kinds of races for adults and children and prizes and ice cream for everyone.

The best part of the picnic was when mother picked out a table on the green grass, spread out the large spotless white table cloth and everybody partook of the best of home cooked meals. The voyage homeward was not as noisy as the early morning ride as youngsters were full of good eats and also quite weary.

Some of the well remembered men of the mill included: Charles Jackson who ran the chop mill; Frank Beamish who kept the fires going in the bellows; Abe Hartley the engineer; Jack Kineer, Bob Fee, Harry Burns, and Felix Gassien who were millwrights, Don Scully the teamster, Jim Nicholls the stableman, Jim Robson and others.

Several years ago the old mill became the Lindsay Distillery. when it was operated by Sir Henry Pellett and one of the best liquors bore the label: "Lindsay Clan". The present galvanized Board of Works Depot on Kent Street East was part of the distillery and another large galvanized building containing large vats was located on the ground now occupied by the Brewer's Warehouse.