

History of Baltimore.

Away back in the opening decade of this century when the township of Hamilton was an almost unbroken forest and the classic town of Cobourg was merely two or three log huts rejoicing in the euphonious name of Hardscrabble, a rude saw-mill was erected on the bank of a picturesque stream which wound its way through a pleasant valley, seeking an outlet in the broad expanse of Lake Ontario. Near the mill stood the rough board dwelling of its owner, John Fisher. This humble establishment formed the nucleus of what is now the far famed village of Baltimore. Famous since from its rural homes have gone out men & women whose names have been heralded even beyond the seas.

At the date with which this story opens (about 1807) a few sturdy settlers had located themselves among the hills within a radius of about two miles from the mill. In reproducing the names of some of these settlers the post of honor must be given to Mr John Mc-Carthy who was, we believe the first settler, having settled here in 1807. Then came the following: Baker, Liscombe, Creighton, Lapp, Williams, Ingersoll, Staples, Helmbolt, Brisbin, Miller & Lindsay. Of Mr Mc-Carthy's family there still survive two daughters & a son all residents of Cobourg where Mr Mc-Carthy was a merchant for years. Mrs Letitia Yeumans the noted temperance lecturer is a daughter of Mr Creighton & born in Baltimore.

Soon after the erection of Fisher's saw-mill, a Mr Towley built a grist-mill a little farther down the stream, the mill later

becoming the property of Mr W^m. Mann. Later a carding mill was established by a Mr Stephens, to which industry he afterwards added a saw-mill. Mr Stephens was succeeded by Mr Wm M^r Dougall, who did away with these mills & built in their stead a large flour mill, now owned by Mr John Ball. Previously to this Mr Jeremiah Lapp had built a grist-mill farther up the stream being now known as "the old red mill." As the country became cleared stores, shops, hotels etc began to appear. Mr Adam Cockburn built the first hotel now occupied by Mr Geo. Cockburn. The second was built by Mr B. Jaynes & is now known as the Arlington. C Pickering, proprietor. Mr Gordon Scott carried on a distillery in a part of what is now known as Mann's mill.

The first blacksmith shop & axe factory, belonged to a man named Canfield. The second blacksmith shop was a log building, part of which was used as a dwelling, was built at the south end of the village by a Mr Long. Mr Long sold to a Mr Callings who later sold to Mr H. Chapman. Mr Chapman eventually erected a large blacksmith shop & carriage making establishment. A third blacksmith shop was opened ^{by Mr Hudson} in the strand now occupied by Mr G. M. Hogg. The first store in the village was opened by Mr Gideon Phillips the second by Mr Robert Harstone. Mr Harstone is noted as being the founder of the first Sunday School in Baltimore. The school was held in a cooper shop near Mann's pond. There are people now living here who will remember sitting on the top of the old work bench while they repeated their

criticism + bible verses. As an indication of the religious harmony prevailing then it may be mentioned that the man Owen McDonald by name, who loaned his shop for use as a Sabbath school was a Roman Catholic while Mr Harstone was a staunch Presbyterian.

Mr Harstone built the large store + dwelling house on the corner of Main + Mill Sts., which was burned over a year ago. The store, at the time was owned & occupied by Reeve Mitchell.

The pioneer sawmill was sold by Mr Fisher to a Mr Richards who later disposed of part of the water privilege to Mr Geo. Kelly, who built thereon a turner's shop. The old shop has passed into other hands & now used as a cider mill.

Mr Richards sold his saw-mill to Mr A. B. Carpenter who was an influential man in Baltimore fifty years ago & owned most of the land where the village now stands and was the first Reeve of Hamilton Township. The village boasted of two carding mills at that time one owned by Mr Carpenter the second by Mr Charles Lapp who had bought Mr Coufields saw-factory & converted it into a carding mill. Mr J. H. Campbell later of Cobourg rented & occupied Mr Carpenter's carding mill for twenty years. The mill later was occupied by Mr John Gordon eventually being burned. Mr E. Eastwood bought the site & built the fine mill now standing. Fifty years ago the tanning of hides was a thriving business. Messrs McDonald & Jamieson started a tannery on the site of Mr Carpenter's saw-mill & carried on the business for years until Mr McDonald's death. Mr John Burgess assuming charge of the business for eleven years.

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Mr John Walcutt opened the first shoe making shop in the house now occupied by Mr John Boyd who carries on the business of blacksmithing & carriage making. The second shoe-making shop was shewn by Mr W. Carruthers where our present manager Mr F. Wimbles was an apprentice. The first harness shop was started by a Mr Davey, the second by Mr Thomas Haig, another by Mr G. Duncan. At present there are two one conducted by Mr W. Cochrane the other by Mr R. Francey. Mr John Burgess built the store which is now Mr Cochrane's harness shop, carrying on a grocery business there & later building the store now occupied by Mr J. C. Elliott as a general store & barber shop. Mr Elliott Burgess sold the business to Mr John Duncan. The store now occupied by Mr Geo. Duncan - was long ago the property of John Elliott & Geo Holmes. On their removal a drug store was started by Mr James Deukam. Mr John Gillbard once kept store at this stand. Mr T. J. Milligan was for several years postmaster & store-keeper in the village.

Among those who carried on the business of tailoring appear the names Colin Mc Donald, Alexander Kennedy, Mr Fraser, Mr Deacon & Mr Warne.