COBOURG'S OLDEST HOUSE, according to many, stands on the southeast corner of King and Church Streets. Though since divided and added to, the King Street facade shows the elegant simplicity of early Ontario architecture. Eliud Nickerson, one of Cobourg's first citizens, received a crown grant of 200 acres in 1802, and owned it until 1815, making him the probable builder. In 1838 it was owned by "Squire" Robert Henry who operated a private bank on the premises. A band of conspirators led by Benjamin Lett and Samuel P. Hart, landed one night from a schooner with the intention of robbing and murdering the squire and another prominent citizen before burning the town. The conspirators were surprised and six of them tried, including Hart, who was sentenced to seven years in the penitentiary. Lett escaped to the United States.