

# GRAND ARLINGTON



Indicative of the **grand times in Cobourg during the days of the "American Summer Colony"**, this hotel was the brainchild of Colonel William Chambliss, son-in-law of George Shoenberger, one of the wealthiest men in Pennsylvania. With John Douglas (later Chief Justice) Armour of Cobourg, he conceived of a splendid hotel which would attract American Civil War veterans, thus the name "*Arlington*".

Describing what was to come, the *Cobourg World* of July 4, 1873 reported, "*This fine hotel will be built of red brick, will be three stories high, with a Mansard roof, and two towers and cupolas. It will present a very imposing appearance and will be a credit to the town.*" When completed it contained **120 bedrooms, many with private parlours**. On the ground floor were the dining room and kitchens, a bar, games room, parlour and barber shop. It had a prime location on the south side of King Street overlooking Victoria Park.

For decades Cobourg's social life centered around the Arlington and neighbouring hotels. But as the homes of the summer colonists became more grand, **attention shifted from the hotels to the private estates**. Not surprisingly, after the Great War things were not the same, and in the early 1920s the Arlington closed its doors, and after a small fire it was demolished.

**THE GLOBE** - with stage house and livery stable at the north east corner of King and McGill Streets, "*this house is second to none in British North America, in comfort and convenience*" - 1851. But it burned down in 1864, "*a most exciting fire. Several guests were burned but not fatally.*" (Edwin Guillet)



**THE CEDARMERE** - at the bottom of Love Lane (Ontario Street) originally a home, owned at one time by the Castle family. Mrs. Castle was a **sister of the Hon. James Cockburn**, Cobourg's Father of Confederation. As a hotel it was popular with both the wealthy American summer colony and the regular Cobourg society. It was demolished in 1933.